ALABARA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1895.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe in one only true and living God; and that there are three persons in the Godhead—the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

2. We believe that the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments

are the Word of God, and the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of eternal and particular election, and the doctrine of original sin, and man's impotency to recover himself from the fallen state he is in by nature by his own free will and ability.

4. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God only by

the imputed righteousness of Jesus Christ.

5. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Spirit, and that the saints shall persevere in grace and never finally fall away.

6. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are only subjects of the ordi-

nances, and that the true mode of baptism is immersion.

7. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and a general judgment, and that the punishment of the wicked will be everlasting, and

the joys of the righteous will be eternal.

8. We believe that no minister has a right to administer the ordinances only such as have been called of God, as was Aaron, and come under the imposition of hands by a presbytery, and in fellowship in the church of which he is a member.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SIXTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

₩EAST LIBERTY ASSOCIATION, №

HELD WITH

Farmville Baptist Church, Lee County, Ala.,

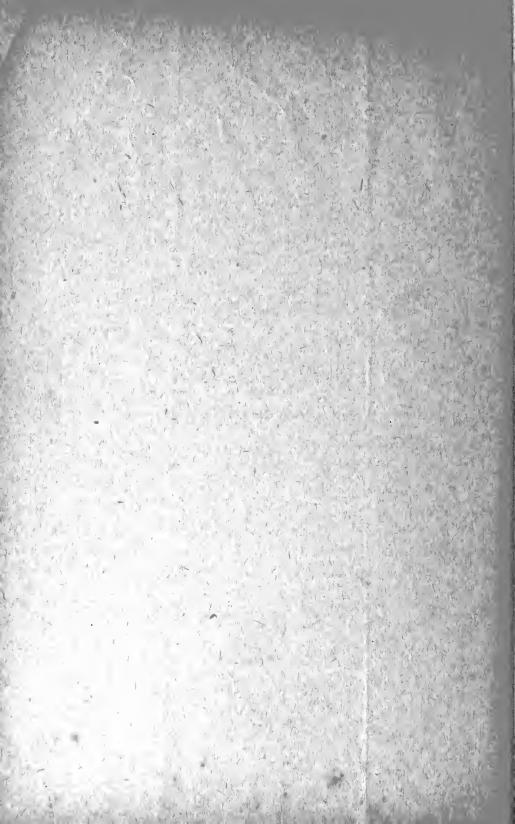
October 8, 9 and 10, 1895.

OFFICERS:

REV. J. P. SHAFFER, Moderator_____Dadeville, Ala. REV. W. C. BLEDSOE, See'y and Treas'r_LaFayette, "

The next session will be held with the Milltown ehurch, Chambers County, Ala., beginning on Tuesday after the first Sunday in October, 1896, Rev. W. C. Bledsoe to preach the Introductory Sermon; Rev. J. R. Stodghill, alternate.

Montgomery, Ala.: ALABAMA BAPTIST, 1895.



PROCEEDINGS.

FARM VILLE CHURCH, LEE Co., ALA., Oct. 8, 1895.

The East Liberty Baptist Association assembled in Sixtieth Annual Session with the Farmville Baptist church, Lee County, Alabama, on Tuesday, October 8, 1895.

The Annual Sermon was preached at 11 o'clock a.m. by Rev. Arnold S. Smith. Text: "She hath done what she

could."-Mark 14:8.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator. Rev. J. P. Shaffer, and after devotional exercises, the letters from the churches were read and the following delegates enrolled:

1.

Antioch—S. R. Wooddy, R. S. Lovelace. Beulah—G. W. Hunt, W. H. Betts, Jas. O. Bledsoe. Bethlehem—F. W. Shank, A. C. Bennette, F. P. Bradfield.

8. 4. Bethel (Lee)—A. B. Graves.

5. Bethel (Chambers)—E. D. Bishop, J. R. Cook, J. P. Jordan, Robert Wheeler.

6. Cusseta—W. D. Warlick. Center-W. C. Sharp, J. W. Foster, T. C. Key. 7.

- County Line—T. J. Langley, J. M. Langley, W. G. Jarrell, H. Jarrell, J. C. Talbot.
 Camp Hill—W. R. Dawson, J. P. Seroyer, B. H. Walker, B. T. 8.
- 9.

10.

- Mathews, B. F. Fargarson, J. C. Jester.
 Dadeville—Jos. H. Johnson, W. H. Payne.
 Eagle Creek—J. B. Brown, W. O. Shepherd, J. R. Shepherd, A. T. King. 11.
- Farmville—R. Neighbors, J. I. Bedell, J. H. Cooper, G. A. 12.

13.

Five Points—J. M. Jackson, J. R. Ramsay, J. T. Fuller. Fellowship (Tallapoosa)—W. H. Shepherd, O. T. Wyatt, E. 14.

15. Fellowship (Randolph)—1. Burden, J. T. Hudson, D. L. Bishop.

High Pine—G. P. Green, W. J. Slay. 16.

17. LaFayette-J. B. Duke, Lum Duke, D. E. Denney, W. B. Nichols, J. D. Abernathy.

Langdale—J. C. Howe, W. G. Phillips. 18.

Lanette-J. D. Norman. 19.

Lebanon—W. Y. Harrison, F. O. Williams, L. F. Johnson, W. H. Heard, E. V. Pless. 20.21.

Liberty—F. M. Handley

22.

Mary—E. A. Rodgers, Y. Y. Jenkins. Milltown—J. F. Breed, J. M. Rotton, W. M. Woodall, W. C. 23. Blackburn.

24.

Mt. Zion—J. E. McGlaughn, J. M. Irvin. New Hope—B. F. Anderson, T. G. Crowder, J. M. Veazey, E. 25. L. Anderson.

Providence-R. I. Howell, B. R. Simpson. 26.

