

Summary
Oakland Primitive Baptist Church
Chickasaw County, Mississippi
1869-1917



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2

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1988

OAKLAND PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
Chickasaw County, Miss.

The following is a list of members of subject church in September 1869:

Whites: R. B. Gunn, pastor, R. M. Gunn, deacon, P. H. Houghton, deacon, L.R. Gunn, I. Roberts, R. Russell, deacon, F. H. Gunn, S.F. Gunn, L. M. Cason., Stacy Greene, Sarah McCown, Mary Thomas, (later dismissed), W. L. Crouch, A.B. Crouch, W. R. Gunn, S. W. Townsend, W. P. Gillispie, Jr., O. D. Gunn, L. G. Bobo, Emma. S. Fuller, Mary J. Gillispie, Annie McCary, Alice Gillispie, Falvina McMillian, Mary Tassly, W. B. Gunn, J. G. Cary.

Colored: Patrick Gunn, Tony Gunn, Bob Gunn, Antony Gunn (decd), Norris Gunn, Henry Gunn, Flick Gunn, Add Gunn, Nealus Gunn, Harmon Gunn, Silence Gunn, Stephen Gunn, Mima Gunn, Hulda Gunn, Clarrisy (dead), Leah Gunn, LydiaGunn, Rachel Gunn, Yellow Betsy Gunn, Harriet Gunn, Sarah Gunn, Easter Haughton, Alfred Gillispie, Larry Gillispie, Martha Gunn, Lou Gunn, Violet Gunn, Becka Davis, Sam Robertson, Rose Gunn (dead), Phillis Gunn (dead), Fanny Gunn, Sylvia Gunn, Moriah Gunn, Bill Gunn, Caroline Gunn, Sally Gunn, Melvina Gunn, Charles Gunn, Agnes Gunn, Patsey Gunn, Emily Gunn, Chasity Gunn, Black Betsey Gunn, Jane Gunn (died 6/P7/1865), John Greene (dead), Henry Greene (dead), Patrick Gunn, Carolyn Seely (dismissed), Hannaheely (dismissed), Polly Seely (dismissed), Harrison Gunn.

Apparently the membership list was first kept in the front part of this book. There are several pages cut out - the Constitution of the church is given.

CONSTITUTION OF OAKLAND CHURCH, CHICKASAW COUNTY, MISS.

We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, members of the primitive or Original United Baptist, dismissed from Aberdeen (Ms), our mother church in full fellowship for the purpose of constituting a church at Oakland County and state aforesaid. mentioned, did with the aid of Samuel C. Johnson, Jes Pearsall and Alfred Ellis, presbytry, invited to aid in office with understanding and agreement.

Do covenant to live in a church capacity to God and with one another to observe all the ordinates and commands of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To maintain gospel discipline in gospel conference. To reprove error; strengthen the feeble, provoke each other to love and good works. To bear and forebear in tenderness and love to pray one for another and by life and conservation earnestly contend for the faith. once delivered to the saints.

And that we be dutiful in our attendance at the place appointed for our stated and public worship of God. We have therefore adopted the annexed abstract principles of faith and doctrine (decorum) which is as follows:

Article 1. We believe in one only true and living God and that there is a trinity of persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost and yet, these are not three gods but one God.

Article 2. We believe that the scriptures of the old and new testament are the word of God and the only avering rule of faith and practice.

Article 3. We believe in the fall of man and the imputation of sin to his posterity. The corruption of human nature and the incapacity of man to recover himself thereupon by his own will or ability.

Article 4. We believe in the everlasting love of God to his people and the eternal election of a definite number to grace and glory. That there was a covenant of grace or redemption made between the father and son before the world began, in which their salvation was secured, and that they in particular are redeemed (That is the Elect.)

Article 5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by righteousness on Christ imputed to them.

Article 6. We believe that all those chosen in Christ will be effectually called, regenerated, converted, sanctified and supported by the power of God so that they will persevere in grace and not one of them be finally lost.

Article 7. We believe that good works are the fruits of faith and follow after justification and only justify us in the sight of men and angels and are only evidence of our gracious state.

Article 8. We believe that there will be a resurrection of the dead and a general judgment and the happiness

of righteous and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

Article 9. We believe that Baptism and washing the saints' feet and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ and that true believers are the only subjects and that a ? in water is the only scriptural mode of baptism.

Article 10. We believe that no ministers have a right to the administration of the ordinances, only such as are regularly baptised and come under the imposition of the hands of a presbytery.

Article 11. We believe that none but regularly baptised members have a right to commune at the Lord's table.

A list of members given following the articles which could be the charter members:

Whites: R. B. Gunn, pastor, J. T. Seely (dismissed), R.M. Gunn (deacon), R. L. Russell (deacon), F. N. Gunn, S. F. Gunn, Sarah Seely (dismissed), Sarah McClown, Stacy Greene, L.M. Field, Martha Ellis (dead), Mary Thomas, R. Keaton (Dead) and wife, P. H. Haughton (deacon), Johnson Roberts (died? Sept. 1869).

Colored: Clasisy, Mema, Hulder, Toney, George.

At this point other pages are torn or cut out and the minutes commence January 1859.

January 1859

Preaching - nobusiness. R.M. Gunn Church Clerk.

February 1859

Preaching - no business.

March 1859

Agreed to have Lord's supper at the May meeting. Preaching on Saturday and Sunday.

April 1859

Preaching on Saturday by Brother Seely. The church appointed brethren R. B. Gunn, J. T. Seely, R. Russell, and R. M. Gunn as delegates to visit Okolona or Zion Church in Okolona at their regular meeting in June next for the purpose of inquiring into or finding out if possible whether or not there be heresy among them.

June 1859

Appointed R. B. Gunn, J. T. Seely as delegates to Union Meeting. Alternate delegate was R. Russell.

July 1859

The committee sent to Okolona reported that the Zion church did not receive the letter in church order and no satisfaction was obtained. Appointed Brother R. M. Gunn to notify George, a black brother, to attend the next meeting to give an account for his conduct in fighting his overseers (George belonged to R. M. Gunn). R. B. Gunn served as moderator.

August 1859

Preaching by Brother Seely. The case of brother George continued until the next meeting. It was decided to visit the Zion Church at Okolona again to denounce the error which the church (Oakland) conceived and believed they (Zion) were in. Which error as Oakland believed was (continued on next page)

denying was the resurrection from the dead. A delegation appointed and R. M. Gunn appointed to visit Aberdeen and Ebenezer churches for help to go with the delegation.

