

191.50	5-	96.60
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288.10		

organized
 Hampton Church 1881 existing
 Pastor John G. Williams valued
 50 members no salary \$3,300.00
 Harmony Baptist Church

NINETY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

Savannah River Baptist Association,

—1892.—

Obituary of
 Rev. Joseph A. Lartin
 nephew of Rev. James A. Lartin
 of Lanthornville, S.C.
 Synanon of Allendale.
 died 1892

MINUTES

OF THE

NINETY-SECOND ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SAVANNAH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH THE

HARMONY BAPTIST CHURCH,

Barnwell County, S. C.,

NOVEMBER 17-20, 1892.

GREENVILLE, S. C.:

KEYS & THOMAS, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS.

1893.

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

	MODERATOR,	
REV. J. M. BOSTICK,	- - - -	Lawtonville, S. C.
	CLERK,	
H. Q. ADAMS,	- - - -	Ridgeland, S. C.
	TREASURER,	
D. I. PEEPLES,	- - - -	Peeples, Hampton Co., S. C.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

G. W. MORRAL,	W. V. LANIER,	F. JONES,
G. R. DUNBAR,	J. S. BRUNSON,	W. H. DOWLING,
A. C. WILKINS,	W. H. MAULDIN,	J. J. WALKER,
J. S. OSWALD,	B. P. CUTTINO,	R. T. CAUSEY,
J. W. BISHOP,	With the Officers of the Association.	

The Executive Committee will meet at New Allendale Wednesday before the second Sunday in June, 1893, at 10.30 A. M. (sun time.)
G. W. MORRALL, Chm'n.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

FOREIGN MISSIONS—F. Jones, J. A. Meyers, M. Hall.
STATE MISSIONS—A. C. Wilkins, J. F. Preacher, Miles Loadholt.
EDUCATION—John T. Morrison, Martin Everett, G. R. Dunbar.
CHURCH HISTORY—W. H. Dowling, S. P. Chisolm, J. W. Bishop.
INDIGENT MINISTERS AND FAMILIES OF DECEASED MINISTERS—John G. Williams, D. I. Peeples, John Cone.
ORPHANAGE—E. W. Peeples, John T. Morrison, J. F. Preacher.
OBITUARIES—S. P. Chisolm, F. Jones, John G. Williams.
ON THE STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES—A. C. Wilkins, B. P. Cuttino, H. Q. Adams.

Next meeting will be held with the Lawtonville church, Hampton Co., S. C., beginning Thursday before the third Sunday in November, 1893, at 10.30 A. M. (sun time.) Introductory sermon by Rev. J. W. Bishop; alternate, Rev. S. P. Chisolm. Missionary sermon by Rev. F. Jones; alternate, E. W. Peeples.

MINUTES.

HARMONY CHURCH, S. C., Nov. 17th, 1892.

The Association met with Harmony church in Barnwell county, S. C., at 12 o'clock M.

After the preliminary exercises of song and prayer, the Introductory sermon was preached by Rev. F. Jones, from John xi : 56.

At the close of services the Association was called to order by the Chairman of Executive Committee in the absence of Rev. J. F. Morrall, our Moderator for many years. Rev. A. C. Wilkins was elected Moderator pro tem.

The following delegates were enrolled :

Roll of Delegates.

Euhaw—H. Q. Adams.
Beach Branch—J. R. Fitts.
Lawtonville—John T. Morrison, H. M. Michael, D. I. Peeples.
Beaufort—A. C. Wilkins.
Union—Marcellus Hall.
May River—
Steep Bottom—J. M. Bostick, R. G. Tuten, R. J. Causey.
Cyprus Creek—
Concord—J. S. Oswald, J. E. Mew.
Nixville—
Cid Allendale—W. Z. Bryan.
Oak Grove—
Savin Grove—
Mt. Olive—J. E. Mathis, A. R. Stanlan.
Pine Level—H. G. Smith.
Brunson—E. M. Bostick, W. V. Lanier, W. M. Ulmer.
Hardeeville—
Varnville—A. M. Ruth, A. McB. Speaks, E. M. Peeples.
Hampton—J. H. Bishop, G. W. Brunson, W. H. Mauldin.
Smyrna—J. J. Walker, J. O. Brunson.
Matlock—C. A. Baynard.
Steel Creek—G. R. Dunbar, J. A. Myer.
Beech Island—F. Jones, Martin Everett.
Gillisonville—
Sandy Run—J. F. Gooding, G. W. Tuten.
Beaver Dam—W. J. Robinson, Miles Preston.
Lower Three Runs—G. W. Morrall.
Great Swamp—
Sand Hill—P. W. Gibson, H. W. Mixon.
Hopewell—W. H. Dowling, L. R. Dowling.

Bethlehem—J. S. Sanders, Thos. Jenkins.
New Allendale—John G. Williams, B. P. Cuttino.
Harmony—B. R. Loadholt, W. H. Mixon, John Cone.
Pleasant Mountain—
Appleton—G. A. Rhodes, H. M. Dawdrey.
Belldock—
Staffords—
Ridgeland—C. E. Perry.

The election of officers was then entered upon by the appointment of John Cone and B. P. Cuttino a committee to count the ballots and declare the election of officers.

The committee reported the election of the following officers:

Moderator—J. M. Bostick.
Treasurer—D. I. Peeples.
Clerk—H. Q. Adams.

The Moderator made a few appropriate remarks on taking the chair.

On motion of Rev. W. H. Dowling, the newly organized church at Ridgeland was admitted to this Association and delegate seated.

H. Q. Adams offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That we note with sorrow and regret the absence of Rev. J. F. Morrall, who has served this Association so faithfully and ably for many years as Moderator. We desire to extend to him our earnest prayers and wishes for his continued prosperity, happiness, and success in the new field to which he is called.

After many expressions of regret at the absence of J. F. Morrall, and remarks of a complimentary character, the resolution was adopted.

The church letters were read by W. H. Mauldin and W. V. Lanier, a committee appointed by the Moderator.

