

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

TUSKALOOSA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION,

HELD WITH

MOUNT ZION CHURCH,

TUSKALOOSA, ALABAMA,

From the 6th to the 8th of September 1893.

OFFICERS,

J. H. CURRY, MODERATOR.

J. T. YERBY, STATED CLERK.

The next session will be held with Cottdale Church, commencing on
Wednesday after the first Sabbath in September, 1894.

The State Convention meets in Greenville, on Tuesday, November 7, 1893.

The Southern Baptist Convention meets in Dallas, Texas,
Friday, May 11, 1894.



MINUTES
OF THE
Tuskaloosa Baptist Association.
SESSION OF 1893.

MT. ZION CHURCH, TUSKALOOSA CO., ALA.,

SEPTEMBER 6, 1893.

The Tuskaloosa Baptist Association held its Sixty-first Annual Session with the Mt. Zion Church, from the 6th to the 8th of September, 1893.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by Eld. J. T. Bealle, from Mark 13 :34—"To every man his work."

After taking a recess for two hours, during which the delegates and visitors enjoyed a most bountiful dinner, spread by the good citizens of the community, the Association assembled in the meeting-house, and the exercises were opened with singing and prayer by Elder W. B. Crumpton. W. H. Wilds, the former Moderator, being absent from sickness, on motion, Elder J. H. Curry was called to the chair till the Association should be organized. On the roll of the churches being called, the delegates presented their letters and voted for Moderator of the present session. The election resulted in the choice of Elder J. H. Curry. At the request of the Moderator, the letters were read by Bros. Robison Brown and J. S. Yerby. The letters were in much better shape than usual, and brought to light cheering tokens of health and growth in the churches.

The names of churches and the delegates from each may be seen from the following list. (Names of ordained ministers written in SMALL CAPITALS; names of licentiates in *italics*; absentees marked thus *):

First District—Churches on the south side of the Warrior River.

- BELVIEW—W. T. RODGERS,* W. C. BROWN,* J. Kimbrel.* J. W. Russell.*
BETHEL—Henry Black, A. Jones, J. W. Matthews, W. S. Black.
BIBBVILLE—A. M. Gibson, Thos. Lansing, A. C. Riley, A. Gallant.
BIG HURRICANE—L. L. Pumphry, T. J. Lawrence, W. House, N. Poe, S. W. Loggins
BIG SANDY—E. E. Davis, G. W. Lipman, S. E. Phifer, M. E. Staggers, J. D. Blocker, H. T. Burks.
BLOCTON—F. M. WOODS, J. B. DAVIS,* B. G. Lucius, D. A. Abston,* A. B. Little*
COTTONDALE—D. W. Campbell, R. E. Smelley, H. W. Thompson, B. F. Blackburn, J. H. Ryland, G. W. Simons.
GILGAL—J. L. Albright, M. B. SMITH,* A. G. Miller, T. B. WHATLEY, J. W. Thompson, Bartow Skelton.
HOPEWELL—L. O. BROWN, L. W. JOHNSON,* D. A. Browne. S. H. Browne.

- LITTLE SANDY—T. M. BARBOUR, J. M. Wright, J. H. Ryan,* H. E. Eddins.*
 MT. MORIAH—JOS. TIBBS,* John Goodson,* John Shaw,* R. Clements.
 MT. PLEASANT—W. R. Copeland, N. Thompson,* F. Thompson,* C.B.Olmsted
 MT. ZION—H. Durrett, J. T. Thrower, L. H. HUFF, F. Whatley, Jas. Durrett.
 RUMAMA—J. W. Osborne, W. J. Ward.
 SARDIS—J. T. HAYES, W. A. Lucas,* D. J. Ward, W. W. Williams.
 SHULTZ CREEK—J. B. Lowry, M. E. WEAVER,* L. C. Pratt,* A. F. Blake.
 SILOAM—J. H. Mize, John Boyd,* A. J. Vernon.*
 TTSKALOOSA—J. H. FOSTER, L. O. DAWSON, J. T. YERBY, F. S. Moody, R. C. JONES,* J. L. FANT,* H. F. Hill,* J. S. Yerby, J. D. Monroe, C. F. Wheelock, Robison Brown, J. C. Brown.
 VANCE—M. A. Woods,* R. M. Vance.*
 WOODSTOCK—R. H. Martin, J. E. WILSON, J. M. Rolen, R. D. Beville, Milo Kimbrel*
Second District—Churches on north side of the Warrior River.
 BETHANY—S. E. HODGE,* W. R. Hughes, Jr., L. R. Finnell, S. E. Hughes.
 BIG CREEK—J. R. Bell.
 CARROLL'S CREEK—Silent.
 FLAT WOODS—J. Patrick, W. H. Sloan,* W. C. Patrick, J. H. Anders.
 MT. OLIVE—R. L. Shamblin,* M. M. Watkins, J. C. Shamblin, W. A. Roycroft.
 MT. PARDON—W. W. Watson, H. Snider, W. M. Goss,* Willie Snider.
 NORTHPORT—J. H. CARRY, B. C. Sumner, C. E. Rice, J. W. Norris, W. A. Connell, J. C. Lawrence, J. T. BEALLE.
 PINEY GROVE—A. B. Rolen, H. T. Sexton,* B. Crowder.*
 PLEASANT HILL—J. Turner, H. Snider,* M. Bagwell.*
 WINDHAM SPRINGS—J. M. Lollar, E. D. Christian,* W. M. Christian.*

The Moderator then appointed the following Special Committees to serve during the present session :

Religious Exercises—Pastor and Deacons Mt, Zion, and Brethren C. E. Rice and J. D. Blocker.

Documents—Robison Brown, John Patrick and L. R. Finnell.

Nominations—T. M. Barbour, J. H. Anders and B. C. Sumner.

Finance—J. S. Yerby, John Lollar, and Alex. Miller.

