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Um. Bapt. Hist. Society

SOUTHERN BAPTIST

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Minutes

OF THE

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL MEETING

OF THE

SOUTH DISTRICT

BAPTIST ASSOCIATION;

HELD WITH

RICHLAND CHURCH, ST. CLAIR COUNTY, ILLS.

COMMENCING SEPTEMBER THIRTIETH, AND CONTINUING UNTIL
OCTOBER THIRD, MDCCCLII.

ST. LOUIS:

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1852.

MINUTES.

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THURSDAY, September 30th, 1852. V. 32

The ministers and messengers from the churches having assembled according to appointment, at 2 o'clock, P. M. After a season of prayer, Elder JOSEPH LEMEN preached the introductory sermon from John ix, 4, "*I must work the works of Him that sent me while it is day, the night cometh when no man can work.*"

The Moderator of last session, Elder J. M. PECK, took the Chair to organize the Association. The Standing Secretary not being present, Elder D. M. HOWELL was appointed Clerk pro tempore.

Letters from the churches were read, and the names of the ministers and messengers enrolled.

TABULAR STATISTICS OF THE CHURCHES.

[Note.—Ordained Ministers' Names in SMALL CAPITALS; Licensed Preachers' Names in *Italics*. Those not present marked *]

CHURCHES AND POST OFFICES.	MINISTERS AND MESSENGERS.	Baptised.		Received by Letter.		Dismissed by Letter.		Excluded. Dead.	Present Number.
		Baptised.	Received by Letter.	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.				
Bethel,..... Collinsville, P. O.	J. M. PECK, Pastor; JOSEPH LEMEN; JAMES LEMEN; Robert Lemen; J. A. Cook; Collier Brown; Peter Bowler; Dropped 14		2		9	4	3	155	
Silver Creek,..... Mascontah, P. O.	D. HUGGINS, Pastor; NATHAN ARNETT; D. M. HOWELL; B. FENIX; E. M. Brown; James Mason; Charles Foulks.	1			2	1	9	127	
Fountain Creek,.. Waterloo P. O.	JOSIAH LEMEN, Pastor; C. BOSTWICK; J. W. Hillton.	1	1	3	1	4	79		
Belleville,.....	T. A. MORTON, Pastor elect; JAMES PULLIAM; R. KIMBALL; Thompson Williams; J. T. Lemen; John D. Hughes.	3	5	14	2	1	85		
Troy P. O.	ELIJAH DODSON, Pastor; JOHN PADON; T. W. B. Dawson; C. B. Gonterman; A. Waddle; W. Mize; J. C. Gonterman; L. Barber; O. N. Gear; J. McCoy.	37	8		2	4	128		
Waterloo P. O. ...	JOHN PETERS; Jesse Slate; Dropped 1.	10	8	1	13	1	2	92	
Richland,.....	H. S. DEPPE, Pastor; G. W. Carr; R. W. Chandler; L. Holcombe; N. Smith; S. M. Thrift.		1	1	3		2	33	
Pleasant Ridge,...	JOSEPH LEMEN, Pastor; Wm. M. Lindley; J. J. Lindley.					2		45	
St. Jacob's P. O.								41	
Nine Mile Creek, Kaskaskia P. O.	H. S. Deppe, Pastor; H. Hughes.	1						41	
Harmony,..... Millstadt P. O.	S. ROACH; Cornelius Gooding; Isaac Francis.							7	
Total,.....		52	25	3	46	15	21	792	

Ordained Ministers belonging to the Churches, 14; Licentiates, 2.

Nine Mile Creek and Harmony Churches received this year, the last on Saturday.

Oh

1. The Moderator recommended the adoption of the practice of changing the Moderator each year, and to appoint a committee to nominate, which was accepted, and Elders JOHN PADON chosen Moderator, and D. M. HOWELL, Clerk, and N. Smith, Assistant Clerk.

2. Correspondence from other associations :

Edwardsville—Letter and minutes, no messengers.

North District—Elders WM. HILL and T. A. MORTON.

Nine Mile—Letter, Elder H. S. Deppe messenger.

Vandalia—Intelligence by Elders Joseph and James Lemen.

Mount Olive—(colored) Intelligence by Edward James Lemen.

