



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2010 with funding from
Lyrasis Members and Sloan Foundation



MINUTES

OF THE

THIRTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Alabama Baptist State Convention,

HELD AT

MARION, NOV. 11-16, 1859;

AND OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST BIBLE SOCIETY

HELD AT THE SAME TIME AND PLACE.

TALIAFERRO & DAWSON,
PRINTERS, OFFICE OF THE SOUTH WESTERN BAPTIST,
TUSKEGEE, ALA.
1859.

Officers of the Convention.

Officers.

A. G. McCRAW, President,	A. B. GOODHUE, Rec. Sec'y,
H. TALBIRD, 1st Vice Pres't,	T. W. TOBEY, Cor. Sec'y,
S. HENDERSON, 2d " "	S. H. FOWLKES, Treasurer.

Directors.

E. D. KING,	J. G. HUCKABEE,
WM. HORNBUCKLE,	W. N. WYATT,
J. T. BARRON,	J. H. LEE,
JOHN MOORE,	W. P. HOLMAN.
W. H. McINTOSH,	

Board of Trustees of Howard College.

REV. W. H. McINTOSH,	J. H. BROWN,
I. BILLINGSLEY,	T. P. MILLER,
HON. W. W. MASON,	R. P. LIDE,
I. W. GARROTT, ESQ.,	HON. J. G. SHORTER,
REV. A. G. McCRAW,	W. P. HOLMAN,
W. N. WYATT,	REV. H. TALBIRD,
HON. W. P. CHILTON,	ENOCH FAGAN,
E. Y. VAN HOOSE,	DR. O. L. SHIVERS,
L. W. LAWLER,	GEN. EDWIN D. KING,
T. H. WATTS,	J. F. BAILEY,
D. GORDON,	T. J. BARRON,
J. G. HUCKABEE,	DR. L. B. LANE.
J. B. LOVELACE,	

Trustees of the Judson Female Institute.

GEN. EDWIN D. KING,	LARKIN Y. TARRANT, ESQ.,
SAM'L H. FOWLKES, ESQ.,	JOHN LOCKHART, ESQ.,
E. A. BLUNT, ESQ.,	W. N. WYATT, ESQ.,
C. BILLINGSLEY, ESQ.,	DR. O. L. SHIVERS.

PROCEEDINGS.

MARION, NOVEMBER 11, 1859—10½ A. M.

Devotional exercised conducted by the President.

Letters and names of Delegates enrolled as follows, viz :

ASSOCIATIONS.

Tuskegee: W. B. Jones, S. Henderson, H. E. Taliaferro.

Bethlehem: J. L. Lee, W. C. Morrow, A. Jay, Z. G. Henderson.

Union: Charles Bain.

Central: P. Stout, J. D. Williams, R. Figh.

Tuskaloosa: B. Manly, C. Manly, J. B. Eddins, S. Miller.

Bethel: E. G. Talbert, J. Talbert, W. J. Parker, F. C. Lowery, W. Hickson, L. B. Lane.

Unity: A. Andrews, I. U. Wilkes, J. H. Burns, R. Peebles.

Cahaba: J. E. Prestridge, S. A. Crèath, J. S. Ford, J. Dennis, T. M. Bailey.

Alabama: C. M. Cochran, W. N. Reeves, S. W. C. Weston, J. C. McDaniel.

Eufaula: P. M. Callaway, W. W. Battle.

Bigbee: W. Howard, W. W. Paschal, N. Carpenter, A. R. Scarboro.

Muscle Shoals: J. Shackleford.

Coosa River: W. Reynolds, J. J. D. Renfroe.

Salem: J. T. S. Park.

Benton: S. W. C. Weston.

Providence: P. E. Collins.

CHURCHES.

Tuskegee: J. E. Dawson, J. K. Battle.

Gilgal: J. B. Eddins, S. W. Eddins.

Selma: N. L. DeVotic, C. W. Buck.

Ocmulgee: A. G. McCraw, O. H. Perry, C. C. Smith.

Montgomery: I. T. Tichenor, N. K. Davis, J. M. Compton.

Uniontown: J. G. Hudson, J. W. Hudson, L. L. Fox, L. Martin, J. B. Howlett, W. C. Buck.

Fellowship: E. E. Trammell.

Newbern: J. C. Wright, W. T. Hendon, G. Huckabee, C. C. Huckabee.

Wetumpka: J. D. Williams, R. Figh.

Montevallo: N. Haggard, S. King, E. King.

Hopewell: S. R. Freeman, C. Billingsley, J. Wooley, W. Cole, W. Scott.

Siloam: W. H. McIntosh, T. W. Tobey, J. Moore, J. B. Lovelace, D. G. Sherman.

Centre Ridge: D. R. Lide, J. A. Fountain, R. R. Lide.

Salem: J. C. Wright, C. E. Brame.

Union: C. J. Crews.

Talladega: W. Reynolds.

Shiloh: Letter and funds.

Miss. Ch. Mobile: P. E. Collins.

CORRESPONDING BODIES.

Mississippi Baptist State Convention: T. C. Teasdale.

Georgia Baptist State Convention: J. H. De Votie, J. Walker, J. E. Dawson, N. L. De Votie.

East Alabama Convention: P. Stout, J. D. Williams, H. E. Taliaferro.

OTHER BODIES.

Judson Female Institute Missionary Society: J. E. Dawson, I. T. Tichenor.

Gainesville Ladies' Bible Society: W. Howard.

LIFE MEMBERS.

R. P. Lide, J. H. De Votie, R. Holman, W. N. Wyatt, E. D. King, I. Billingsley, H. Talbird, A. B. Goodhue, I. W. Garrott, J. F. Bailey, L. B. Lane, J. T. Barron, L. Y. Tarrant, S. H. Fowlkes, L. C. Tutt, E. A. Blunt, J. G. Huckabee, L. L. Fox, E. G. Talbert, W. B. Haralson, H. P. Ulmer, J. H. Foster, W. S. Barton, D. S. Hogue.

Organized by the election of the following Officers, viz:

A. G. McCRAW, President;

A. B. GOODHUE, Secretary;

J. B. LOVELACE, Assistant Secretary.

Resolved, That the Editors of the Marion papers are invited

to seats in this body, for the purpose of reporting its proceedings for their respective papers.

Resolved to invite the following brethren to seats as officials of the bodies they respectively represent, viz :

Rev. R. Holman, Corresponding Sec'y B. D. M. S. B. C.

Rev. A. M. Poindexter, Corresp. Sec. B. F. M. S. B. C.

Rev. M. Hillsman, Corresp. Sec. B. B. S. B. C.

Rev. W. H. Carroll, Cor. Sec. Ala. Bap. Bible Society.

Rev. S. A. Creath, Agent B. F. M. S. B. C.

Rev. W. S. Barton, Financial Sec'y of Howard College.

Resolved to invite Prof. J. P. Boyce to a seat as the representative of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Greenville, S. C.

Resolved to invite Rev. J. L. Dagg and all ministering brethren present to seats.

Invitation accepted by Rev. A. C. Thomason.

Resolved to make the consideration of the claims of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary the special order for to-morrow at 11 A. M.

Resolved, That one half hour each day, beginning at 10 A. M., shall be set apart for devotional exercises, in response to the request of the Siloam Church in their letter.

Resolved, That the business meetings of the Convention during the day, shall be held from 9 A. M. to 12 A. M., and from 2 P. M., except that the Convention will adjourn this afternoon at 4 o'clock, to give place to the Bible Society to hold a meeting.

The President announced the following Committees to report during the session, viz :

On Finance: John Moore, J. T. Barron, J. E. Prestridge.

Auditing Committee: L. B. Lane, A. Andrews, S. King.

On Preaching during the session: The Pastor and Deacons of the Siloam Church, J. H. Burns, E. King, W. B. Haralson.

Adjourned. Prayer by Rev. J. P. Boyce.

2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. Dennis.

The President announced the following Committees, viz :

To nominate Preachers for the next session: W. N. Wyatt, W. A. Melton, J. B. Eddins.

To nominate the remaining Officers of the Convention: E. A. Blunt, E. G. Talbert, C. C. Smith.

Committee on Periodicals: B. Manly, N. L. De Votie, W. N. Reeves.

On Letters and Documents: C. Manly, C. W. Buck, I. U. Wilkes.

The President added W. H. McIntosh to the Committee on Education appointed last session.

Resolved, That when this Convention adjourns, it will adjourn to meet in Tuskegee, on Friday before the second Sabbath in November next.

Resolved to reconsider the resolution fixing the hours of meetings for business, passed this morning, and amended the resolution so as to fix the times for business meetings from 9 to 12½ A. M., and from 2½ to 5 P. M.

The President added P. Stout to the Committee on Foreign Missions, appointed last session.

The President announced a new Committee on Southern Bap. Publication Society: T. W. Tobey, W. B. Jones, R. Figh.

Appointed Messengers to Miss. Baptist State Convention: S. R. Freeman, M. T. Sumner, P. E. Collins.

Appointed Messengers to Florida Convention: R. Holman, M. T. Sumner.

Appointed Messengers to Georgia Convention: M. T. Sumner, I. T. Tichenor, W. B. Jones, W. H. McIntosh, R. Figh, J. E. Dawson.