Pleasant Ridge-W. C. Roeck, O. P. Sanford. 27.

28.

Roanoke—W. A. Burden, G. W. Hill, F. P. Nichols. Rock Spring (Chambers)—G. W. Newman, W. W. Still, James 29. Leitch.

30. 31.

Rock Spring (Tallapoosa)—G. V. McCormack. Rock Mills—J. W. Huckaby, W. M. Taylor. Sandy Creek—T. D. Lunceford, J. F. Reynolds, N. G. Brazill, 32.H. Reynolds.

Shiloh—J. T. Leverett. 33. 34.

Tallapoosa—J. Gregory. Waverly—W. E. Shealey, G. W. Ellington. 35.

Rev. Jno. P. Shaffer, of Dadeville, Ala., was re-elected Moderator, and Rev. W. C. Bledsoe, of LaFayette, Ala., was re-elected Secretary and Treasurer, both by acclamation.

A letter was presented from Lanette Baptist church asking to be received into the Association. The Articles of Faith and Covenant of said church were read, and then, on motion, the church was received, the Moderator extending the hand of fellowship to the delegate.

6. Correspondents were received:

From Tuskegee Association—Revs. G. S. Anderson, F. T. Hudson, J. J. Cloud, G. E. Brewer, Z. D. Roby; Bros. J. S. Bryant, B. Gullatte, N. Macon, T. J. Carlisle, J. L. Wise.
From the Western (Ga.)—Rev. E. C. Smith.
From the Central—Rev. W. R. Whatley.
From the Carey—J. W. Partridge.
From the Harris—Rev. H. R. Schramm.
From Auburg (colld). Pay W. C. Corter

From Auburn (col'd.)—Rev. W. C. Carter.

The following brethren were recognized and welcomed as representing certain interests of the denomination: Rev. J. W. Stewart, Orphanage; Rev. G. S. Anderson, Institute Work and Correspondence Course on Sermon Making; Rev. A. S. Smith, Southern Baptist Theological Seminary; Rev. C. J. Burden, Sunday School Board of S. B. C.; Rev. H. R. Schramm, Alabama Baptist and Mission Journal; Rev. W. C. Bledsoe, Foreign Mission Board, S. B. C.

The following committees to report at the present session

were announced by the Moderator:

On Religious Services—The pastor and delegates of Farmville

On Nominations—F. P. Nichols, J. B. Duke, W. H. Page. On Finance—W. R. Dawson, F. M. Handley, W. G. Jarrell.

9. Rev. J. W. Stewart was given the floor for thirty minutes, and addressed the body on behalf of the Baptist Orphanage. The report on that work was postponed to to-morrow.

10. On motion, adjourned till 9 o'elock a. m. to-morrow.

Rev. J. W. Stewart, by appointment of Committee on Religious Services, preached at the church at 8 o'clock p. m. Text, Col. 1:27: "Christ in you the hope of glory."

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9, 1895.

- 12. The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 9 o'clock a. m., and fifteen minutes given to devotional exercises.
- 13. The report on Baptist Orphanage, postponed on yesterday, was presented and read as follows:

REPORT ON ORPHAN'S HOME.

Our Orphanage is now permaneutly located at Evergreen. The first steps toward its establishment were taken by Mrs. Woodson, when five years ago she gave to the Baptists of Alabama certain valuable property for the maintenance of a Baptist Widows' and Orphans' Home. This good sister has turned over to us all of her real estate, worth several thousand dollars, to be used after her death for this great purpose, except the Florida property, which she has given for immediate use.

The Home was not actually started, however, till two years ago, when in a small rented house it was opened, on the 10th day of March,

with three inmates.

We have received into the Home 48 children, of whom 24 are girls and 24 are boys, and have sent out by adoption 11 and 2 by apprenticeship.

The boys are taught to do farm work, and the girls do various kinds

of house work.

The older children attend school at the Academy, and the younger ones are taught in the Home. They attend Sunday School and church, and Sunday afternoon they engage in singing and reciting Scripture. Seven of the children have been baptized. These have organized a child's prayer meeting, in which they themselves lead.

In November, 1893, to make room for our large and growing family, a permanent home was purchased, consisting of the Y. M. Rabb place, eighty acres of land lying on Main street, with a substantial brick residence with ten rooms. Money is greatly needed to improve this property so as to add four more dormitories, a dining room and kitchen, and a school room. The property was bought for \$5,000, to be paid in three annual installments, with interest on the deferred payments. The first was paid when due. The second, amounting to about \$1,800, was due January 1, 1895, on which a balance of \$273 is still due.

The third and last payment, amounting to about \$1,930, will be due

January 1, 1896.

The current expenses of the Home are about \$200 per month.

Your committee recommend that our churches take collections in December to aid in making the last payment on the Home, and that they aid in the current expense fund during the year.

The righteous regardeth the cause of the poor.—Prov. 29:7.

(Send all contributions to Rev. John W. Stewart, Evergreen, Ala.)
Respectfully submitted,

A. S. Brannon, Chairman.

- 14. On motion to adopt, the report was discussed by Z. D. Roby, J. P. Shaffer, H. R. Schramm and W. R. Whatley, and the report was adopted.
- 15. The report on Temperance was presented and read as follows:

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee, to whom was given the subject of Temperance on which to bring in a report, beg leave to submit the following:

Can it be doubted that the evil of intemperance is the greatest curse known to civilized man? We assume that no one will deny this proposition. If, therefore, such is the fact, then the question comes boldly before us, What is the duty of Baptist Christians in the premises? Can they stand idly by while sixty thousand men annually are filling drunkards' graves in these United States alone? Can we, as a denomination of Christians, refuse to arouse our every energy and put forth every effort in suppressing this hydra-headed monster?

We say, No! Let us look at some of the facts as they exist. What is wrong in principle can not be made right anyway, and when law

sanctions evil, the law itself becomes an evil.