Received correspondence as follows:

Liberty—Elder F. M. Hobson.

Birmingham—Elder W. A. Hobson.

Harmony—J. N. Hayes, with minutes.

New River—Minutes.

Elder W. B. Crumpton was received as a representative of the State Mission Board, and of all other good things not represented by any one else.

On motion, it was agreed that the following be made the permanent arrangement for returning correspondence: Instead of the usual formal manner of returning correspondence, the Association advises that any member from any one of our churches who finds it convenient to visit a neighboring Asso-

ciation, is hereby authorized to present himself as a corresponding messenger, and that the said Association is hereby respectfully asked to receive such as duly authorized messengers.

As opportunity was then given for new or unassociated churches to join the Association, when the new church at Woodstock came forward by letter and delegates, and it being made known from their letter that they hold the same Articles of Faith with the Tuskalooza Association, the church was duly received and attached to the First District.

No one of the members of the committee formerly appointed to report on Temperance being present, the Moderator appointed a new committee, with Elder J. E. Wilson for chairman, to report at some time during the present session.

A motion prevailed to change the regular order of business as follows: 1st, Missions; 2nd, Education; 3d, Temperance, etc. It was ordered that the discussion on the whole subject of Missions be postponed till to-morrow afternoon.

The Association then adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder J. E. Wilson.

SECOND DAY—THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 9 A. M.

The Association assembled and engaged for half-hour in devotional exercises, conducted by Bro. Robison Brown.

The Clerk called the roll of delegates and marked absentees.

On motion, it was agreed to change the order of yesterday, and take up for immediate discussion the whole subject of Missions. The subject was discussed with much warmth and interest, and embraced the three departments of our missionary work under the heads of State, Home, and Foreign Missions—the leading speakers on each subject being limited to twenty minutes, and others to 10 minutes. The several reports were finally adopted, as follows:

REPORT ON STATE MISSIONS.

Never has there been a time in the history of our State when such grand opportunities were offered us to do mission work. Our State is vastly populated with people of every name, order, and nationality, and therefore our hearts ought to be inspired with zeal and energy that would know no bounds until these people have the pure gospel of the Son of God. In the providence of God, these people are here, and they are here to stay and exert an influence over our people. State Missions is the foundation of all missionary work. Beginning at Jerusalem, the

Apostles were to go into Judea, Samaria, and to the uttermost parts of the earth and preach the Gospel to every creature. The good already accomplished by our State Mission Board should encourage us to press this work. While much has been done, much more remains to be done. Indifference to the cause of missions is cruelty to immortal souls. Alabama's wretched thousands are starving for the bread of life, and this bread is in the custody of the churches. No church can perform its duties to the world without sustaining the cause of missions. Beginning a few years ago with one man in the field, we have now over fifty engaged in this grand work. Many churches have been constituted, Sabbath schools organized, and souls saved through the work of our State Board. We need more men, and of course more money. Praying without giving is presumption, and giving without praying indicates a self-dependence offensive to God. Every Christian must, from the very nature of the case, be a missionary, as no one can be an anti-missionary but he who is opposed to the spread of the gospel. When, oh when will Christians pray and work and give as they ought for the light of the glorious gospel to shine into all the dark places in our State? Let us not say less of Foreign Missions, but more of State Missions. Alabama has many dark nooks in which can be found representatives of almost every nation under heaven. Let us wake up to a realization of this fact, and with willing hands, prayerful hearts, and liberal contributions, lengthen the cords and strengthen the stakes in our fair land.

Respectfully submitted, L. H. HUFF.

REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

With the constitution of the Philadelphia Association in 1707, began the first organized mission work in America under Baptist auspices. Other Associations followed, and many missionary societies were formed. In 1813, Judson and Rice, foreign missionaries, were converted to Baptist views, while on their way to their fields of labor. The Triennial Baptist Convention for Foreign Missions was organized the following year as a result of this seemingly special providence, being the first national organization of our people in the New World. This convention began Home and Indian Missions in 1817, but the home work was discontinued in 1826. A separate organization, known as the American Baptist Home Mission Society, was formed in 1832. Southern Baptists co-operated with this Society for 13 years. The achievements of this Society have been great and glorious.

The Southern Baptist Convention was organized in 1845, and with it our Home Mission Board. During the 13 years of co-operation with the American Baptist Board we contributed \$38,000, and during the first 13 years after the separation we contributed \$266,000. The Board's statistics show that in the first 16 years they "Sent forth 750 Missionaries, added 15,000 members to the churches, built about 200 houses of worship, constituted 200 new churches and had collected and disbursed about \$300,000." During the Civil War, the work of the Board was in the armies where thousands were led to Christ and baptized.

From May, 1865, to May, 1882, was a dark period for the Home Mission Board, and indeed, the whole work of the Southern Baptist Convention was fettered with difficulties. Grave fears were entertained for the Board lest it should die.

With only 36 missionaries, 333 additions by letter and baptism, receipts less than \$20,000 and a church building fund of nothing, the Board went to Greenville, S. C., in 1882. The crisis had come, the Board went to Atlanta, Ga. Sunlight came through the rifted clouds, and a period of prosperity came which has continued for 11 years. Opportunities have multiplied and means have increased for improving them. The Board was never in better condition than now. Statistics for the past conventional year show: missionaries, 368; churches and stations, 1,482; baptisms, 5,111; received by letter, 4,493; Sunday schools organized, 412; churches constituted, 155; houses of worship built, 92.

The work among the Indians is truly gratifying. Work among the Germans of Missouri and contiguous States is being done with some degree of success. Some good work has been done with our "brothers in black," but it is a shame to us that we have not done more. The work in Cuba is apostolic-like, and demonstrates that "The gospel is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. "We would not fail to mention New Orleans, where our dear brethren Purser have gone. Our cause is looking up under their leadership.