Appointed Messengers to East Alabama Convention: R. Holman, S. Henderson, W. C. Buck, C. W. Buck, P. Stout, J. D. Williams, I. T. Tichenor, R. Figh, A. G. McCraw, D. R. Lide, N. Haggard, E. King, S. King, I. U. Wilkes, H. E. Taliaferro, W. Wilkes, B. Manly, W. H. Carroll, S. A. Creath.

The President announced a new Committee on Sabbath Schools: J. E. Dawson, J. H. De Votie, S. R. Freeman.

Adjourned.

SATURDAY—9 A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. D. Williams.

Minutes read and approved.

Resolved to give place to the Bible Society to hold their

mass meeting to-night, instead of to-morrow night, that the entire Sabbath may be left for Divine services.

Report of Committee on Temperance read, and pending the discussion, devotional exercises were held for half an hour, agreeably to the order of the Convention on yesterday; and at 11 o'clock, the special order was called up, and the Convention was addressed by Prof. Boyce, in reference to the claims of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Report on Temperance adopted. [Appendix A.]

Report of Board of Trustees of Howard College referred to Committee on Education.

Report of Board of Trustees of Judson Female Institute referred to Committee on Education.

Adjourned.

2½ O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. W. C. Buck.

Report of Treasurer referred to Auditing Committee.

Resolved, To make the report of the Committee on Education the special order for Monday at 10½ A. M.

Reports of Committees on Foreign and Domestic Missions referred to Mass Meeting to-morrow evening.

Report of Committee to devise some plan by which the Minutes may be made to exhibit more fully the benevolent operations of the Convention, read, re-committed and S. Henderson added to the Committee.

Report of Committee on Periodicals read and pending the discussion of it, the hour for adjournment arrived.

Prayer by Rev. P. Stout.

MONDAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. L. L. Fox.

Minutes read and approved.

Instructed the Treasurer to draw on B. Stamps for funds reported in his letter, and the Finance Committee to enter the amounts mentioned in his letter in their report.

Report of Committee on Periodicals taken up; but at 10 o'clock the special order, viz: Devotional exercises was attended to.

At 10½ suspended the special order for that time and re-

sumed the discussion of report on Periodicals, which report was adopted. [Appendix B.]

Report of Committee on Education considered.

Adjourned.

Prayer by Rev. C. Manly.

2½ O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. T. M. Bailey.

Report of Committee on Domestic Missions adopted.—
[Appendix C.]

Report of Committee on Foreign Missions adopted. [Appendix D.]

Report of Committee to nominate Preachers for the next Session, adopted.

To preach the Introductory Sermon, Rev. W. Howard.—
Alternate Rev. N. L. DeVotie.

Report of the Board of Trustees of Judson Female Institute adopted. [Appendix E.]

Report of Committee to nominate the remaining officers of the Convention, adopted :

H. TALBIRD, 1st Vice President.

S. HENDERSON, 2nd Vice President.

T. W. TONEY, Corresponding Secretary.

S. H. FOWLKES, Treasurer.

Board of Directors.

E. D. KING,	W. HORNBUCKLE,	J. T. BARRON,
JOHN MOORE,	W. H. MCINTOSH,	W. P. HOLMAN,
J. H. LEE,	W. N. WYATT,	J. G. HUCKABEE.

Trustees of Howard College.

H. TALBIRD,	L. B. LANE,	W. P. CHILTON,
J. T. BARRON,	J. F. BAILEY,	T. P. MILLER,
J. G. SHORTER,	E. Y. VAN HOOSE,	T. H. WATTS.

Adopted the following resolution, viz :

WHEREAS, many of our Associations have appointed a week during the coming year to be devoted to Missions, therefore,

Resolved, That we recommend to our brethren engaging in this work, to endeavor to procure Church subscriptions in each Church visited by them for the Home and Foreign Journal, and Commission.

Report of the Committee on the Southern Baptist Publication Society, adopted. [Appendix F.]

Report of the Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Committee to devise some plan whereby the Minutes of the Convention may be made to exhibit more fully the benevolent operations of the Body, adopted. [Appendix G.]

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools discussed until adjournment.

Prayer by Rev. W. H. McIntosh.

7 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Prayer by Rev. P. E. Collins.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools re-committed, and W. H. McIntosh added to the Committee. Report of the Board of Trustees of Howard College, adopted. [Appendix H.]

The President announced the following standing Committees, viz :

On Education--T. W. Tobey, B. Manly, J. C. Wright.

On Domestic Missions--W. N. Reeves, R. Holman, P. E. Collins.

On Foreign Missions--N. L. De Votie, I. T. Tichenor, R. Figh.

On Southern Baptist Publication Society--C. Manly, W. H. McIntosh, J. S. Ford.

On Sabbath Schools--W. Howard, W. Wilkes, Shelby King.

On Temperance--S. Henderson, J. Talbert, L. L. Fox.

Report of Committee on Letters and Documents adopted.

Appointed Committee to procure an act of Incorporation for the Convention.

I. T. Tichenor George Hill, W. P. Chilton.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools, adopted. [Appendix I.]

Report of Committee on Finance referred to Auditing Committee.

Adjourned.

TUESDAY, 9 O'CLOCK, A. M.

Prayer by Rev. J. Walker.

Appropriated One Hundred Dollars for printing Minutes.

Appropriated Forty Dollars for distributing Minutes.

Instructed the Committee on Finance to pay over to the Treasurer the funds in their hands, and the Treasurer to distribute them among the several objects for which they were designed.

Referred all unfinished business to the Board of Directors.

Adjourned to meet in Tuskegee on Friday before the second Sabbath in November, 1860.

A. G. McCRAW, President,

A. B. GOODHUE, Secretary,

J. B. LOVELACE, Assistant Secretary.

APPENDIX.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

An ignorant ministry was, in by-gone days, the reproach of Baptists. When it was unavoidable, was their misfortune. When it was preferred, as it was by some, was their shame. That it was unavoidable by many, is matter of history. Many were converted late in life, when the facilities of education were not to be obtained at home, and the wants of growing families forbid their seeking them abroad. Yet these unlettered men preached Jesus and the resurrection with a power and success to which many of cultivated minds never attained. Dr. Alexander met such a one, and found at the conclusion of his conversation with the ignorant mill-wright, that he had greater reason to doubt the genuineness of his own call, than that of the humble man whom he questioned. Ignorance was the heritage not only of the first generation of Baptists in this country, but of several that followed. Oppression and poverty made it a stern necessity. About a century ago, the Philadelphia Association undertook the establishment of a Baptist College; but, instead of being located in Philadelphia, it was founded at Providence, R. I., because Rhode Island was the only colony whose legislature would charter a Baptist college; and since the revolution the legislature of Georgia refused to grant a charter for a Baptist institution of learning. When the hand of government shut the gates of learning against the Baptists, their ignorance ceases to be their reproach, and becomes the shame of their oppressors. It is their glory, not that many of them were ignorant men, but that, in spite of ignorance and oppression, they laid the foundations of religious freedom, and nurtured in the days of their weakness those principles which now rally to their support one of the most numerous and intelligent bodies of Christians in the land.

And even where they made the mistake of preferring an ignorant ministry, there is much that extenuates the want of wisdom in their choice. They had seen educated men in the pulpits of those who oppressed them. They saw that pride and want of piety, and indifference to the souls of the perishing poor, and the bitter persecution which they were called to bear often co-existed with liberal education. They saw that many educated ministers had no sympathy with the people; that their visits were confined to the rich, while the poor were left in their wretchedness unpitied and

uncared for; that their sermons were often efforts at display, and that the parish churches were often deserted by the masses to listen to some man who in the groves—"God's first temples"—told them of his own experience of Jesus' love, and of the power of divine grace to make a poor sinner rich, and a miserable sinner happy. And is it not pardonable if they feared that education would make their ministers proud and cold, and selfish too; and in their anxiety to retain those simple veterans of the plain gospel which they loved, they should have rejected education along with those things with which it stood connected—the good with the evil? That a simple-hearted, unlettered people failed to make such a discrimination, is surely no matter of astonishment.

But that they were united in their opposition to education, or that a majority of them were opposed to mental culture, is by no means certain. Dr. Sprague, in his *Annals of the American Baptist Pulpit*, says: "The Baptists have had less credit, as the friends and patrons of learning, than they have deserved. Not a few of their preachers have been eminently accomplished and useful men, and some who have long since passed away, have left enduring memorials of both their scholarship and eloquence." He gives it as the prevailing opinion of the denomination, that they attached little importance to human learning as a qualification for the ministry, in comparison with those higher, though not miraculous spiritual gifts which they believe it the province of the Holy Ghost to impart. Yet truth compelled him to add, that *some of them* had gone to the extreme of looking at high intellectual culture in a minister as rather a hindrance than a help to the success of his labors.

It may be well for us, my brethren, to be cautioned by the very mistake of some of our fathers, and not to over-estimate what they most certainly under valued. Some one has said, that every great popular error has a truth lying at its foundation, and it may be so here.