3. Ministering brethren present, not members, were invited to a seat in the body.

4. Committee on religious exercises, Nathan Arnett, R. W. Chandler, G. W. Carr, and Nathaniel Smith.

5. Josiah Lemen and Peter Bowler were added to the standing committee present on the German Mission.

6. Committee to arrange, digest, and prepare the business of the association, J. M. Peck, N. Arnett, T. Williams, Jesse Slate, and T. M. B. Dawson.

Adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow for prayer, and 10 o'clock for Business. Prayer by J. M. Peck.



FRIDAY, October 1st.

After prayer-meeting, the business commenced with prayer, by Elder Peters.

7. Committee on finance announced by the Moderator, Peter Bowler and W. M. Lindley.

The association took a recess in business for preaching and listening to a sermon from Elder T. A. Morton, (recently elected pastor of Belleville Church,) from Luke xix, 13, "And he called his ten servants, and delivered them ten pounds, and said unto them, Occupy till I come."

8. The committee appointed to arrange, digest, and prepare the business of the association, reported in the following order, and each item of business was acted on separately.

9. *On Correspondence*.—The committee recommended that a copy of our minutes, with a printed letter, be sent to each Baptist association in this State, with the request for an interchange of correspondence in the same mode.

And that a correspondence by messengers be held with Edwardsville, North District, Nine Miles, Vandalia, and Mount Olive, (colored) associations.

10. Messengers appointed to,

Edwardsville association, T. W. B. Dawson, John Padon, James Lemen.

North District, Joseph Lemen and O. N. Geers.

Nine Mile, D. M. Howell, N. Arnett, N. Smith, and T. Williams.

Vandalia, J. Padon, J. Peters, Robert Lemen, and T. A. Morton.

Mount Olive, (colored,) J. M. Peck, Joseph Lemen, T. A. Morton, and Robert Lemen.

11. *Resolved*, That when any member of this association, whose name appearing on the last minutes, shall be present at any of the bodies with which we correspond, he shall be considered and recommended as our messenger.

Resolved, That messengers from this body to sister associations, and other bodies with which we hold correspondence, be required to make a report to this body of their visit, with the statistics and other information which they obtain.

Resolved, That a copy of our minutes be sent to each benevolent society with which we co-operate.

12. *Baptist Convention of Southern Illinois.*

Resolved, That the churches and brethren be affectionately urged to co-operate liberally and heartily in the important work in which that body is engaged; that we approve of the arrangement of having a traveling missionary agent to visit the churches, villages, and settlements, and provide means to sustain preachers in the destitute parts of southern Illinois, and desire its continuance.

Appointed J. M. Peck, D. M. Howell, Nathan Arnett, J. Peters, and T. Williams messengers to the convention at its next annual meeting.

Resolved, That a collection be taken up on Lord's day, to aid the convention in providing gospel ministrations for those who need help.

13. *Resolved*, As an expression of our good will and Christian co-operation, that corresponding messengers be sent to the Baptist General Association of Illinois, to be held with Upper Alton church, Oct. 16th, Brethren James Lemen, J. M. Peck, Joseph Lemen, T. A. Morton, J. Padon, and T. W. B. Dawson, were appointed.

14. The committee propose the same course on benevolent societies as was pursued last year, by re-enacting the first resolution without the preamble, as follows:

Resolved, That while we entertain the same interest in the American Baptist Missionary Union, The American Baptist Home Mission Society, The American and Foreign Bible Society, Shurtleff College and Ministerial Education, The American Baptist Publication Society, Sabbath Schools, and every other object of Gospel benevolence, as in former years, we deem it unnecessary to make special reports on the subjects.

The committee recommend that short addresses, not exceeding fifteen minutes each, be made on the following objects:

Foreign Missions—by T. A. Morton.

Home Missions, including the Baptist Convention of Southern Illinois—by J. M. Peck.

American and Foreign Bible Society—by James Lemen.

The College and Educating the Ministry—by J. Peters.

Bible Classes and Sabbath Schools—by T. W. B. Dawson.

15. *Systematic Benevolence.*—The committee recommend that each church in the association be urged to appoint one or more solicitors at the *Monthly Meeting in January*, to call on all the members and obtain subscriptions and donations for the following objects, in consecutive order, quarterly; and, also, that public collections be taken up during the quarter, as follows:

January—Foreign Missions.