The Board began the year out of debt, and has been meeting her demands promptly. The Centennial Fund of \$125,000 has not all been raised. The Board reported at the Convention \$55,585 of this fund received. There is probably as much more pledged, but unpaid.

Surely this Board will find a warm place in the bosom of every patriot, and much more in every Southern Baptist heart, for the purpose is to save America, and thereby the world. JOHN T. BEALLE, Chm.

REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

In every generation a million millions of human beings are launched upon the stream of life, are borne on by its resistless flood, and disappear in the limitless sea. We strain our eyes to follow them, but they have gone beyond our reach. The dim and dusky twilight that philosophy sheds upon their destination vanishes before the clearer and brighter radiance of the Word of God. This brings immortality to light. The mere departure of the spirit from the body cannot make them pure and happy; they are yet unchanged; enmity against God; in hopeless and miserable strife against the arm of the Almighty. Except ye be born again—born of the spirit—ye cannot see the kingdom of God. There is no other name given under heaven among men whereby ye can be saved except the name of Jesus. Without faith it is impossible to please God. He that believeth in the Son hath life. He that believeth not is condemned already. Faith in the Son of God is the essential condition of salvation. Without it, there can be no reconciliation to God—no acquiescence in His government—no peace with Him—no rest, nor quiet, nor joy to the soul. Now, to whom is such faith possible? To only those

who have heard of Him. For faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God. And can they believe on Him of whom they have not heard? What proportion, then, of the world's population have the means of believing in the Saviour? The population of the world is estimated at a billion and a half. Of these inhabitants, more than 400,000,000 are Buddhists or Confucians, over 175,000,000 are Brahmins, about 220,000,000 Mohammedans, 7,000,000 Jews, more than 200,000,000 Roman Catholics, and only about 110,000,000 Protestants, so-called, including Baptists. It is stated on good authority that 800,000,000 of our fellow-men—or more than half the population of the globe—have never heard of Jesus. Appalling statement! Paul, at Troas, saw in vision a man of Macedonia, and heard him crying: "Come over and help us." The Holy Spirit taught him in that vision the need rather than the desire of the Macedonians; and, forgetting his cherished plans, he hastened, amid gigantic discouragements; to preach the gospel to them. Were we like Paul, laid in entire consecration upon the altar, and were asking, like him, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do," then the Holy Spirit might take us in vision through these heathen lands and, showing us the spiritual wants of the idolatrous millions, cause us to hear the Macedonian cry, multiplied a thousand fold, until, pierced and thrilled with the bitter thrill, we should be able to find no rest until the gospel is preached to every creature, and the famishing millions supplied with the bread of life. Dr. Guinness says that a million a month die in China alone without God. For whom did Christ die? It has been shown that over half the human race have never heard His name. Did God so love half the world? Nay, saith the Scripture; but God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him should not perish, but have eternal life. But of those for whom Christ died a hundred thousand are dying every day without the knowledge of God. And why? Ponder the question and the answer will come.

And what are we doing? For more than a hundred years the cause of missions has been appealing to us. For more than forty-eight years our distinct organization—The Southern Baptist Convention—has been trying to rally Southern Baptists to the support of this great enterprise. After nearly a half century of work, we have ninety-eight foreign missionaries, with seventy-nine native assistants. Let no man say that their labor has been in vain. We have organized 75 churches, with an aggregate of 2923 members. They report 383 baptisms, and contributions to the spread of the gospel, \$5360. These results are small in comparison with those reached by other organizations. In Dr. Clough's mission among the Telugus, a single church at Ongole, numbers over 14,000, of whom over 3000 were added to it in three days. In 1886, having become the largest church in the world, numbering 26,389, thirteen other churches were organized from it, leaving in its communion 14,390 members. Various measures of success have attended the labors of missionaries at different points and at different periods of the missions. Obstacles apparently insurmountable often rise up before them. But He unto whom all power in heaven and on earth is given, has command-

ed, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." And He has deigned to add, "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the world." And the humble soldier of the cross is invincible, for the Captain of our Salvation leads the van and gives the victory.

The individual contributions to the spread of the gospel from our heathen converts averaged about two dollars—about ten times as much as the average offerings of the members of our home churches. Some of these have given liberally, some grudgingly, and many not at all. Who can pray "Thy kingdom come," and do nothing to hasten its coming? The earnest advocates of missions believe that the systematic presentation of the subject by our churches, and the intelligent and frequent and earnest pressure of its claims by our pastors, would elicit some contribution from every converted church member. This would greatly enlarge the aggregate, relieve present demands, and give promise of future growth. Respectfully submitted, JOSHUA H. FOSTER, Chm.

The hour of 11 o'clock having arrived, the Association adjourned to hear the Annual Missionary Sermon, preached by Elder J. T. Yerby, from Luke 10:37—"Go and do thou likewise." After the sermon, a collection of \$7,72 was taken for missions. Adjourned for dinner. Prayer by Eld. W.A. Hobson.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

The exercises were opened with prayer by Dr. J. H. Foster.

The Committee on Nominations reported :

Your Committee on Nominations beg leave to recommend that the next session of this body be held with Cottdale Church, Wednesday after the 1st Sunday in September, 1894; Rev. F. M. Wood to preach the Introductory Sermon, L. H. Huff alternate. To preach the Missionary Sermon, Bro. L. O. Dawson, Bro J. H. Foster alternate. Executive Committee: J. H. Foster, J. S. Yerby, J. H. Curry, F. S. Moody, H. F. Hill, L. O. Dawson, and C. F. Wheelock. Delegates to State Convention: F. S. Moody, J. H. Curry, C. F. Wheelock, J. D. Blocker, J. D. Monroe, R. S. Cox, Rev. John Bealle, Newbern Brown, M. B. Smith, W. W. Thompson. S. B. Convention: L. O. Dawson delegate; J. H. Foster alternate. T. M. BARBOUR, Chairman.

