

RE-ORGANIZED IN 1860

Mississippi Baptist Association
Cont. 1855 ---
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTH SESSION

OF THE

GENERAL ASSOCIATION

OF

REGULAR BAPTISTS

OF

SOUTH-EASTERN MISSISSIPPI

CONVENED WITH

GARLANDSVILLE CHURCH,

JASPER COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI,

October 27-29, 1860.

1860.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST BOOK AND JOB OFFICE.

JACKSON, MISS.

STATE ASSN. d/c

Continuity . . .

The Mississippi Baptist Association was organized at old Salem Baptist Church on the south fork of Cole's Creek about 18 miles from Natchez in 1806. (See Abstract History of the Mississippi Baptist Association) (1806-1906)

The General Association of Baptist Churches in Mississippi was organized in 1855 as a general state body.

From a division in the General Association in 1908 the State Association was continued as The State Association of Baptist Churches. (1908-1914)

The original name of The Mississippi Baptist Association was again adopted later. The name was changed again in 1969 to The Baptist Missionary Association of Mississippi

*The General Association of
Baptist Churches in Mississippi
was the old Mississippi Baptist
Association continued as a
state general body in 1855*
PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

General Association of Regular Baptists.

GARLANDSVILLE, Miss., Saturday, Oct. 27th, 1860.

After a sermon by Elder W. Manning, from Matt. 28th chap., 19th and 20th verses; "Go ye therefore," &c. The delegates from the various Associations and Churches met in the House, and proceeded to organize with the President, Elder N. L. Clarke in the chair.

Appointed T. T. Houze, B. Thigpen, and E. L. Carter, reading clerks.

Appointed I. Bailiff, J. E. Trailer, and H. Cooper, financial committee.

Communications were read from the following churches and Associations:

Salem Church.....	S. Nealy, T. B. Heslep;
High Hill Church.....	J. F. Barber;
Pleasant Hill ".....	L. P. Murrell, T. B. Lofton,* G. F. Smith;
Sandhill Creek.....	E. L. Carter;
Sharon ".....	J. Anderson,* D. McArthur, J. M. Herrington, O. Byrd*;
Mount Pisgah Church...	M. H. Whatley, J. E. Trailer;
Thompson's Creek ".....	Darlin Lott*;
County Line ".....	Wm. Lyon;
Ebenezer ".....	T. D. Bain;
Hebron ".....	D. Hillman*;
Pine Ridge ".....	J. M. Murray, J. G. Hicks;
Mt. Pleasant ".....	T. Thames, J. Pierce;
Mt. Carmel ".....	J. D. Davis, M. E. Garey;
Decatur ".....	N. L. Clarke, H. Cooper;

*Absent.

Garlandville	"	W. L. McIntosh, J. Thornton;
Zion Hill	"	W. Howell;
Salem Ch., Smith Co.	"	Wm. Jones;
Shady Grove	"	S. A. Allen and Jno. Cooley*;
Bethel	"	R. Simmons, B. Stone;
Greens' Creek	"	L. Jenkins;
Bluff Creek	"	L. Jenkins;
Shilo	"	
Bethlehem Association	..	W. Manning, G. Evans*;
Mt. Pisgah	"	J. A. Hitt,* J. H. Rush;
"	"	J. Williams, N. B. Roberson;
"	"	W. W. Hardy, W. R. Butler*;
"	"	J. Bailiff, W. C. Porter;
"	"	J. M. Pace, W. S. Roberts;
"	"	J. G. Hicks, H. E. Chambers*;
"	"	A. Clarke, J. N. Watts;
"	"	O. F. Breeland,* W. M. Flanagan;
Providence	"	R. Y. Raspberry,* K. Hathorn*;
"	"	L. F. Russell, — Lott, — Denmark;
"	"	— Bird;
Liberty	"	N. W. Rowell, J. Cone*;
"	"	T. Burne,* W. Thigpen*;
"	"	T. G. Griffing,* G. W. Hale*;
"	"	J. M. Warner,* M. Stone*;
"	"	T. G. Rainer,* A. A. Carter*;
"	"	D. Dee,* J. Tew,* B. F. Seales*;

Proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted in the choice of N. L. Clarke, President; L. P. Murrell, 1st Vice-President; W. Manning, 2d Vice-President; B. Thigpen, Corresponding and Recording Secretary, and W. L. McIntosh, Treasurer.