September 1859

The church authorized a letter of dismissal to brother R. Russell as he was expected to move away.

October 1859

Brother George case continued until the next meeting.

November 1859

No business

December 1859

No decision in the case of Brother George.

January 1860

No meeting due to cold snowy weather.

February 1860

Brother George was forgiven.

March 1860

Preaching by Brother Gunn.

April 1860

Preaching by brothers Gunn and Seely.

May 1860

Preaching by brother hunter. Received Nancy (R.M. Gunn)

2nd Sunday May 1860

Baptised Nancy. Brother Crawford was attendance .

June 1860

No business

July 1860

Received brother Robert R. Keaton and sister Mary Anna Keaton by letter. Appointed brethren J. T. Seely, R. M. Gunn, and Robert R. Keaton as delegates to Union meeting.

August 1860

No business.

September 1860

Association delegates appointed were brethren R. B. Gunn, J. T. Seely and R. Russell. R. M. Gunn alternate delegate.

October 1860

The Association convened at the church. (Oakland)

November - December 1860

No business.

January 1861

No business.

February 1861

No business.

March 1861

No business.

April 1861

The church experienced bad weather during the past few months.

May 1861

Received Ann (R.B. Gunn) on Saturday. She was baptised on Sunday.

June 1861

No conference.

July 1861

Preaching on Sunday after which the bread and wine were administered. R.B. Gunn, moderator, R.M. Gunn church clerk.

August 1861

No conference.

September 1861

Appointed delegates to Association meeting.

October- December 1861; January - July 1862.

No conference.

August 1862

The Union meeting held at the church for three days. All (other) churches failed to represent themselves.

September-October 1862

Regular services.

November 1862

Received Charles, Agnes, Patsey, Emily, Mosiah, Easter and Chasity by experience and who belonged to R.B. Gunn.

December 1862

No conference.

January 1863

Received Stephen and Betsy by experience (belonged to R.B. Gunn).

February 1863

Preaching by brother Seely. Received by experience Rose, Philis, Fanny, Sylva, Murah, Bill, Norris, Antony, Henry, and Eleck belonging to R.B. Gunn. Also received by experience Leah, Jane, Lydia and Rachel (R.M. Gunn) and John (McDuffin Greene).

March 1863

No conference.

April 1863

Received Alford and Levy (W.P. Gillispie), Henry, (Stacy Greene). Brother R.M. Gunn reported Anthony, Caroline, Clarsey, Sally, Melvina, Lydia, and Rachel for telling lies knowingly. After investigation and upon their acknowledgements the church thought it proper to forgive them. Brother R. M. Gunn allso reported Dan and Georgia for stealing and lying. After investigation both were excluded.

May 1863

No business.

June 1863

Letters of dismission granted black sister Nancy (R.M. Gunn). This on 5/24/1863. Received Patrick and Add (R.B. Gunn) and Yellow Betsey (William R. Gunn).

July 1863

Appointed R.B. Gunn, J.T. Seely and R.M. Gunn to Union meeting to be held at Oakland Church in August next.

August 1863

Held Union meeting with the Ebenezer and Church hill

churches represented. Preaching by brothers Ellis and Flanagin. The next association set to be held at the Ebenezer church in Monroe County, Miss., commencing on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in October 1864.

September 1863
No conference.

October 1863
Appointed delegates to next Association meeting which was to be held at the Union Church.

November 1863
No business.

December 1863
Preaching by Elder Hunter.

January - April 1864
No business.

May 1864
Preaching by brother Gunn and Seely. Tony, a, black brother belonging to R.B. Gunn acknowledged he had been having sexual intercourse with a woman not his wife. After investigation he was forgiven by the church.

June 1864
The church was in peace and harmony.

July 1864
Preaching by brother Alfred Ellis. Received Easter (J. H. Haughton), Polly (J.T. Seely), Nealus, Rob, Harmon, Harriett and Sarah. (R.B. Gunn).

August 1864
No conference.

September 1864
Regular service. Appointed delegates to next Association meeting. Note same names mentioned before.

October 1864
Brother Seely granted letters of dismissal for himself

and wife and for his servants, Polly, Hannah, and Caroline.

November 1864

No preaching due to the death of India E. Gunn who died Saturday and was buried Sunday. This would have been the 3rd Saturday and Sunday of November 1864. Brother T.H. FLaughton received by experience.

December 1864

"This meeting closes an other (another) year and we have great reasons to be thankful to God that it is as well with us as it is. While many have fallen on the right and left and some from among us, we have been spared. God has blessed us during the past year, both temporally and spiritually, for all of which we desire to return gratitude and praise." (Written by the clerk R.M. Gunn). This no doubt refers to the Civil War or the War of Rebellion as some prefer to call is.

January 1865

Too cold and rainy for conference.

February 1865

No business. All in peace.

March 1865

No business. Cold and rainy.

April-May 1865

No conference.

June 1865

"All in peace and fellowship for which we ought to be thankful to the Great Head of the Church.."

July 1865

Appointed Elder R.B. Gunn and brethren P.H. (or T.H.) Haughton and R.M. Gunn as delegates to the Union meeting to be held at Church Hill church ommencing on Friday before the first Sunday in August next 1865.

"Since our last meeting, Jane Gunn, a colored sister has departed this life. She expressed herself willing to go. Said she would be better off and was going home. Had no doubt of her acceptance with God. We cannot judge the heart but to all appearances she died in the full triumphs of faith." Written by clerk R. M. Gunn.

August 1865

The church., with all visiting brethren, came together to commemorate the death of the Savior by bread and drinking wine.

September 1865

Brother P.H. Haughton chosen as deacon.

October 1865

Brother P.H. Haughton ordained as deacon by presbretary of pastor Gunn and brother Flanagan. Elder W.C. Hunter arrived too late to participate.

November-December 1865

No conference.

January - May 1866

No business.

June 1866

Regular service.

July - December 1866; January - August 1867

No business.

September 1867

Appointed R.B. Gunn., P.H. Haughton, and R.M. Gunn as Association delegates.

October 1867

No preaching on Saturday due to death of Little Matt

G. Gillespie on the night before.

November-December 1867; January - May 1868
No business.

June 1868
Henry Greene (freedman) granted a letter of dismissal.

July 1868
No preaching on Sunday due to illness of brother R.R. Gunn.
Appointed delegates to Union meeting.

August 1868
Received Z.R. Gunn by experience.

September-November 1868
No business.