The Committee on Education made their report, which was warmly discussed by Bros. Hobson, Moody, and others, and was finally adopted, as follows :

Very few there are who are not daily impressed with the truth, that in more senses than one, "The school-master is abroad in the land." Very few there are who do not know of some good school and of its advantages. Still fewer there are who do not realize the importance of an education. Never, perhaps, was there greater difficulty in obtaining the necessities of physical life. Yet, while the bread-winners call out for that which gives strength to bone and muscle and sinew, with an equal intensity come up the pleas from parents

and children for the food that will invigorate and develop the mind and heart.

Realizing the necessity of keeping abreast with the age of educational progress, our educational institutions are bestirring themselves to the accomplishment of greater and better work for the denomination. The Baptists of the State have school property to the amount of \$362,300.00 and more—for this does not include property not directly under the control of the State Convention. A question of exceeding interest, and one worthy of earnest consideration, is the affiliation of Howard College with the University of Chicago. Some think that "affiliation offers a door to much help, and that it is the only means of securing substantial aid," while other opinions are averse. Let all read the Baptist on the subject.

During the last session, were from Alabama at the Howard about 30 ministerial students, at Louisville attending the Theological Seminary 8 or 10, and at other schools about 4—in all, about 44 young men preparing to give their lives to the Master's service. A Baptist minister who knows, says there are at least a hundred young preachers in the State who ought to be at school. He says, further, "They cannot go to school without help. Let us help them and help the people and the cause in the future. Let great stress be laid upon the matter in the association. Do not neglect ministerial education."

The Judson has among its well selected teachers, a lady whose thorough practical work, and whose beautiful Christian character, during her five years' connection with the Central College, left an indelible impress upon all with whom she associated. The Central Female College is entering upon a new era. The Trustees have assumed the business management, thus relieving the President altogether of this irksome work, so that he may devote his time and energy to the class-room and of school supervision. Surely this important step on the part of the Trustees will meet public approval. Surely interest manifested by them should arouse the enthusiasm of this association, and elicit from every individual within its bounds earnest practical work for the strengthening and upbuilding of the institution. Surely we cannot fail to be impressed with the responsibility devolving upon us as individuals and as an association.

With these institutions, and with the various agencies at our command for disseminating truth, what more is necessary? Work, united, well-directed, systematic work! Upon the rising generation is the hope of the Church, the State, and the World; upon us rest the responsibility of preparing them for the accomplishment of the great mission. Can we be mistaken as to our duty? Can we escape the danger of neglect? Then, TO THE WORK!

Respectfully submitted, S. B. FOSTER, Chairman.

The Committee on Finance reported:

We have received for Home Missions, \$17.66; Foreign Missions, \$22.23; State Missions, \$11.11; Minutes, \$27.15; Association purposes, \$21.00; Mis., generally, \$4.00; Sunday F. Mis., \$4.00; Pub. Collection, \$7.72; Total, \$115.87. Respectfully Submitted,

J. S. YERBY, Chairman.

Adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock. Prayer by Elder L. H. Huff.

THIRD DAY—FRIDAY SEPT. 8, 9. A. M.

The first half hour was spent in Devotional Exercises, conducted by Elder J. E. Wilson.

The Subject of Education, being resumed, Elder L. O. Dawson spoke at some length in behalf of Alabama Central Female College.

The Committee on Sabbath Schools reported :

Your committee on Sunday-schools wish to say that the Sunday-school work is so important, and deserves so much attention at the hands of this association, that we cannot attempt to do the subject justice in a report which must necessarily be short in order to have it crowded into the minutes. As stated in our last very excellent annual report on Sunday-schools, "The training of the young for Christ is a work which should enlist the best endeavors of every true follower of the Lord." We think there has been considerable improvement in Sunday-school work since our last association, and are able to report that there are now Sunday-schools in about two-thirds of our churches, with a total membership, including officers, teachers and pupils of over 1200. We attribute this to the following, among other, causes: 1, The very appropriate reproof given the brethren in our last report: 2, An increase of a real religious spirit among our people: and 3, Especially to the efforts and influence of the Sunday-school Convention of the Tuscaloosa Baptist Association. We would call attention to the fact that this association at its last regular session endorsed this Convention and most heartily recommended the same to the brethren of the association. It is now well established, and is doing a great and much needed work, and we must henceforth look upon the same as "our Convention." During the less than two years of the existence of this Convention it has met with six different churches in our association, and has, we believe, been instrumental in the organization of at least that many Sunday-schools. It now has the regular practice of meeting every fifth Sunday, which gives it four or five meetings during the year. Its last meeting was with Sardis church, which meeting was very largely attended, and resulted, we believe, in much good. Let us continue to keep this Convention in our prayers, and spend our best endeavors to further its growth and usefulness. It seems not to be generally known among our brethren that we now have in successful operation in the Southern Baptist Convention a Sunday-school Board, which is not only not a burden upon our people, but it is the means of great education among them and is also fast becoming a great source of revenue to the Convention and the mission cause. From the first of May, 1893, this Board was not only self-sustaining, but freely gave to needy schools in cash and periodicals about forty-five hundred (4500.00) dollars (of which amount Alabama received nearly two hundred (200.00) dollars, and then closed the year with a cash balance on hand of over eighteen hundred (1800.00) dollars. This is not drained from the people, but is derived by supplying the

various Sunday-schools in the South with the very best literature for which the schools pay an unreasonably small amount; and even the small pittance that they have been paying has just recently been greatly reduced. As our schools are necessarily compelled to have literature, why not purchase the same from our own Sunday-school Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, especially when they furnish us the best and do it so very cheaply; remembering that we are at the same time contributing to the cause of missions? By patronizing this Board as we should we will not only improve ourselves and our children by having the very best missionary Baptist literature, but we can also make this Board pay the Baptists of the South a net profit of several thousand dollars to be used in organizing and equipping other Sunday-schools, and even in christianizing other nations.

