2869767 ALI. 3 Big THIRTY-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION LIVINGSTON BAPTIST CHURCH LIVINGSTON, SUMTER COUNTY, ALA, September 5th, 6th and 7th, 1883.30 next Session of the Association will be held with Friendship Baptist Church, at Forkland, Ala. on Saturday before MERIDIAN, MISS.: 286.16

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1-Reading of Letters and Enrolling of Delegates.
- 2-Election of Officers.
- 3--Appointment of Committees on Preaching.
- 4 Admission of New Churches.
- 5-Vorrespondence from other Bodies.
- 6-Invitation of Ministers to Beats.
- 7—Report of Standing Committees.
- 8-Appointment of Standing Committees-to Report at Next Session.
 - 9-Report of Committees of Present Session
 - 10-Motions and Resolutions.
- 11-Miscellaneous Business. . 1
- 12-Appointment of Time and Place for Next Session,

MINUTES

-OF THE

THIRTT-FIRST ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Bigbee Baptist Association

-HELD WITH-

LIVINGSTON BAPTIST CHURCH, LIVINGSTON, SUMTER WUNTY, ALA

September 5th, 6th and 7th, 1883.

simily from

..:OFFICERS:X

The next Session of the Association will be held with Friendship Baptist Church, at Forkland, Ala, on Saturday before the Second Sabbath in September, 1884.

> MERIDIAN, MISS.: SOUTHERN BAPTIST PRINT 1883. :

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

-OF THE-

BIGBEE BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

	- 1	• •
NAMES	POST-OFFICE /	COUNTY.
H. R. AUTREY,	Livingston	Sumter
A. E. BEAVERS,		
C. C. BLUDWORTH,		
J. D. COOK		
F. A. FREEMAN,		
W. F. PONB		
J. K. RYAN	Yantley Creek	Choctaw
A. R SCARBOROUGH,.		
C. C. VAUGHAN,		
J. E WHITE		
T. B. WOODWARD,		

LICENSED + MINISTERS + OF + BIGBEE + ASSOCIATION.

NAMES .	*	POST-OFFICE	COUNTY
L L BELSH	ER	Butler	 Chorta w
		Rosser,	

The Thirty-first Annual Session of the Bigbee Baptist Association met with Livingston Baptist Church at 11 a. m. on Wednesday, before the second Sabbath in September. 1883.

The Association was called to order at the appointed hour, and the Moderator requested A. R. Scarborough to read the Scriptures. Read a part of the 8th chapter of Romans. Sang "Blest be the tie that binds." Priver by A. R. Scarborough.

Words of cordial welcome were extended by the pastor to the

body and visitors.
Timely remarks were made by the Moderator upon the object which has called us together, and the duties which devolves upon us as members of Christ's Kingdom on earth.

The appointee being absent, on motion, the Introductory Sermon was deferred until night, and B. F. Riley requested to preach it.

In response to the call for representation, the letters from the churches were delivered, and read by W. H. Smith and L.C. Brown.

Messengers from the churches were enrolled as tollows:

Messengers from the churches were enrolled us to lows:
Beulah—W. F. Pond, J. B. Pond, J. A. May and E. M. Flowers.
Center—Not represented.
Christian Valley—J. R. Larkin and B. B. Seale.
Clinton—N. M. Carpenter.
Concord—D. W. Brock, J. R. Phillips, C. W. Powell, J. A. Brock and H. P. Wilson.

Cuba-R. A. Clay, J. A. Waddell, W. H. Lewis and R. W. Shaw. Demopolis-Pastor of the church.

Demopolis—Pastor of the church.
Eutaw—Leter. No delegation.
Fellowship—R. I. Simmons, W. M. Simmons and W. F. Simmons, Friendship—D. S. Brassfield and J. W. Holcrott.
Gainesville—F. M. Hendon and Z. W. Woodruff.
Hickory Hill—T. B. Woodward.
Hopewell, Choctaw Co.—J. G. Allen.
Hopewell, Sunter Co.—E. Arrifgton
Livingston—W. H. Smith. A. D. Fortner, J. J. Altman, P. B.
Brown, J. G. Harris, I. C. Brown and R. M. Seafield.
Mt. Hermon—B. F. Brown and J. M. Swain,
Mt. Sterling—J. B. Turner.
New Prospect—W. P. Brewer, L. A. McLain and A. R. Scarborough.