The following working committees were appointed:

On State of Religion—A. C. Wilkins, B. P. Cuttino, H. Q. Adams.
On Finance—W. V. Lanier, R. T. Causey, J. W. Oswald, D. I. Peeples.
On Correspondence—J. W. Bishop, J. F. Preacher, B. P. Cuttino, R. G. Tuten.
On Nominations—J. A. Myer, J. W. Bishop, F. Jones, W. H. Dowling, W. H. Mauldin.
On Time and Place of Next Meeting—G. W. Morrall, S. P. Chisolm, J. J. Walker, E. M. Bostick.

Visiting brethren, Rev. T. M. Bailey, J. H. Sanford, and W. D. Rice, were invited by the Association to take part in the proceedings; they were cordially received by the Moderator.

The Association then adjourned to 7 P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 7 P. M. A sermon was preached by Rev. T. M. Bailey from John v:16. The Association then resumed business.

Rev. John G. Williams, Chairman of Committee on Obituaries, made the following report, which, after discussion by the chairman, F. Jones, A. C. Wilkins, J. M. Bostick, W. V. Lanier, was adopted by a rising vote unanimously:

Report on Obituaries.

Since our last meeting two heavy blows have fallen on this body in the deaths of our aged and most honored brother, Rev. Joseph A. Lawton, and brother John C. Willingham, and in their deaths particularly has the Old Allendale church sustained a well nigh crushing blow, of which one was her pastor and the other her senior deacon.

Joseph A. Lawton.

BY JOHN G. WILLIAMS.

Brother Lawton was the son of Rev. Joseph J. Lawton, and, though born in Mississippi, was raised on Black Swamp, in old Beaufort district, and lived there until his manhood. When quite a youth he was converted, and baptized into the fellowship of the Black Swamp church at Robertville. He and his godly father were licensed the same day by the Black Swamp church, to preach. I think Brother Lawton has told me that there were five other young men licensed the same day with him, to preach the gospel and who all made useful and well known preachers.

Not long after he entered the ministry Brother Lawton married Mrs. Martha Barksdale, a lady of large property; but instead of this property diverting him from the ministry, feeling the need of a better education for the ministry, and encouraged by his sensible and pious wife, he left his large plantations and went to Madison (now Colgate) University, at Hamilton, N. Y., where he spent several years in hard study, prosecuting his theological studies. These years of study and preparation told wonderfully upon his success and usefulness as a preacher, and it was his consciousness of great benefit from his limited course of study that made him an earnest advocate of the best intellectual equipment for the ministry. He helped with his own means to educate several young men for the ministry.

After leaving Madison University, he was for a time assistant pastor of Dr. Richard Fuller at Beaufort. In his early ministry he was for awhile a missionary in Charleston, and I believe that a church, the Morris Street, grew out of his labors.

A throat trouble at one time threatneed to lay him aside from the active work of the ministry, but, fortunately for the cause of God, his recovery came and was permanent.

It was at some time in the early years of his ministry, and while the "dew of his youth" was still upon him that he moved to Barnwell county,

met to
-1839
Col. University
Madison

where the most of his life and ministry was spent. The churches to which he ministered after coming to Barnwell county were Smyrna, Mt. Arnon, Concord, and Old Allendale, and, I believe, for a short time Philadelphia in the Buford's Bridge neighborhood. But many other churches besides these were blest by his ministry and labors in protracted meetings, in which he loved dearly to work. Wherever he went, for rest or on business, he was always in demand as a preacher, and always greeted by large congregations. He was devoted to his churches, and they to him. He was always at home in the homes of his people, and they equally at home with him.

Brother Lawton was a fine business man and a large planter before the war, and managed not only to keep his property but to improve and to add to it, and having ample means, being one of the very few rich men in the Baptist ministry, he did a great deal of good with his money as well as by his preaching and pure life and Christian character. He was a liberal and a cheerful giver, but not an ostentatious one. Furman University, the Seminary, and missions had in him a true friend and helper.

Brother Lawton belonged to the highest type of a Christian gentleman. Nothing mean came near his head and heart. There was nothing little nor selfish in his nature. He told me a short time before his death that when he first moved into Barnwell district, as it was then called, that land was very cheap, and he had the money to buy it up, but would not do so, because he wanted others to come in and buy it and thus help to build up the neighborhood. And it was largely through him that the Allendale section, before the war, was noted for its fine lands, fine farming, large plantations, and as good religious society as could be found in the State. He was a noble specimen of an old school gentleman, kind in heart, gentle in his manners, and gracious in his speech. His name stood for honor, integrity, kindness, truthfulness, sincerity, and for all those high qualities of character, which command the respect and confidence of men. He lived in the light, and was unused to all intrigues and self-seeking, or any other ways dark and devious. Brother Lawton was eminently social in his nature, and was one of the most genial and companionable of men. It was in his own home, or in the homes of his brethren and friends that he always got nearest to our hearts. It was then that his warm heart, genial nature, and desire to make every one happy, made his presence an inspiration and a joy. Serious man of God that he was, he nevertheless had a keen sense of humor, and could laugh himself, and make others laugh. But he never carried his humor too far, as I have sometimes thought some people carried their seriousness until it got to be a very serious and painful thing. He had that which was better than genius, uncommon common sense which always dictated to him the proper thing to do and the proper thing to say. He was a wise man and knew how to adapt himself to different people and to different circumstances. He realized that his calling was a holy calling, but this instead of separating from his fellowmen, brought him closer to them. He was a holy man, but a man nevertheless, and herein lay the secret of his power with men. He was one of them and thus won their hearts. He was a real preacher and a real man and therefore was always simple and natural and affected no holy style, wore no clerical dress and was en-

tirely free from clerical mannerism. With wealth or without wealth he was always the same plain, but great, Joseph A. Lawton. His rare good sense and judgment made him a wise and safe counsellor and many came to him as a friend in their troubles and were cheered and helped by his good counsel. It was the same good sense and judgment that made him a trusted and beloved leader among his brethren. But the crowning excellence and beauty of his character, as well as its strength, was his deep piety. He loved God as revealed in Jesus Christ his Saviour and his love for Christ made him a consecrated servant of Christ. He talked with Christ in prayer, and his faith in Christ was all the time bringing Christ and heaven nearer to him. No one that ever knew him doubted that he was a man of God. His religion was not a mere Sunday thing, but a thing that permeated his whole life and that he carried into the little as well as the big things of life. As a preacher Bro. Lawton was always scriptural and instructive. He held fast to the oracles of God, and in the old book found all that his mind and soul wanted. The one theme of his preaching which never grew old with him was "Jesus Christ and him crucified." Pious souls that were hungry for the word always heard him gladly. He was very happy in getting at the sense of his texts, and this he brought out with great clearness, tenderness and unction. No one could hear him without feeling that the gospel was a power in his own soul and life. Though he had a large planting interest and a great many slaves to look after, he never neglected his pulpit preparation, nor allowed business to interfere with his habits of study. This accounts for the fact that he never wore out as a preacher, and that those who heard him for many years never lost interest in his preaching. He had an excellent library and was a man of wide and varied reading. His sermons, as well as his conversation, were good for the head and the heart.