The opinion of some, that intellectual culture is a hindrance, rather than a help to success, may be a reproach. But the opinion of the majority, that human learning is of little importance, in comparison with those higher spiritual gifts the Holy Ghost imparts, is one of the highest honors of our denomination. Let us never forfeit it. In our efforts to give the highest advantages of intellectual culture to all our ministers, and in our rapid progress towards this end, let us never forget that the first qualification, is a heart deeply imbued with the love of Christ and of perishing souls, and lips touched with a live coal from off the altar of God. Happy will it be for us and for the world, when all our ministers shall be so trained as to be able rightly to divide the word of truth, and yet determined to know nothing but Christ and him crucified.

The advance which Baptists of the United States have made in the cause of education during the last quarter of a century, is a cause for profound gratitude to God. He has multiplied their number, and their means of furnishing their families and their ministers liberal culture.

They have now thirty-three Colleges and Universities, more than a hundred Academies and Female Seminaries, and about twelve Theological Schools. They have two Publication Societies, besides several large private houses engaged in supplying them with denominational and other books; and they sustain more than forty Periodicals devoted to their denominational interest. As we look back upon the past, surely we have reason to thank God and take courage.

In our own State, the cause of education has kept pace with this general advance. Female education has shared liberally in the benefactions of our brethren, and several Female Colleges of the highest grade stand as enduring monuments of their liberality. First, in point of time among these, stands

THE JUDSON INSTITUTE.

Of this Institution, the Baptists of Alabama may well be proud. Indeed, to its deserved popularity and success may be attributed, in some measure, the establishment of all the rest.

Since the last meeting of this body, Prof. S. S. SHERMAN, its able principal, has resigned. Under his care, the Institute more than sustained its previous high reputation, and we are sorry to see Prof. Sherman separate himself from the educational interests of our State, with which he has been so long connected and so successful.

But we congratulate the Convention and the friends of the Judson, that Prof. N. K. DAVIS, a man tried and proved to be in every way a worthy successor of the former principal, has been elected to that position, and is now actively and efficiently engaged in conducting its affairs.

For many years a Female Missionary Society, connected with this Institution, has contributed to your treasury, and represented itself in your body. This year its contribution amounts to \$265—exceeding the amount contributed any previous year, and a sum larger than that contributed by the great majority of our Churches, and by some of our Associations. This fact, perhaps, has not had its due influence upon the minds of the members of the Convention. The spirit of liberality, nurtured by this Society, the interest its members feel in your operations, and the love of the cause of Christ which now enshrines their action, will be carried home to the bosoms of many families, and fathers and brothers will be made to share this hallowed influence, and extend to you a stronger hand and a warmer heart. We shall hail it as an omen of great good, when all our youth shall be as deeply enlisted in behalf of those high and holy interests which call this body together.

THE EAST ALABAMA FEMALE COLLEGE,

at Tuskegee, under the charge of brother W. F. PERRY, and

THE CENTRAL FEMALE COLLEGE,

at Tuskaloosa, under the presidency of Rev. Dr. J. S. BACON, are experiencing an increased degree of prosperity. Though younger sisters of the Judson, they promise to rival her in the number of her pupils and her well-merited and well-sustained reputation.

HOWARD COLLEGE

has merited and received no inconsiderable share of the attention of this body at almost every session since its foundations were laid, in 1843. It is the chief source of educational supply for our ministers throughout the State. And though it has sometimes been stinted in its resources, and has struggled with misfortunes, it has ever had a large place in the affections of our people. Of its President and most of its faculty, nothing need be said. They have been connected with its fortunes for years, and have become in some measure identified with its interest. Their works are their best commendation.

By the liberality of our worthy brother, J. H. Brown, of Sumter co., another chair of Theology has been endowed, and the Board of Trustees have thus been enabled to carry out the instructions of the Convention and meet the wishes of the denomination by adding to the faculty another professor of Theology. Brother T. W. Toney has been elected to the new chair, and has entered upon its duties. We give brother Toney a cordial greeting in his new sphere of labors, and pray that he may be abundantly useful in our rising ministry, and a great blessing to the denomination.

The efforts made by the agent of the College, Prof. W. S. Barton, to add one hundred thousand dollars to the existing endowment, have not yet been

crowned with complete success. As many of the subscriptions made to brother Barton were conditioned upon the raising of the whole amount, and were to be void unless that amount is secured. We recommend this body to instruct the Board of Trustees to take some effectual measures to raise the entire amount during the few months which now remain to complete it.

It is known to this Convention, that for several years past, brethren of various Southern States have been engaged in trying to establish a Theological Seminary of the highest grade.

They have succeeded in procuring from the Baptists of South Carolina one hundred thousand dollars, upon the conditions that the Seminary be located at Greenville, and that the other Southern States should raise an equal amount by the first of May, 1861. In case the additional sum of one hundred thousand is not raised by these States, the amount raised in South Carolina reverts to the Furman University, and all prospect of a Baptist Theological Seminary of the highest grade at the South, fades into the distant future.

We are happy to say, that this Convention has at previous session shown itself the strong advocate for such an Institution.

At its last meeting, it adopted the following resolution:

Resolved, 4th, That this Convention heartily approves of the objects sought to be accomplished by the establishment of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; that its location, Greenville, S. C., is satisfactory; that its basis of organization and doctrinal platform, we fully endorse; that we regard this Institution as one of the greatest and noblest enterprises in which the denomination South has ever engaged, and destined to accomplish more for our Southern Zion, than perhaps any other instrumentality; and hence we cordially commend it to the favorable regard and enlarged benevolence of our brethren in Alabama.

We rejoice to know that the Board of Trustees have been able to procure an able and accomplished faculty. Brethren J. P. BOYCE, JONAS A. BROADBENT, B. MANLY, jr., and WM. WILLIAMS are men who command the confidence and highest esteem wherever they are known, for their earnest piety, their soundness in doctrine, and their scholarly attainments. They bring to the Institution the energy of youthful and vigorous minds, and hearts devoted to their Master's cause.

Under these circumstances there is no reason seen by your committee why the Baptists of Alabama should not do their full share towards the establishment of this young and promising Institution.

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this body, the Baptists of Alabama, while they sustain their own Institution, ought to contribute their *pro rata* share towards the endowment of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Resolved, That that the Board of Trustees of Howard College be instructed to adopt the the most vigorous measures to complete the contingent endowment of one hundred thousand dollars by the first of March next.

Inasmuch as it is a scripture maxim, to "render honor to whom honor is due"; therefore

Resolved, That, in view of the great liberality of brother J. H. Brown to Howard College, the Theological Chair endowed by him, should be designated "The Brown Professorship"; and that the Trustees of the College are requested so to designate it.

Respectfully submitted,

I. T. TICHENOR, Chairman.

[APPENDIX A.]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

The commonwealth is a great family, mutually interested in each other's prosperity; pledged for each other's protection, and under an imperious obligation to feed and clothe such as are physically or mentally disqualified to provide for their own wants. Therefore each member of society is understood to relinquish the right to pursue any course of conduct that would be injurious to the interests of society at large, and to be under obligation to deny himself every species of self-indulgence that will impair his physical or mental powers, and thereby unfit him to afford his share of the public protection against those who are so forgetful of their obligations, as to violate any of the provisions of the compact by which society is held together. Hence every man ought to feel it to be a *part* of his individual duty, not only to abstain from every indulgence that will have a demoralizing tendency upon his own mind, but also to exert himself to the extent of the ability with which God has endowed him, in the suppression of whatever impairs the intellect, produces physical debility, or blunts the moral sensibilities of *others*.

That Intemperance blunts the moral feelings, produces physical debility and impairs the intellect of its victims, no sane man will deny. And that drunkenness is a great curse to society at large, the prime promoter of discord in families, and the bane of social life, will be conceded by every candid mind. And that the places of the thousands who annually fill a drunkard's grave, are supplied from the ranks of those who are known as moderate drinkers, will not be called in question. And that all habitual dram-drinkers are on the downward road to confirmed habits of drunkenness, and liable to fill a drunkard's grave, is as true as that effect follows cause. Inasmuch, therefore, as the habitual use of intoxicating drinks, legitimately tends to drunkenness, which produces physical debility, and mental imbecility, and spreads blight and mildew in the social circle, is a public nuisance, and by beggaring its deluded votaries thrusts them as paupers upon the State; it follows inevitably that the habitual use of inebriating drinks, ought to be frowned upon as being in direct antagonism to the great underlying principle which is the chief corner stone of social happiness, and which was beautifully and comprehensively stated by the Divine Savior, when he said to his disciples: "All things whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them: for this is the law and the prophets."

The question, however, is not whether intemperance is a foe to human happiness, and a prime *auxiliary* in the service of him, "who goeth about as a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour"; for these are admitted facts. But the question that interests this generation most, and especially this Baptist State Convention, whose members profess to be the followers and servants of Him who went about doing good, is, how can we most effectively stay the hand of the destroyer, and finally drive him from the social circle, as the deadliest foe to human happiness. And here permit your committee to say, that while the various temperance organizations that have from time to time battled in the cause of total abstinence, have done much good in checking the onward march of the hydra headed monster, as well as aiding in producing the present degree of abhorrence to drunkenness, and a desire for more thorough temperance reforms, and for which they should be cherished in the memory of all true patriots; there is yet a wide-spread field of desolation before us, from which the agonizing cry of the widows and orphans, whose ruin intemperance has wrought, constantly call for the vengeance of the Sovereign of the Universe. And but one agency, short of omnipotence, can cause that wail of woe to cease; and

that agency (to the shame of professed Christians be it said) has never yet concentrated all its resources to drive back the legions of intemperance.