Garrett Smith says that "If the liquor traffic is immoral, the laws authorizing this traffic are immoral, and hence it is immoral not to protest against such laws." Think of an army of 300,000 saloon men, protected by law, cursing the land with the evils of the liquor traffic! We do not wonder that these men laugh at Christians who are seeking to control the liquor business. They are organized, and when called on, use money lavishly in controlling legislation. How many men go from State legislatures and from Congress with their pockets filled with saloon gold?

Not only so, but States accept revenue from this business. How can a nation that fears God or regards man, accept revenue from this proceeds of crime, when the notorious fact is that the traffic does not lessen taxes, but actually increases them sevenfold? Such laws are

the nation's humiliation and disgrace.

The idea of mortgaging the souls of thousands of citizens to increase the revenue of the State! The idea of thus making the innocent one with the guilty by law as sharers in this diabolical iniquity! The

idea of making revenue out of a nation's disgrace!

Why, a just, righteous nation can no more accept such a revenue than the Temple authorities could accept Judas Iscariot's profits from the sale of the Son of God. With the pen of a prophet David looked down the centuries to our time and saw the saloons—the liquor monster—and exclaimed, "Shall the throne of iniquity have fellowship with thee, which frameth mischief by a law?"—Ps. 94:20 Can the Christian church have fellowship with wrong, whether that wrong comes from individuals or State? The true object of legislation is to prevent and not to protect evil. The State, by becoming partaker of the spoil, becomes itself a partaker of the wrong. How can a policy that legalizes evil ever become a remedy for the evil? The State that legalizes the liquor traffic, legalizes the most powerful agent in crime.

Now, in the face of all this, let us ask the question, "What are we going to do about it?" Are we going to wage a ceaseless war against this evil? Are we going to vote for men for office who get drunk, or who are in favor of the saloon? Or what will we do? Will we sign petitions to establish a saloon in our midst, that our boys and neighbors' boys may fill a drunkard's grave? Oh, let us band ourselves together and fight this evil to the death; and then, when our banner floats triumphant over wrong, God will say, "Well done, good and

faithful servant.''

Respectfully submitted,

WM. C. ROECK, Chairman.

16. On motion to adopt, the report was discussed by J. D.

Norman, W. C. Roeck, J. B. Duke, Hugh Wallace and A. S. Smith, and the report was adopted.

17. The report on Education was presented and read as follow:

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The demand for receiving and for the services of education was never greater. The supply for giving, by national and state governments, by committees and denominations of Christians was never greater. To this we offer no objection, but are glad that it is so.

Your committee deems it its duty to call attention to one phase in educating. It was truly stated in the able report on this subject at the last session of this body that, "man has a three fold-nature—"physical, mental and moral," and that there could be no true education without the development of all of these. We think that of the three, the moral nature is the one to which the teacher should devote his principal efforts. Aside from the great and ultimate good of the pupil, it appears to us the most logical and earnest way by which to develop the mental and physical. Teach the young to believe the truth: The life is more than meat, and the time, opportunities and means employed in expanding the mental faculties and of entering more largely into life, will not so readily be sacrificed to earthly gains or pleasures. Convict a boy or girl with the truth that the "body is more than raiment" and the physical culture and preservation of the body is more easily secured. To train the physical and mental and neglect the moral is to give to the ship the hull and sails and without ballast and compass.

If these conclusions be correct, or, if it be necessary to train the moral along with the physical and mental natures of our children, where and to whom shall we look? It would be unreasonable and unjust to expect it to be done at our state institutions. However much the authorities at these colleges may desire such teaching to be given, the state cannot teach the source of all moral instruction—the Bible, and still maintain religious liberty for all her citizens. And for another reason, the Master to whom all power is given, did not deliver to civil governments the moral training of the young; but,

turning to his people said: "Ye are the light of the world."

Hence the conclusion of your committee is, that denominational, or Christian schools are the places where a well balanced education, in the fullest degree can be secured. These we have in Howard College for our boys and in the Judson Institute for our girls. These schools are presided over by able and pious men and women, and deserve, aside from loyalty to our denomination, in point of merit and cost for the value received, the patronage of all our people. God's blessings have in a wonderful degree rested upon the work done at these institutions. During last year the Judson enrolled 115 students, eighty-two of whom were boarders. This session, up to the 5th inst., eighty-two have entered with others from abroad and from the vicinity expected.

The Howard opened the present session with 125 students. If this college could be freed from debt and placed upon a firm financial basis and its usefullness increased in proportion to what it has done under embarressed circumstances, the Baptists of the state would stand almost in wonder at the results. We are sure that our Baptist people will not have discharged their duties as God's stewards until an education at the Howard and Judson, too, is given as freely as that

offered by institutions fostered by the state.

The Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., sustained a great loss during the last session in the death of its President, the beloved Dr. Broadus. The place has been filled by the election of Dr. Whitsitt, long connected with the seminary.

Those who have been called of God to preach the gospel and who

are enabled to attend, are thus well equipped for a larger sphere of

usefulness.

What is being done for the preachers at the Seminary, is attempted, as far as possible, to be done for the ministers on the field, by the "Anderson Correspondence Course," conducted by Brother G. S. Anderson. Forty-one preachers have taken this course, and sixty-one have been taught at Institutes; four permanent Institutes organized. In view of the vast field for the work, and the well attested efficiency of the system, and its method of propagation presented by Brother Anderson, we offer the following resolutions: 1. That we recommend to the ministry the system of instruction introduced by Brother Anderson as being sound and practical, meeting the demand in reaching our ministry on the field. 2. That each church make a contribution to it during the coming year. 3. That we recommend the work thus inaugurated to the State and Home Mission Boards as a denominational enterprise.

May God still direct and preserve all these means of Christian education, and arouse in the hearts of his people a greater interest in

their behalf.