Towards his brethren of the ministry he had a peculiar affection. He knew that unlike himself most of them were poor men with large families often, and living on small salaries, and, therefore, though he could live without salary from his churches when he was rich he always made them pay him in justice to his poor brethren who needed their salaries, who might suffer by his examples if he didn't make his churches pay him. He always took a fatherly interest in young preachers. Bro. Lawton was not only a good preacher but one of the best of pastors. He was a father to his people and they loved and honored him as such. He visited the sick and the afflicted, watched over the weak and erring, encouraged the faithful and comforted the mourner. He was a true Baptist, but loved all Christians, and went with them in Christian work and worship as far as he could without sacrificing what he believed was truth, and he, in turn, was loved and honored by large numbers outside his own denomination. We will not say of our dear departed brother that he was perfect, for perfection belonged only to his Saviour, but we may say of him that duty was his guiding star in life, and that in every sphere and relation of life he was conscientious and faithful. He was one of the kindest and best of masters and it is a touching proof of how he was loved by the colored people that when at one of their churches it was

mentioned that a monument ought to be erected to his memory, with out any notice, hard as the times are, these poor people immediately and joyfully gave eight dollars for that purpose.

All his life he lived and labored in this Association, and what the old Savannah River Association was in usefulness and character it was largely through his high character, influence, gifts and labors. This old Association, the mother of great and good men and women, never had a greater son than Jos. A. Lawton. He continued to serve his two churches, Old Allendale and Smyrna, up to within a few months of his death and then gave up his work because he had no more strength for it. His sufferings in his last days were great, but he bore them with that patience and submissiveness that became the great Christian that he was. His last night on earth was one of intense suffering, but it broke into the light of an eternal and glorious day. Who cares for the rough way when the journey is ended?

Bro. Lawton was married twice. His last wife, *Miss Josephine Polhill*, by whose tender ministrations his passage to the grave was smoothed and cheered, survives him. He leaves a son, Bro. Samuel G. Lawton, of the Old Allendale church. He died in his 81st year, and came to his "grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in his season." He entered into rest January 30th, 1892. May his mantle, like that of the ascending Elijah, fall with like effect upon us, his brethren, who are left to labor in this Association, where he so long labored and where he was so much loved.

John C. Willingham.

BY E. W. PEEPLES.

When we met a year ago Bro. Willingham was lying critically ill at the home of his brother-in-law, Dr. H. H. Harris, in Richmond, Va., and this body united in an earnest prayer to God for his recovery. Our prayer was heard in his behalf as regards that illness and he recovered to return to his home to the great joy of his many friends. But he was soon prostrated again by the same terrible disease, and after months of great suffering, borne with great resignation to the will of God, he passed out of his sufferings into the rest of heaven at his home in Old Allendale in his 51st year.

All that was said in the foregoing sketch of the high Christian character, pure and careful life of Bro. Lawton, and of the love and respect in which he was held will apply with equal truth to Bro. Willingham, considering their difference in years, in opportunities, in means, and that Bro. Willingham was not a preacher of the gospel. In the case of Bro. Willingham the sense of his loss is greater even than that we feel in the death of Bro. Lawton. The aged and faithful servant of God had done his work, and worn out and weary the time had come for him to retire from the conflict and to enter into his reward. But Bro. Willingham fell in the prime of his manhood while there were yet many more years needed, and there was no one to take his place. How mysterious the dispensations of providence that cut short his useful life, when there were so many prayers going up that he might be spared! John C. Wil-

lingham was admirably fitted for great usefulness and service to the cause of Christ. To begin with, he was a gentleman by nature and breeding. The great principles of truth, honor, honesty, purity, sincerity and all others that pertain to high character were interwoven in his. It was impossible to think a mean thing about him. No one that knew him ever doubted him. He was pure gold. To know how he would act in any matter it was only necessary to know the right and proper course for a high-toned Christian gentleman, and that was always his course. He held honor and right above everything else.

Again, he was a very intelligent and sensible man, naturally so, but made so by education, by travel, by observation of men and by intercourse with the best and most cultivated people. His opportunities for education was such as few have. He was for several years a student in Furman University, and finished his school education by a two-years' course in a famous school at Geneva, Switzerland. He was also a man of great earnestness of purpose and force of character. He didn't waste himself on trifles, but when once a thing commended itself as a right and important thing that God's glory and man's good required should be done, it at once took possession of his whole heart, and he went about the doing of it with all his might. His earnestness and determination laughed at obstacles that would have deterred other men.

And here was another element of his usefulness, that he was a sympathetic and warm hearted man, that won the esteem and gave him the hearts of all who came under his influence. He had many friends because he showed himself "friendly." Growing out of his sympathetic and warm heart, he had a sunny, cheerful and hopeful disposition that always made his presence a benediction. "What a charm and power there is in sunshine."

I may also say what I have already intimated, that Bro. Willingham was a man of great energy and industry. Life to him was too serious to be fooled away in idleness. Laziness with him was meanness. He was a busy man with brain, heart and hand.