The agency alluded to is the church of the living God, whose foundation was laid in the blood of atonement, and whose mission is to shed the light of the glorious gospel, until all the powers of darkness shall have been driven back, and peace on earth and good will to men shall become the ruling passion of every heart, and glory to God the theme of every tongue.

And while *all* men as good citizens ought to enlist in the cause of temperance, the churches of the saints are in a higher and peculiar sense, most solemnly and imperatively bound to enter unitedly and individually upon the great work of suppressing, by every laudable means, the beverage use of ardent spirits. Individual professors of Christianity ought to heed apostolic teachings, "to shun the appearance of evil" by utterly repudiating the habitual use of alcoholic drinks in all men; and this they ought to do, not as *mere* sympathizers with the temperance reform, or in pity for those who are the immediate sufferers from intemperance; but in his efforts for the suppression of this deadly foe to human happiness, each one should feel that he is engaged in a service demanded of him by the fraternal ties that bind him to his fellow travelers in the journey of life, and by the *higher* and *holier* consideration that he is the servant of Jesus Christ, who sacrificed his life on the accursed cross for the salvation of apostate sinners; and requires his followers to exhibit the same spirit that actuated him in his mission of mercy to our earth; "for if any man have not the spirit of Christ, he is none of his." And while individual Christians ought neither to drink intoxicating draughts themselves, nor in any way countenance or encourage it in others, the churches in their associated capacity ought to assume and firmly maintain so decided an opposition to dram drinking, even among non-professors of religion, that a *tippling Baptist* would be made to feel a conscious degradation in the church, and be forced from self-respect either to abandon his cups, or in failing to do so, ask the church to cut him off as unworthy of their fraternal and Christian regard; for *surely* the time has come when no one who indulges in the *daily beverage* use of spirituous liquors ought to be recognized by any church as a *consistent Christian*. And the church is commanded to withdraw from such as walk disorderly. And all other agencies, however laudable their purpose, or however zealous they may labor in the cause of temperance, must inevitably fail to drive intemperance from the social circle, so long as habitual dram drinking is indulged in by church members, and tolerated by the churches.

But let all our churches, as such, take that high and uncompromising stand on this question, that its importance and the interests of our holy Christianity demand. And thus, as the great head or leader in the crusade against intemperance, will they occupy the high position as the light of the world which will be well pleasing to the great Law-giver in Zion; and, freed from the shackles of intemperance themselves, the churches will present a phalanx in the temperance cause that will strike with terror and dismay the sordid retailers of the bellish poison, and snatch from their grasp the unhappy victims of inebriation, and redeem them from a drunkard's grave; and unitedly pray the God of all grace to save them from the consequences of that death that never dies.

And, in conclusion, we offer the following resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Convention, that the habitual use of intoxicating drinks is productive of physical debility; is injurious to the mind, and has a demoralizing tendency on those who thus use it.

2dly. *Resolved*, That all Christians ought to abstain from the beverage use of alcoholic drinks themselves, and as far as practicable influence others to follow their example.

3rdly. *Resolved*, That the Churches of Christ ought utterly to discountenance the habitual or beverage use of ardent spirits in their members, and if persisted in by them, to withdraw their fellowship from them.

4thly. *Resolved*, That this Convention express its unqualified disapprobation of the sale of ardent spirits; except for mechanical and medical purposes, and earnestly solicit all our dear brethren to discontinue the practice.

W. JACOB PARKER, Chairman.

[APPENDIX B.]

REPORT ON PERIODICALS.

The Committee on Periodicals find a subject before them comprehensive, varied, and perhaps, critical, withal.

Of Periodicals, that which is most widely diffused, and which practically exerts the most extended influence, is the *Newspaper*. It has not escaped the attention of the thoughtful, that in this country, the *people* are readers of newspapers more than of any thing else. We doubt if the reading of any people is so much directed, proportionately, into that channel, as our own. The kind of newspaper they will read, therefore, is as important as the kind of influence to which a people will voluntarily and steadily subject themselves. The newspaper, introduced weekly, or oftener, into a family, and left for every one to pick up and read at will, will exert a decided (controlling?) influence on the opinions, temper and character of that family. The effect may be gradual, silent, insensible; but it will be sure. The chosen newspaper of a family is like one's chosen associates; we may choose which we will take; but we cannot choose, as to that we do take, what shall be the effect produced: that will proceed, inevitably, on laws of its own. As respects social intercourse and companionship, this is so well understood that, in all ages and countries, the people have a proverbial expression to denote the common judgment. The case of the selected newspaper, among us, is entirely analogous; and the effect is only a little more sure, because the newspaper is more constantly present than the companion. Who can estimate the responsibility of an editor? Who can fail to see, that in general, the safety of a family, of a whole people, will depend on their selection of newspaper reading. These facts show that our entire people are exposed to a danger, peculiar and portentous. In many a conflict, our Baptist organizations have shown their Scriptural conservatism and power, in delivering themselves from various dangers and abuses;—we believe that the problem is *now* to be worked out; whether the denomination can deliver itself from the disguised tyranny of the newspaper—its abuses, whether obvious or concealed. Shall the newspaper *rule*? or shall it *serve*? That is a question for the whole people; it is, peculiarly, a question which the Baptists have to solve. *Can we do it?* Have we any strength to meet “this great multitude that cometh against us?” Our eyes should be, as always, unto the Lord of hosts; and we should take such a position of advanced intelligence, of the firmness of superiority and control, with respect to these agencies, as shall render them *servants*, not *masters*,—such servants, too, as shall “do us good and not evil all the days of our lives.” Else, it would be better to dispense with them; and invent something else to answer their legitimate purpose.

In the recommendation which is usually expected to accompany a report of this kind, we confine ourselves to a very modest range: The “Commission” and the “Home & Foreign Journal” are strictly denominational; and the “South Western Baptist” is a paper within our State—each, in our opinion, worthy of support.

Respectfully submitted,

B. MANLY, N. L. DEVOTIE, W. N. REEVES.

[APPENDIX C.]
 REPORT ON DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Domestic Missions beg leave to report :

The field of our home operations is ample ; its claims upon the Christian benevolence of the *Baptists especially*, and Christians generally, are imperative. The field is white unto the harvest—its laborers are comparatively few—men and means are increasingly wanted—the demand seems to outgrow the supply. The simple question, into which this whole subject, at present, seems to resolve itself in the mind of your Committee is, How shall a suitable increase of interest be obtained among our whole people in occupying the field that lies before them, and supplying the demands that press themselves upon us ?

In answering this inquiry it will not do to content ourselves with repeated accounts of the field, or the state of its inhabitants ; nor will repeated reference to the thronging multitudes of foreigners that emigrate to our shores. All these things have been done time and again, and yet it remains to reach the great Baptist heart, to move the affections, and stir up a suitable zeal, and an undying interest among the churches generally.—While it is encouraging to know that there are a number of self-denying, liberal-hearted brethren who are willing to spend and be spent on this glorious work, still it is discouraging to see what a large proportion of our brethren are unmoved by the necessities of the destitute and the perishing. Multitudes who profess to be followers of the meek and lowly Jesus, are surfeiting in their wealth, and idolizing their money, while the cries of the suffering are ringing in their very hearing, and while an offended God is denouncing with the solemn language, "Go to now ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you." Were there a general equality of labor and benevolence among all our brethren in proportion to what is done by a part, then if the world were not soon converted to God, it would not be for want of labor or means. How, then, the question recurs, shall this general interest be obtained ? Surely not by general agents, for a sufficient number of these to visit all the Churches, and urge the claims of missions upon all the brethren, would form too great a tax upon the treasury to support them, and could not be obtained, even if desirable. Nor can this be accomplished by appeals through the Missionary journals alone, since only a very few of the brethren read these, or care anything, about them. To gain this desirable end, then, can only be looked for in one way, viz : for the preachers and pastors of Churches generally, to become in *feeling and practice*, sort of voluntary agents, not only in preaching on this subject, but also in systematizing and arranging the plan and *extent* of giving, so as to reach beyond those circumscribed bounds of benevolence, expressed the hackneyed language, "50 cents for minutes and \$1.00 for associational purposes. In other words, the Missionary work must become *the work* of the Churches, and the Missionary spirit, *the spirit* of the members. Our brethren must learn to attach to the doctrine and duties of religion that importance which the Bible attaches to it, and only that.

Now, in taking up the New Testament, it does seem quite plain that the great, absorbing, and all pervading spirit of Christ and the Apostles, the reformation of the lives of men, and conversion of their souls to the religion of Jesus. Every other doctrine than repentance and faith, was wholly incidental and occasional.