Opportunity was given for Individual membership; whereupon Brethren T. D. Bain, Z. R. Dempsey,* A. Ulmer, W. Cecil Beecher, La.; S. Thigpen, A. Jones, Jr., B. Thigpen, T. T. Houze, W. West, T. M. Weaver, N. Barber, W. J. Morris, Jas. Murray,* S. Eakin, J. J. Shows,* J. Tatum, E. H. Blackwell, A. Lard,* E. Brown,* J. Carlisle, J. P. Tatum, J. Newman,* A. Mar-

*Absent.

shall,* and Sisters E. Dempsey,* Nancy Lyons,* M. Thigpen,* E. A. Clarke, and N. L. Carter became members by the payment of \$1 each.

Invited Visiting Ministers and members in good standing, to seats in this body.

Called for Correspondence from corresponding bodies; From Mississippi Baptist State Convention, Elders A. Jones, jr., and S. Thigpen.

Minutes from General Association, North Mississippi, were received, asking correspondence.

Proceeded to the appointment of committees:—

On Domestic Missions; S. Thigpen, J. H. Rush, W. W. Hardy.

Foreign and Indian Missions; W. Manning, A. Clarke, B. Thigpen.

Bible Cause; T. D. Bain, N. B. Roberson, T. T. Howze.

Education; E. L. Carter, A. Jones, jr., J. M. Murray. Publications; W. J. Morris, T. B. Heslep, W. West, J. F. Barber.

Nominations; G. F. Smith, J. Pierce, W. J. Morris, I. Bailiff, W. C. Porter.

Sabbath Schools; J. Carlile, L. Jenkins, L. P. Murrell, N. L. Clarke.

On motion, the arrangement for preaching was left with the Church.

Called for the report of the Executive Board, which was read, and set for the hour of ten o'clock Monday morning.

Agreed to take a collection immediately after the forenoon services to-morrow, (Sunday) for Missionary purposes.

The Church reported, That A. Jones, jr., preach in the Baptist Meeting House, at 11 o'clock; and T. D. Bain in the afternoon; and Wm. Manning in the forenoon, in

*Absent.

he Methodist Meeting House; and J. Carlile in the afternoon.

Adjourned to Monday morning, 9 o'clock.
Prayer by Elder J. Williams.

SABBATH SERVICES:

Owing to the inclemency of the weather, there was no services held in the Methodist Meeting-house. Elder A. Jones preached to a large and attentive congregation at 11 o'clock, and T. D. Bain in the afternoon. The brethren preached with energy and power, and we trust good will result from their labors in days to come. The collection amounted to \$47 40.

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 29, 1860.

Prayer by the President.

Called for reports of committees.

The committee on By-Laws reported.

Report was received and adopted: (See Appendix A.)

Committee on Domestic Missions reported. Report adopted: (See Appendix B.)

Committee on Foreign and Indian Missions reported.— report adopted: (See Appendix C.)

The hour for the special order having arrived, the report of Executive Board was called up and adopted: (See Appendix D.)

Committee on Bible Cause, reported; and after amendment, was adopted: (See Appendix E.)

Report on Education, approved and adopted: (See Appendix F.)

Report on Publications, adopted: (See Appendix G.)

Report on Sabbath Schools, amended and adopted:— (See Appendix H.)

Financial Committee reported; report adopted: (See Appendix I.)

Proceeded to appoint Corresponding Messengers, as follows:—

To Ebenezer Association; N. L. Clarke and L. P. Murrell.