December 1868
"This meeting closes the year 1868 as to monthly meetings
and with it still abides coldness, doubt and gloom as to the
present and future."

January - June 1869
No business.

July 1869
Received by experience the following freedmen, Spence Gunn,
Martha Gunn, Lou Gunn, Violet Gunn, Becka Davis, and Sam Roberson.

August 1869
No business.

September 1869
Received Z. Johnson Roberts by letter.

October-December 1869
No conference.

January - July 1860
No business.

August 1870
The Union meeting to be held at the Ebenezer church commencing
on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in August 1870.

September - December 1870
No business.

January - August 1871

No business.

September 1871

Received Sherod Townsend, W.R. Gunn, Annie Clay and Emma Fuller by experience. Elders Coleman, Halbert, Oden and Gunn were present (It is assumed that meetings were on Saturday before 3rd Sunday of each month.) On Thursday night following the church. Received by experience Mary J. Gillespie, Alice Gillespie, and Malrina McWilliams. L. G. Bobo joined the church on Saturday night. He had been a member of the Missionary Baptist church. On Sunday morning O.D. Gunn and Mary Tapley joined by experience. Preaching followed the next Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. On Saturday night W.P. Gillespie joined by experience. Preaching followed on the next Wednesday & Saturday nights. On Saturday night J.T. Cain, John Haley and Elizabeth W. Haley joined by experience.

October 1871

No business.

November 1871

Preaching by brother Norris. A letter of dismission granted Sister Mary Thomas.

December 1871

By request of the colored members of the church, the church dismissed all of them so as to set up their own church. The church examined and liberated Bob and Spence Gunn to preach. This actually done in November 1871.

January - April 1872

No business.

May 1872

Preaching by brother Mills. Agreed to appoint the May

and September monthly meetings as regular communion meetings. Also agreed to appoint the first Sunday in August as the regular annual meeting.

June 1872
No business.

July 1872
Appointed brethren W.R. Gunn, W.P. Gillespie and Z.R. Gunn to fix up the church with railings and such other things they might think proper.

August 1872
A letter from brother S.W. Townsend requesting his name be stricken from the roll of members was read and referred to the next meeting. At a meeting at the Arm (branch of church) in brother Couch neighborhood, brother C.E. Couch and sister Martha Mixon were received and baptised.

September 1872
No business.

October 1872
Brother S.W. Townsend was excluded after deliberation and consultation.

Then there was a, period where the church clerk was absent for a length of time when no business of any importance occurred.

July 1873
Granted letter of dismission to sister Malvina McWilliams.

August-September 1873
Regular services.

October 1873
Received sister ?Russell by experience.

November-December 1873
No business.

January 1874
No meeting due to bad weather.

February 1874
Granted letter of dismission to J.T. Cason

and his wife L.M. Cason.

March 1874

No preaching or conference due to bad weather.

April-May 1874

Regular services.

June 1874

Brother L.G. Bobo granted letter of dismissal through R.M. Gunn.

July-August 1874

No business.

September 1874

Appointed delegates Elder R.B. Gunn, P.H. Haughton and I Roberts to attend the next Association meeting in Ebenezer church in Monroe County Ms.

October-December 1874 No business.

January - November 1875 Preaching but no business.

December 1875 No minutes.

January - March 1876 No minutes.

April - July 1876 No business

1877: Preaching throughout the summer but no business.

1878: No preaching until July 1878.

July 1878

Preaching by brother Little. Granted letters of dismissal to L.J. Roberts, Martha Mixon, A.B. Couch and C.E. Couch for the purpose of constituting a church at what was known as the Arm of the Oakland Church.

September-December 1878 Preaching but no business.

January -April 1879 No business.

May 1879

Preaching by brother Burman from Mosoria? Sister A.S. Roberts was added to the church book since she joined at

the Arm "Eanon"

June 1879

Excluded sister Alice Gillespie for joining the Methodist church at Buckatuna.

July 1879

Old School or Primitive Baptist church was endorsed by the Oakland church.

August 1879

Granted letter of dismission to sister S.A. Roberts.

September 1879 No business.

October 1879

The church. liberated L.R. Gunn to exercise his gift (preach) in any way he might think proper.

November - December 1879; January - April 1880 No minutes.

May 1880

Brothers P.H. Haughton, W.R. Gunn, W.P. Gillespie and R.M. Gunn appointed to visit the Arm of Oakland at Enon and try to settle a difficulty between brothers Roberts and Little.

June 1880

Conference at Enon (Evon?). Preaching by brother Virell who also acted as moderator and P.H. Haughton as clerk. The first business was to ascertain the rights and ? of an Arrm, she having dealt with brother L.J. Roberts and excluded him upon the charges of forging and lying, and in order that the church. (Oakland) might have counsel, the Evanese? and Elbethel churches were called on for help.

The churches sent brothers E.D. Pitts, O.C. Davis, William Davis and Duke Childs. The decision was that an Arm had no right to deal with members. The charges against brother L.J. Roberts were brought up with the forgery charge not being sustained and the charge of lying was settled by an acknowledgement.

The case of Elder J. Little was taken up and after considering the evidence, the church preferred charges against him (charges not listed). Brother C.D. Pittes, William Little and C.E. Couch. appointed to notify said Elder Little of the charges against him and have him appear at Oakland church to answer said charges on Saturday before the first Sunday in August.

July 1880

W.P. Gillespie, moderator pro-tem. A reading was conducted by two brothers. One read a certain communication from Elder R.B. Gunn to the Tombigbee Association while the other displayed "signs (sighs) of the times." Topic of letter was "Signs of the Times."

August 1880

Took up the reference from Eanon (the Arm) relative to the case of Elder J.E. Little. The church ruled that he be excluded and that he give up his letter of dismissal from the church. Brother C.E. Couch then brought a charge of falsehood against brother L.J. Roberts. After deliberation he was excluded from the church.

September 1880 No business.