Rehoboth—Ed. Mct.all, J. W. Cook and J. D. Cook. Siloam—E. Woods, James Stallings, James T. Tate, G. W. Green...

and Edgar Donald.

Summerville—D. C. White, W. P. Kelly, J. R. Jackson and O. C.

York-R. B. Hightower. Zlon-J. A. Ryan, A. P. Evans, G. E. Brunson, H. T. Ellis and T. M. Brunson.

The Association then went into a permanent organization by the election of officers for the ensuing year. On motion, the same officers were re-elected by acclamation: J. K. Ryan, Roderstor; J. D. Cook. Clerk; I. C. Brown, Treasurer.

The Order of Business of last year was adapted.

Received correspondence as follows:

Tuscaloosa Association—J. B. Eddins, J. M. Phillips, and J. T. Yerb.

Yerby.

Bethel Association—J. W. Jones, A. J. Hearge and E. B. Hearne, Cor. Sec. of S. M. B.—T. M. Balley, D. D. Representative of Alabama Baptist—B. F. Riley, By request of the committee on Foreign Missions, W. H. Smith was added to it Also, A. P. Eyans was added to the committee on Also, A. P. Eyans was added to the committee on Subbath Schools.

The Moderator appointed the following special committees: Finance—D, W Brock, T. M. Brunson and W. P. Brewer. Correspondence—W. P. Kelly, J. R. Pullips and N. M. Carpe Nominations—J. R. Larkin, Ed. McCall and P. B. Boown. Preaching-Pastor and Deacons of the church.

The following was offered by J. G. Harris:

Resolved. That we meet at 9 A. M.; spend halt-hour in devotional exercises; adjourn at 1 r. M.; re-assemble at 3 r. M.; adjourn at 5 r. M.; adjourn at 5 r. M.; convene at 8 r. M.; adjourn at pleasure.

The report on Aged and Infirm Ministers was made the order

for 3 P. M.

Adjourned after prayer by B. F. Riler, to 3 P. M.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON-3 O'CLOCK.

Opened by singing "There is a fountain filled with blood." Pray-

Opened by singing "There is a fountain filled with blood." Frayer by J. B. Eddins.

The report on Aged and Infirm Ministers, was presented by the chairman of the committee, which, after discussion by J. G. Harris, T. M. Balley and A. R. Scarborough, was adopted, "Appendix A.)

J. G. Harris submitted the report on Inter-Associational Correspondence, which was discussed by T. M. Bailey, J. G. Harris, J. B. Eddins, G. W. Green, A. R. Scarborough, J. W. Jones and F. M. Hendon, then adopted. (Amendix R.) then adopted. (Appendix B.)

On motion, a committee of three was appointed to report on Tem-erance at the next session. Committee will be found in the list of Standing Committees

Missions was made the order for 10 A. M. Thursday. Adjourned, after prayer by T. M. Balley.

WEDNESDAY EVENING-8 O'CLOCK.

The Introductory Sermon was preached by B. F. Riley of Selma, Als., from John 12:24: "Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone."

THURSDAY MORNING-9 O'CLOCK.

After devotional exercises conducted by A. J. Hearne, received correspondence:

President of Howard College-J. T. Murfee, L. L. D. Caliaba Association-G. S. Anderson.

Representative of Alabania Central Female College-

Phillips. On motion, the Association endorsed the action of brethren Lar-kin and Simmons in pledging \$25.00 to the State Convention from this body for the evangelization of the colored race.

On motion, Bro. Humphrey, pastor of the M. E. Church of this place, was invited to a seat with us.

The hour for the special order having arrived, the reports on State and Foreign Mission, were presented.

On motion, the regular order was sel aside, and a committee appointed to report on Home Missions. Committee: J. G. Harris, W. T. Shumons and J. R. Larkin. The chalrman of the Committee on

Home-Missions submitted the report.

State Missions was discussed by I. C. Brown, B. F. Riley, T. M.,
Balley, J. B. Edding J. M. Phillips, A. R. Scarborongh and J. T. Yerby. A collection was then taken for State, Home and Foreign Missions—amount, \$28,30.

The regular order of business was suspended, and B. P. Riley given an opportunity to present the claims of the Alahama Baptist, Adjourned, after prayer by J. T Yerby, to 3 P. M.