Bethlehem; John Williams and J. Carlile.

Liberty; Geo. Evans, J. Carlile, and N. W. Rowell.

Strong River; L. P. Murrell, S. Thigpen, Jas. Newman, A. Marshall.

Mt. Pisgah; E. L. Carter, J. H. Rush, Wm. Manning.

Providence; T. D. Bain, L. Jenkins.

General Association, North Mississippi; W. Cecil Beecher, A. Jones, jr.

Baptist State Convention; Wm. Manning, S. Thigpen.

Ordered that a letter of correspondence be published in these Minutes.

Resolved, That any member of this body presenting a copy of these Minutes, be regarded by us as a Correspondent to any Association or Convention of regular Baptists in this State, Alabama or Louisiana.

Resolved, That Brethren E. L. Carter, and N. B. Roberson, be and are hereby chosen Missionaries of this body for the ensuing year, for three fourths of their time, and that each receive a salary at the rate of six hundred dollars per annum. Engaged in prayer for said Missionaries, the President leading, Elder E. L. Carter to occupy that portion of the field west of Leaf River; and Elder N. B. Robinson to labor between Chickasahay and Leaf Rivers.

The Board continued Bro. A. Marshall as their agent.

A communication was read from Bro. A. Marshall, stating that he obtained \$66 in cash, and \$114 on subscription.

Agreed that the next annual meeting of this body be held with the Salem Church, Jasper County, Mississippi.

Ordered that the Secretary superintend the printing and distribution of 2000 copies of these Minutes, and that he receive \$20 as a compensation for his services.

Adjourned to meet the Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October, 1861.

N. L. CLARKE, President.

B. THIGPEN, Secretary.

APPENDICES.

APPENDIX A.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. At every sitting, business shall be opened and closed with prayer by the President, or by whomsoever he may request.
2. Correspondence from Churches and other societies and individuals friendly to the Association shall be called for, and the names of delegates appointed enrolled, with a mark of absence affixed to those who are not present.
3. Visiting brethren shall be entitled to a seat, and shall be entitled to speak on all subjects, but to vote on none.
4. The election of officers shall take place immediately after the delegates' names have been enrolled, and the convention organized.
5. No motion shall be discussed without it has been seconded, and reduced to writing if requested by any member.
6. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded on the minutes, unless so ordered at the time.
7. If any proposition or motion under debate contain two or more points, it shall be divided at the request of any member, and the vote be taken separately.
8. Every speaker shall arise and address himself to the President; and no one shall speak more than twice on any motion, unless by permission of the Association.
9. The President is to judge as regards order in the discussion of subjects, except when an appeal is made to the body, which shall be done without delay or debate.
10. All committees appointed by this body shall be nominated by the President, subject, however, to the approval of the Association.
11. These rules shall be distinctly read from the Chair immediately after the organization of each Association.

APPENDIX B.

Your Committee on Domestic Missions beg leave to report: That in our opinion, Domestic Missions have a higher claim upon this body than any other branch of Christian benevolence at the present time, and perhaps will continue so for some time to come—at least till the destitution is supplied within our own territory. Our Savior teaches that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name, among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem; i. e., beginning at home. Hence, we consider Domestic Missions our most legitimate work. We would not, however, be understood to say that we should do nothing for Foreign and Indian Missions while engaged in supplying our own destitution, for we believe we are under strong and lasting obligations to the Red Man of the forest, the former occupants of this much favored land—also, the entire heathen world. We only wish to impress the important fact upon the minds of all the members of this body, that there are many yet within our bounds that never heard Baptist preaching; and hence, we should double our diligence to make known all the counsel of God, in every destitute neighborhood within our limits. The success that has attended the labors of our Missionaries the past year should induce increased energy, prayer and faith. We therefore recommend to the Association that in view of the blessed results attending the labors of our Missionaries the past year, that the Associations and Churches composing this body enlarge their contributions for this glorious object.