October 4, 1880

Our beloved and long continued pastor Elder R.B. Gunn departed this life. Never more to hear his rousing? voice calling poor sinners to repentance and feeding the flock of Christ with the rich promises of the gospel and defending Zion from all appearances of heresy and falls (false) doctrine into which he found many who called themselves Primitive Baptist had fallen. This (That) for several years before his death had more weight on his mind than almost anything else. Hence the many letters which have appeared at different times in several religious papers, viz: The Zion Advocate, Baptist Watchman, Primitive Baptist and perhaps others. His who soul, mind and spirit were served up against all false ways - not for contsorenry (controversy?) but for truth sake. The writer of this who knew Elder R.B. Gunn perhaps better than any other living man says: That he was born in Brunswick County, Virginia, on the 12th day of July 1805. His parents moved from there to Tennessee while (he) was quite a boy and from there to Alabama in which state he grew to manhood. Maine (main) profession, a hope in Christ and soon after joining the Baptist church (no devision-division then), the church (Mount Pleasant) called for his ordination - which took place in 1839 or 1840. In 1841 he with his then little family moved to Mississippi and settled in Monroe County. Then it was that the churches began to divide on the question of missionism. He took the side now known as Primitive Baptist from which he never departed but grew more and more

confident (if possible,) the longer he lived that he was continuing for the true faith as was delivered to the saints by Christ and his apostles.

He, although firm and unyielding in all his religious opinions, was tolerant to others in all things. He was no fireside or pulpit fighter but mild, gentle and ? in all things of a temporal (temporary) and spiritual character. He was a good, kind and affectionable husband, a loving and indulgent father ruling his household well yet by kind and gentle means. The writer can truthfully say of this good man that no one of his natural tempermint ever had more complete control of self, both in words and actions, then he had. His (deportment?) at home-and abroad was orderly and his conversation godly. He was a pattern of piety in all good works to young and old, white or black.

Having been taught at an early day in life from his good parents both by ? and example, the necessity of seeking the Kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things should be added unto him, seemed in his case to be most wonderfully demonstrated - beginning life with small means he seemed rather to out step those of equal chance and when the war commenced he had accumulated much of the goods of this life, the larger portion of which went as did all of like nature. But after the war, unlike almost all others of like (occupation, he gathered faster than at any other time of his same no. of years, untold? much.

No business for balance of the year.

January - February 1881 No minutes.

March- April 1881

Preaching by brother W.M. Little.

May 1881

Elder J.E. Little came forward with certificate from Emans Church signed by Elder C.E. Verell stating that brother J.E. Little had given them perfect satisfaction as to the charges preferred against him. Whereupon he was restored in the Oakland church.

June - July 1881 No conference.

August 1881

The district Union meeting held at Oakland church with members W.R. Gunn, W.P. Gillespie and Samuel Ingram from said church. Representing Newhope was Elder J.H. Oden. Brother Munro (Monroe) Holliday from Ebenezer.

September 1881 No conference.

October 1881

Preaching on Saturday by Brother A.J. Coleman and by brother Coleman and brother W.M. Little where Logan D. Brandon was received by experience.

November - December 1881 No conference.

January 1882

Preaching by brother Little. Brother J.E. Little granted a letter of dismissal through his son W.M. Little.

February - July 1882 No business.

August 1882

Received brother McIngram by experience. Brother R.M. Gunn, who had been church clerk since church organized,

resigned. The church. then elected brother W.R. Gunn to fill his place.

September 1882

The Tombigbee Association met with the Oakland church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in September. The church. received Mrs. Fannie G. Carlisle by experience on 9/24/1882 and she was baptised at 3 p.m. on same day by Elder J.T. Seeley.

October 1882

No business.

November 1882

A call meeting was held on 10/13/1882 to settle a matter of business difference between brothers R.M. Gunn and R.Z. Russell. Brother R.M. Gunn announced himself ready but brother Russell objected to proceeding unless either brother P.H. Haughton or brother John Haley were present. The matter was deferred until Friday before the next meeting. (This Friday before the 1st Sunday in December.) The church. announced that it should have been stated before that R.M. Gunn had announced himself as being hurt with brother Russell and had taken Gospel steps to remedy the matter before bringing it to the church.

December 1882

Unable to come to a conclusion of the matter of bad feeling between brother Russell and Gunn. The matter was continued until the next meeting.

January 1883

No conference.

February 1883

Appointed brothers Haley, Brandon and W.R. Gunn to

work with brothers Gunn and Russell and cite them to the next meeting.

March 1883

It was agreed by brethren Gunn and Russell to give each a clear receipt in regards to there business dealings. Afterward brother Russell charged with false facts for which. he was excluded.

April - August 1883

No business except a letter of dismissal granted brother W. C. Ingram in August.

September 1883

Association meeting held at Land Creek church. in Lee County, Ms.

October - December 1883; January - February 1884 No conference.

March - June 1884 No business.

July 1884

Brother C.E. Couch reported for non attendance. Also that there was a difference between Brother Couch and W.M. Little.

August 1884

Brother C.E. Couch. appeared along with. brother J.R. Carter. The church decided it was all just a misunderstanding between brothers Couch and Little and the matter was settled. Brother Couch from the Arm (branch.) church, of Oakland and Brother Little from the newly constituted church Mount Olive.

September - October 1884 No business

November 1884

It was reported that brother C. E. Couch at the arm was not living up to the agreement and settlement made with brother W. M. Little. He was cited to appear at the next meeting.

List of Members - September 1883

R. M. Gunn - died 2/6/1906
P. H. Haughton - died 7/30/1906
L. R. Gunn
R. L. Russell -excluded March 1883
Sister F. N. Gunn - died 11/17/1906
William R. Gun
W.P. Gillispie Sr. - died 1904
O. D. Gunn
Sister M. J. Gillespie
Sister A. M. Haughton
Sister M.A. Hodges
John Haly - dismissed by letter 8/31/1889
Sister Eliza Haley - dismissed by letter 8/31/1889
L. D. Brandon
Sister F.G. Carlisle - received 9/1882
M. C. Ingram - dismissed by letter 8/18/1883
J. R. Carter - dimissed by letter 8/16/1883
F. W.? Dunkin? - receivedc by Arm at Enon 11/1884 and dismissed
by letter 12/6/1884
L. J. Roberts - restored 3/1/1885 and dismissed by letter 3/1/1885
Sister Hattie Gunn - received 7/3/1886

Sister J. R. Richardson - received 9/4/1886 died 6/28/1897
J. S. Peel - received 9/26/1886
Sister W. B. Gunn - received 8/28/1887
Sister M. J. Gunn - received 8/17/1890
Sister Tallie Baskin - received 10/29/1891
S. B. Gillespie - received 10/29/1891
F. L. Peel - received 9/23/1892, then dismissed by letter on same date
S. W. Townsend - reinstated 8/1/1896, dismissed by letter on same date
F. J. Allen - received 12/2/1900

December 1884

The matter between brothers Couch and Little was worked out satisfactorily.

January - February 1885 No business

March 1885

Brother L. J. Roberts was restored and dismissed by letter after requesting same by letter.