Jos. H. Johnson, Chairman.

On motion to adopt, the report was discussed by A. S. 18. Smith, H. R. Schramm and G. S. Anderson.

19. The Association adjourned to 1:30 o'clock p. m.

20. Rev. W. R. Whatley preached in the grove near the church at 11 a. m. Text: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for their's is the kingdom of heaven."—Matt. 5:3.

Afternoon Session—Wednesday, 1:30 p. m.

The Association met according to adjournment. A

hymn was sung and prayer was offered.

The motion pending was the adoption of the report on Education, the discussion of which was continued by J. W. Stewart, J. L. Gregory, Z. D. Roby, J. P. Shaffer, W. E. Lloyd and W. R. Whatley. After amendment by addition of the resolutions which appear in the report as above, the report was adopted.

On motion, the reports on Foreign Missions, Home Missions, State Missions, and Bible and Colportage, were read

and put before the body for general discussion:

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Like every other great and continuous movement, that of Foreign Missions is not without its seasons of prosperity and enthusiasm, and its times of hardship and apathy. While the outlook at present is not what the ardent missionary desires, there is nothing to daunt or discourage true workers. On the other hand, there are many things to quicken the energy and inflame the zeal of every believer in missions.

This report is to deal with the Foreign Mission work fostered by the Southern Baptist Convention. It is a significant fact that, notwithstanding the paralyzed condition of the finances of the country, the receipts of the Foreign Mission Board were greater the last conventional year than at any time during the half century it has existed, save the centennial year of missions. The debt of the board was reduced from \$30,000 to \$20,000, and the current expenses met. This is a good financial showing at a time of unparalleled depression all over the country.

Frequent baptisms are reported from the several fields, and the rich blessings of God rest upon the work. As a rule, those who are converted and baptized walk orderly, and are devoted Christians. godly lives and liberality of many of the converted heathen should put to blush thousands of professing Christians in our own land.

Several missionaries are soon to sail for their respective fields. Most of these are those who have been at home for rest and recuperation. We note among the number Rev. J. W. McCollum and wife, our much loved missionaries to Japan. Since our Association last met, Miss Willie Kelley, of Marion, Ala., has gone as a missionary to China, and is making progress with her work.

The report of the Foreign Mission Board to the Convention, which met in Washington May 10-14, 1895, showed the following statistics:

China Missions. Canton (begun in 1845), 13 missionaries, 22 native helpers, 8 churches, 866 members, 82 baptisms, 14 schools, \$1,683.65 contributions.

Shanghai Mission (1847), 9 missionaries, 2 native helpers, 3 churches, 110 members, 2 baptisms, 2 schools, \$74.00 contributions.

Chin-Kiang Mission (1880), 7 missionaries, 2 churches, 17 members,

1 school, \$206.16 contributions.

North China Missions (1860), 12 missionaries, 3 churches, 138 members, 34 baptisms, 3 schools, \$53.54 contributions. Total for China, 41 missionaries, 25 native helpers, 16 churches, 1,131 members, 118 baptisms.

African Missions. Lagos and interior (1850), 7 missionaries, 6 native helpers, 4 churches, 239 members, 67 baptisms, \$214.45 contributions.

Italian Missions. Rome, Florence and other towns (1870), 3 missionaries from the United States, 28 native preachers and colporteurs, 18 churches, 353 members, 28 baptisms, \$357.25 contributions.

Brazilian Missions. Bahia and vicinity, (1882), 4 missionaries, 3 native helpers, 5 churches, 297 members, 36 baptisms; Rio and vicinity (1883), 6 missionaries, 2 native helpers, 5 churches, 119 members, 14 baptisms, \$1,518.50 contributions; Pernambuco (1889), 2 missionaries, 61 members, 28 baptisms, 1 church, contributions \$200; Campos (1890), 2 missionaries, 1 native assistant, 3 churches, 133 members, 55 baptisms, contributions \$320. Total for Brazil, 14 missionaries, 6 na-

tive helpers, 14 churches, 610 members, 133 baptisms.

Mexican Missions, (1880), 20 missionaries, 19 native helpers, 32 churches, 1,120 members, 226 baptisms, 3 schools, contributions

\$1,817.38

Japanese Missions, (1889), 6 missionaries, 5 native helpers, 1 church, 40 members, 9 baptisms, \$20.74 contributions.

Totals—Churches, 85; members, 3,493; baptisms, 581; contributions,

Thus we are doing work in China, Africa, Italy, Brazil and Japan. Of these Italy, Brazil and Mexico are Papal fields, and China, Africa and Japan Pagan fields.

Alabama Baptists are asked to raise for Foreign Missions this year \$10,800, which is \$3,206.13 more than we gave last year, and is a little less than 10 cents per capita for the 110,778 white Baptists in the State. By giving an average of \$3 per capita, the East Liberty Association could raise the whole amount. Why not do it? Our proportionate part of the amount asked for is about \$360, which is \$30.86 more than we gave last year. Only 10 per cent. of all the money given for Foreign Missions is required to defray expenses. Fully ninety cents out of every dollar given goes directly to the support of the missionaries on the field.

It is thought that the defeat of China by Japan, in the recent war between them, will render China yet more accessible and more susceptible to the civilizing and evangelizing influences of the gospel.

The gateways to the nations of the earth are opened. Consecrated men and women are saying: "I will go; send me." Let us open our purses and send them. Let us open our hearts pray the Lord of the harvest to send out more laborers.

There was never a command so thrilling, or a commission so farreaching, as that of the risen Christ to his humble followers to disciple the nations. It is world-wide in meaning, fraught with stupendous responsibility and dazzling honor to the Christian worker, and is enforced by all the combined authority of heaven and earth. Let every one who believes in missions, and prays and gives for such a noble cause, influence every other one possible to do likewise. Thus the multitudes of God's people at home will be aroused, God's chosen abroad will be saved, the commission of Christ to disciple the nations will be consummated, and the crowning day will dawn with effulgent glory.