SAMUEL THIGPEN, Chairman.

APPENDIX C.

Your Committee on Foreign and Indian Missions, beg leave to report: We see very little interest taken in either of these Missions—the sums being small which are sent for them. Yet, next to Domestic, these Missions demand our greatest attention—especially the Indian. Our Boards for both are pressed for money. Retrenchment will have to be made unless the friends of these Missions are more liberal. We would recommend that stronger efforts be made to increase these funds. We suggest to our Ministers and Deacons the following plan: Let the Minister or Deacon of each Church have a little blank book, and in the Spring season present it to the members of the Church for subscriptions

for benevolent purposes, each sum to be paid before the sitting of the next General Association. In this way, we think, more money can be obtained for these purposes than in any other way. The Indians, we believe, have special claims on us; some of them emphatically so. They are our neighbors, and are dependent on us for the living ministry, and also for a translation of the word of God into their own language. We hope the friends of Foreign and Indian Missions will be more active during the next Associational year, so that large sums for each Mission may be sent up to your next Association.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Wm. MANNING, Chairman.

APPENDIX D.

Fifth Annual Report of the Board of Managers of the General Association of R. B. of S. E. Mississippi:

Your Board would most respectfully report that, after giving expression to our feelings of gratitude to the All-wise disposer of all mercies for his preserving care over us, and the charge placed under us, by you, we proceeded to take charge of the same, and we are rejoiced to say to you that God has wonderfully blessed the labors of your Missionaries.

From the report of Bro. E. L. Carter, we learn that he has labored in your service 258 days, preached 259 sermons, baptized 37 persons, aided in the constitution of 3 churches, and the ordination of 4 Deacons; and in order to do this, traveled 3377 miles.

From Bro. L. Jenkins' report, 172 days' labor; preached 154 sermons, baptised 27, aided in the constitution of one church, and the ordination of one Deacon, and traveled 1602 miles.—Which sums up entire service by both, 430 days labor, 413 sermons preached, 64 persons baptised, 4 churches constituted, 5 Deacons ordained, and 4979 miles traveled.

This, we think, is a good and great work; and we can but feel that you will by no means let the work flag, but that you will bestir yourselves to greater effort and zeal in the cause, and prosecute the mission work so nobly begun.

In reference to the indebtedness of your body, we have to say to you that your Board have been enabled to liquidate the claims of your missionaries for 1859.

Submitted,

W. J. MORRIS, Secretary.

N. L. CLARKE.

APPENDIX E.

Your Committee on Bible Cause, would report that at our last meeting two suggestions were made; 1st, That each Church should engage in the work of Bible circulation to supply the lack within its own bounds. 2d, That your Missionaries ascertain the extent of destitution on this subject in their fields of labor: we have reason to believe something has been done in accordance with the above recommendation. We now commit the subject to the Executive Board of this body, to adopt some plan by which the acknowledged destitution in our bounds may be supplied during the coming year, and thus enable the people for themselves to consult the Word of God on all matters relating to life and salvation.

Submitted, T. D. BAIN, Chairman.

APPENDIX F.

Your Committee on Education, would report: That, as we, as an Association are not engaged in building up or sustaining any one or more schools in our territory, we can only express our gratification that our people are becoming more and more interested in the cause of Education generally; consequently, schools, male and female, are springing up in every direction. We would, however, mention one or two facts that we think ought to be well considered by every Baptist. We have learned that some of our brethren are sending their sons and daughters to Paedo-baptist schools. Now, we think it would be advisable for Baptists to educate their children in Baptist schools, especially when there are so many such in the State. In some few instances, we are compelled with regret to state, that Baptists are sending their children to Roman Catholic schools. We think these things ought not so to be. We therefore recommend that our brethren send their sons to Mississippi College, or some other Baptist College, instead of a Protestant or Roman Catholic College. We also recommend our brethren to send their daughters to Baptist schools, instead of Protestant or Roman Catholic schools.