April - June 1885 No business

July 1885

The Union meeting to be held at Mount Olive Church in Chickasaw County, MS in August. A call meeting was held on 7/20/1885 after a letter received from Emons Church requesting Oakland Church to send a committee to confer with them Saturday before the 1st Sunday in August concerning a trouble between them and Elbethel Church in which Mount Olive Church was involved. After discussion it was decided that the letter (invitation) should have come from Elbethel

Church she being the aggrieved church. Also she (Elbethel) had already gone to Emmans church once before to complain of her reception of certain numbers. Invitation was declined.

August 1885 No conference.

September 1885

Appointed delegates to Association Meeting.

October - December 1885 No business.

January - May 1886 Either no business or conference.

June 1886

On 6/5/1886 the church agreed to take sacrament to have washing of feet at next regular meeting on 1st Sunday in July.

July 1886

Mrs. Hattie Gunn joined the church by experience. After preaching the church held communion which was followed by washing of feet. Much feeling was manifested among the brethren and it was a happy meeting.

August 1886 No minutes.

September 1886

Brother George S. Peel joined the church by experience.

October 1886 No minutes.

November 1886

Brother H.M. Gunn notified the church that of the four original trustees he was the only one still living. The deed to the house and lot was read and on motion and second, brothers W. P. Gillespie, O. D. Gunn and W. R. Gunn were appointed trustees

December 1886 No minutes.

January - July 1887 No minutes.

August 1887

Union meeting to be held at the Ebenezer Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in September. Received W.B. Gunn by experience. At the regular meeting of Oakland Church on 9/3/1887, the letter to the Association was called for and read. On motion and second the following was requested to be placed in the letter with instructions to the delegates to withdraw it if they found it best.

In view of the many difficulties in the different association and for want of proper scriptural authority for their formation, we hereby instruct our delegates if it meets with a majority to ask the association to receive that clause in their constitution when it says, "The Association shall be considered only an advisory council" to the end that peace and harmony may abound among us: and that all difficulties and differences whatsoever may be settled in the church or churches. Believing the church to be the highest authority known in the kingdom of Christ and from her decision there should be no appeal or reference to any other body or power.

October 1887 No minutes.

November - December 1887 No business.

January - April 1887 No minutes.

May 1887 - June 1888 No business or minutes.

June 1888

Union meeting to be held in Salem Church on Friday before the 3rd Sunday in August 1888.

April - May 1889 No business.

July 1889

Preaching by Brothers Blanchard and Adkins.

August 1889 No business.

September 1889

Brother John Haley and his wife sister Eliza Haley granted letter of dismissal.

June 1890

Brother R. M. Gunn spoke on the lack of discipline in the church and inquired why O.D. Gunn, G. S. Peel and W. B. Gunn seldom attended church. A committee of W. P. Gillespie and W. R. Gunn to visit same.

July 1890

The committee appointed to see brothers Gunn, Peel and Gunn reported that the brethren expressed regret and made various excuses for non-attendance.

August 1890

Received Mary J. Gunn and Sallie F. Gunn.

September 1890

Selected delegates to association meeting to be held at New Hope Church.

July 1891

Preaching by Brother F. Verrell.

September 1891

Brother E. Verrell called to the care of the church.

October 1891

Held a weeks meeting commencing on 4th Sunday in October. Received S.B. Gillespie and Talle F. Baskin by experience.

November 1891 No business.

December 1891

Preaching by Brother E. Verrell then held conference:
1st. Called for peace of the church.
2nd. Invited visiting brethren and sisters to seats. Brother William Couch was (continued on next page)

3rd. Offered an opportunity for membership.

4th. Called for reference.

5th. Promiscuous (Previous?) business.

On motion and second the constitution and articles of faith were read. Motion carried to announce "Washing the saints feet to "Article 9"

January - March 1892 No business.

August 1892

Union meeting delegates were brothers P.H. Haughton, Silas Gillespie, and W. R. Gunn.

September 1892

The church decided to contribute \$10 to the Association - the Tombigbee Association. Received Mrs. Fannie Lou Peel.

April 1893

It was agreed to change the hour of meeting on Saturday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 1893

Agreed to send for one dozen hymn books of Loyds selection.

August 1893 No business.

September 1893

Association meeting held at Pleasant Grove Church. No business.

July 1894

No business other than appointment of delegates to Union meeting.

August 1894

Contributed \$3 to the Association expenses.

June 1895
Changed the meeting time on Saturday back to 11 a.m.

July 1895 No business.

August 1895
The Association meeting to be held at Little Flock Church on Friday before the 4th Sunday in September. Brother O.D. Gunn acknowledged a wrong committed by him in attending the Masonic Lodge and professed his regret for it and a discontinuance of such attendance.

June 1896
Appointed Union delegates.

August 1896
Former member S.W. Townsend was reinstated and granted a letter of dismissal.

November 1896 No business.

December 1896
Discussed non-attendance of members.

February 1897 No business.

May 1897
Continued discussion of non-attendance of members. Set the 1st Sunday in June to administer the sacrament of foot washing.

June 1897
The ordinance of the sacrament of foot washing was well attended.

July 1897
Appointed Union delegates.

September 1897
Appointed delegates to attend Association meeting in the Westmoreland Church. Contributed \$2 to association.

June 1898
Further discussion of non-attendance of members.

No date

A call meeting held at brother W.B. Giles pie house where delegates to Association were selected.

November 1898 No business.

Now the minutes go back to:

April 1898

Brother E.M. Verrell called to continue as pastor on 4/30/1898

August 1898

Appointment of Union delegates.

September 1898

Discussion of non-Attendance of members. Fear of yellow fever affecting church attendance.

November 1898

No conference due to rain.

May 1899 - July 1899 No business.

December 1899 No conference.

February 1900 No conference.

March 1900

Discussed non-attendance.

April 1900 No business.

July 1900 No business.

August 1900

Preaching by Elder S.F. Cayee? Cayce.

November 1900 No business.

December 1900

Mrs. Fannie J. Allen received by experience.

January 1901 No business

March 1901

Meeting was held in the Methodist Church in Egypt due to bad roads (Note the Oakland Church located in general area of Egypt?)

April 1901 No business

May 1901 No conference

June 1901

Preaching by Elder Verrell on June 1 and 2 at Methodist church.
in Egypt.

July 1901 No business

August 1901 No business.

May 1902_ No conference

June 1902

No business. Preaching by Elder Brechem of Louisiana.

August 1902 No business

November 1902 No conference

April 1903 No business.