Respectfully submitted,

ARNOLD S. SMITH, Chairman.

REPORT ON HOME MISSION.

Home Missions is the work of the Home Mission Board in the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention. This Board was constituted at Augusta, Ga., in May, 1845, fifty years ago last May. The Home Mission Board was first located at Marion, Ala., and Dr. Basil Manly was the first President, and Rev. J. L. Reynals, of South Carolina the first Corresponding Secretary. This Board is now located at Atlanta, Ga., with Dr. J. B. Hawthorne President, and Dr. I. T. Tiehenor Corresponding Secretary. During all these years the Home Board has been under the auspices of the Southern Baptist Convention, co-operating with State organizations, District Associations and local churches. Its work has been to help weak churches and to preach the gospel to the destitute of the Southern states, and has charge of that most wonderful work of modern missions in Cuba.

The Home Board is still enlarging the place of its tent and lengthening its cords and strengthening its stakes, as the following report of the work from May the first, 1894, to May the first, 1895, will show: Number of missionaries this year 425, an increase of forty-four over last year, and more than in any year of the Board's history. Baptized 5921; an increase of 1451 over last year, and 572 more than have been baptized in any year since the organization of the Convention. Cash receipts \$88,640.20 being \$15,319.29 larger than last year, and greater than any previous year except the Centennial. Increase of missionaries has been nearly 12 per cent; of receipts 20 per cent, and baptisms 32 per cent

The summary of the work for the past conventional year is as follows:

Missionaries	425
Weeks of labor 11,	466
	484
Sermons and addresses 46,	620
Prayer meetings5	774
Baptisms5,	921
	519
Total additions10,	564
	110
Teachers and pupils 23,	702
Religious visits 52,	089
Churches constituted	178
	52
Bibles and Testaments distributed	392
Tracts distributed584,	938

During last year Alabama paid to the Home Board \$5,218.69, and

had one missionary employed in the state by the Board.

The Secretary of this Board says: One of the gravest difficulties in the way of our work is that people do not realize the great needs of our field. It requires no argument or even thought to convince any one interested in missions that there is destitution in China, India, or Aftica. But they are so accustomed to the enjoyment of religious privileges that they cannot realize that in this favored land there are any communities which are without such privileges. It requires facts, argument, reflection to produce the conviction that there is destitution in America as well as in foreign fields.

It is a startling thought that as all are born without knowledge of the truth, if evangelistic effort should cease America would become asmuch a pagan country as China within the life of a single generation. It is another startling fact that notwithstanding all that has been done by our churches and Mission Boards in the last fifty years, and the great success that has attended their efforts, though Eaptists have increased from 450,000 to 2,600,000 in this Southern land, there are more unregenerate persons within the limits of this Convention

than there were fifty years ago.

It is estimated that one-half the population of the South, say 10,-000,000, are under Baptist influence; deducting one-fourth of this number as below the age of accountability, and the 2,600,000 church members, leaves about 5,000,000 of unregenerate persons under the influence of our Baptist churches. These we must give the gospel or they will probably never receive it.

C. J. Burden, Chairman.

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

State Missions, directly, is work done within the states, superintended by the Executive Committees of District Associations or by State Boards. Most of this sort of work in Alabama is superintended by our State Board of Missions. The last annual report of the board for the year ending June 30th., 1895, shows that for all purposes superintended by the board, \$19,510.09 were contributed. This does not represent all of Alabama's contribution, but all that the board had a right to report.

Your committee is of opinion that the Board of State Missions should be instructed to incorporate in its annual reports all amounts of money contributed in Alabama for systematic benevolence, pro-

vided of course, that the churches, associations, societies or other bodies making or controling the contributions shall report the same

to the board.

Without entering into details to show why we have reached this conclusion, we will say that we think that it is important that such report as we have suggested should be made. The masses are apt to understand that our State Board of Missions reports the entire contributions of the Baptists of Alabama, at least for work done in the

I will eite two instances in which the general reader may be much misled. (1) Of the \$19,510.09, \$7,748.86 is reported for state missions. This is not all that our brethren have contributed for that purpose, but all that "had passed through the treasury of the State Board." (2) \$372.92 is reported as our contribution to the Orphanage. This is but a small part of our contribution to the Orphanage, but is all that

passed through the State Board.

The report of the board shows that they had forty men employed for all or part of their time, and that thirteen of them were missionary colportuer. These men traveled 30,461 miles; delivered 3,464 sermons and addresses; baptisms by them and in connection with their labors 674 persons; they organized 43 Sunday Schools; 101 prayer meetings, and 10 ladies missionary societies, and did much other work not here recited.

We contributed in 1890, for State Missions, \$8,795; 1891, \$8,255; 1892, \$7,617; 1893, \$8,783; 1894 was a short year—only 8 months,—and not reported here; 1895, \$7,748.

For all purposes the collections of the board have fallen short of the contributions of 1890, when the contributions were \$20,265, and Centennial year, when the contributions were \$24,414; during the other years less was contributed than in 1895.

Thus it appears that our shortage during the past six years is in

state mission work, and not in the entirety of our work.

Your committee believe that our state mission work should not have been diminished, but enlarged.

We have reached this conclusion from the following reasons:

(1) We are more responsible for the spiritual and general condition of Alabama than we are for any other territory on the earth.

(2) Of late years our population has been much enlarged by strangers who need special attention if we would have them to become good and useful citizens of the state and of the household of faith.

(3) The stringency of the times has made it unusually difficult for many of our poorer churches to meet the demands of their local work, and we should help them.

(4) Our colportage work needs to be specially pressed for some years

to come.