April—American and Foreign Bible Society.

July—German Missions.

From September 15th to October 15th—Home Missions and Baptist Convention of Southern Illinois.

The churches are requested and urged to report in their letters to the association all collections and donations made for each and every benevolent purpose.

The committee recommend the re-enactment of the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the Rev. JOHN TEASDALE, Agent of the A. & F. Bible Society, be affectionately recommended to the Churches, and that the collections and subscriptions taken for that Society be appropriated to the circulation of the German and other languages in this part of Illinois, and in Continental Europe.

16. Next association appointed to meet with *Silver Creek Church*, twelve miles south-east from Belleville, to commence on Thursday before the first Lor.'s day in October, 1853, at two o'clock, P. M. Elder T. A. Morton to preach the introductory sermon, and John Peters to be the alternate.

17. The church called Renault Grant, not having sent messengers to the association since 1849; verbal statements being made by brethren, that no regular meetings were held by that body, and that members who had belonged to that church, and other orderly Baptists lived in the settlement, and that by proper attention a church could be revived there, therefore,

Resolved, In accordance with our constitution, that church be dropped from our minutes, and that Elders John Peters, Josiah Lemen, and H. S. Deppe be appointed to visit that settlement, hold a series of meetings there, and see if a church cannot be organized there, and the Baptist interest sustained.

18. By request, Elder Peck made an address on Home Missions, and the Baptist Convention of Southern Illinois, and urged united and liberal efforts to establish and strengthen churches in all the growing cities and villages in this part of the State. Adjourned until half-past eight to-morrow morning for prayer, and half-past nine o'clock for business. Prayer by brother Morton.

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SATURDAY, October 2d.

Association met, and, after prayer by Elder James Lemen, the minutes of former sessions, with the statistical table, were read and approved.

19. The standing committee on German missions made their report, as follows:

*German Missions*—Your committee report,

That Elder Kupfer, at Highland, continued under the patronage of your Committee until his year expired, April 1st. The funds to sustain him, in addition to a perquisite from the Home Mission Society for most of the time, were obtained by the voluntary agency of one of the committee beyond the bounds of the association. There are twenty dollars due him, which must be provided for speedily. He has gotten a place for preaching, teaches a small school, and has labored industriously and faithfully in a hard field, and at great personal sacrifice.

Elder H. S. Deppe continued his labors as missionary until his year was out; and at his request the committee applied for and obtained a renewal of his appointment from the Home Mission Society for another year. In May, he gave the committee to understand he had relinquished all claims on the mission treasury, and the committee made no further provision until they learned, late in the season, that he was still acting under his commission. By counting only the time he was from home and engaged in preaching, from misunderstanding his instructions, he reported only ninety-eight days' service in seven months, which was a mistake to his disadvantage. For your committee regard the time spent in study to enable him to preach profitably, and days lost by sickness, as necessary time spent in missionary service. The committee have given him such explanations as will enable him in future to report full time. During the associational year, he reports one hundred and fifty-seven sermons, fourteen lectures, three hundred and eighty-one religious visits in families, baptized fifteen converts, and has traveled 2,188 miles; and there has been paid by churches and individuals and the committee, during the year, about \$103 12. He attends three churches of this body in German settlements, and preaches in both languages, and visits both German and American families.

The committee recommend that Elder Deppe be sustained as a missionary to the German and American population in his field, in preference to any other arrangement, and that his business be transferred to the supervision of the executive committee of the Baptist Convention of Southern Illinois, for which they have provided the following

RESOLUTIONS :

*Resolved*, That the business heretofore managed by the standing committee of this association be transferred to the executive committee of the Baptist Convention of Southern Illinois.

*Resolved*, That our messengers to that body be instructed to bring this business before the convention, with a view to the enlargement of operations and increase of funds.

*Resolved*, That the churches in this body be urged to continue their contributions to German Missions.

*Resolved*, That J. M. Peck, T. A. Morton, Joseph Lemen, James Lemen, T. W. B. Dawson, and D. M. Howell be appointed messengers to the German Missionary Society of the Mississippi Valley, at its next annual meeting in St. Louis.

The report was first adopted and then each resolution separately.