THURSDAY APTERNOON-3 O'CLOCK.

Opened by singing. "How firm a foundation ye saints of the Lord." Prayer by T. B. Woodward.

The regular order of business was suspended, and Bro. C. S. Rayof the Primitive Baptist, lavited to a seat with us.
Discussion ensued upon Home Missions by T. M. Bailey, and upon
Foreign Missions by J. D. Cook. The reports were then adopted,
(Appendices C. D. & E.)
The request of the Demopolis Church for aid to build a house of
worship, was presented to the Association by G. S. Anuerson, and the
following amounts in cash and nielgies were made to assist the church following amounts in cash and pledges were made to assist the church in building. . . .

CASH AND PLEDGES TO	DEMOPOLIS CHURCH.	**.
B. F. Riley	. Paid 1	00
Benlah		00
J. R. Larkin		50
D W. Brock		00
W. H. Lewis,	. Pald	2 00
R. A. CIAV		2 50
. Sumterville S. S		5 00
W. T. Simmons		5 00
W. T. Simmons	. Paid	5 OU -
D. S. Brassfield		2 50
		5,00
T. B. Woodward		1 00
J. G. Allen		50
Livingston.		5 00
PH. MOURILL	. Fald (5 00
J. B. Turner,		1 00
Rehoboth	. 🤔	5 00
T. M. Brunson,	. Pald 1	
A. P. Evans	(2 00
t'. S. Ray		5 00
J. T. Yerby,	*	T-00 ·
J. W. Jones	,	D 000
Three trethren from Shoam,		D OA
J. J. Altman	Pakl	1 00
· ·	-	

The above unpaid amounts should be sent to Rey. T. M. Bailey, Marion, Ala , by the 1st of December, 1883. Report on correspondence subjultted and,

CORRESPONDENCE.

Your committee beg leave to report correspondence with the fol-lowing bodies of Baptists, to-wit:

Tuscaloosa Association-Rev.'s J. M. Phillips and J. T. Yerby and

Bro. J. B. Eddlns.

Bro. J. B. Eddina.
Bethel Association—Rev. A. J. Hearne and brethren J. W. Jones
and E. B. Hearne.
(Sahaba Association—G. S. Anderson,
We also are pleased to recognize in their several capacities Cor.
Sec. S. M. Board—Rev. T. M. Bailey. D. D.; President Howard College,
Col. J. T. Murfee, L. L. D.; Representative of Alabama Baptist, Rev.
B. F. Riley.
Editor of Southern Baptist, Meridian, Miss.—Rev. A. Gressett.
Primitive Baptist—Rev. C. S. Ray.

Primitive Baptist—Rev. C.S. Ray.
Representative of the Alabama Central Femile College—Reg. J. M. Phillips.

In behalf of this body, we thank these brethren for their presence,

and assistance.

We recommend that members of this body visiting other Baptist Associations, be recognized as messengers to such bodies.

Respectfully submitted.

W. P. KELLY, Chairman.

Report on Bible and Colportage Work, was submitted and dis-cussed by W. H. Lewis, J. T. Murfee, J. M. Phillips and T. M. Balley, then adopted. (Appendix F.) Committee on Preaching reported that J. M. Phillips would preach.

Adjourned, after prayer by J. M. Phillips, to 8 P. M.

THURSDAY EVENING-8 P. M.

Preaching as per appointment by J. M. Phillips of Tuscaloosa' Ah. Text. John 12:33; "And I. It'l be litted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me."

FRIDAY MORNING-9 O'CLOCK.

Opened by reading 23 Praim; sang, "My soul forsekes her vain delights." Devotional exercises, by motion, were dispensed with in order to get through with the business of the body.

RECEIVED CORRESPONDENCE-Editor of the Southern Baptist, Me-

ridian, Miss.—A. Gressett.

The report on Nominations was submitted, and after discussion by J. D. Cook, W. F. Pond and A. R. Scarborough, and after amendment, was adopted.

Nominations.

Your Committee on Nominations, would respectfully suggest that we held our next annual meeting with Friendship Church, Green Co., commencing at 11 o'clock a. m., on Saturday before the aecond Lord's day in September, 1884. Eld. C. C. Bludworth to preach the Introductory Sermon; Eld. J. D. Cook, alternate.