(5) Our home field is our drill ground on which we are to organize our forces so that they will not be "awkward and un wieldly in battle." Respectfully submitted,

R. A. J. Cumbie, Chairman.

REPORT ON BIBLE AND COLPORTAGE WORK.

The B. C. department of the State Board of Missions, located at Montgomery, has two objects in view, viz: 1. The distribution of the Word of God by selling or giving it to those who have it not. 2. To distribute good religious literature, books, religious periodicals,

Your committee thinks that the importance of this work, as a part of our mission work, is second to none in our State. The circulation

of good religious literature is one of the prime factors in the formation and growth of religious sentiment. This fact alone is sufficient argument for all Christians to enter most heartily upon every measure that promises a result so much to be desired. The times in which we live are prolific of good religious books and religious periodicals, such as will do us good, and will give us much information regarding our work. These books, papers and tracts are so cheap as to be almost in the reach of all; and a household where they are not found, is a household where many influences for good are lost.

We believe that the work being done by the B. C. department of our State Board of Missions is a work very much needed, and will bear as much good fruit to our denomination as any work being done in the State. By and through it we build before our own doors. Our people need book that set forth our peculiar doctrines and church polity, doctrines taught by Christ and the Apostles and practiced by the apostolic churches. To be strengthened, settled and established in the faith, once delivered to the saints for all, is one of our great needs. There are seventy-five Associations in the State and only thirteen colportuers. Ought we not, therefore, to pray the Lord of the harvest to send forth more laborers into his vineyard? There are families in this Christian land of ours who are not only without religious books, but who have not a copy of the Word of God. Your committee would urge upon the churches to enlarge their contributions to this important work so much needed among our people.

Our Board this year has sold 994 books, value of same \$474.82; number of Bibles and Testaments sold 617, value of same \$600.83; number of Bibles and Testaments donated 80, value of same \$14.90; families found destitute of the Bible, 40. Total receipts are as follows: From churches \$325.49, A. B. P. S. Bibles and Testaments \$150.00, from B. S. S. Board, Bibles and Testaments \$25.00; total sales, \$5,352.54.

We have in our Association Rev. G. L. Bell, as colportuer, who, we think, has done good and efficient work, which will result in much good to our people and denomination. The following is a summary of his work for this associational year:

ů .	
Days of service	360
Miles traveled	4,450
Sermons preached	112
Addresses delivered	23
Baptized	41
Baptized in connection with his work	39
Received by letter	24
Restored	1
Sunday School addresses delivered	20
Prayer meetings held	26
Visits	1,164
Tracts distributed—pages	10,000
Books sold	502
Bibles and Testaments sold	183
Bibles and Testaments donated	60
Value of books sold	315 94
Value of Bibles and Testaments donated	4 00
Collected on salary	28 - 55

We ask our Executive Committee to continue our present colporter in the field.

Respectfully submitted,

J. P. HUNTER, Chairman,

24. The reports were discussed by Lum Duke, H. R. Schramm, W. C. Roeck, J. T. Hudson and J. D. Norman.

25. On motion, adjourned to 9 o'clock a. m. to-morrow.

26. At 8 o'clock p. m. Rev. H. R. Schramm preached. Text: "For there is one God, and one Mediator between God and man, the man Christ Jesus."—1 Tim. 1:5.

THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1895.

27. The Association was called to order at 9 o'clock a.m.,

and a hymn was sung and prayer offered.

28. The question pending was the adoption of the reports on Missions, and the discussion was continued by W. R. Whatley and R. A. J. Cumbee, and the reports were adopted.

29. The pledges for next year's work were taken. (See

close of minutes.)

30. The report on the Religious Condition of the Churches was presented and read as follows:

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

Your Committee are hardly sure that they understand exactly what is meant by the expression "State of Religion." We suppose that the condition of the churches is what the Association wishes reported. Your Committee last year reported to you that the political unrest of the country had in some measure affected a number of our churches, and hurtfully, and we are sure that the report was correct. We think that sober second thought has largely relieved those churches of most of their troubles in that direction, but not of all of it. General unrest in any country, from any cause, will affect the churches of that country more or less. The financial depression of the past several years has been felt by our churches, and has affected their contributions to systematic benevolence no little, perhaps more than was right.

We are of opinion that the general condition of our churches is yet considerably below our average, but improving, and we hope that the improvement will continue, and that they will soon reach better con-

ditions than they have ever enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. L. BELL, Chairman.

31. The report was discussed by J. D. Norman, A. S. Smith, H. R. Schramm, Z. D. Roby and J. P. Shaffer, and the report was adopted.

32. The report on Religious Literature was presented and

read as follows:

REPORT ON RELIGIOUS LITERATURE.

Your Committee on Religious Literature would urge upon every member of this Association the consideration of the fact that the press of to-day is doing more to shape the opinion and destiny of this na-

tion than any other single agency.

The financier is utilizing the press to execute his plans for amassing fortune. The politician is seeking through this medium to wreck his opponent and obtain the coveted position.. The heretic is heralding through this channel his heresey, and thus misleading many of the people, and the devil, if possible, would pollute the entire press.

Then how important it is that the friends of truth avail themselves

Then how important it is that the friends of truth avail themselves of every opportunity to place in the homes of the people such literature as will counteract the evil influence of corrupt literature, and as

far as possible drive it out of the home.

The destiny of a nation is at stake, the worth of immortal souls is the prize, eternity is the time involved. How can we afford to sit idle and see our homes defiled, the minds of our young people vitiated, and the hearts of our old people drawn away, without putting forth our most earnest efforts.

Every citizen who loves his country, every parent who loves his child, every Christian who loves Christ and his cause owes it to God, owes it to his family, and owes it to his country to see that the home is supplied with such literature as will elavate the mind, ennoble the

heart and help to a better life.