September 1903

Association meeting to be held at Enon church in Itawamba
County, Ms.

August 1904

Selected delegates for next Association meeting.
Brother George S. Peel, moderator.

July 1906

Preaching by Elder E.M. Verrell on 1st Sunday in July
1906. Brethren and sister members of Oakland came long
distances to attend and hear once more the word preached
in the old church house which is so rarely opened.

11/2/1907

A call meeting. After discussed all preferred that
members stay with the church and not be given letters of
dismission. Many members had moved a good distance from the
(continued on next page)

the church or passed over the Jordan. All agreed to let Dr. Marion Heard bear use of the church house as a school house with the church having use of the building when desired. Z.D. Brandon elected church clerk.

September 1913

A call meeting held on Saturday before the 2nd Sunday in September. Brethren Z.R. Gunn, Z.D. Branddix and W.B. Gunn appointed trustees to replace the former trustees who had died. They were authorized to take charge of the church and lot and dispose of it. It was agreed to have a fence built around the cemetery and pay for same with proceeds from the house and lot. The clerk authorized to letter out members in good standing when called for.

4/16/1914

Conference at Okolona. Brother Zee Hanks of Vidalia, Ga. had just preached when brother Robert Haughton came forward relating an experience and was received with good feeling and brotherly love. Brother W.A. Murphy also related his experience dated back 40 years and was received.

3/8/1917

A called conference of the Oakland Primitive Baptist Church of Chickasaw Co., Ills., was held and a letter of dis mission granted Sister Fannie Allen of Meridian, Ms., Sister Allen and others desired to constitute a church at Meridian, Ms. (It is believed this was the Oakland Primitive Baptist Church in the Tuxedo area of Meridian.)

April 1918

A letter of dismission granted sister Sallie Gunn Switman who had joined the Enons? church. in Meridial, Ms.

May 1918

On 5/8/1918 granted letter of dismission to L.R. Gunn who had joined the Emmins church of Meridian, Ms. Also sister Mary Gains issued a letter of dismission as she wished to join a church of same faith and order in Birmingham, Ala. Sister Gains still had her letter in February 1919.

The following is from loose sheets in minute book:

"We the church of Christ of the Primitive Baptist faith and order at Oakland, do hereby certify that brother F. W. Dunkin is a member in full fellowship and is now dismissed from this church when joined to another of our faith and order.

Done in conference this 6th day of December 1984 by order of the church, W.M. Little, Moderator, William R. Gunn, church clerk.

Cumberland, Miss. July 11, 1885

Emmans church to her sister church Oakland.

Dear Brethren. We ask you to send a committee to confer with us on Saturday before the first Sunday in August concerning a trouble between this church and Elbethel church in which trouble Mt. Olive church is involved also.

Done by order of the church in conference day and date above written s/s J.M. Easley, moderator pro tem and F.M. Verell, church clerk.

State of Miss. Chickasaw County Oakland church to the Elders and members composing the 2nd (continued next page)

district Union meeting of the Tombigbee Association, when concerned with Oakland church Friday before the let Sunday in August next.

Dear Brethren: We send this our brotherly greeting by the hands of brothers W.P. Gillespie, L.R. Gunn, and W.R. Gunn and R.M. Gunn alternate. With our hearty wishes that you may have a comforting and happy reunion. Done in conference Saturday before the 1st Sunday in June 1856. s/s E.M. Verrell, moderator, William R. Gun, c.c.

Cumberland, Webster County, MS. February 11, 1885
To the brethren and sisters at Oakland church, Chickasaw County, MS.

Dear Brethren and Sisters,

I wish to say to you all the Lord being my helper, that I am willing to confess and acknowledge all my wrongs committed among you. That I have seen brother William Little, brother Ed Couch and sister Couch and they all said they were satisfied. These all came to my house and we had a talk about matter. And now brother Billie Little being your moderator will inform you as to the correctionness of the above statement as I had a personal interview with him sometime last fall at my shop in Cumberland. Brethren and sisters I feel to say that I am truly sorry for the abrupt manner in which I spoke to the church in conference at the time the charges were preferred against me. Now I am getting old and infirm, the weather and roads so bad that I cannot come to see you without considerable inconvenience and trouble though but (continued on next page)

for these things I should rather come to see you all, and make these statements in person and now brethren and sisters if this meets your approval and approbation and you think me worth. I would be glad if you would grant me a letter of dismissal. But if you cannot do so, please write to me and inform me why you cannot do so and you will oblige an unworthy brother if one at all. I hope dear brothers that I have made the above statement and acknowledgements in humble sincerity and love for you all desiring that we may all live together in-peace and love and that an humble desire for peace and love may abide with us all. May the Lord bless Zion everywhere is my wish. Farewell yours in humble hope. Z.J. Roberts.

At a call meeting of Oakland church held at the residence of brother R.M. Gunn August 16, 1883 a letter of dismissal granted brother J.R. Carter.

Membership list (undated)

R. M. Gunn died 2/6/1900
P. H. Haughton
L. R. Gunn
R. L. Russell excluded 3/1883
F. N. Gunn
L. M. Cason dismissed by letter 2/1874
W. R. Gunn
W. P. Gillespie, Sr.
O. D. Green

M. J. Gillespie
A. M. Haughton
M. A. Hodges
J. T. Cason dismissed by letter 2/1874
John Halen dismissed by letter 8/1889
Eliza Haley dismissed by letter 8/1889
A. B. Couch dismissed by 7/20/1878
C. E. Couch dismissed by letter 7/20/1878
Martha Mixon dismissed by letter 7/20/1878
A. S. Roberts dismissed by letter 5/1879
L. D. Brnadon
M. C. Ingram dismissed by letter 8/18/1883
F. G. Carlisle received 9/1882
J. R. Carter 8/16/1883
F. G. Carlisle received 9/1882
J. R. Carter dismissed by letter 8/16/1883
L. J. Roberts restored 3/1/1885 & dismissed byh letter same day
Hallie Gunn received 7/3/1886
J. R. Richardson recieved 9/4/1886
G. S. Peel received 9/26/1886
W. B. Gunn received 8/28/1887

The last thing in the book is undated membership list of white and colored members:

White:

R. B. Gunn pastor since church was constituted. died 10/4/1880
F. N. Gunn
R. M. Gunn deacon
S. F. Gunn died 3/12/1882
L. R. Gunn