J. R. LARKITI, Chairman.

The report on Finance was submitted and adopted.

Report on Finance.

Amount	Received	for	State Missions	188 18
-	44	**	Home -	
**	66*	64	Foreign	53 61
-44 .		-	Ministerial Education	19 35
-4	44	••	S. B. T. Seminary. Louisville	5 00
₩	••		Aged and Infirm Ministers	30 78
, 	σ.	•	Colportage	97 00
44	•	•	1st Baptist Church, N. O	6 00
3 4.	4	4	Rome Chapel	2 50
7 · • • • •	•	44	Demopolis church.	37 50
-		-	Minutes	41 Bd

The Tressurer presented his report, which was adopted. (Appendix G.)

pendix G.)

On motion, the blank associational letter gotten up by the Alabama Baptict, was adopted, and the Clerk notified to order the same for the churches; as Bro. West will furnish them for the postage.

The following standing committees were appointed:
Inter-Associational Correspondence—J. G. Harria.
Sabbath Schools—P. B. Brown, T. M. Brunson and N. M. Carpenter Ministerial Education—J. D. Cook, J. B. Turner and W. P. Brewer.
General Education—J. R. Jarkin, D. W. Brock and W. H. Lewis.
State Missions—W. F. Pond, J. W. Cook and J. R. Phillips
Home Missions—C. C. Vanghan Ed. Arrington and O. C. Thomas.
Foreign Missions—S. W. McAlifey, D. C. White and F. M. Hendon.
Temperance—E. M. Shaw, A. P. Evans and L. C. Brown. Temperance—E. M. Shaw, A. P. Evans and I. C. Brown. Woman's Work—Mrs. 1 C. Brown, Miss Tennie Brown and Mrs.

Kate Woodruff.

On motion, a committee on Woman's Work was appointed com-

mittee as above.

mittee as above.

The following brethren were appointed delegates to the Alabama Baptist State Convention, to be held with the Tuscaloosa Baptist Church, at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, on Friday before the third Sabbath in July, 1884: J. K. Ryan, W. F. Pond, J. G. Harris, J. R. Larkin, P. B. Brown, J. J. Altman, D. W. Brock, A. R. Scarborongh, J. B. Tarber, R. A. Clay, G. W. Green, E. M. Shaw, Z. W. Woodruff, A. P. Evans, Ed. McCall, J. D. Cook, J. A. Waddell, F. M. Hendon, J. G. Allen, J. W. Cook, N. M. Carpenter, R. B. Hightower, C. C. Bludworth, C. C. Vaughan, A. E. Beavers, L. L. Beister, W. L. Turnbow and T. B. Woodward Woodward.

Report on Sabbath Schools was presented and discussed by J. G. Harris, J. T. Yerby, B. F. Riley, W. H. Smith and J. M. Puillips, then adopted. (Appendix H.)

Report on General Education was submitted by the chairman, when addresses ensued by J. T. Murfee, B. F. Riley, J. M. Phillips and J. T. Yerby, then the report was adopted. (Appendix I)

J. T. Yerby, then the report was adopted. (Appendix I)
The tollowing resolution was offered and adopted.

Resolved. That an Executive Committee for the Bigbee Associatian he appointed by the Moderator, consisting of five members, to act sans advisory board during the associational year, and to take into consideration any matter that may concern us as an Association; and to perform such services as may be within the province of such committee. Executive Committee appointed as follows: J. G. Harris, E. C. Brown, B. F. Brown, Z. W. Woodruff and Ed. McCall.
On notion, the time of meeting of this body was reconsidered, and changed to Saturday instead of Wednesday as per report of committee.

mittee.

On motion, the same committee and resolutions on history of the churches of this Association, were continued as for Resolved, Ist. That the clerks of the churches fruits Association be requested to turnish a committee of three, named by the Moderator, with a condensed history of their respective churches, showing date of organization, by what presbytery organized, and what pastors they have had, and how long they have served; also, any other information of interest connected with them.

Resolved, 2d. That said committee will, from these reports, compile a detailed history of the churches of the Bigbee Association, to be published in the minutes for the year 1894 Committee as follows:

W. P. Chambers, I. C. Brown and B. F. Watson.

Adjourned, after benediction by B. F. Riley, to 3 P. M.