Every Baptist should supply himself with such literature as will instruct him concerning the work of his denomination and the peculiar tenets of his church. The want of such information disarms many of our people, and leaves them helpless in the hands of the enemy, and makes the way of exit for many of our young people who would be with us.

The cost of a small book would be the means of turning many into the way of truth. The trouble of distributing tracts has proven effectual in winning souls for Christ. Our colportage department would gladly furnish you at small cost such literature, our colporteur is ready to bring them to your house at publishers prices, What

more could we ask?

We reccommend the Mission Journal, published at Richmond, Va., to every member of the church, as a good source of information from both the Foreign and Home Mission Boards. It can be had for fifty

cents a year, and comes monthly.

We are glad to recommend our State Organ, the Alabama Baptist, as worthy a place in every Baptist home in the state, and hope the time may soon come when all our churches will recognize the importance of urging upon each member the duty of supporting and reading their denominational paper.

The Sunday School Literature published by the Southern Baptist Convention maintains its high standard and commends itself to a

place in all our Sunday Schools.

The Sermonizer, published by Dr. G. S. Anderson, of Auburn, Alahama is rapidly forcing its way into the study of all our preachers and many of our Sunday School workers, and richly deserves a place in all our homes. The Sermonizer has for its purpose the uplifting of our ministers and teachers actually engaged in the work of the Lord. Noble purpose! Is there not something for each of us to do in helping on this grantotically submitted.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. STODGHILL, Chairman.

33. The report was discussed by J. R. Stodgill, and was then adopted.

34. The report on Sunday Schools was read as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Your committee are unable to state the exact number of Sunday Schools in our Association, as this report was prepared before hearing the letters from the churches read. Last year 33 churches reported 28 Sunday Schools. If the 28 schools are evergreen and earnest, and well organized, that is a very good showing. We fear that some of our schools are not well organized, and will not be for some time to come. Allow us to offer some reasons to our pastors and churches for better organization and more earnest work in our Sunday Schools:

- 1. It is our best opportunity for developing our members by extending their acquaintance and fellowship with each other; by broadening their knowledge of the Scriptures, and by acquainting them with our denominational plans and wants. Being brought together frequently, every Christian and brotherly tie is strengthened, and their love for, and interest in, the work of the local church widened and deepened as cannot be done by less occasional meetings. Their continual study of the Scriptures will make them far more intelligent, as to their duties, than they could be without such Scripture knowledge. In short, they will become better and more intelligent Christians, and more active and conservative church members.
- 2. It is our best opportunity to educate our children in the word of the Lord. Of all their needs, this is the most important one; and we should not fail to avail ourselves of the best advantages to make them acquainted with the Scriptures. Paul told Timothy that they were able to make him wise unto salvation. Whatever the Scriptures were able to do then they are able to do now. Whoever fails to make Bible students of his children, fails to discharge the gravest and most important duty of his life.
- 3. It is our best opportunity for teaching the word of God to the masses. The "Sunday School is the theological school of the masses, and the only one to which they can be admitted.

Since these things are so, it is all important that we should keep these schools open, and open all the year. We should make them as thorough as we can, equipping them well for their important and wonderful work. The churches should be careful to know what doctrines are taught in these schools. They should be sure enough schools, presided over and taught by intelligent and prayerful Christians, and fully directed and controlled by the churches. Brethren, let our churches do their best in this very important department of their work.

- J. L. GREGORY, Chairman.
- 35. The report was discussed on the motion to adopt by J. D. Norman, J. B. Duke, W. G. Jarrell, F. P. Nichols and W. C. Roeck, and the report was adopted.
- 36. The report of the Executive Committee was read and adopted:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee have performed the duties assigned to us. We employed Bro. G. L. Bell for the year ending Sept. 30, 1895, as Mis-

sionary Colporter. He has rendered to us the following statement of his work .

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Your committee consider this a good report, and believe the work of Bro. Bell ought to be continued; and we recommend his re-appoint-W. C. BLEDSOE, Chairman. ment.

37. The report of the Committee on Nominations was read and adopted.

REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

DEAR BRETHREN—We your Committee on Nominations beg leave

to make the following report:

For Executive Committee—W. C. Bledsoe, D. D., LaFayette, Chairman; Rev. C. J. Burden, LaFayette; Rev. J. P. Hunter, LaFayette, Judge N. D Denson, LaFayette; Lum Duke, LaFayette; J. T. Jones, LaFayette; W. B. Nichols, LaFayette.

To preach the Annual Sermon—Rev. W. C. Bledsoe; Rev. J. R.

Stodghill, alternate.

The Finance Committee made report which was adopted. (See close of minutes.)

38. The Finance Committee made report which was adopted. (See close of minutes.)

39. On motion, all undirected funds for the aid of weak churches was given to Lanette.

40. The Fifth Sunday Meetings for the next Associational

year were located. (See close of minutes.)

Rev. Jno. P. Shaffer was elected to represent the Association at the session of the Southern Baptist Convention of 1896, with Rev. W. C. Bledsoe, alternate.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, 1. That we tender our heartfelt thanks to the people of Farmville community for the most excellent manner in which they have entertained this Association; to the Farmville church for the use of this building, and for the many courtesies extended to us, and to Miss Ellington, the organist, and the choir for the beautiful music with which they have enlivened our sessions.

Resolved, 2. That members of any of our churches who are in

good standing may represent this Association as correspondents to

any Association they may visit. Resolved, 3. That \$25 be allowed the Secretary for his services, and that the remainder of the minute fund be used in the printing and distributing of the minutes.

- 43. Four churches, viz: Milltown, Bethel (C), Fellowship and Beulah made application for the next session of the Association; the body voted to accept the invitation of Milltown church.
- On motion, the Association adjourned, after singing a hymn and extending the hand of parting, to meet on Tuesday after the first Sunday in October, 1896, with the Baptist church at Milltown, Chambers County, Alabama. Prayer by Rev. Z. D. Roby.