W. R. Gunn
P. H. Haughton deacon
W. P. Gillespie
Mary J. Gillespie
Sarah McClown dismissed by letter - dead
Mary Thomas dismissed by letter - dead
R. Russell deacon excluded 3/1883
L. J. Roberts dismissed by letter - now excluded
W. L. Cronch (Couch) belonging to ARM - dead
A. B. Cronch (Couch) dismissed by letter
Stacy Greene died 10/20/1876
L. M. Cason dismissed by letter
S. W. Townsend excluded
L. G. Bobo dismissed by letter 7/1874
Mary Topley
Malvina McMillian dismissed by letter
Annie Cary (Now Haughton)
Emma S. Fuller died 2/7/1874
Allice Gillespie excluded for joining Methodists
Oscar D. Gunn
John Hailey (Haley)
Eliza Haley
J. T. Cason dismissed by letter
C. E. Couch belonging to ARM dismissed by letter
Martha Mixon dismissed by letter
Mrs. Sarah Russell dead
R. Keeton dead

Mary A. Keeton dismissed by letter
A. S. Roberts belonging to ARM dismissed by letter
Elder J. E. Little excluded AR now restored
Brother ? Ingram ARM
Brother ? Ingram ARM
Sister ? Ingram ARM

Total 37

Colored: Total of 42

Toney Gunn	Leah Gunn
Charles Gunn	Rachel Gunn
Agnes Gunn	Lydia Gunn
Patsey Gunn	Yellow Betsy Gunn
Ann Gunn	Harrit Gunn
Emily Gunn	Sarah Gunn
Chasity Gunn	Easter Gunn
Black Betsy Gunn	Alasth? Gunn
Patrick Gunn	Lou Gunn
Henry Gunn	Violet Gunn
Harris Gunn	Fanny Gunn
Bob Gunn	Silvia Gunn
Anthony Gunn	Moriah Gunn
Elleck Gunn	Caroline Gunn
Nelus Gunn	Sally Gunn
Add Gunn	Malrina Gunn
Hanson Gunn	Sam Robertson
Spence Gunn	Bicka Gunn
Stephen Gunn	Levy Gillespie
Mima Gunn	Alford Gillespie
Hulda Gunn	Easter Haughton

INDEX
OAKLAND PRIMITIVE BAPTIST CHURCH
CHICKASAW COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI
1869-1917

A

Aberdeen Church	6
Add (colored)	8
Adkins, Bro.	27
Agnes (colored)	7
Alford (colored)	8
Allen, F. J.	24
Allen, Mrs. Fannie J.	30, 32
Ann (colored)	7
Antony (colored)	8
Arm (Branch Church)	14-17, 22, 37-38
Arm "Eanon" Church	16-17

B

Baptist Watchman	18
Baskin, Talle E.	27
Baskin, Sister Tallie	24
Besty (colored)	8
Bill (colored)	8
Blanchard, Bro.	27
Bob (colored)	9
Bobo, L. G.	1, 13, 15, 37
Brandon, Bro.	21
Brandon, L. D.	23, 32, 36
Brandon, Logan D.	20
Brechem, Elder of La.	31
Burman, Bro.	15

C

Cain, J. T.	13
Carlisle, F. G.	36
Carlisle, Mrs. Fannie G.	21, 23
Caroline (colored)	8, 10
Carter, J. R.	22-23, 35-36
Cary, Annie	37
Cary, J. G.	1
Cason, J. T.	14, 36-37
Cayce, S. F.	30
Charles (colored)	7
Chasity (colored)	7
Childs, Duke	17
Church Hill Church	8, 10
Clarsey (colored)	8
Clasisy (colored)	4
Clay, Annie	13
Coleman, (elder)	13
Coleman, A.J.	20

Couch, Bro.	24
Couch (Crouch?), A. B.	15, 36-37
Couch, C. E.	14-15, 17, 22-23, 36-37
Couch, Bro. Ed	34
Couch, William	27
Crawford, Bro.	6
Crouch (Couch?), A. B.	1, 37
Crouch (Couch?), W. L.	1, 37

D

Dan (colored)	8
Davis, Becka (colored)	1, 12, 38
Davis, O. C.	17
Davis, William	17
Dunkin?, F. W.?	23, 33

E

Easley, J. M.	33
Easter (colored)	7, 9
Ebenezer Church	6, 8, 12, 15, 20, 26
Egypt Methodist Church	30-31
Elbethel Church	16, 24-25, 33
Eleck (colored)	8
Ellis, Bro.	9
Ellis, Alfred	2, 9
Ellis, Martha	4
Emily (colored)	77
Emons (Emmons) Church	20, 24-25, 33
Enon Church	31, 33
Evanes Church	16

F

Fanny (colored)	8
Field, L. M.	4
Flanagin, Bro.	9, 11
Fuller, Emma	13
Fuller, Emma S.	1, 37

G

Gains, Mary	33
George (colored)	4-6
Georgia (colored)	8
Gillespie, Alfred	
Alford (colored)	1, 8, 38
Gillespie, Alice	1, 13, 16, 37
Gillespie, Larry (colored)	1

Gillespie, Levy (colored)	38
Gillespie, M. J.	36
Gillespie, Sister M. J.	23
Gillespie, Mary J.	1,13,37
Gillespie, Little Matt G.	11-12
Gillespie, S. B.	24,27
Gillespie, Silas	28
Gillespie, W. B.	30
Gillespie, W. P.	8,13-14,16-17,20,23,25,27,34-35,37
Gillespie, W.P. Jr.	1
Green, O. D.	35
Greene, Henry (colored)	1,8,12
Greene, John (colored)	1,8
Greene, Stacy	1,4,8,37
Gunn, Bro. (Elder)	6,9,11,13
Gunn, Add (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Agnes (colored)	1,7,38
Gunn, Alsath? (colored)	38
Gunn, Ann (colored)	38
Gunn, Antony (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Bill (colored)	1,8
Gunn, Black Betsy (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Bob (colored)	1,9,13,38
Gunn, Caroline (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Charles (colored)	1,7,38
Gunn, Chasity (colored)	1,7,38
Gunn, Clarrisy (colored)	1,7,38
Gunn, Easter (colored)	38
Gunn, Elick (colored)	1,8
Gunn, Elleck (colored)	1,7,38
Gunn, F. H.	1
Gunn, F. N.	4,35-36
Gunn, Sister F. N.	23
Gunn, Fanny (colored)	38
Gunn, Hanson (colored)	38
Gunn, Harmon (colored)	1,9
Gunn, Harriet (colored)	1,9,38
Gunn, Harris (colored)	38
Gunn, Harrison (colored)	1
Gunn, Hallie	36
Gunn, Sister Hattie	23,25
Gunn, Henry (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Hulda (colored)	1,4,38
Gunn, India E.	10
Gunn, Jane (colored)	1,8,11
Gunn, L. R.	1,12,14,16,23,32-36
Gunn, Leah (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Lou (colored)	1,12,38
Gunn, Lydia (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Sister M. J.	24
Gunn, Mary J.	27
Gunn, Martha (colored)	1,12
Gunn, Melvina (colored)	1,8,38
Gunn, Malvina (colored)	1,8,38