20. The hour for addresses being announced—Elder Morton spoke on Foreign Missions and the interests of the "American Baptist Missionary Union. Elder James Lemen on the American and Foreign Bible Society. Elder John Peters on the College and an Educated Ministry. And Elder Dawson on Bible Classes and Sabbath Schools. After a brief recess, the association proceeded with its business on the report of the committee.

21. *Belleville Church*.—Applications having been made for aid in sustaining a pastor, the committee report the following item :

*Whereas*, The church in Belleville has been reduced in number by removals, and are unable to sustain a pastor without aid, and whereas that church is in the centre of the association, in a populous and rapidly increasing city, in the midst of an irreligious influence, from which streams will go out and affect, directly or indirectly, the population throughout our district.

*Therefore, Resolved*, That it be recommended to all our churches and brethren, to contribute to the aid of that church, to enable them to sustain, in the best manner possible, the institutions of the gospel ministry.

22. Elected James H. Lemen, (Collinsville, P. O.) standing secretary, and Thompson Williams, (Belleville,) treasurer.

23. The committee on finance report, that they had audited the treasurer's account with the committee on German missions. [Incorporated in their report.]

Also, the following contributions from the churches for publishing minutes, and incidental expenses : Bethel \$3.50, Silver Creek \$2, Fountain Creek \$2.25, Belleville \$1.25, Troy \$2, Waterloo \$1.50, Richland \$1, Pleasant Ridge \$1.25, Nine Mile Creek \$1, Harmony 50c., total \$16. Added from the collection, Sabbath, \$2.70.

24. Appointed Elders J. M. Peck and D. M. Howell to superintend the printing and distribution of 600 copies of the Minutes ; that they be printed in a style equal to last year, and that the funds in the treasury be paid to the committee for the expense of printing, postage, and other incidentals.

25. On motion, *Resolved*, That the thanks of this association be given to the members of Richland church, and the inhabitants of this neighborhood, for their liberal accommodations to the ministers and messengers of this body.

26. *Query from Silver Creek Church*.

"What ought a church to do with members who leave without notifying the church of their intentions, and remain so for years?"

Postponed the consideration until next association, and

Appointed Elder A. T. Morton to write a *Circular Letter* on the New Testament doctrine of the relation of members to the churches they join.

27. A petition from the colored people composing the Wood River Colored Baptist Association of Illinois, was read by Elder Peck, and the following preamble and resolution introduced, whereupon the mover, with Elder James Lemen and other brethren, explained the object and urged its consideration.

*Whereas*, Our colored brethren have made an appeal to Christians, patriots, and philanthropists in this State, to aid them in establishing schools and educating their children ;

*Therefore*, We cheerfully recommend to the people in general, and to the members of our churches in particular, who profess to be "friends to humanity," to contribute liberally to aid this down-trodden people in this deserving enterprise.

After a brief address from the moderator, the association adjourned, with prayer by Elder Joseph Lemen.

D. M. HOWELL, *Clerk*.

JOHN PADON, *Moderator*.

NATHANIEL SMITH, *Assistant Clerk*.

Lord's Day, October 3d.

After prayer-meeting, Elder J. M. Peck preached from Acts xxvi, 28, "*Then Agrippa said unto Paul, almost thou persuadest me to be a Christian.*"

A collection was taken up for the convention, of \$11; and for incidental expenses, \$2.70.

Elder T. A. Morton followed with an impressive discourse from Jude, 21st verse, "*Keep yourselves in the love of God.*"

There was preaching each night, and the meeting continued on Monday, when several candidates were received for baptism, and the prospect of a revival favorable.



*Names of Ministers who are members of our Churches, and their Post Offices.*

Joseph Lemen, Collinsville P. O., Ill.  
 James Lemen, do. "  
 J. M. Peck, Shiloh P. O., St. Clair county, Ill.  
 Nathaniel Arnett, Belleville P. O., do.  
 D. M. Howell, do. do.  
 B. Fenix, Fayetteville P. O., do.  
 E. M. Brown, Mascoutah, do.  
 Josiah Lemen, Waterloo, Ill.  
 C. Bostwick, do.  
 John Peters, do.  
 James Pulliam, Belleville, Ill.  
 R. Kimball, Upper Alton, Ill.  
 John Padon, Troy P. O., Madison county, Ill.  
 T. W. B. Dawson, do. do.  
 Samuel Roach, Millstadt P. O., St. Clair county, Ill.  
 Wm. M. Lindley, St. Jacob's P. O., Madison county, Ill.