From the report of the Sunday-school Board made at the last session of the Southern Baptist Convention we learn that there were at that time 8,862 Sunday-schools in the bounds of the Southern Baptist Convention, composed of 52,513 officers and teachers and 440,262 pupils. This leaves 8,554 churches yet without Sunday-schools, which shows us that we still have a vast field for work. In the language of this report itself "May we bespeak for it a warm place in your affections and prayers. God has put upon the work the seal of his approbation and called you to its support. It is His work created by His approval wrought for the advancement of His kingdom and set for His glory." We also desire to call your attention to the fact that the Home and Foreign Mission Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention have united in a request to all of our Sunday-schools to observe the 15th day of October, 1893, as special Missionary Day. It is earnestly hoped that every Sunday-school in this association will take advantage of this opportunity to inform themselves on missions and to contribute freely for the advancement of this most holy cause. We refer all of our superintendents and teachers, whom we earnestly entreat to properly observe this day, to the Maryland Baptist Mission Rooms, 9 West Lexington Street, Baltimore, Md., for a free supply of literature and pyramid mite boxes. Let us ever press onward and forward, at all times looking to God to guide us.

Respectfully submitted, ROBISON BROWN, Chairman.

The following Report on Temperance, was discussed with considerable interest, and finally adopted :

It is demonstrated beyond a doubt that the use of strong drink has been abused to that extent, that it has become a nuisance, yea, a curse. Nothing is more degrading than intemperance, as regards the use of strong drink, while nothing is more commendable and elevating than total abstinence from strong drink. Whence cometh the appetite for alcoholic stimulants? Does it come from the spirit? I answer no, it is of the flesh, the carnal mind, and is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be. It is of the flesh and God has said in his word if ye live after the flesh ye shall die, but if we through the spirit, mortify the deeds of the flesh we shall live. To say that temperance is growing in popu-

larity would be saying too much, for while it seems on the increase in one place, it is to the contrary in another. - Just to that extent that religion prevails temperance prevails, and I maintain that all that is not in line with Christianity is of satan. The great trouble is, we say and do not. We need action on this matter. There has been enough spoken and written; what we need is action. When we see anything that we want done, we look about us for some one to do it, so who is to relieve the world of this curse? Are we as Christians to stand still and wait for the intemperate to get ashamed and abandon it? No that will never be, if there is ever anything done in this direction we must do it. Because this question is stubborn and does not yield to us readily, we should not grow faint hearted, but let us persevere and with untiring energy, teach the people and impress them with the evil of intemperance. If every Christian in our land would arise in the great conflict, we could suppress this evil, but alas! alas! how many Christians advocate the use of this curse.

Respectfully submitted, J. E. WILSON, Chairman.

Resolved, That this association regards the liquor traffic as the greatest evil of our time. We condemn it as unholy, unrighteous and criminal.

Second. That we pledge ourselves to use all honorable and practical means to suppress the traffic.

On motion adjourned for dinner. Prayer by J. T. Yerby.

AFTERNOON SESSION, 2 P. M.

The following resolution in reference to the Orphans' Home was adopted:

Resolved 1, That we are glad to hear that the Baptist churches of Alabama have at last taken up a long neglected work and established a home for our destitute orphans at Evergreen, Alabama, under the supervision of Rev. J. W. Stewart. There are now 16 helpless children in the home at Evergreen whose only hope for daily bread is the liberality of our Baptist people. We urge our churches to send help to these orphans, money, provisions and clothes. If they know of suffering orphans, let them notify the authorities and they will be cared for. Address all letters to Rev. J. W. Stewart, Evergreen, Alabama.

Second, That a place be made on our regular order of business for annual reports on this subject.

On motion it was ordered that the clerk should revise the Table of Apportionment, which is not an assessment, but only a suggestive guide to each church, requesting it to try to raise, during the next associational year, for all benevolent purposes, the respective amount set opposite each name. See following table:

Bellview,	\$ 5	Flat Woods,	\$ 6	Piney Grove,	\$ 5
Bethany,	10	Gilgal,	15	Pleasant Hill,	5
Bethel,	8	Hopewell,	6	Ruhama,	2
Bibbville,	6	Little Sandy,	10	Sardis,	5

Big Creek,	10	Mt. Moriah,	10	Shultz Creek,	10
Big Hurricane,	7	Mt. Olive,	5	Siloam,	5
Big Sandy,	10	Mt. Paron,	5	Tuskaloosa,	300
Blocton,	15	Mt. Pleasant,	5	Vance,	5
Carroll's, Creek,	2	Mt. Zion,	8	Windham Springs,	5
Cottondale,	10	Northport,	190	Woodstock,	15
Total,				- - - - -	\$ 700.00

The following query was sent up by the Mt. Olive church :

Query: Is it necessary that a church shall have written rules for the transaction of its own business?

The association gives the following answer :

Answer: It is not necessary to have written rules for a church of Christ, for many exist without anything of the sort. Sometimes it may be advisable.

The Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers reported:

Your Committee on Aged and Infirm Ministers beg leave to say that we know of but one who claims our attention, and that is Bro. N. H. Williams. Bro. Williams is in real needy circumstances and his necessity demands our special attention, so we recommend that this association contribute to him more liberal than they have previously done.

Respectfully submitted, J. E. WILSON, Chairman.

After the reading of this report a collection was taken amounting to \$5.65, and forwarded to Elder N. H. Williams, of Vance's.