JNO. P. SHAFFER, MODERATOR.

W. C. Bledsoe, Secretary.

ORDAINED MINISTERS-22.

Burden, C. J	LaFavette.	Ala.
Bledsoe, W C	_LaFavette.	66
Brannon, A. S.		44
Bell, G. L.	Jackson's Gan	46
Bedell, W. H.		44
Cumbie, R A. J.	Dadovillo	44
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Cumbie, John	Deen also	"
Cox, G. W.	Roanoke,	,,
Cofield, W P.		
Duffey, D. S.		
Foster, W. T.	_Dudleyville,	11
Gregory, J. L.	Easton,	44
Hunter, J. P.	_LaFayette,	4.4
Lloyd, W. E.		66
McCarley, J. A.	Blackman.	"
Newman, L. L.	Jackson's Gap.	4.6
Newman, G. S.	LaFavette.	"
Roberson, W. A.		46
Shaffer, Jno. P.		66
Smith, A. S		66
		4.6
Stodghill, J. R	Cussoto	"
Wallace, J. H.	Louisseta,	

LICENSED MINISTERS-3.

Culpepper, C T	Langdale,	Ala.
Rotton, W. R	Louina,	4.6
Strond I. P	' Milltown	44

SUNDAY SCHOOL MISSION WORK.

Bethlehem Center County Line Camp Hill Dadeville Dadeville (Sunbeam LaFayette Milltown Pleasant Ridge Roanoke Roanoke (Sunbeams Rock Springs (T) Rock Mills	s)		
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County Line			\$15 35
LaFayette			42 27
PI	LEDGES FOR	NEXT YEAR.	
Antioch	\$ 25 00	Langdale	\$ 25 00
Beulah	35 00	Lebanon	20 00
Bethlehem	60 00	Liberty	10 00
Bethel (C)	25 00	Lanette	25 00
Bethel (L)		Mary	10 00
Cusseta		Milltown	25 00
Center		Mt. Zion	10 00
County Line	100 00	New Hope	50 00
Camp Hill	$\begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	Providence	
Dadeville Eagle Creek		Pleasant Ridge Roanoke	20 00 230 00
Farmville 1	40 00	Rock Spring (C)	50 00
Five Points	25 00	Rock Spring (T)	10 00
Fellowship (T)	10 00	Rock Mills	15.00
Fellowship (R)	25 00	Sandy Creek	25 00
High Pine	15 00	Shiloh	10 00
LaFayette	230 00	Tallapoosa	20 00
		Waverly	20 00
		Total	

STANDING COMMITTEES TO REPORT AT SESSION OF 1896.

1. On Foreign Missions—Rev. W. E. Lloyd, Chairman; F. W. Shank, J. C. Talbot, T. C. Key.
2. On Home Missions—Rev. R. A. J. Cumbie, Chairman; Jas. O. Bledsoe, S. R. Wooddy, A. B. Graves.
3. On State Missions—Rev. A. S. Smith, Chairman; Robert Wheeler, R. Neighbors, J. B. Brown.
4. On Colportage—Rev. W. T. Foster, Chairman; W. G. Jarrell, B. H. Walker, W. H. Payne.

5. On Sunday Schools-J. B. Duke, Chairman; J. D. Norman,

W. C. Roeck, Jas. Leitch.6. On Education—Rev. W. C. Bledsoe, Chairman; Rev. C. J.

Burden, Rev. J. R. Stedghill, Rev. Geo. L. Bell. 7. On Temperance—Rev. J. L. Gregory, Chairman; I. Burden,

W. J. Slay, J. M. Rotton.

8. On Religious Literature—Rev. J. P. Hunter, Chairman; Joseph H. Johnson, B. F. Anderson, R. I. Howell.
9. On Orphan's Home—F. P. Nichols, Chairman; G. W. Elling-

ton, J. W. Foster, E. V. Pless. 10. On Religious Condition of the Churches—Rev. A. S. Bran-

non, Chairman.

11. On Deceased Ministers—Rev. W. P. Cofield, Chairman; Rev. J. A. McCarley, Rev. W. A. Robertson, Rev. W. H. Bedell.

FIFTH SUNDAY MEETINGS.

In March, 1896, at New Hope. In May, 1896, at Camp Hill. In August, 1896, at Fellowship, Randolph Co.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The churches have sent up for benevolence as follows, in vouchers and cash: For State Board_____ 441 10 Aid to weak churches________Home Board of S. B. C_______ 86 83 143 71 Foreign Board Ministerial Education 339 44 221 68Aged Ministers, their Widows and Orphans_____Orphan's Home_____ $53 \ 43$ 179 69 American Baptist Publication Society $15 \ 27$ Greensboro House 44 $18 \ 36$ $\begin{array}{cc} 5 & 00 \\ 5 & 00 \end{array}$ 44 Howard College_____ 44 Judson Institute_____ Minutes_____ 67 94

\$1,577 45

Of this amount \$822.37 in vouchers, and \$755.08 in cash. We have examined the Treasurer's vouchers and find them correct. W. R. Dawson, Chairman.

Waverly	Tallapoosa	Shiloh	Sandy Creek	Rock Mills	Rock Spring (T)	Rock Spring (C)	Ronnoke	Pleasant Ridge	Providence	New Hope	Mt. Zion	Milltown	Mary	hanette	TATACL CA	Liborty	Lehinon	Langdale	LaFayette	High Pine	Fellowship (R)	renowship (1)	FIVE POINTS	Little Doints	Farmyille	Earle ('neek	Dadeville	('amp Hill dunk').	County Line	Center	Cusseta	Bethel (L)	Bethel (C)	Bethlehem	Bedian	Antioen) military	Actually former and many company and the company of				CHURCHES		
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STATISTICS OF THE EAST LIBERTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION—1895.

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