But, best of all, he was an humble and sincere Christian. He lived close to the Master. His religion permeated his whole life and being. It combined the devout and the practical. He went into his closet to commune with his Master and to receive strength to meet the temptations and the better to discharge the active duties of the Christian life. His hand was ready for every good work. In the Sunday school and the prayer meeting he was a faithful worker and a competent one. According to his pecuniary ability, which wasn't great, he was one of the most liberal givers in this Association. Alas! their number is not large. His interest in missions, and in all work of the denomination makes his death not only a heavy blow to his own church, but to this Association that he loved so much and in which he was so much loved and so much needed. The great lack in this old Association to-day is more John Willinghams. Who will come forward at this meeting to take the place of our fallen, nay rather, risen brother?

Grace is not hereditary, but it does seem sometimes to run in the channel of family, if not in the channel of nature. Who that knew Deacon Thos. Willingham, sr., the father of our lamented brother, and his godly

mother but must see that God blesses children through and in their pious parents. His brothers have also been pious and useful Christian men, as also are his sisters known widely for their piety and their good works. In the loss of our dear brother we are comforted in the thought and in the hope that his noble and useful life will be perpetuated in the lives, which will be precious to their Heavenly Father, of his already consecrated daughter and his three young, pious and promising boys. God took from them their own dear mother but gave them another whom they call and love as mother and from whom they will receive a mother's care and a mother's love. God bless our brother's children, his widowed wife, and her, who if she wasn't his own mother, loved him as her own son.

Bro. Willingham was at one time a trustee of Furman University, and was for a long time a valuable member of the Executive Committee of this Association. He was married twice, the first time to Miss Sallie Lawton and the second time to Miss Bibb, of Virginia. He was converted and baptized in his early youth. He was in the Confederate army and was a faithful soldier.

Rev. Wm. E. Weekly.

BY JOHN G. WILLIAMS.

This aged brother, who died a few weeks ago, nearly eighty-five years of age, was a preacher in this Association. He entered the ministry rather late in life, having been licensed and ordained by the Bethel church in Barnwell county. He moved from Barnwell to what was then Beaufort district about forty years ago and had lived there ever since. He was at one time pastor of Sandy Run church, and I believe, also of Sand Hill church, of which he was a member. He was a kind-hearted man and loved his brethren. He provided abundantly for his family and always extended a warm welcome to all who came to partake of his hospitality. Up to two years or so of his death he was remarkably active for one of so many years, but a stroke of paralysis took away his strength and pretty much his mind, and for a long time he was confined to his bed. He expressed a long time before his death his willingness to go and his trust in the Saviour.

The Association then adjourned to 9.30 A. M. Friday.

FRIDAY MORNING.

After devotional exercises conducted by Rev. J. W. Bishop, the Moderator called the Association to order.

A motion by Rev. John G. Williams was adopted to appoint a standing committee on the State of Religion in the churches.

A motion by D. I. Peeples was adopted to change the name of the Committee on Indigent Ministers to the Committee on Indigent Ministers and Families of Deceased Ministers.

Report on Education offered by Rev. A. C. Wilkins, chairman of committee. After its discussion by Rev. A. C. Wilkins, Rev. John G. Williams, Rev. T. M. Bailey and Rev. John T. Morrison was unanimously adopted, as follows:

Report on Education.

In a report to the Association on education it is hardly worth while to argue, at this time, the importance of the subject. We all believe in education, and see that it is indispensable to the best progress in every department of life. We are not only agreed on the necessity of education in general, but we insist on Christian education. Education without religion and ethics would be detrimental, not beneficial. Education may be the sharpening of a knife to cut our own and others' throats. What we want to see is education under Christian influences, for our boys and girls, for our young men and young women. We will just name some of our schools which we should support:

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, in Louisville, Ky., formerly located in Greenville, S. C., has about 250 students in training to preach the word of God. That institution is increasing in effectiveness in every particular. Additions are made almost every year to the number of students. The late President Boyce hoped that soon 500 men would be studying there annually. Additions are being made to the teaching force. Dr. E. C. Dargan, a native of this State, and recently pastor of the Citadel Square church, of Charleston, is now one of the excellent men engaged in teaching there. New buildings have been erected, and the endowment increased. But the Seminary needs still the prayers, the work, the money of friends to make it a greater power for good.

Furman University belongs to our State. It is specially dear to the hearts of South Carolina Baptists. The design of the University is to give a liberal education, equal to the best, to all who enter its halls and master its curriculum of studies. In the last few years it has made decided improvement in various ways. Its endowment is now about \$75,000. The endowment should be three times that amount. At the last Association the Financial Agent asked us to aid the State in raising \$25,000 additional, which should be known as the "Furman Memorial Fund." Pledges were then made for \$300. Recently your committee has been informed that but a small part of the pledges had been paid. This is much to be regretted. May we not hope that the brethren will do what they promised?

Before leaving the Seminary and the University attention should be called to ministerial education. The Board is aiding poor young men to prepare for their life work and for the work that every follower of Christ should be heartily interested in. The Board is dependent for funds upon the churches and individuals. The chairman, Dr. Mundy, of Greenville, has issued a circular to the pastors and churches saying that the Board "will need not less than \$4,000 to meet the expenses of students at Furman and the Seminary." The only expense which the Board

will expect to meet will be that for tuition, board and room rent, and that for those only who can not provide for themselves. Who will give to this object?

Greenville Female College and Cooper-Limestone Institute are our own. In them young ladies receive literary and musical and moral training for life. They should be patronized especially by the Baptists of the State. And the Patrick Military Institute, though a private enterprise, is under worthy Baptist instructors and managers, and should have the patronage of our people.

But the educational project which perhaps should claim our attention more than any other at this time is the proposed academy of the Savannah River Association. It will be remembered that a strong report in favor of such a school was adopted at Hampton last year, and that a committee of five were appointed to consider the matter and report at this meeting. Doubtless the committee have been at work and will be prepared to recommend some practical course to pursue.

Respectfully submitted.

A. C. WILKINS, Chm'n.

The report of the Committee on the Association Academy appointed at the last Association was offered and read by the Secretary, W. V. Lanier. Remarks on the report as it was taken up seriatim by Rev. John G. Williams, Rev. A. C. Wilkins, Rev. T. M. Bailey, Rev. John T. Morrison and Rev. J. H. Sanford. After discussion the report was adopted.

A committee of three was appointed by the Moderator to nominate thirteen trustees: F. Jones, A. C. Wilkins and B. P. Cuttino.