On motion it was ordered, that the Report on Periodicals be the same as that contained in last year's Minutes, with the exception of a single sentence, as follows :

Your Committee depreciates the great want of information in regard to the general work of our denomination. This state of facts should not exist when so much information in regard to these matters can be so easily obtained at merely a nominal expense. The amount of literature that is in circulation at the present time of an unwholesome character should arouse us to active efforts to counteract its pernicious influences by placing into the hands of our young people wholesome and instructive reading matter; and we endorse the recommendation in the report of last year of the Committee on Periodicals, that "there [be a wise and ample selection of religious literature selected]" and placed in their hands in the most practicable manner. We would urge upon our people the necessity of reading some or all of the following periodicals, to the end that they may be informed in regard to our denominational work and upon religious matters generally. The Alabama Baptist, published at Montgomery, Ala., The Foreign Mission Journal, Our Home Field and the State Mission Quarterly. Your Committee recommend the Youth's Companion, published at Boston, Mass., as being the best periodical known to us to place in the hands of our young people. While this paper is undenominational, its teachings are to be commended, and the general

information which it imparts is valuable to us all. It is eminently proper that we all should seek to gain all the information possible in regard to our mission work, and to this end we urge again the importance of all our people subscribing at once for The Foreign Mission Journal, Our Home Field, and the State Mission Quarterly, all three of which papers can be obtained for the pitiful sum of 90 cents per annum.

The Committee on Documents reported :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

The Committee on Documents have carefully examined the letters sent to the association, and report as follow :—We find a general improvement in the appearance of the letters and in the manner in which they are prepared. For this we think special thanks are due to the clerk of this association for seeing that each clerk was supplied with a proper letter form, and then to the individual clerks for carefully preparing the same. However, we still find that the following churches have not a regular printed form, though some of them have their letters well prepared: Blocton, Bethel, Pleasant Hill and Little Sandy. Only the following report prayer meetings: Northport, Big Sandy, Bibbville, Flat Woods, Cottondale, Mt. Paron and Tuscaloosa, though others may have them. The following speak of poor spiritual condition: Mt. Olive and Mt. Pleasant. Mt. Olive and Little Sandy speak of building a new house of worship. The following report a decrease in their membership since the last report: Northport, Bethany, Mt. Pleasant, Siloam, Windham Springs, Shultz Creek and Little Sandy. The following report no money raised for any missionary purposes: Mt. Olive, Mt. Pleasant, Mt. Paron, Big Hurricane. The following report nothing paid for Pastor's salary: Mt. Olive, Bethel, Woodstock, Vances, Mt. Pleasant, Siloam, Hopewell, Windham Springs, Mt. Paron, Little Sandy and Gilgal. We think, however, that many of these churches have raised money for both of these purposes. Vances is without a pastor. The following churches send no letters: Big Creek, Carrol Creek, Pineville and Ruhama. We understand, however, that Pineville has dissolved. Northport and Big Sandy each report a Ladies' Aid Society, which are doing good work. There is also an encouraging letter sent up from the society itself of Northport church. Flat Woods, Tuscaloosa and Cottondale seem to be doing splendid work, Tuscaloosa reporting, in addition to other work, an active Young Peoples' Meeting. Blocton extends the association a hearty invitation to meet with them the next time. Woodstock sends a strong letter, asking to be received into the association and showing promise of good work. Piney Grove reports the ordination of two deacons and two revivals since last report. Mt. Olive propounds a query as to the necessity of the church having written rules, which we recommend be considered by this association under the head of miscellaneous business.

Respectfully submitted, ROBISON BROWN, Chairman.

The Sunday School Convention reported as follows :

Your Sunday School Convention would report since the last meeting of the association the convention met with Big Creek church in Oct. 1892, with Mount Paron church in May and Sardis church in July of the present year. During the past winter it was not thought expedient to hold any meetings for reasons which it is needless to rehearse here ; enough to say that the same reason will not have the same force during the coming winter and we hope to continue the meetings without interruption on every 5th Sunday. Of the good (if any) which your convention has accomplished it is proper others should speak than those who have had the responsibility of its management. Suffice it for them to say the results so far as seen have fallen far below their expectations.

Of the causes contributing to this failure, we do not wish to speak other than to ask for your most charitable judgment in reviewing our work. Conscious as we are that we have done our best and our errors have come from a lack of knowledge and not from an unwillingness to anything to make your convention as successful as you could desire. There are two classes in our association who if they would, could do more to make your convention a success than all others. We will name them in the order of their importance.

1st. Our pastors. Until the time that shall come when the pastors of our churches give your convention the active support you have a right to expect of them, which support they do not give now, your convention will never accomplish its full work.

2nd. The Superintendents of our principal schools. Your convention feels that the influence of these would go a long way toward building up and strengthening the work. When the Superintendents from Blocton, Northport and Tuscaloosa are rarely, if ever present, or evince any interest in the work of your Convention how can you expect the Superintendents from Bethany, Flat Woods and Windham Springs to do otherwise. Your Convention feels it has a right to the active support of our Pastors and our Superintendents, and earnestly urges them to prayerfully consider the Convention's claims upon them. At Mount Paron in May the offices of President and Secretary were filled for one year by the election of C. F. Wheelock, Secretary and C. E. Rice, President.

J. H. Foster moved that the delegates present be requested to bring the matter of the Windham Springs Church to the notice of their several churches, at their next regular meetings asking for contributions, either cash or pledges, requesting the churches to report to Brother Wheelock, and that delegates voting for the motion do thereby pledge themselves to present the subject to their churches; and further, that Brother Wheelock be requested to write to the churches not represented.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of this Association be instructed to consider propriety of employing a missionary colporteur to labor in the bounds of the Tuscaloosa Association for all or part of his time.

Second, That if it be possible to secure the services of such a brother, this committee be empowered to assign him his work and appeal to the churches for his support.

Third, That the delegates present, present this matter to their churches and that we all unite in an earnest effort by the help of God to infuse new life into our associational work and to draw our churches in greater sympathy and closer co-operation.

The Moderator appointed the following Standing Committees to serve for one year:

STANDING COMMITTEES TO SERVE FOR ONE YEAR.