Jesus Christ came into the world to *save sinners*. Whatever then, is essentially included in saving sinners, was also essentially included in Christ's mission from Heaven to earth. And all the analogy in, and authority for Christian missions, are to grow out of his mission and predicated upon his authority and example. So that, from analogy, authority and example,

it seems that whatever bears the highest relation to the salvation of the soul, is to be held first in importance. Very little is said in the New Testament as to the external *modus operandi* of carrying forward Christian missions; while great stress is laid upon their internal spirit or genius.—Paul does not exhort his brethren to debate much about Boards and plans by which to perform their duties, but he does exhort them earnestly to *pray* that the word of the Lord may have free course and be glorified. The truth is, as the old adage would have it,—“Where there is a will there is a way.” Or, in Bible language—“If there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to what a man hath.” Now it is this willing mind that is needed, and this can only be obtained by that devotion and consecration of spirit in the Master’s work that characterized Christ himself and his early followers. And this depends very much upon the pulpit—*all* the pulpits—whose duty it is to show the vital relationship which the *spirit* and work of missions bears to true Christian character. In short, Christians ought to be taught that the spirit of missions is the spirit of Christianity, and the work of missions the work of Christians.

Resolved, therefore, that we earnestly and affectionately urge upon our brethren in the ministry to instruct and impress the minds of their Churches with the great and vital importance of Christian missions among us.

Resolved further, as a means of this, that they be encouraged to patronize the Home & Foreign Journal, and also the Commission.

Resolved still further, that earnest prayer for missions be encouraged in the Churches. All of which is respectfully submitted,

W. WILKES, Cha'n.

[APPENDIX D.]

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The obligation of Christian men, to give the Word of Salvation to the heathen does not, in this day, admit of debate.

Whether missions have accomplished all that could have been expected; whether they have been successful, or unsuccessful, is not for us to determine. We may remark, however, that the measure of success is not to be judged by the immediate fruits that follow the effects made for the evangelization of any people. By a law of nature which we may not be able to explain, seed that has been buried beneath the soil so long, that we might presume every element of life was destroyed, under favoring circumstances bursts its shell, and sends up the vigorous shoot; so the good seed of the Gospel, once sown in human hearts, may, and often does bring forth fruit unto perfection when the hand of the sinner has lost its cunning, and his name became unknown, where it was once a house-hold word. What has been accomplished is proof omnipotent, that the Missionary enterprise is not a failure. We are aware that the opinion prevails to some extent, that the plans which your Body, in concert with others, has adopted, are defective, that the “machinery” is inefficient, and some say unscriptural. That the system is not perfect we frankly confess. Perfection belongs not to man. The Gospel itself, the perfection of divine wisdom and love, is but imperfectly preached by men, and very imperfectly illustrated in the lives of the best who profess it. It is not strange then, that the means which we have called into requisition should partake of the defects common to humanity. But has any one a perfect plan to suggest—or even one which can be clearly demonstrated to be a better plan? Let him present it, and when it shall be found to enlarge the liberality of the Churches, to kindle a warmer love in their hearts for the perishing nations—when it shall place two Missionaries in the field where there is but one—if that plan be consistent with the

Gospel, we will, with open hearts, receive it, and pledge to it our firm, undeviating support to our life's end. Until this is shown, we can not lose sight of the significant fact that all that has been accomplished, has been done by the plan against which objections are raised. The machinery may not be perfect, but still it works, and produces good results. All that has been accomplished has been by a concentration of effort. This does not exclude individual effort, nor is it a substitute for it. If a Church contributes \$1000 00 to Foreign Missions through the Board at Richmond, is it not doing as much individually as if it contributed the same amount to the Missionary himself? But we are told there are expenses to be deducted. True, but if the donors make the appropriation themselves, will the expense be diminished at all? Will the outfit of a Missionary and the cost of travel to the field of his labors, be less to the individual Church which sends him, than to a general agent acting for a number of Churches? Or after he shall have reached his field, can funds be remitted to him by a Church, at a lower premium than would be charged to a Board? But it may be said that the expense of keeping up this machinery involves a waste of means, that might be appropriated to the support of Missionaries. We reply, that can not be called a waste which secures a return equivalent in value to the amount expended. It may not come back in dollars and cents, but it does in what is of more value, the knowledge of the work in which you are engaged, without which that work can not be prosecuted with a reasonable prospect of success. Without your Board of Foreign Missions, and without the information which they possess, and which can be obtained only by long acquaintance and by parties, whose business it is to collect and preserve it, how would a Church in Alabama set to work to send a Missionary to Africa, or China, or Japan? Is the accumulated knowledge of years' experience, to be found in the archives of a Board, and to be found no where else, of no value? When we count the cost of the machinery, let us not forget the service which it has done, and which it continues to do.

Is this plan unscriptural? We think not. We find a specific duty enjoined in the New Testament, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." This is plain—every one can understand what it means. But we find no specific directions as to the manner in which the Missionary shall go—what arrangements shall be made for his support—how his supplies from home shall be sent to him. If the Gospel designs that every Church shall send its own Missionary, without co-operation with others, then it designs that many—indeed a large majority of Churches shall not engage in this work at all, for the simple reason that they have not the means. A church may have the desire to do what she can, but if she is to be shut up to her own individual action, and can not unite with others, she must content herself with having a will to obey her Lord, with the power or the privilege to do so. Let her unite with others, we may be told. Just so we think; but if it is the Scriptural rule that every Church shall appoint her own Missionary, support and control him, if it is unscriptural to co-operate with the Board of a Convention, has she any authority to unite with a Board, or Committee of an Association? Is an Association better known to the Scriptures than a Convention? Is it right to combine with a limited number of Churches to execute the Master's commission, and is it wrong to join hands with a larger number to promote the very same end? As soon as a Church steps beyond her own limits to unite her strength with another, she surrenders the principle (if it be one) for separate individual action, as opposed to co-operation, for the objects of benevolence.

The present organization of a Foreign Missionary Board, we maintain is, both efficient and scriptural. If others prefer another plan which presents itself with favor to their minds, we have neither the right nor the desire to restrain their efforts in their own way. Let them try the experiment

fully, fairly; and when the results show that theirs is the wiser, and more efficient plan, we will cheerfully admit their superior sagacity, and we trust be profited by their experience. But until this shall be manifested by unmistakable facts, the dictates of reason and the convictions of duty alike forbid that the work should cease. We are "doing a great work, so that we cannot come down."

Your committee recommend the passage of the following Resolutions:

Resolved, That this Convention has undiminished confidence in the piety, prudence and fidelity of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Resolved, That we approve the Resolution of the S. B. Convention in May last, "that one hundred and twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) should be raised during the coming year for the furtherance of our Missionary operations, Domestic and Foreign." Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. McINTOSH, Cha'n.

[APPENDIX E.]

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
JUDSON FEMALE INSTITUTE.

To the Alabama Baptist State Convention:

Since the meeting of the last Convention, this Institution of learning has undergone some changes which it is proper should be brought to your notice.

At the close of the last Session the connection of Prof. S. S. Sherman with it as Principal, was terminated by his resignation. It was a source of regret to your Board that his services could no longer be retained. Having been so long identified with the Educational interests of our Denomination at this point, and who had won for himself the good opinion not only of the Denomination, but the public generally. In view of these facts your Board received his resignation with very great reluctance. Immediately upon the announcement of his purpose, your Board undertook the difficult task of securing a successor who should combine all the necessary qualifications, to fill the vacancy. And they deem themselves fortunate in having obtained the services of Prof. Noah K. Davis—a gentleman well known to this Body, and to this community, as possessing, in an eminent degree, the requisites demanded, and we confide this important and delicate trust to him, being fully assured, that in doing this we have done the very best which the interest of the Institute required. Prof. Davis is not only a worthy Christian gentleman, but an able and efficient instructor. He possesses the faculty in an eminent degree, of making his pupils love him, while at the same time his disciplinary regulations are scrupulously enforced. In a word, he is held in the highest esteem both by parents and pupils. The Principal is sustained by an efficient and experienced corps of Instructors; among whom is Prof. S. I. C. Sweezy, who has for a long while been connected with the Institute, and from the devotion which he has always manifested, in reference to its interests, and the uniform satisfaction which he has given, coupled with his high attainments in scholarship, makes him an invaluable auxiliary to the Institution.

We are happy to say that the School has opened with the most flattering prospects. The number of pupils from abroad being unusually large; and the present senior class is larger than any that has preceded it. No case of serious, or protracted sickness has occurred during the present session. The sanitary regulations of the Establishment are ample, and the buildings throughout, have undergone extensive repairs—giving to the whole an air of comfort not heretofore enjoyed by its inmates.

The Stewart's Department continues under the efficient management of Mr. and Mrs. Lyde, with whom the teachers and pupils board, thus giving the entire establishment the aid and comfort of a family.

In all its relations, the Judson Institute, we think, was never more ably conducted than at present, and at no period of its long and brilliant history, has it deserved a warmer place in the hearts of its friends, or been more worthy of the favor and patronage of the public.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

E. D. KING, Pres.

S. H. FOWLKES, Sec'y.

(APPENDIX F.)

REPORT ON SOUTHERN BAPTIST PUB. SOCIETY.

We find recorded in the Minutes of the last meeting of the Convention, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we believe that the Southern Baptist Publication Society had its origin in a sincere desire to contribute to the spread of Baptist principles—principles sanctioned and taught in the Bible, and that, therefore, the Society is now, as it has been in the past, entitled to the confidence of the Baptists of Alabama.