The following trustees were elected: John G. Williams, chairman; J. M. Bostick, J. T. Morrison, W. V. Lanier, W. H. Mauldin, John Lawton, E. W. Peeples, A. McB. Speaks, W. O. Thomson, A. C. Wilkins, F. Jones, G. W. Morrall and R. T. Causey.

The report was as follows:

Report of Committee on Association High School.

Your committee, to whom was referred the feasibility of a school for the higher education, to be under the control of this Association and located within its bounds, beg leave to submit the following report:

In the early part of the year we met and invited offers from the different towns and communities in our territory, of land and money for the school and that we met to open these sealed bids and found three towns, Allendale, Hampton and Varnville, had put in bids and that Varnville had offered the most: sixty-six acres of land and \$6,000 in cash. Having met and examined the validity of the Varnville offer as to the soundness of the titles to the land and the availability of the offer of money and finding the bid valid, we recommend—

1. That the school be located at Varnville.
2. That to insure the success of the school not less than \$6,000 ought to be raised by the Association.
3. That a mass meeting shall be held during this Association, at which addresses shall be delivered setting forth the advantages of the proposed

school and an appeal be made for subscriptions toward said endowment of \$6,000.

4. That a Board of Trustees consisting of twelve shall be appointed by the Association, one-third of whom are to be selected each year and two-thirds of whom shall be members of the Baptist Church, and to said Board shall be committed the erection of suitable buildings, the selection of teachers and all other matters pertaining to the establishment of the school.

5. Said Board of Trustees shall submit an annual report to the Association.

6. That the school shall be called the Savannah River Association Academy.

7. That the Trustees shall at once select a brother to make a canvass of the Association to raise the amount that it is asked to give to the school and to awaken an interest in the school.

8. That all of the \$6,000 given by Varnville shall be put into buildings and furniture, and that we shall look to the patronage of the school and to subscriptions from churches for current expenses.

9. That we urge upon the Board great prudence, but at the same time to go to work and put up the buildings that the school may be opened next fall.

10. That the school shall be a religious school and piety shall be deemed essential in its teachers.

11. That the Moderator appoint a committee of three to nominate the trustees.

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. G. WILLIAMS, for Com.

The report of the Executive Committee was offered and after a few remarks by the Moderator it was adopted, as follows:

Report of Executive Committee.

In the good providence of God we are permitted to report to you the action of your Board, in the appointment of missionaries and the direction of their work for the Associational year, and for some recommendation for the future of the Association. We appointed Rev. J. M. Bostick to preach at Grahamville. Our Board reports with pride and grateful pleasure that our sister, Mrs. C. E. Dupont, who has been the stay and prop of the Grahamville church for lo these many years, writes that we need not send any more financial aid to that church, that with the help of God she thinks they will be able to carry on the work; God grant that we had more such working Christian sisters in our churches and through the Association; it would make our work comparatively light and pleasant.

Your Board has sent our old veteran brother missionary, Rev. C. A. Baynard, to preach on Sunday at Gillisonville, one Sunday at Black Swamp and on one Sunday at Port Royal; Rev. W. H. Dowling to Ridge-land, a thriving little village on the line of the C. & S. R. R. They have constituted a church, which we think in the near future to be of great usefulness to her old mother. Rev. J. W. Bishop has been appointed to

preach two Sundays at Hampton C. H. and one Sunday evening at Appleton. His report has been good and pleasing to the Board from the Hampton church, but not very satisfactory or flattering from the Appleton church. The Lord has been with our missionaries and their work. Your Board has been asked by the Executive Board of State Missions, with which it co-operates, for the sum of six hundred dollars to carry on this work in our bounds. We feel conscious that it would be injustice to you brethren for the State Board to assume our debt, and yet there is a deficit.

Your Board would say that the help given the Sunday School Convention in the past is becoming a burden to the Association, and would suggest that in the future the Association do not pledge itself to give any specified amount as financial aid of this Association in the work of the Sunday School Convention, but recommend to Association that each pastor of churches deliver an address to the Sunday school of his church, and take up a collection and send on to the Sunday School Convention at its annual meeting.

Your Board will take this occasion to beg the churches to rally around the cause of missions and send up more liberal contributions, and thus aid in disseminating the news of Jesus' love. This has been a year of great financial depression; let us bear in mind that while we, as individuals and churches, have felt depressed the cause of Christ must not suffer. Let us do our duty and God will aid us, by not only giving us a democratic victory but an everlasting victory in the future to those that trust in him. May the Good Lord put it in the hearts of his people who call themselves Christians to make sacrifices for his cause as the Lord Jesus Christ made for them, is the prayer of your Board.

Respectfully submitted. GEO. W. MORRALL, Chm'n.

Committee on Nominations reported and report adopted as before mentioned.

The subject of the Centennial Mission Fund was discussed by Rev. A. C. Wilkins, Rev. John G. Williams and Rev. T. M. Bailey. A collection of \$18 was taken for that fund.

A motion by John G. Williams was carried that the Treasurer carry out the resolution to erect a tablet to the memory of Bro. Duncan in the Barnwell church. This motion was reconsidered and the fund, \$14.40, was transferred to the Indigent Ministers' Fund.

On motion of Rev. John G. Williams a collection of \$5.45 was taken to erect a monument to the memory of Rev. Jos. A. Lawton.

The Treasurer's report was offered and a committee appointed, Rev. J. S. Oswald, G. W. Morrall and A. M. Ruth, to examine the same.

The Auditing Committee examined the report and was found correct. It was adopted as follows:

TREASURER'S REPORT.