Gunn, Mima (colored)	1, 4, 38
Gunn, Moriah (colored)	1, 7, 38
Gunn, Nealus (colored)	1, 9, 38
Gunn, Norris (colored)	1, 8
Gunn, O. D.	1, 13, 23, 25, 27, 29
Gunn, Oscar D.	37
Gunn, Patrick (colored)	1, 8, 38
Gunn, Patsey (colored)	1, 7, 38
Gunn, Phillis (colored)	1, 8
Gunn, R. B.	1, 4-12, 15, 17-18, 36
Gunn, R. M.	1, 4-11, 15-16, 20-23, 25, 27, 34-36
Gunn, Rachel (colored)	1, 8, 38
Gunn, Rose (colored)	1, 8
Gunn, Sally F.	27, 33
Gunn, S. F.	1, 4, 36
Gunn, Sally (colored)	1, 8, 38
Gunn, Sarah (colored)	1, 9, 38
Gunn, Spence (colored)	1, 12-13, 38
Gunn, Stephen (colored)	1, 8, 38
Gunn, Sylvia (colored)	1, 8, 38
Gunn, Tony (colored)	1, 4, 9, 38
Gunn, Violet (colored)	1, 12, 38
Gunn, W. B.	1, 26-27, 32, 36
Gunn, Sister W. B.	24
Gunn, W. R.	1, 13-14, 16, 20-21, 25, 27-28, 34-35, 37
Gunn, William R.	23, 33-34
Gunn, Yellow Betsy (colored)	1, 8, 38

H

Halbert, (Elder)	13
Haley, Elizabeth W.	13, 23, 27, 36-37
Haley, John	13, 21, 23, 27, 36-37
Hanks, Bro. Lee of Vidalia, GA	32
Hannah (colored)	10
Harmon (colored)	9
Harriett (colored)	9
Haughton, Annie Cary	37
Haughton, A. M.	36
Haughton, Sister A. M.	23
Haughton, Easter (colored)	1, 9, 38
Haughton, P. H.	1, 4, 10-11, 15-16, 21, 23, 28, 35, 37
Haughton, Bro. Robert	32
Haughton, T. H.	10
Heard, Dr. Marion	32
Henry (colored)	8
Hodges, M. A.	23
Holliday, Monroe	20
Hunter, Bro.	6, 9
Hunter, W. C.	11

	I	
Ingram, M. C.		23, 36
Ingram, Bro. & Sister		38
Ingram, Samuel		20
Ingram, W. C.		22
	J	
Jane (colored)		8
John (colored)		8
Johnson, Samuel C.		2
	K	
Keaton, Mary Anna		6
Keaton (Keeton), R.		4, 37
Keaton, Robert R.		6
Keaton, Mary A.		38
	L	
Land Creek Church		22
Leah (colored)		8
Levy (colored)		8
Little Flock Church		29
Little, Bro.		15-16, 24
Little, Elder J. E.		17, 20, 38
Little, Elder J.		17
Little, W. M.		20, 22-23, 33
Little, William		17, 34
Lydia (colored)		8
	Mc	
McCary, Annie		1
McClown, Sarah		4, 37
McCown, Sarah		1
McIngram, Bro.		20
McMilian, Malvina		1, 37
McWilliams, Malvina		13-14
	M	
Melvina (colored)		8
Mills, Bro.		13
Mixon, Martha		14-15, 36-37
Mosiah (Moriah?) (colored)		7
Mount Olive Church		22, 24, 33
Mount Pleasant Church		18
Murah (colored)		8
Murphy, Bro. W. A.		32
	N	
Nancy (colored)		6, 8
Nealus (colored)		9

Newhope Church	20,27
Norris (colored)	8
Norris, Bro.	13

O

Oakland Primitive Baptist Church of Meridian, MS	32
Oden, Elder	13
Oden, J. H.	20
Okolona Church	5
Okolona Conference	32
Old School Primitive Baptist Church	16

P

Patrick (colored)	8
patsey (colored)	7
Pearsall, Jes	2
Peel, F. L.	24
Peel, Mrs. Fannie Lou	28
Peel, G. S.	27,36
Peel, George S.	25,31
Peel, J. S.	24
Philis (colored)	8
Pittes, C. D.	17
Pitts, E. D.	17
Pleasant Grove Church	28
Polly (colored)	9-10
Primitive Baptist Church	18

R

Rachel (colored)	8
Richardson, J. R.	36
Richardson, Sister J. R.	24
Roberts, Bro.	16
Roberts, A. S.	36
Roberts, Sister A. S.	15,38
Roberts, I.	1,15
Roberts, L. J.	15-17,23-24,35-37
Roberts, Johnson	4
Roberts, L. Johnson	12
Roberts, Sister S. A.	16
Robertson, Sam (colored)	12,38
Rose (colored)	8
Russell, ?	14
Russell, R.	1,5-6,37
Russell, R. L.	4,21-23,35
Russell, Mrs. Sarah	37

S

Salem Church	26
Sally (colored)	8
Sarah (colored)	9
Seely, Bro.	5,8,9
Seely, Carolyn (colored)	1,10

Seely, Hannah (colored)		26
Seely, J. T.		4-6, 8, 21
Seely, Polly (colored)		1, 9-10
Seeley, Sarah		4
Stephen (colored)		8
Switman, Sister Sally Gunn		33
Sylvia (colored)		8
	T	
Tapley (Topley), Mary		13, 37
Thomas, Mary		1, 4, 13, 37
Tombigbee Assn.		17, 21, 28, 34
Tony (colored)		9
Townsend, S. W.		1, 14, 24, 29, 37
Townsend, Sherod		13
	U	
Union Meeting		5-6, 8-10, 12, 24, 26, 28, 34
	V	
Verell, C. E.		20
Verrell, E.		27
Verrell, E. M.		30-31, 33-34
Virell, Bro.		16, 31
	W	
Westmoreland Church		29
	Z	
Zion Church, Okolona		5
Zion Advocate		18