Resolved, That the publications of said Society are orthodox and denominational in their character, and are, therefore, worthy of a place in the library of every Baptist in the State.

The experience of the past year has prepared us to re-affirm the statements contained in these resolutions, and to recommend the works issued by the Society, not simply as a matter of form, but heartily and cheerfully. We cannot refrain from expressing the wish that the Society may speedily come into the possession of an amount of funds sufficient to render it as efficient and extensive in its operations as the demands of the denomination require.

In publishing the works of our esteemed bro. Dagg, of Georgia, the Society has pursued a course worthy of all commendation. May other brethren who handle the ready pen, imitate his excellent example in writing for the press. We are gratified to know, that in the South and South-west, the Society has a host of devoted friends who will not forsake it, so long as it shall pursue its present prudent and conservative course, publishing such works only as are of permanent value and acceptable to the majority of the denomination.

We recommend the adoption by the Convention of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the members of this Convention deem it highly important at the present juncture, that all the Baptists of Alabama who believe the Southern Baptist Publication Society "is entitled to their confidence," and is issuing from its press "orthodox and denominational publications," should rally to its support, and zealously strive to advance its interests.

THOMAS W. TOBEY,
WILLIS B. JONES,
RUFUS FIGH.

[APPENDIX G.]

REPORT OF COM'TEE TO SUGGEST IMPROVEMENT IN FINANCIAL REPORT OF CONVENTION.

The Committee to whom was referred the report of the Committee (to suggest some plan whereby the Minutes of the Convention may be made to exhibit more fully the benevolent operations of the body) for the purpose

of suggesting what portions of said report should be spread upon the Minutes of the Convention, beg leave to report, that they regard this matter one of vital importance, and one in which every member should feel interested; and for *this* reason could but wish that the whole report could be spread upon your Minutes; but, in order to meet the wishes of *all* the brethren, suggest that so much of the report as adverts *directly* to the plan reported by the Committee, together with the *tables* prepared by said Committee, be spread upon the Minutes of the Convention. Your Committee would, therefore, recommend that *all* of said report, commencing with, and following after the words, "Seeing, then, that some systematic plan of operations is necessary," &c., together with the *tables*, be spread upon the Minutes. Respectfully submitted, J. G. HUDSON, Chm.

To the Alabama Baptist State Convention:

Your Committee, appointed at the last Anniversary of the Convention, for the purpose of recommending some plan by which the Minutes may be made to exhibit *more fully* the benevolent operations of the Convention, beg leave most respectfully to report--

Seeing, then, that some systematic plan of operations is necessary in order to secure an end so desirable, the question arises, can such a plan be suggested? Your Committee believe that such a thing is within the range of possibility; and, therefore, proceed to lay before the Convention a plan which they regard not only *feasible*, but one which can be easily carried into operation. And,

1st. Each and every Church represented in the Convention is requested to keep a correct record of all contributions made by herself or her individual members, (either in cash or pledges) for all benevolent objects, (the Pastor's salary excepted) and have the *amount* of these contributions reported to the Clerk of the Association to which she may belong, at or before its anniversary in each year. And in case of her failure to be represented in the Association by letter or otherwise; and her consequent failure to report the amount of her contributions, then she shall report the amount directly to the Clerk of the Convention at or before each anniversary.—taking care to specify the amounts of cash and pledges for different objects, under their appropriate heads, and what disposition, if any, has been made of the funds thus contributed or pledged.

2nd. Each Association represented in this Convention, is requested to keep a correct record of all moneys or pledges reported to her by the individual churches; all contributions raised during her annual sessions, by collections, pledges or otherwise, together with all moneys and pledges from Missionary, Bible and Colporteur Societies; or, from any other source, and publish the same in her Minutes annually, in a neat statistical table, with the amounts in cash or pledges, for different objects, appearing under their appropriate heads, with an appendix showing what disposition has been made of said amounts. And it shall be the further duty of the Clerk of the Association (or a committee appointed for the purpose) to forward a copy of said Minutes to the Clerk of the Convention at or before the anniversary of the Convention in each and every year. Provided, however, if the Minutes of any Association should not be published in time to be thus forwarded, then the Clerk of that Association, or its committee shall forward a copy of said table and appendix, together with the number of members of each church in the Association, direct to the Clerk of the Convention at or before the anniversary of the Convention in each year.

3rd. All Bible and Colporteur Societies, Sewing Societies, or Benevolent Societies of any kind, located within the bounds of any one of the Associations represented in this Convention, and working under the superintending care of said Association, is requested to keep a correct record of all its

collections and disbursements, and report the different amounts to the Association, under whose superintendence it is laboring, at or before the annual meeting of said Association each year. Provided, however, all such societies, as are not working under the superintendence of some Association or Church, shall report directly to the Clerk of the Convention, at or before each anniversary, specifying in either case the amounts for different objects under appropriate heads.

4th. All agents for the different Missionary Boards, or for any other benevolent objects, laboring within the bounds of this Convention, will be expected to report all contributions or pledges taken privately, to the Church in the immediate vicinity in which such contributions or pledges are made, in order that the Churches may report the amounts to their respective Associations.

5th. It shall be made the duty of the Clerk of the Convention, to keep a correct record of all contributions or pledges for benevolent objects reported to him by the Associations, Churches, Missionary societies, Bible and Colporteur societies, all moneys or pledges that have been sent up to the Convention and not reported through other channels; together with all and every contribution from any other source, that may fall into his hands, or come to his knowledge. And it shall be made his further duty to prepare a statistical table in which all of these items shall be made to appear, each item under its appropriate head. Said table to be published in the Minutes of the Convention annually in connection with the Treasurer's report but separate and independent from it.

From the plan here suggested, it can be seen that if the Churches, Associations, Societies and individual members, will all go to work in a systematic way, and follow out the plan as proposed, a report of the most, if not all our contributions, would find its way into the hands of the Clerk of the Convention, and by him would appear in your Minutes. It will be observed, that the committee have not attempted to direct the *contributions themselves*, or to suggest through what channels they should pass so as to reach the objects for which they are intended. This matter we have left to the discretion of the parties contributing. All we have sought for is, that a *statement* of the amounts contributed be furnished. Your committee would, however, recommend to the Churches that they *all* adopt some system in this respect, that will be *uniform*. Let *all* the Churches send their contributions to their respective Associations, or all of them to the Convention. It will be observed farther, that the committee suggest that the Churches send their reports to the Associations, instead of sending them direct to the Convention. There are two reasons for this. First, it is proper that each church should report to its own Association; and second--Your committee believe it will have a tendency to stir up the churches to greater zeal and activity in the cause of benevolence. With the reports from the different churches spread upon the Minutes of the Association, each church can see what the other is contributing, and a spirit of emulation will be gotten up to ascertain who can best work, and who can the most liberally contribute to push forward the triumphs of the Redeemer's kingdom on earth. And besides this, these Minutes of the Associations will contain information that will be useful, and of themselves furnish a record that will be vastly important in compiling a history of the Baptist denomination in the State. Another important fact to which the committee would call the attention of the Convention is, that the Minutes of the Convention do not exhibit the statistics of the churches so far as to show the number of Baptists represented in the Convention. This, your committee consider an important matter, and would suggest to the Convention, to instruct the Clerk of the Convention to insert in his statistical table the gross number of the mem-

bership of all the churches represented in the Convention. Your committee would recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

1st, *Resolved*, That while this Convention claims no jurisdiction over the churches and associations, so as to control their actions, and while she would not attempt to usurp authority over them, or infringe upon their internal rights, she esteems it her highest privilege, as well as pleasure to recommend to the churches and associations such rules of procedure, as will in her judgment best promote their interest, and advance the Redeemer's Kingdom. She would, therefore, respectfully, but earnestly recommend the churches, associations, societies and individual members of each, to adopt the plan here suggested, and labor to carry it into successful operation.

2nd, *Resolved*, That Pastors of churches, delegates to Associations, members of societies, and the brotherhood generally, are earnestly and affectionately requested, to use their best efforts to carry this matter into successful operation. All of which is respectfully submitted,

JAMES G. HUDSON, Chairman,

[APPENDIX II.]

REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF HOWARD COLLEGE.

During the year ending July 1st, 1859, the College enjoyed a degree of prosperity never attained in any former period of its history. The whole number of names entered on its register was 99. Twelve interesting young men received the honors of graduation, and in the public exercises connected with the annual Commencement, acquitted themselves in a manner highly creditable to the College.

INTERNAL CONDITION OF THE COLLEGE.

At your annual Session in 1855, the Board asked your advice as to the disposition to be made of the Preparatory Department connected with the College. As it did not pay, and was mainly beneficial to persons living in the immediate vicinity of the College, the Board thought the connection had better be dissolved. As several judicious brethren were apprehensive that some evil might grow out of too sudden a change in the internal arrangements of the College, your Board concluded to retain a class of young men pursuing studies just one year behind the regular Freshman class. As the change was found to be of great advantage to the College, your Board at the close of the last Session concluded to take another step in advance and dispense with this sub-Freshman class. It was thought that distant patrons would hardly be willing to incur the risk and expense of sending their sons from home to receive instruction which could be imparted as well at their own doors, and at one half the expense of a student at College. This explanation is given to satisfy some excellent brethren who do not seem to understand the motive of the Board. This statement will also account for the fact that we have a somewhat smaller number of students than we had at this date last year. But already 72 young men have registered their names, and the number will be considerably increased before the close of the collegiate year.