PRIDAY AFTERNOON—3 O'CLOCK.

Opened by singing, "Great God when I approach thy throne."
Prayer by J. M. Phillips.
The Executive Committee was instructed to apportion the amounts.

among the churches, which the State Mission Board requests during the ensuing associational year.

APPOINTED CORRESPONDENCE.

Union Association-J. E. White, N. M. Carpenter, S. W. McAliley and J. G. Harris.

Tuscaloosa Association—J. G. Harris, P. B. Brown and J. E. White. Cahaba Association—W. T. Slimmons, D. S. Brassfield and M. W. Hand Bethel Association—W. M. Simmons, W. T. Slimmons, J. B. Turner and T. B. Woodward.

and T. B. Woodward.
Liberty (West)—D. W. Brock and Ed. McCall.
Bethlehem Association, Miss.—J. K. Ryan and C. F. Rainor.
The report on Ministerial Education was presented by the chairman, and discussions ensued by J. G. Harris, J. D. Cook, C. S. Ray and A. R. Scarborough, then the report was adopted. (Appendix J.),
The following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved. That the thanks of this Association are hereby heartly tendered to the members of Livingston Church, and to the citizens of the town of Livingston and vicinity, for the very hospitable manner in which they have entertained the messengers of this body while among them during the present session; also, this body returns thanks to the Methodists for offering us the use of their house of worship.

The Executive Committee apportioned the amounts each church is requested to raise during the ensuing associational year for the different objects tostered by the Alabama Baptist State Mission Board as follows:

AMOUNTS THE CHURCHES ARE ASKED TO CONTRIBUTE.

Churches.	Plate Ma-	Honse Missions	Foreign Missions	Minit- terial Ed ucation	Evar go- ligation col. Peo	and Ment	Total
Beulah	6 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	1 00	\$20 00.
Christian Valley	10 00	5 00	5 00	4 00	1 00	1 00	26 00
Clinton	12 00	4 00	4 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	
Concord	12 00	6 00	6 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	31 00
Cuba	16 00	6 00	6 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	35 00
Demopolis	6 00	4 00	4 00	- 2 00	1 00	100	18 00
Eutaw	10 00	4 00	4 00	2 00	1 00	1 00	22 00
Fellowship	7 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	1 00	21 00
Friendship	7 00	4 00	4 0)	4 00	1 00	1 00	21 00
Gainesville	20 00	6 00	5 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	38 00
Hickory Hill	9 00	3 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	-20 00
Hopewell, Sumter,	9 00	3 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	20 00
Hopewell,Choctaw	9 00	3 00	3 00	3 00	1 00	1 00	20 00
Livingston	35 00	8 00	8 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	58 00
Mt. Hermon:	7 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	1 00	21 00
Mt. Moriah		3 00	3 00	2 00	1 (0)	1 00	15 00
Mt Sterling	10 00	6 00	6 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	29 00
New Prospect	6 00	4 00	4 00	4 00	1 00	1 00	20 00
Rehoboth	18 00	6 00	6 00	5 00	1 00	1 00	37 00
Silosm		5 00	5 00	4 00	1 00	1 00	
Stonewall	7 00	4 00	4 00	2 00	i i		17 00
Sumterville	20 00	6 00	6 00		1 00	1 00	
York	5 00	4 00				1 00	
Zion	21 00	6 00				i 00	

\$277 00 \$112 00 \$111 00 \$91 00 \$23 00 \$23 00 \$637 00

The business of the Association being finished, on motion, engaged in devotional exercises. The body was addressed by J. M. Phillips, J. G. Ilarris and A. R. Scarborough.

The following parting hymn was song:

"On Jerdan's stormy banks I stand, And cast a wishful eye To Canaan's fair and happy land, Where my possessions lie."

During the singing, the delegates and bretbren extended to each other the parting hand, after which the closing prayer was offered by J. M. Phillips. The Association then adjourned to meet with Friendahlp Baptist Church, at Forkland, Green County, Ala., on Saturday before the second Sabbath in September, 1884, at 11 o'clock A. M.

J. D. Cook, Clerk.

PRIDAY EVENING-8 P. M.

Preaching by J. T. Yerby. Text, Heb. 13:1: "Let brotherly love continue.

Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund.

