

R Little Piney Association of Regular Predestinarian Baptists, record book, 1834-1876
1353 1 Volume

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INTRODUCTION

This record book contains 123 pages of minutes recorded at the annual meeting held by the Little Piney Regular Predestinarian Baptist Association, located in Pulaski County, Sept 1834—Aug 1876.

DONOR INFORMATION

This Little Piney Association of Regular Predestinarian Baptist minute record book was donated by Eugenia A. Stevenson, granddaughter of Walter Bradford—a Minister in the Primitive Baptist Church. This church record book was donated to The State Historical Society of Missouri, 2 June 2016. (Accession No. RA1625).

INSTITUTIONAL SKETCH

The Association was conceived under the title of Little Piney United Baptist Association but went through name changes; 21 September 1839, the minutes reflect the new name of Little Piney Regular Baptist and by 1873, it was known as Little Piney Association of Regular Predestinarian Baptist. The minutes of 1838 give a complete history of the selected name and reason for the name change.

The churches that were the mainstay of the Association were Little Piney, Dry Fork, and Big Piney (Pulaski and Phelps). Others churches mentioned included Rocky Spring (Maries County), Sardis (Gasconade County), Mount Zion (Pulaski County), Little Hope (head of Bailey's Creek, Miller County), Prairie Valley (Miller County), New Bethel (Pettis County), Pilgrim (Miller County), Little Flock (Polk County), Pine (Texas County), Grand Glaze, Osage, Water Fork, Cherry Valley, Little Maries, Big Maries, Bethlehem, Wolf Creek, and Spring Creek.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

Minutes from these meetings were recorded between 1834-1850 with the exception of 1846, and from 1869 to 1876. The minutes of 1873 are written after 1876. There is a note in the front of the book that states "...the minutes from 1834-1850 have been transcribed into this book and in 1869 the record was resumed until 1876." Included in the minutes of August 1871, is a list of Ministers and their home post office.

Originally, the three-day meeting was held in October but by 1873 it had been moved to August, with brethren conducting business on Saturday and Monday but abstained for church on Sunday. Annual minutes were taken 1834-1850 and from 1869-1876. Minutes of the Association show that each meeting was open with Praise and Prayer, followed by a list of Churches who were represented at the meeting by letter or messenger to include the number of members received, those excluded or dismissed by

letter or by death, number of members in the congregation and amount of donation from each church.

Often mentioned are brethren who represented each church; at the onset of the organization were Isaac N. Bradford (1805-1872), Lindsay L. Coppedge (1805-1891), Thomas Woolsey (1810-1855), David Lenox (1797-1863), Littleton Lunsford, Thomas Snelson (1813-1867), John Avry, and John Brown. These men were active members from different attending churches and their names appear as moderator, clerks, or brethren who were selected to write or carry messages for the Association. Stepping up to clerking duties after 1847 were John B. Harrison (1809-1860), and William R. Vaughan (1793-1878).

A second folder contains miscellaneous collection of printed minutes from neighboring associations of various years, 1847-1919; a letter to J. A. Bradford of Rolla from Gertie Lanning of Thomasville, Mo., 1900, and an original letter from the Big Piney Church of Primitive Baptist, Relfe, Mo., to the Little Piney Association, 1898.

FOLDER LIST

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