The Theological Department is also in a highly flourishing condition.-- During the last year 24 promising young brethren, entered as students preparing for the Gospel Ministry. Several other students in the College have expressed a determination to enter upon the sacred work. Some of the above who entered as students for the ministry, have left us and commenced their labors, and are doing good service in the cause of truth. Others, how-

ever, have come in to take their places, and there are still in the College 24 students of this description—four in the Senior class, one in the Junior, seven in the Sophomore, and nine in the Freshman class. Sixteen of these young men are sustained by bro. Brown, at an annual expense of \$4,000.—It will be remembered that he announced his willingness to sustain fifty-one young men, pursuing studies preparatory to the ministry. He has since endowed a Professorship of Theology in the College and proposes, unless providentially hindered, to pay the full amount of his note for the endowment during the ensuing winter, and for this year, he prefers that the number of his beneficiaries should not be increased.

FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE COLLEGE.

The following will show the Convention the amount of the Endowment Fund and the value of the property which they have entrusted to their Board :

Literary Endowment, Principal and Interest,	\$100,418 12	
Of this, bad and doubtful, \$11,248 92,	11,248 92	
Indebtedness (say) \$7,000 00,	18,248 92	
Leaving reliable Literary Fund,		\$82,169 20
Theological Endowment,		20,400 00
Buildings, Lot, &c., (say)		45,000 00
Apparatus,		5,000 00
Library and Fund "		8,000 00
Total available property,		160,569 20
Literary Endowment, conditional,	\$38,875 00	
Theological " " " " " "	25,000 00	63,875 00
		<hr/>
Total,		\$224,444 20

Certificates of Railroad Stock, at present of nominal value in addition to the above,	\$ 3,500 00
--	-------------

RECAPITULATION.

Available property,	\$160,569 20
Notes, bad and doubtful,	11,248 92
Notes, conditional,	63,875 00
Certificates of Railroad Stock,	3,500 00
	<hr/>
Grand total,	\$239,193 12

In the report of the Board submitted to the Convention at its Session of 1854, the following extract is found: "The last annual Report shows that the Theological and Literary Fund amounted to \$58,855 80. It may now be set down at several hundred dollars less. But these sums are only nominal. A careful examination of the Books, and inquiry into the condition of the subscribers to the different funds show that little over \$40,000 00 of the funds of the College can now be regarded available. Thus it seems that four years ago last July, the entire property of the College consisted in notes amounting to about \$40,000 00. You have at this date in notes and property \$239,521 21. Thus you can judge of what has been accomplished in four and a half years. If all has not been accomplished which you could have desired, enough has been done to encourage you to persevere in your efforts. Your Board feel, however, that in making the above report of the financial condition of the College, they would be deceiving you, and doing injustice to themselves, should they fail to inform you that a large amount of the fund reported is in conditional notes, to-wit: the sum of sixty-three thousand eight hundred and seventy-five dollars. About the first

of January, 1858, the Rev. W. S. Barton was appointed Financial Secretary of the College. He entered upon his work with great energy and zeal, and with corresponding success. In the report of the Board for 1858, you will find these words: "Amount reported by Rev. W. S. Barton, as raised in notes and pledges, the present year, \$47,000. The pledges reported by the agent, are not legal instruments; but it is presumed that the amounts will, for the most part, be realized." Not only the pledges, but the notes of the above \$47,000, were given on condition that \$100,000 should be raised by the first of March, 1860. In consequence of the protracted ill-health of the Financial Secretary, he has accomplished but little during the year; and if it had not been for the munificent donation of \$25,000 made by bro. J. H. Brown to the Endowment, the work of two years must have resulted in nothing. Even as it is, \$38,625 must be made between this and the first of March, 1860, to render all the notes binding. The Financial Secretary places great reliance in the liberality of the denomination, and is confident that the amount will be made up. Your Board, however, begin to indulge some apprehension of a failure. There are many in our midst whom the Lord has blessed in the accumulation of wealth. Some of the number have contributed comparatively small amounts to the endowment fund. Will they not in this last great struggle of our cherished institution, place it at once upon a firm and respectable basis? Thus far in the history of the College, bro. J. H. Brown of Sumter county, has been its *most* munificent benefactor; and he unhesitatingly expresses his determination to labor yet more assiduously to promote its interests. And why should such devotion to the cause of education be an occasion of surprise? There is perhaps, no way in which money can be invested for the purpose of doing good—of benefiting mankind, and honoring God, which surpasses, or even equals that of endowing institutions of learning. Especially is this true where such institutions are under judicious moral influences, and have in charge the work of fitting pious young men for the Gospel Ministry. The money thus invested is not consumed with the using. The good it does to-day can be repeated again to-morrow, the next week and next year, until eternity alone can reveal the results. The noblest monument a man can erect to his own memory, is the identification of his name with some institution of learning, by contributing of his substance to its support and endowment.

In this connection your Board would state that Bro. D. R. Lide is still Treasurer of the College, and is engaged in collecting its funds. It is highly desirable that the funds of the College should be collected and invested. The expense of collecting the interest merely entails upon the College an annual expenditure which consumes a very important part of its income.

THE FACULTY.

At the annual meeting of the Board the Faculty were unanimously re-appointed to fill their respective places. Dr. N. Friend, Prof. of Chemistry and Natural History, felt compelled to decline the appointment, as the salary did not seem adequate to his wants. Your Board have a very high appreciation of his attainments and ability as an instructor, and of his moral worth. They most sincerely regretted the necessity of giving him up, but were impelled to it by a sense of duty. The above Professorship is not yet filled, but there are several applicants for the place. Mr. W. A. Parker has been appointed Professor of English Literature and Instructor in Modern Languages. Professors Goodhue, Sherman, Montagne and Wurd, respectively occupy their former places. As soon as the Prof. of Chemistry and Natural History is appointed, the Faculty will be complete. The munificence of Bro. Brown has put it in the power of your Board to appoint a second Prof. of Theology. An invitation was extended to Rev. T. W. Tobey to occupy the new chair. He has entered upon his new field of la-

bor, and brings to it talents and attainments which must, with his energy of character, ensure his success. As the duties of the Theological Department are divided, the Professors can furnish ample instruction to those who are studying for the ministry.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS.

It is highly desirable the College Grounds should be enclosed and beautified. At your last Session the Board announced to the Convention that the ladies of Marion and vicinity, had presented the College with a choice suit of minerals. They have now to announce that the ladies have placed at their disposal between \$1200 and \$1400, to be expended in fencing the College Grounds. The Grounds ought to be graded before they are fenced; but from the pressure of their monetary affairs, the Board have not found it possible to have the grading done. The term of office of the following members of the Board of Trustees, being one-third of the whole number, expires with the present Session of the Convention, and an election is necessary. Rev. H. Tulbird, L. B. Lane, W. P. Chilton, J. T. Barron, J. F. Bailey, T. P. Miller, J. G. Shorter, E. Y. VanHoose and T. H. Watts.

Respectfully submitted.

[APPENDIX I.]

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

The hope of the Church, the State, and the world rests upon the rising generation, whilst the responsibility of their training is upon us. It becomes us, therefore, to teach them those great truths, which lie at the foundation of all religions and moral character; for the instruction imparted in infancy often gives direction to the whole life, and seals the eternal destiny of an immortal spirit. *Never* more than at the present have our youth needed the protection of early religious instruction; and Sabbath Schools exert a potent influence in guarding the young against that insidious skepticism and infidelity, so speciously presented to the youthful mind, in the guise of *Light Literature*. The long felt necessity and demand in our denomination for a *suitable* Sabbath School literature now furnish a *supply* of such books as the Churches of Christ demand.

This fact we consider ominous of a brighter and more prosperous day in the Sabbath School interests among us, for the lack of denominational publications adapted to the wants of the young, has, in the opinion of your Committee, seriously retarded this work. We are pleased to observe that Baptists are unwilling longer to use entirely the S. S. "Union" books, which so cautiously evade a part of the teachings of God's word,—that blessed book in which our denominational peculiarities stand out in such *bold relief*, that "he who runs may read." "One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism," being a cherished Biblical axiom with Baptists, immersion being a profession of that *one* Faith in the *burial* and *resurrection* of that *one* Lord, we should, if need be, "contend *earnestly* for the Faith once delivered to the saints." "Keeping the ordinances *as* they were delivered unto us," and believing that a properly qualified ministry only, is authorized to administer them to believing subjects *exclusively*, are we not recreant to our trust if we heed not His voice who said, "Thou shalt teach them *diligently* to thy children?" As several of our Associations have manifested a commendable interest in the establishment and nurture of Sabbath Schools, your committee would recommend all others of our Associations and Churches to go and "do likewise." We respectfully ask the Convention to pass the following resolutions:

- 1st. *Resolved*, That this Convention regards Sabbath Schools as one of

the most efficient and useful instrumentalities blest of God, for the advancement of the Redeemer's Kingdom.