In reference to this very important matter, your committee beg

leave to submit the following:
The Baptist State Convention for Alabama at its annual meeting. The Baptist State Convention for Alabama at its annual meeting, held in Marion in July last, decided by a manimum work to make this one of the objects of general benevolence. It has, therefore, been placed upon the same footing with missions, and other enterprises for tered by the denomination. The plan adopted, is, to keep a record of all those, who are entitled to receive any part of this fund, and the State Mission Board will receive and disburse the funds that may be

We anggest, now, that no more committees be appointed to report on this question. Whenever the amounts needed for the support of those who may come within this benevolence, is equalified, our part will be set opposite our Association. We rejoice that the Baptists of this State have inaugurated this system—we have long seen and felt the urgent demand for such action. Your committee believe that God's richest benedictions will follow this action upon the part of our denomination, and giorious results will spring therefrom.

Respectfully submitted, .

J. G. HARRIS, Chairman. R.

Inter-Association Correspondence.

The proceedings of 22 Associations, held during the year 1882, have been examined, and from them we glean much to encourage and The character of the Spiritual work done, and the efforts. that are being put forth in behalf of the various denominational en-terprises, show unquestionably that satisfactory progress is being that are seng purious in behalf that satisfactory progress is being made. Associations that have heretofore given no pecuniary aid to the denomination in foetering its enterprises, as ling aroused and stimulated to action. We are sanguine in the Dope, and have good atimulated to action. We are sanguine in the httpe, and have good reason to believe, that through a heavenly directed influence, found is the State Mission Board, and the energetic, efficient and godly corresponding secretary, Dr. T. M. Balley and his associates, the time is in the very near future when every Association will be a member of the State Convention. Co-operation is the key-note to success. In unity of action, of sentiment and earnest christian plety, there is power for good. Coercion is not the remedy in ecclesiastical matters. The better judgment and a higher christian consecration must be reached and encouraged by proper appeals to the hypothesis. encouraged by proper appeals to the brotherhood, based upon love and fraternal harmony. The Associations that stand aloof, can be won over by a thorough canvass of the good results that would be realized by their co-operation. They are orthodox on denominational questions, and stand firm in the faith, but they have never felt the need, perhaps, of union, because that need has not been forcibly and prominently brought before them. In the formation of the American Union, some of the States decided not to co-operate for sometime, but they finally saw the great good of union, in which there was strength, and they came in.

We believe the dawn of a still brighter day for the Baptist cause is upon us. Love and sympathy, and zerious christian labor is being seen and felt on every side, workers f om the pew are coming to the front, and are alding the minister in his arduous labors. A testations of interest are evidences of a higher christian civilization and cheer and delight the heart of the true and devoted member a every christian family.

I desire to call especial attention of this body, to one important feature in the proceedings of the various Associations. It is, the outspoken opposition to the manufacturing, selling and drinking of ar-

dent spirits. The temperance question is receiving the attention of our denomination. As an illustration of what is said on this grave and important matter, I will quote from the proceedings of some of

the bodies that met last fall.

The Bethlehem says: "We rejulee to see that there has been a grand move made in this direction within the last two years. It is a subject of vital importance to all who have the moral and religious subject of vital importance to all who have the moral and religious interest of their country at heart, to rise, as one man, and remove from our midst its poisonous influence. The efforts made, and being made, by the law-makers of our own, as well as other States, to suppress the sale and manufacture of alcoholic liquor ought and should have our warmest christian sympathy and most hearty support, to the extent of the prohibition of its manufacture, importation or sale, within our

State, as a beverage.

Muscle Shoals: Drunkenness is the great curse of our land.

That the effects of the dram shop are to be encountered by every father, mother, brother or elster, and believing it to be the duty of inther, mother, divides or sister, and believing it to be the duly of christians to combat Satan in every form he presents himself, we think it is the duty of christian men or women to ask themselves the question: Shall this monster evil in our country be put down? and it so, what is my duty? Manifestly, we answer, to help put it down. "I Cahaba Valley: "It is with pleasure we notice the great progress the cause of temperance is making in Alabama. It is argued by some that these temperance movements are assembled, but not so. The