Respectfully submitted,

E. L. CARTER, Chairman.

APPENDIX G.

Your Committee on Publications, would report:

1st. *Resolved*, That we regard the *Religious Press* as a means of great moral good.

2d. *Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend and very respectfully urge upon every Baptist the propriety of taking the *Mississippi Baptist* as a denominational organ of inter-communication for our State, and a welcome weekly visitor and instructor to our families.

Submitted,
W. J. MORRIS, Chairman.

APPENDIX H.

Your Committee on Nominations, would report: That Elder Aaron Jones, jr., preach the next annual sermon, and that Elder John Carlile be his alternate; and that Elder J. Carlile, T. B. Heslep, J. E. Taylor, R. R. Hardy, Elder W. West, Darlin Lott, Elder N. B. Roberson, Eld. James Murray, J. W. Murray, W. W. Hardy, T. T. Howze, J. P. Tatum, Ishmael Bailiff, W. Howell, Wm. Thigpen, George Evans, N. W. Rowell, Elder Kader Hathorn, Elder J. F. Russell, and Elder J. A. Hitt, be the Board of Managers for the ensuing year.

Submitted,
G. F. SMITH, Chairman.

APPENDIX I.

Your Committee on Sabbath Schools report: That they are fully impressed with the importance of the subject; nor do we believe it necessary to enter into any argument to prove its great importance to the religious instruction of the rising generation. All parents and all religious persons must acknowledge its importance, and we are happy to believe that the churches are becoming more interested in its importance, and are making greater exertions than they have previously. But we feel that we have not done our duty in this respect, and would urge on all the churches to fully discharge their duty in this particular, and we would recommend the use of the books of the Southern Sabbath School Union. We would also recommend *The Children's Friend* as an interesting paper for children.

Respectfully submitted,
J. CARLILE, Chairman.

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on Finance would report that we have examined the Treasurer's account, and find it correct; which will fully appear by reference to his report, herewith submitted, &c.:

	D. M.	F. M.	I. M.	G. P.
Mt. Pisgah Association.....	\$32 95	\$4 50	\$6 00	
Bethlehem ".....	146 50	6 15		
Providence ".....	5 95			
Liberty ".....	18 00			
Salem Church J. Co.....	3 00			\$3 00
High Hill Church.....	15 00			1 00
Pleasant Hill ".....	5 00		1 00	2 00
Sharon ".....	12 50			50
Pine Ridge ".....	3 05			1 75
Mt. Pleasant ".....	9 20		2 00	55 35
Ebenezer ".....				1 50
Garlandsville ".....	5 50			1 10
Mt. Carmel ".....	7 75			
Zion Hill ".....	5 00			1 00
Salem Church S. Co.....	7 30			
Shady Grove Church.....	20 00			1 50
Decatur ".....	17 55			1 00
Bethel ".....	8 45			
County Line ".....	2 00			
Green's Creek ".....	15 00			
Bluff Creek ".....	8 50			
Hebron ".....	5 50			
Sand Hill Creek ".....	9 00			
Thompson's Creek Church.....	1 00			1 00
Shiloh ".....	30 00			
Mt. Pisgah ".....	1 60			
Pine Ridge.....	25 00			25
N. Barnett.....	50			
Nancy Hodge.....	1 00			
G. W. Hollomon.....	1 00			
W. P. Duke.....	3 35			
Big Creek Station.....	25			
M. P. Bush.....	50			
M. S. Martin.....	25			
J. D. Knight.....	20			
Cynthia Gatlin.....				25 00
Individual Membership.....	37 70	8 90	4 80	
Collection on Sabbath.....	50 00			
By A. Marshall, Agent.....	15 00			
A. R. Carter.....				

REPORT OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE, (CONTINUED.)