D. I. PEEPLES, in account with the Savannah River Association:

1891.	DR.	
Nov. 15.	To balance 1890 for Bro. Duncan's monument.....	\$ 8 60
	" cash for Bro. Duncan's monument.....	5 80
	" balance cash from Finance Committee	473 83
	" vouchers from Finance Committee.....	472 07
	" receipts from Bro. Lanier for vouchers.....	65 00
	" receipts from T. M. Bailey, cash turned over by W. V. Lanier.....	150 00
	To receipts from J. A. Hoyt, cash turned over by W. V. Lanier.....	44 75
	Total.....	\$1,220 05
1891.	CR.	
Nov. 15.	By vouchers.....	\$ 469 07
	" Bro. Lanier, receipts for vouchers No. 1.....	65 00
	" T. M. Bailey, receipts for W. V. Lanier, No. 2.....	150 00
	" J. A. Hoyt, " " " " " 3.....	44 75
	" Receipts from Bro. Lanier, lost, No. 5.....	3 00
	" cash Bro. J. M. Bostick for Minutes, No. 4.....	30 55
	" " " " " expenses, No. 5.....	5 00
Nov. 17.	" " " Lanier for Sunday school work, No. 6.....	24 00
	" " for Convention Minutes, T. M. Bailey.....	1 50
	" " T. M. Bailey for State Missions.....	143 86
	" " I. T. Tichenor for Home Missions.....	100 19
	" " H. A. Tupper for Foreign Missions.....	105 33
	" " to Sister Jane Sweet.....	15 52
	" " to Sister Estus.....	5 37
	" " J. A. Hoyt for Ministerial Education... ..	5 00
	" " Miss McIntosh, Woman for Woman.....	37 50
	" " in Treasury for Bro. Duncan's monument.....	14 40
	Total.....	\$1,220 04
	By cash for Register.....	86

The Association then adjourned to 7 P. M.

NIGHT SESSION.

Sermon by Rev. J. W. Bishop from Nehemiah 6th chapter, 3d verse. The Association called to order by the Moderator.

The Committee on Indigent Ministers, D. I. Peoples, chairman, offered its report. Discussed by A. C. Wilkins, D. I. Peoples, W. V. Lanier and F. Jones. Report then adopted. A collection was taken of \$85.00, which, by motion of A. C. Wilkins, was divided between brethren Carson and Trowell.

Report on Indigent Ministers.

We beg leave to report that the small sum of money collected is not at all sufficient to meet the pressing demands of those of our ministers who are in want. We can not very well over estimate the great importance of this work. Our churches should collect with greater regularity and larger amounts. It is necessarily a reflection on us as a denomination that those who have become helpless should want the necessaries of life.

Respectfully submitted.

D. I. PEEPLES, Chm'n.

The Association then adjourned to 10 A. M. Saturday.

SATURDAY MORNING.

After devotional exercises by Rev. C. A. Baynard, the Association called to order by the Moderator.

Report on Home Missions. Remarks by Rev. F. Jones, Bro. Britton, A. C. Wilkins, T. M. Bailey and John G. Williams. Collection for this work \$9.10. Report then adopted.

Report on Home Missions.

It is safe to say that no department of our denominational work has made greater progress in the last few years than Home Missions. That which for years was but a feeble instrumentality, hardly coming up to the claims of healthy existence, has of late developed wonderful robustness, and the gathering and expenditure of sums of money largely in excess of former days. This of course is as it should be, and directly in the line of that order of march, "a little one shall become a thousand, and a small one a great nation." But it is true also that in view of opening fields, of steady demand for laborers and every other kind of help, the resources of the Board are scant and utterly inadequate. When we think of the large number of missionaries to be supported and other enterprises in which the funds of the Board are used, the call is imperative for greatly increased contributions and a better and heartier endorsement of its methods and its work. It is a far reaching and magnificent work, meeting many conditions and grades of our humanity, and can only be successfully operated by loving hearts and generous hands. We might in this report call attention to the number of missionaries employed, churches built, money raised and other matters of statistical importance, but it is information that any one can get who has the cause of missions sufficiently at heart to read the full and exhaustive report of the Home Mission Board for the past Conventional year. Suffice it to say, that a great work is being done; a work that God has honored and most signally blessed, and that it should receive the hearty support of every Baptist within its bounds. Our country is great, our population is immense and the Home Board is working to bless this land with the truth and to provide a spiritual home for wandering thousands who have it not. Let us come up to the Lord's help in this work.

Respectfully submitted.

F. JONES, for Com.

The Report on State Missions was offered by chairman John G. Williams, and discussed by Revs. A. C. Wilkins and T. M. Bailey. Collection for this purpose \$42.85 in cash, subscribed \$100. Report adopted as follows:

Report on State Missions.

The State Mission work of the State Board of South Carolina Baptist State Convention is as important and necessary to-day as when it was first organized. Indeed the work grows larger and more important every year, and, therefore, as its work increases it should have more of the prayers, efforts and money of the Baptists of the State. We can not but rejoice in the good that has been already done by State Missions for the building up of the denomination and the cause of Christ. At many points in the State weak and struggling churches through the help of the State Board have been made self-supporting and put upon a good foundation of growth and usefulness. The Board has wrought a good work particularly in towns where Baptists were numerically weak and had no houses of worship. The beautiful as well as substantial houses of worship at St. Georges, at Walterboro and at Hampton, and their growing membership are largely the work of the State Mission Board.

Perhaps nowhere is the importance and necessity of our State Mission work more fully seen than in the work that it has done and is doing in the new towns that are springing up along the lines of the new railroads that are being built all over the State. A Baptist church in every new town that promises to be a centre of trade and population is the aim and effort of our State Board. The State Board is further doing a great work in unifying the denomination in the State. We are to-day, and largely through the State Board, better organized and more united in work and heart than ever before. State Mission work is also developing the strength of the denomination. The denomination in this State is growing in numbers, and in liberality in giving, and in effectiveness for work, and this strength has been brought about in great measure through the training that the State Mission work has given it. And in this unifying and development of the denomination, all our other work of Foreign Missions, Furman University, Home Missions, the Seminary, the Orphanage and the Sunday school work are helped and promoted. It is the work, I believe, that involves and carries on the other work. It is a token of the divine favor to our State Mission work, that the men into whose hands it has been committed from the beginning, J. O. B. Dargan, J. K. Mendenhall, John F. Morrall, A. W. Lamar, W. H. Strickland, R. H. Griffith and the present Secretary, T. M. Bailey, have been competent and faithful men. May the life and the health of our brother, Dr. T. M. Bailey, be continued for many years to come and all these years be spent in this State Mission work so dear to his heart and so safe in his hands.

Respectfully submitted.

JNO. G. WILLIAMS, for Com.