Temperance.—J. D. Monroe, J. C. Lawrence and J. T. Hayes.
 Sunday Schools.—L. H. Huff, T. M. Barbour and E. E. Davis.
 Foreign Missions.—L. O. Dawson, S. E. Hodge and S. H. Knox.
 Education.—C. B. Gibson, T. B. Whatley and D. W. Cambell.
 Aged and Infirm Ministers.—S. M. Black, L. O. Brown and L. C. Pratt.
 Periodicals.—F. M. Wood, H. T. Burks and J. M. Ward.
 State Missions.—J. T. Bealle, W. B. Rolan and W. A. Connell.
 Home Missions.—C. F. Wheelock, S. E. Phifer and Houston Durrett.

The following is the report from District Meetings:

The next meeting of the First District will be held with Mt. Moriah church, commencing on Friday before the fourth Sabbath in July, 1894. To preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder L. H. Huff. Alternate, Elder F. M. Woods. Friday evening, discussion—"The Nature of Christian Beneficence," to be opened by Brother S. M. Black. Saturday morning, "Home Missions," opened by Brother Robison Brown. Afternoon, "Foreign Missions," opened by Elder L. O. Dawson. Services for Sabbath arranged by Committee on Devotion. M. B. SMITH, Chairman.

The next meeting of the Second District will be held with the church at Northport, beginning on Friday before the first Sabbath in August 1894. To preach the Introductory Sermon, Elder S. E. Hodge. Alternate, Elder J. W. Loveless. Question for discussions Friday afternoon: "Evidence of Regeneration," opened by Bro. Jno. R. Bell. 2nd, "How can we as Christians let our lights shine," opened by Bro. W. N. Bryant. Saturday: "Duty of a Church to her Pastor," opened by Bro. A. B. Rolan. 2nd, "Duty of a Church to its Young Members," opened by Bro. D. W. Darden. 3rd, "Baptism, the Mode and Signification," opened by Elder J. H. Curry. Service for Sunday to be arranged by Committee on Devotion. J. H. ANDERS, Chairman.

On motion, a vote of thanks was extended by the association to the good citizens of Mt. Zion church and vicinity for their very kind and careful entertainment, as well as their good attendance, attention and deportment, during our stay with them.

By motion, the Association Fund was paid to the clerk for his services in preparing, supervising, and distributing the Minutes. After singing, taking the parting hand and prayer, the association adjourned its Sixty-First Annual Session, which was a very harmonious and delightful one, to meet with the Cottondale church on Wednesday after the first Sabbath in September 1894.

J. T. YERBY,
 Stated Clerk.

J. H. CURRY,
 Moderator.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be composed of members chosen by their different churches in our Union, who, producing their credentials, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The members thus chosen and convened, shall be known by the name of THE TUSKALOOSA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out Missionary purposes in all their bearings —yet, so as that the churches and individual members are left free; and that giving or withholding shall not be a bar to membership.

3. The Association shall usurp no authority over the churches in our Union, or infringe any of their internal rights; but shall merely be considered an advisory council, in all matters relative to their internal concerns; nevertheless, it becomes necessary, in some cases, to have a uniform rule of procedure, namely: If one church commit an offence against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction, if she fail of success, she shall call the aid of two or more churches in our union to assist in laboring for satisfaction, and if final satisfaction, in the opinion of the helps thus called, be not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the case before the Association, which shall be taken up and decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual church, which, upon due labor cannot be reconciled, she shall call the aid of two or more sister churches to assist in the work; and if a reconciliation be not effected, the helps so called, or the church, may bring the case before the Association, to be acted on according to its merits; but the Association will take cognizance of no case of the above kind, unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued, according to the economy of the church discipline, found in the 18th chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew, and other parts of the Scriptures, which define the nature of offences and the manner of bringing offenders to trial.

4. The churches of our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association written communications, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated, and deceased, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

5. Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner: Each church shall be entitled to send four delegates, and any church with a membership exceeding 75, for every additional 25 members, shall be entitled to one additional delegate. Any church failing to represent herself as prescribed, shall state her reasons at the next session. Any delegate retiring from the Association without leave, before the body adjourns, shall have his name stricken from the minutes of that session.

6. New churches may be admitted to our union, by delegates bearing petitionary letters. If, upon due examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, the Moderator shall manifest their admission by giving the delegates the right hand in token of christian fellowship.

7. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular

and proper decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend according to her own views.

8. At every session of the Association, a Moderator shall be appointed by and from the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules are strictly observed, and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A stated clerk shall be appointed, who shall continue in office until the Association shall elect his successor, and whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of every session of this body, which he is to present to the view of the Association annually. An assistant clerk may be elected each year, if necessary.

9. The Association shall have power to exclude from the union any church that may violate the constitution, or depart from the orthodox principles of the constitution.

10. The Association shall furnish the Minutes of every session to the churches making contributions for that purpose.

11. Every query sent by a particular church must be included in her letter, certifying that she endeavored to reconcile it, but failed. In such a case, the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of a majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the minutes.

12. Queries which immediately concern the general union of the churches, sent by a particular church, or introduced by a proper motion, shall be taken up and decided on as soon as practicable.

13. Any church in our union having a preacher whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a presbytery of ministers from sister churches to officiate in the work; and all presbyteries, in the ordaining of ministers or deacons, or in the constituting of churches, shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith adopted by the Association.

14. The Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions of the churches; and all monies thus contributed, shall be transmitted from the churches by their delegates, and paid over to the committee on finance. This committee shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge the Association Fund, and dispose of the same agreeably to order, and make, at every session, a fair and circumstantial report to their proceedings.

15. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the session rises.

17. The Association shall, in all cases, (except to amend the Constitution) be governed by a majority of the members present.

18. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association, when $\frac{2}{3}$ of its members present shall deem it necessary

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

ARTICLE I. We believe in only one true and living God, the Father the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and New Testament, are the Word of God, the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose his people in Christ before the foundation of the world.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5. We believe in man's inability, by his own free will and ability, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature.

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated, and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall finally away.