2nd. *Resolved*, That we earnestly recommend all our brethren to labor for the establishment and maintenance of a "Sabbath School in every Church."

3rd. *Resolved*, That we recommend that the Bible be the *basis* of all instruction in Sabbath Schools, and that such Catechisms and Question books be used as teach its doctrines and practices as we understand them.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. S. PARKS, Cha'n.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

S. H. FOWLER, Treasurer, in account current with the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

DR.

FOREIGN MISSION ACCOUNT.	
1858.	
Nov. 14.—	Cash from Finance Committee for Foreign Missions..... \$2798 98
" "	" " " " " China Missions..... 169 40
" "	" " " " " African Missions... 233 87
Nov. 26.	" " Miss M. E. Lyde..... 7 00
Nov. 30.	" " refunded by A. M. Poindexter, amt overpaid him..... 43 50
	<u>\$3952 75</u>

CR.	
1858.	
Nov. 17.—	By A. M. Poindexter's receipt for cash, No. 1..... \$2304 32
" "	" " " " " vouchers " 1..... 697 93
" "	" " M. T. Sumner's receipts to C. H. Cleveland " 2..... 35 00
1859.	" " Rev. R. Holman's " " Jacob Parker " 3..... 8 50
Nov. 9,	" " S. A. Cravath's receipt..... 7 00
	<u>\$3052 75</u>

DOMESTIC MISSION ACCOUNT.

1858.	
Nov. 14.—	Cash from Finance Committee for Domestic Missions, \$2170 16
" "	" " " " " for Indian..... 836 61
" "	" " " " " for Peter Folsome,..... 406 60
" "	" " " " " for Backner..... 200 60
" "	" " " " " for Col. Baptist Ch., N.O. 100 00
" "	" " " " " for Mission Houses,..... 30 00
26.	" " " " " for Indian Miss. (omitted) 5 00
" "	" " Miss M. E. Lyde..... 7 00
Dec. 23.	" " Tuscaloosa Asso. by hands Rev. Jas. Foster..... 5 00
	<u>\$4060 37</u>

CR.	
1858.	
Nov. 18.—	By amt't rep'd fm St. Francis-St. Ch. Mobile (see let'r) No. 1, \$525 62
" "	" " M. T. Sumner's rec't to C. H. Cleveland, No. 2, 35 00
" "	" " " " " A. M. Hanks, Treas. U. B. Asso. 3, 30 00
" "	" " " " " " " " 4, 113 35
" "	" " R. Holman's " " " L. L. Fox, 5, 20 00
" "	" " " " " " " Jacob Parker, 6, 10 00
" "	" " " " " " " W. N. Wyatt, 7, 35 00
" "	" " Wm. Hornbuckle, Treas., receipt, 8, 3284 40
1859.	" " Minute Tax, 8, 5 00
Nov. 8.	" " Wm. Hornbuckle's receipt, 9, 12 00
	<u>\$4060 38</u>

GENERAL PURPOSE ACCOUNT.

1858.	
Nov. 9.—	Balance on hand (see lat't Report)..... \$ 4 60
14.—	Cash from Finance Committee..... 125 15
" "	" " Foreign Mission Fund..... 5 00
" "	" " Domestic..... 5 00
" "	" " Bible cause..... 15 00
	<u>\$154 75</u>

CR.	
1858.	
Nov. 18.—	By cash paid A. B. Goodhue, No. 1,..... \$ 40 00
1859.	Feb. 5.—By cash paid A. B. Goodhue, " 2,..... 105 00
Nov. 10.—	By balance due this Fund..... 9 75
	<u>\$154 75</u>

TREASURER'S REPORT.—[CONTINUED.]

S. H. FOWLES, Treasurer, in account current with the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

<p>1858. SOUTHERN PUBLICATION SOCIETY ACCOUNT. Nov. 14.—Cash from Finance Committee</p>	<p>\$17 85 \$17 85</p>	<p>Nov. 9.—By balance (see last Report)</p>	<p>\$ 35 17 50 <u>\$17 85</u></p>
<p>1858. HOLCOMB MONUMENT ACCOUNT. Nov. 14.—Cash from Finance Committee</p>	<p>\$ 36 55 25 00 <u>\$61 55</u></p>	<p>CR. Nov. 10.—By balance due this Fund</p>	<p>\$61 55 <u>\$61 55</u></p>
<p>1858. DR. Nov. 9.—To balance of the Jere. H. Brown fund on hand (see last Report)</p>	<p>\$ 575 00 759 00 600 00 1000 00 681 00 500 00 400 00 <u>\$4506 00</u></p>	<p>CR. Nov. 9.—By Dr. H. Talbird's d'tt in favor T. B. Espey, from 1 to 3, C. H. Shead, " 1 " 4, W. M. Jordan, " 1 " 3, J. R. Murphy, " 1 " 3, T. H. Strawn, " 1 " 4, J. D. Beck, " 1 " 5, J. A. Chambliss, " 1 " 4, J. B. Mynatt, " 1 " 4, G. W. Given, " 1 " 4, J. W. Savage, " 1 " 5, Geo. Macon, " 1 " 3, J. B. Hawthorn, " 1 " 3, J. L. Lattimore, " 1 " 6, N. A. Watson, " 1 " 5, W. A. Jones, " 1 " 5, J. A. Weatherly, " 1 " 5, Tho. Nicholson, " 1 " 4, L. T. Daniel, " 1 " 2, F. M. Daniel, " 1 " 2, R. A. Massey, " 1 " 5, balance due this fund</p>	<p>\$250 00 223 66 175 00 201 66 229 45 210 00 150 00 185 00 173 88 198 88 250 00 191 44 235 00 50 60 225 00 210 00 166 66 138 88 250 00 284 97 493 52 <u>\$4506 00</u></p>

TREASURER'S REPORT.—[CONTINUED.]
S. H. FOWLKES, Treasurer, in account current with the Alabama Baptist State Convention.

		DR.			CR.
1858.	To balance due the J. H. Brown fund			Nov. 14.—By R. Holman's receipt to Jacob Parker, No. 1	\$ 1 00
Nov. 9.—To bal. on hand of Convention fund (see last Report)		\$ 493 52	Feb. 1.—By L. B. Robinson's receipt	" 2	37 50
Nov. 14.—Cash from Finance Committee		378 60	1859. Jan. 1.—By Woolley & Moseley's	" 3	76 29
" " " " " Educational fund.		523 00	18. " Mrs. Bolton's	" 4	37 50
" " " " " Miss M. E. Lytle		1 00	Mar. 5. " O. L. Suivers'	" 5	37 50
1859. 26. " " " a young lady of Montgomery, by J. T. Tichenor		5 00	Apr. 4. " Mrs. Bolton's	" 6	37 50
Apr. 20. " " " rec'd of A. Foscoe on his note		1009 00	24. " cash paid Dr. H. Talbird's order	" 7	112 50
Nov. 2. " " " interest on same to date		133 35	June 4. " L. B. Robinson's receipt	" 8	37 50
			Nov. 2. " cash paid expenses for collecting note of A. Foscoe	" 9	3 85
			" 10. " balance due this fund, including balance as above..		2158 33
					<u>\$2539 47</u>
BIBLE SOCIETY ACCOUNT.					
1858.	To balance on hand (see last Report)	\$	50		
Nov. 9.—To cash from Finance Com. Ala. Baptist Bible Socy.		667 23	1858. Nov. 2.—By F. M. Law's receipt,	No. 1,	\$ 54 40
Nov. 14. " " " Foreign Bible cause		44 00	" amount returned for minutes,		15 00
Dec. 23. " " " Tuscaloosa Assn. by hands Josh. Foster		5 00	1859. 29. " cash paid J. H. Burns, treasurer, &c. No. 2,		642 33
1859. Nov. 2.—To cash from J. H. Brown, by hands Dr. Talbird		200 00	Nov. 10. " balance due this fund,		205 00
					<u>\$916 73</u>

[For conclusion, see the next (32d) page.]

To the President and Members of the Ala. Baptist State Convention :

I submit this my annual report, as Treasurer of your Body, showing a balance in my hands of twenty-four hundred and fifty-two dollars and thirteen cents, (\$2452 13). Of this amount there stands to the credit of the Beneficiary funds, the sum of twenty-one hundred and fifty-eight dollars and thirty-three cents, (\$2158 33). To the Bible Society account, two hundred and five dollars, (\$205). To the Holcomb Monument, sixty-one dollars and fifty-five cents, (\$61 55). To the Southern Publication Society, seventeen dollars and fifty cents; and nine dollars and seventy-five cents to the General Purpose funds. All of which stands subject to your orders.

Respectfully submitted,
Nov. 10, 1859.

S. H. FOWLKES,
Treasurer Ala. Bap. State Conv'n.

REPORT OF AUDITING COMMITTEE.

Your committee have examined the above account and vouchers find it correct.

LEVIN B. LANE, Cha'n.

SHELBY KING, Sec'y.

203E
4

SAMFORD UNIVERSITY LIBRARY



1 1 00374055

Special Collections

GENERAL

BX	1852-59
6470.1	c.2
.A4	

Alabama Baptist State
Convention
Annual of the Alabama
Baptist State Convention

X *ROOM USE ONLY*