Report on Time and Place of Next Meeting was heard and adopted as stated.

The report on the Connie Maxwell Orphanage was taken up and discussed by Rev. T. M. Bailey, Rev. A. C. Wilkins, W. V. Lanier. A collection of \$10.37 cash was obtained and \$10.00 was subscribed by the Brunson church. Report adopted as follows:

Report on Connie Maxwell Orphanage.

At the last Association it was requested that a Committee on the Orphanage be made one of the standing committees. The request was granted. Your committee beg leave to report:

The Connie Maxwell Orphanage is an accomplished fact. It was established one year ago at Greenwood, S. C. The first building was opened in May. It will accommodate comfortably thirty children. There are now seventeen enrolled, others will come in soon: at least eighty have applied for admission. The Superintendent and Board of Managers are moving slowly and cautiously. The desire is to have all parts of the State represented. The building could be filled readily from two or three Associations near by, but the policy will be to get some from every Association.

An effort is being made to put up another building. The plan for that is to induce the children of the State to erect a cottage which shall be known as "The Children's Cottage." Each child is asked to give one dollar toward the building.

The support of the Orphanage will be by voluntary contributions from friends. These contributions will be in money, clothing, bedding, provisions of all kinds. Individuals, Sunday schools or societies are asked to take one child to support. Some have already undertaken it. The Ladies' Society, of the Beaufort church, is raising six dollars a month to board, clothe and educate little Hattie Southerland, whose likeness they have.

The Savannah River Association will be expected, of course, to join the other Associations of the State in supporting this noble institution. At the last meeting nothing was raised for it. Since then the Superintendent, Rev. J. L. Vass, has received from Savannah River \$46.50. The committee would urge the Association to begin heartily to aid in the building up and supporting of this home for destitute orphans.

Respectfully submitted.

A. C. WILKINS, for Com.

A resolution on prohibition was offered by Rev. John G. Williams, and after being amended by motion of Rev. John T. Morrison so as to include the social club evil, it was unanimously adopted as follows:

Resolved, That we as a Christian body rejoice at the overwhelming prohibition sentiment as expressed at the late democratic State primary election. It is our conviction that it is the duty of the approaching legislature to pass a prohibitory liquor law, to include the social club as well as the bar or saloon.

The Committee on Correspondence made its report which was adopted without discussion, as follows:

Report on Correspondence.

After carefully perusing the letters from the churches we can say with pride some of them have done nobly while others have done so little that we are sorrowfully reminded of indifference, and fear that a great deal of the scarcity of funds is for want of systematic contributions, and would suggest to the churches and pastors the great importance of such an undertaking, so that when the annual meeting or Association meets each church will have collected the money necessary to liquidate the amount asked for and apportioned.

We rejoice to say that several additions by baptism show that we are growing numerically and trust we are growing in grace. That in the not far distant future we shall see that each one feeling his or her responsibility, more and more will be done in the way of contributions and that greater zeal and self-denial will be exhibited. We should not forget the noble work our female missionary societies, who are endeavoring to do their part in this grand work of our Lord and Master.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. BISHOP, Chm'n.

The Association then adjourned to 7 P. M.

NIGHT SESSION.

The Moderator called the Association to order. Prayer by Rev. F. Jones.

The Association resolved itself into a mass meeting to discuss and consider the Savannah River Baptist Association Academy, with Rev. J. G. Williams in the chair. Speeches were made by Revs. F. Jones, John T. Morrison, W. V. Lanier and John G. Williams. Collection obtained amounting to \$651.25 in addition to the \$6,000 offered by the town of Varnville.

Association resumed business.

The report on Foreign Missions was adopted without discussion, as follows:

Report on Foreign Missions.

Foreign Missions have been discussed to such an extent that a definition is scarcely necessary. About one hundred years ago our beloved William Carey preached his memorable sermon that was the first note of that glorious theme—Foreign Missions—among Baptists. Having been moved by the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature," he brought the injunction earnestly before his brethren and directed their minds to the host, almost innumerable, in foreign lands that were "moving on to the pale realms of shade" and to

an eternity unprepared. He pointed others to their duty and transmitted some of the fire of his soul into theirs and urged them to their duty. Thus was this great work started.

Now, what has it done? Through it Christian people have gone into the jungles of Africa, to the Chinese, Hindoo and every other nation, and now only one small country in the whole world has been left to open its borders and let in the light of Christ. It has reclaimed countries lost in barbarism and heathenism not only to civilization and commerce, but is fast drawing them to Christ.

Through the instrumentality of the Foreign Mission work the scriptures are being fulfilled and truly "Ethiopia is calling unto her God and the islands of the sea are stretching forth their hands.

Are we doing our duty? Do not we, many of us, turn a deaf ear to the cries for the Bread of Life as they come from dark Africa and to the wails as they come from the isles of the sea?

The Southern Baptists numbering 1,250,000 are contributing about \$120,000, or about ten cents each, annually to carry on this great work. Should we not blush for shame when we think of the sacrifices and labors of those earnest, God fearing laborers that have gone to carry the news of salvation to those in their darkness and sin when we consider that only ten cents is contributed by each member of the Baptist Church South to save the souls of those people—to carry out the commands of the scriptures? Let us be up and doing. Let us work while it is day, for the night surely cometh to us and to them and, oh, how dark must be their night if they know not Christ.

Respectfully submitted.

W. V. LANIER, for Com.

A collection was taken to erect a monument to the memory of Rev. J. T. Sweat amounting to \$2.25.

The Association then adjourned to 10 A. M. Sunday.

SUNDAY MORNING.

Sunday school mass meeting called to order with Rev. F. Jones in the chair. The meeting was addressed by W. V. Lanier and D. I. Peoples.

The missionary sermon was preached by Rev. A. C. Wilkins. Text, 96th Psalm, 10th verse; Acts 22d chapter, 21st verse; revelations 11th chapter, 15th verse.

A collection of \$20.45 for Foreign Missions was taken.

It was moved by the Rev. John T. Morrison that the Association through the Moderator extend to this church their hearty thanks for generous Christian hospitality shown the delegates and visitors. Unanimously carried.