*Pastoral supplies, but not members of our churches.*

Elijah Dodson, Woodburn P. O., Macoupin county, Ill.  
 David Huggins, Nashville P. O., Washington county, Ill.  
 H. S. Deppe, German missionary, Steele's Mill P. O., Randolph county, Ill.  
 T. A. Morton has taken the pastoral charge of Belleville church.



SABBATH SCHOOLS

Have been taught in most of the churches, but the reports in the letters are not sufficiently definite to do justice in a statistical table. Some of the schools have German children on their roll.



*Benevolent Contributions.*—Bethel reports \$86.55 in contributions for the Bible Society, American Colonization Society, Indian Missions, German Missions, the Convention, and for the relief of poor members.

*Fountain Creek*—for German Missions \$16 75.

*Troy church* reports about \$30 for various benevolent objects.

*Waterloo* church—for German missions, \$6.10, for Foreign Missions \$7.35, besides donations for the convention.

Other churches have neglected to keep a regular account and report their contributions.

*Pleasant Ridge* church has erected, finished, and opened a neat frame house, 32 by 40 feet.

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CORRESPONDING LETTER.

To the Associations and other bodies with which we correspond.

BELOVED BRETHREN,—We have had a harmonious session. The intelligence from the churches is various. Two have had revivals of religion, and accessions by baptism; others complain of coldness. One church, which had a name on our minutes for several years, has been dropped. Another church, near the old town of Kaskaskia, formerly a member of Clear Creek association, and where our German missionary preaches to both classes, in German and English; and another small church, in similar circumstances, constituted last summer, in St. Clair county, have been received this session.

We have now ten churches, fourteen ordained preachers, (of whom one-half are superannuated and disabled by age, bodily infirmities, or other causes for active labors). One young brother has been ordained the past year, and we have two licentiates; fifty-two have been baptized; total, 792.

We propose to correspond by messengers with such associations as are in our vicinity, and by this letter with all other associations in the State of Illinois, who are in general union with the denomination, and request in return a copy of your minutes, or a visit from your messengers.

We desire to call the attention of all our brethren to the influx of emigrants from Europe, especially the German race, and the necessity of providing speedily means of religious instruction for them. Brethren pray for us.

JOHN PADON, *Moderator.*

D. N. HOWELL, *Clerk.*

N. B. Correspondents will please send letters and minutes, post-paid, to *James H. Lemen*, Corresponding Secretary, Collinsville P. O., Illinois.

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ORIGIN.—This association of churches commenced its existence as a body, in 1820, of three churches. Its first annual meeting, of which minutes were printed, was held in 1821. It had five churches, Canteen Creek (now Bethel), Silver Creek, Fountain Creek, Providence, and Cold-water—the two last in Missouri.

The number of members in all the churches was about two hundred. The ordained ministers were, James Lemen, Sen., James Lemen, Jun., Joseph Lemen, Benjamin Ogle, John Clark, and Daniel Hilton. A circular letter, written by James Lemen, Jun., (now senior,) is found in the minutes of that year.

*Bethel*, (then Canteen Creek,) church was organized, December 10th, 1809, of seven members, of whom three are yet living, and members of that church, Elder James Lemen, Jun., was received by letter next day, who makes the fourth survivor.

*Silver Creek* church was formed from the scattered members of an older one in that settlement, in 1811.

*Fountain Creek* church was organized on the ground of the New Design Church, which was dissolved in June, 1821, of thirty-five members.

*Providence* church was formed in the Boon's Lick county, Mo, in 1820, and soon became scattered.

*Cold Water* church was formed at an earlier period, (date not known,) in St. Louis county, by Elder John Clark.

South District association, in 1828, had 19 churches, 25 preachers, and 550 members. Next year the body divided into three districts, which eventually became distinct associations; one in Missouri and two in Illinois.

In an early period of its history, the ministers of this association performed extreme itinerant labors, by preaching two in a company, as the disciples were first sent out. Their labors were voluntary, self-sacrificing, and extensive, and they now sleep sweetly in the grave, or, (if alive,) are sustaining the infirmities of age, and patiently waiting for the Master to say, "Come up hither."