	D. M.	F. M.	I. M.	G. P.
W. D. Marsh.....	10 00			
A. Perryman.....	5 00			
M. Magee.....	8 00			
J. Alexander.....	5 00			
J. M. Bradley.....	5 00			
G. B. Jones.....	2 00			
	565 05	19 55	13 80	96 00

TREASURER'S REPORT.

W. L. McINTOSH, Treasurer,
In account with General Association.
DR.

1860.

To am't on hand Oct. 24, 1859.....	\$ 45 00
Rec'd from Financial Committee, Oct. 24 '59.....	589 80
Individual contributions at Board meeting, Mt. Pisgah Church, May, 1860.	100 20
Public collection, Mt. Pisgah Church, May, 1860.....	16 00
	<u>751 00</u>
Indian Mission Fund.....	8 00
Foreign Mission Fund.....	15 25
General Purpose Fund.....	52 25
	<u>826 50</u>
Education.....	1 50
Bible Cause.....	1 25
Coast Mission.....	5 00
Total.....	<u>834 28</u>

CONTRA.

CR.

1860.

By cash paid E. L. Carter, per order.....	\$612 50
By cash paid L. Jenkins, per order..	161 00
By cash paid E. L. Carter per order..	16 00
May " By cash to Indian Mission Board....	5 00
" " By cash to Indian Mission Board....	10 00
" " By cash to Indian Mission Board....	52 25
" " By cash to Clerk General Association.	5 00
" " By cash to L. Jenkins, Coast Mission.	861 75
Total.....	<u>834 25</u>

27 50

5 00

By error of Coast Mission Fuud.....

Balance due W. L. McIntosh, Treasurer...\$22 50

CONSTITUTION.

ART. 1. This Association shall be known by the name of the General Association of Regular Baptists of South-Eastern Mississippi.

ART. 2. The objects of this Association shall be Domestic Missions in South-Eastern Mississippi, Indian Missions amongst us, and in the Territories of the West, Foreign Missions in all parts of the world, the cause of Education generally, and especially to aid poor brethren preparing for the Gospel Ministry, and other works of Christian benevolence.

ART. 3. Every Church, Association, and all other Benevolent Societies contributing to the objects of this Association, shall be entitled to membership as follows: Churches to have one representative until their membership reaches fifty, then two until it reaches one hundred, and three and no more. Benevolent Societies to have the same representation. Associations to have one for every one hundred communicants. And any individual Baptist contributing annually one dollar, shall be entitled to membership. Provided, no one shall be entitled to a seat in this body who is not a Regular Baptist in good standing.

ART. 4. This Association shall never possess a single attribute of power or authority over any Church or Association. It absolutely and forever disclaims any right of this kind. Hereby avowing the cardinal principle ever dear to Baptists—that every Church is sovereign and independent.

ART. 5. The officers of this Association shall be a President, two Vice-Presidents, Corresponding and Recording Secretaries and Treasurer, to be elected by ballot, and to discharge the duties incumbent upon such officers; and twenty Directors, appointed by committee on nominations, all to be chosen annually, and continue in office until their successors are duly qualified.

ART. 6. These officers, together with the directors shall constitute a Board of Managers, with power to transact all business for which this Association was formed during the recess of the same. The President to be Chairman of the Board; any five of whom, with a presiding officer, shall constitute a quorum. Provided, in a

cases of absence of any officer, a *pro tem* appointment may be made, and to report annually to the Association.

ART. 7. The same individual may be both Corresponding and Recording Secretary.

ART. 8. The meetings of this Association shall be annual, and on Saturday before the fourth Sabbath in October of each year, and at such place as may be agreed upon from time to time. The Board to meet as often as business may require.

ART. 9. This Association may at any time appoint a special Board on any of the objects of Christian benevolence embraced in this Constitution.

ART. 10. All monies contributed for a specific object shall be faithfully applied in accordance with the wish of the donor.

ART. 11. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time by a vote of two-thirds of the members present: Provided, the fourth article be regarded as sacred, and never to be altered or amended.

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