Moved by Rev. A. C. Wilkins that of the money at the disposal of the Association, \$5 be paid for Clerk's expenses, the balance to be paid to W. V. Lanier for services as Sunday school missionary.

The Finance Committee report was offered by W. V. Lanier and adopted without discussion as follows:

Report of Finance Committee

Your committee begs leave to report that the cash sent to the Association and collected during the session amounts to \$516 25. The receipts show that \$575 86 has been sent during the year and \$191.38 has been reported without receipts, making a grand total of \$1 278.49 contributed to the various missions and charitable purposes since our last meeting.

It has been distributed as follows:

Association Minutes.....	\$ 29 85
Convention Minutes.....	2 00
State Missions.....	348 37
Home Missions.....	125 79
Foreign Missions.....	212 78
Furman University.....	62 00
Ministerial Education.....	63 70
Indigent Ministers and Families of Deceased Ministers.....	45 46
Connie Maxwell Orphanage.....	57 87
Centennial Fund.....	19 80
Sunday School Work.....	75 53
Woman's Mission to Woman.....	37 65
Monument for Rev. J. A. Lawton.....	5 45
Monument for Rev. J. T. Sweat.....	4 46
Expense Fund of Central Committee.....	2 40
Expense Clerk's Office.....	5 00

Total of cash and Vouchers.....\$1,092 11
Respectfully submitted.

W. V. LANIER, Chm'n.

After prayer, a parting hymn was sung. The Moderator adjourned the meeting to the Thursday before the third Sunday in November next at the Lawtonville church.

J. M. BOSTICK, Moderator.

H. Q. ADAMS, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF DECORUM
OF THE
SAVANNAH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be known by the name of the SAVANNAH RIVER BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

ART. 2. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the respective churches in its Union, not to exceed three from each church, who shall be members of the church delegating them, and so authorized by letter from said church.

ART. 3. In letters sent by the churches at each session of the Association shall be expressed their respective numbers in full fellowship, those baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated, and died, since last session.

ART. 4. Believing it proper, on account of a diversity of sentiment among men as to the import of doctrines contained in the Old and New Testaments, to declare our belief and understanding thereof. We therefore admit as expressive of our sentiments in general the "Confession of Faith" which was adopted and published by ministers and messengers of upwards of one hundred Baptist churches in England and Wales in 1868; also, the summary of church discipline adopted by the Charleston Baptist Association of South Carolina.

ART. 5. This Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum. A Moderator, Clerk, and Treasurer shall be elected by the suffrage of the members present, given invariably by ballot, who shall hold their offices until the next session, and until their successors are elected. The Moderator shall preside at the meetings of the Association, and the Clerk shall record the proceedings thereof and prepare them for the press.

ART. 6. The Association, thus organized, shall have no power to interfere in any shape with the entire independence of the individual churches.

ART. 7. Baptist churches may be admitted into this Union upon application by letter and delegates; and if, upon examination, found to be orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegation by the Moderator.

ART. 8. The Association shall furnish the churches with the minutes of their proceedings in proportion to the funds sent up for that purpose.

ART. 9. The minutes of the Association shall be publicly and distinctly read (and corrected, if necessary), and then signed by the Moderator and Clerk before adjournment.

ART. 10. Any amendment or alteration of this Constitution may be made by the vote of two-thirds of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association (of which notice must be given in the minutes), and the concurrence of two-thirds of the members present at the next session thereof. All other matters shall be decided by a majority of votes.

ART. 11. The Association shall have power—

1st. To provide for the general union of churches.

2d. To give the churches advice and counsel in matters of difficulty.

3d. To inquire into the cause of any church failing to be represented at the meeting of the Association.

4th. To withdraw all connection from any church or churches in this Union who shall violate the rules of this Association, or shall deviate from the orthodox principles of the revealed religion of Jesus Christ.

5th. To appropriate the moneys contributed to the Association by the churches to any purpose they may think proper.

6th. To adjourn themselves to any time and place they may deem most convenient to the churches of the Union.

RULES OF DECORUM.

1. At every meeting of the Association the Moderator shall call the members to order, and on appearance of a quorum shall cause the Clerk to read the minutes of the preceding meeting at same session.

2. The Moderator shall preserve order, may speak to points of order in preference to other members and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members.

3. The Moderator shall put a question distinctly in this form, viz.: "As many as are of this opinion (as the question may be) say 'Aye';" and, after the affirmative opinion is expressed, "As many as are of contrary opinion say 'No.'" If doubtful which has the majority, any other mode may be adopted to ascertain the vote.

4. The Moderator shall appoint committees, except in case of appointment by ballot.

5. In all cases of ballot, the Moderator may vote; in other cases he shall not vote unless the Association be equally divided, or, unless his vote, if given to the minority, will make the division equal, and, in cases of such equal division, the question shall be lost.

6. When any one is about to speak in debate, he shall rise and address himself respectfully to the Moderator.

7. If any member, in speaking or otherwise, shall transgress the rules of decorum, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call to order.

8. When two or more members happen to rise at the same time, the Moderator shall decide who is to speak first.

9. No member shall speak more than twice on the same question without leave of the Association, nor more than once until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

10. Whilst the Moderator is putting the question, or addressing the Association, no one shall walk out of, or across the house; nor, either in such a case, or when a member is speaking, shall entertain private discourse, nor shall pass between him and the chair, but every member is required to pay strict attention.

11. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Moderator before debate.

12. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Moderator or any member desires it.

13. After a motion is stated by the Moderator, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn at any time before decided or amended.

14. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received unless to amend, or to refer to a committee, or for previous question, or for adjournment.

15. A motion to adjourn shall always be in order and decided without debate.

16. The previous question shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by five members (or more), and, until decided, shall preclude all debate and amendment of the main question. There shall be no debate on a previous question.

17. Any member may call for a division of a question, where the sense will admit of it.

18. Motions and amendments may be referred to a committee at the pleasure of the Association.

19. Every resolution shall receive two statements or readings in the Association previous to its passage. The first shall be for information, and the second when the decision of the Association is to be made.

20. No important decision shall be made on any question, or alteration in these rules, but at a regular and full meeting.

21. Prayer shall be made by the Moderator, or some other member, at the opening and closing of every conference.