9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and the true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by Immersion is the Apostolic mode.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the General Judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

11. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, but one who is regularly baptized, called, and comes under the imposition of the hands of Presbytery.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretionary right to call a member to order at any time.

3. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and, on obtaining permission proceed.

5. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same in naming the person, or otherwise.

6. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

7. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

8. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for the debates, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on the subject in such mode as he may determine.

9. The Moderator shall announce the decision to the body.

10. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Mod.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, without permission of the Association, nor more than once until every member wishing to speak shall have spoken; nor shall any proposition be made to close the subject until the debates have been carried through.

12. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used in the Association by members in their address to one another.

13. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time, but he shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any member violating these rules, shall be reproved by the Moderator at his discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCH.	COUNTY	PASTOR.	CLERK.	CLERK'S P. O.	SUNDAY SCHOOL.													
					Members reported.	Baptism.	Letter.	Voucher.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.	Private.	Death.	Present Membership.	Officers and Teachers.	Trppls.	Name and P. O. Address of Superintendent.	Reports Prayer Sabbaths.
Bellview	Jefferson	J T Yerby	J W Russell	Kimbrel	35	1	3	4	1	4	6	35	6	56	J. K. Pemberton, Kimbrel.	4		
Bethany	Tuskaloosa	J T Bealle	J H Price	Humphrey	79	2	2	5	1	3	77	4	26	S. E. Hughes, Humphrey.	3			
Bethel	"	J B Kilpatrick	W S Black	Coaling	47	4	3	1	10	2	30	3	30	N. N. Brown, Oriehem.	1	wk		
Bibbville	Bibb	LP Craig	A C Riley	Bibbville	42	10	3	1	2	44	110	4	30	J. R. Bell, Northport	2			
Big Creek	Tuskaloosa	T M Barbour	H Koster	Northport	111	3	1	1	113	1	113	5	65	J. D. Blocker, Hull.	2			
Big Hurricane	"	F M Hobson	L L Pumphy	Brookwood	112	2	1	1	113	1	113	5	65	J. D. Blocker, Hull.	2			
Big Sandy	"	J G Lowrey	J D Blocker	Hull	85	2	1	2	91	2	91	5	70	J. B. Davis, Blockton.	1&3	wk		
Blocton	"	F M Woods	W J Norris	Blocton	131	9	16	8	1	146	17	9	76	B. F. Blackburn, Cottondale	1&3	wk	1	
Carrall's Crk	Tuskaloosa	Silent	W I Ryan	Cottondale	116	7	12	4	3	131	27	4	30	A. W. Sloan, Northport.	2	m		
Cottondale	"	L H Huff	J H Anders	Northport	19	7	1	3	106	3	106	4	25	M. B. Smith, Tuskaloosa.	4			
Flat Woods	"	J A Bealle	AW Thompson	Tuskaloosa	106	3	3	3	26	26	26	3	20	L. W. Johnson, Tuskaloosa.	3			
Gilgal	"	J H Curry	D A Brown	Cottondale	26	3	3	2	47	2	47	4	40	W. H. Allen, Bibbville.	3			
Lopewell	"	J T Yerby	J H Ryan	Tuskaloosa	49	16	2	2	62	2	62	4	35	A. B. Rolan, Northport.	2			
Little Sandy	Bibb	T M Barbour	John Goodson	Vance's	54	17	2	2	53	3	53	3	35	A. B. Rolan, Northport.	1			
Mc. Moriah	"	J H M Anders	W Brittain	Northport	36	17	2	2	53	3	53	3	35	A. B. Rolan, Northport.	1			
Mc. Olive	Tuskaloosa	J W Loveless	R E Hobson	Northport	25	25	2	12	1	12	1	105	117	R. S. Cox, Northport.	1&3	wk		
Mc. Paron	"	L H Huff	W R Copeland	Cottondale	48	33	3	4	105	4	105	10	36	A. B. Rolan, Northport.	4			
Mc. Pleasant	"	L H Huff	John Hutchins	Pearl	107	1	1	4	165	3	165	4	36	A. B. Rolan, Northport.	4			
Mc. Zion	"	L H Curry	J C Lawrence	Northport	188	1	4	3	165	3	165	4	36	A. B. Rolan, Northport.	4			
Northport	"	L H Curry	A B Rolan	Northport	39	7	3	4	25	25	25	8	42	J. T. Hayes, Pearl.	4			
Piney Grove	"	L H Baker	J S Baker	Northport	26	6	9	6	2	45	45	5	54	W. F. Lowrey, River Bend.	4			
Pleasant Hill	"	Silent	W W Williams	Pearl	89	3	1	13	31	1	31	18	364	W. H. Wilds, Tuskaloosa.	wk	wk		
Rubama	"	Silent	W F Lowrey	River Bend	30	4	5	20	289	20	289	16	37	S. H. Knox, Vance's.	4			
Sardis	"	Silent	J H Mize	Tuskaloosa	16	1	30	1	30	1	30	7	45	E. E. Wilson, Woodstock.	4	wk	1	
Shultz Creek	Bibb	S Spithern	J H Mize	Scottsville	31	1	1	1	2040	1	2040	114	1228		1	3		
Siloam	"	S Spithern	Robison Brown	Tuskaloosa	289	20	1	1	214	12	214	2040	1228		1	3		
Tuskaloosa	Tuskaloosa	L O Pawson	J M Vance	Vance's	16	1	30	1	30	1	30	7	45	E. E. Wilson, Woodstock.	4	wk	1	
Vance's	"	None	J M Lollar	Oregonia	31	1	30	1	30	1	30	7	45	E. E. Wilson, Woodstock.	4	wk	1	
Windham Sp's	"	O N Dobbs	R H Martin	Woodstock	1920	124	95	1	112	109	112	214	2040		1	3		
Woodstock	Bibb	R D Barrow			1920	124	95	1	112	109	112	214	2040		1	3		

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