Cahabs Valley: "It is with pleasure we notice the great progress the cause of temperance is making in Alabama. It is argued by some that these temperance movements are spasmodic, but not so. The battle is being tought and the ground which is being taken will never again be surrendered to the enemies of temperance. Not twenty years ago we had many drunken officials. Not so now. Not twenty years ago one could hardly be elected to office who would not treat as a means of obtaining votes. Not so now. To-day no man of intemperate habits can be elected to office in St. Clair county. Then is not this progress? We are opposed to precipitating this work. Let us all move on together in this good work and God will give us the victory. Your committee recommend that all persons, members of our churches, who make or vend or use habitually as a beverage vinous or spirituous liquors be excluded summarily from the church, and that thus Association withdraw its membership from any church which re-

this Association withdraw its membership from any church which re-tains in its fellowship a member who makes or vends or uses habitual-ly as a beverage vinous or spirituous liquors."

These are extracts from reports. The tone of every Association

ly as a beverage vinous or spirituous increas.

These are extracts from reports. The tone of every Association that has considered this question, is in line with the sentiments expressed in the above extracts. We are gratified, yes, delighted, at our denomination openly, boldly and unequivocally placing itself on the aide of temperance. May God hasten the day, when drunkenness in our State and country. Then crive will developed the country of the country when the country is the country of the cou and of temperance. May one matter the day, when distinct and all be seen no more in our State and country. Then crime will decrease, happiness increase, and comfort and prosperity both temporally and spiritually be seen and felt all over the land.

ly and spiritually be seen and reit all over the land.

There are other matters of interest to which I might direct your attention, and incorporate in this report, but enough now. Taking it all in all, the Associational year of 1831-28 was a prosperous one for the Baptist cause in Alabama, and we have reason to believe that the year that has just closed, will be an improvement of the last.

Bespectfully submitted,

J. G. HARRIS.

C. Report on State Missions.

No work ever undertaken by our denomination has brought in a The work began eight untsville. The outlook more gratifying return then State Missions. The work years ago at the State Convention, held at Huntsville. was discouraging, the labor great, and all up-hill, and only one laborer in the field. But that laborer was Rev. T. M. Balley, a host within himself. Now, forty-one Associations are co-operating in this work. Forty-eight missionaries are laboring zealously. Fifteen of these are

engaged in distributing Bibles and religious publications. They have constituted churches, organized Sunday-achools, started Ladies Missionary Societies. They have preached, talked, baptized, prayed—in short, they have done all that earnest, laborious, untiring evangelists

could do.

The evangelization of our State is a subject upon which there can That it is desirable, that it is important, be no division of opinion. that it is the imperative duty of our large denomination, no one will-dispute. The only question is, how can it best be done? The logic of success is the most unanswerable of arguments, and that points to the State Mission Board with its able organization and efficient management, as the very means for the accomplishment of this great work. The eighth annual report of our corresponding secretary sums up the results of this year's work, which are astenishing and most encourage. ging

g—some of these are— /	` .
Dava of actual service	7.160 🗀
Miles traveled	68.197
bermons delivered,	3.127
Churches constituted	
Baptized	
Baptized by others in connection with the labors of the	he -
missionaries,	
Received by letter,	319
Restored	£ . 50
Restored	63
Ladies' Missionary Societies organized	7
Subscriptions to Alabama Baptist secured	
To give some idea of the labors of these devoted me	
cessary to state that during the eight years that this wo	
progress, there have been thirty-ix thousand and twent	

nec in 1

in progress, there have been thirty-ix thousand and twenty-nine days, of actual service, equal to the labor of one man for ninety-eight years.

The Board now announcer its grand aim—"A Baptist Church is every town and neighborhood." The wast and any hidden resources, of our State are being rapidly developed. Rairoads are reaching out in all directions, and along them are apringing up towns like magic. These towns ought to be occupied; they will soon become centres of influence. Every feeling of patriotism, every prompting of duty, tell us that the splittual improvement of our State must keep step with its material proposedity. material prosperity.

The Board expended this year eight thousand, eight hundred and

fifty-four collars and thirty-five cents (\$2,854.35.) For the next year it asks the State for twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000.); It asks the Bigbee Association for six hundred dollars, which amount is only fifty ents per capita of our members. Brethren, let us see that this amount

is promptly given to so good a cause. Bespectfully submitted.

I. C. BROWN, Chairman,

Foreign Missions.

We, your committee, beg leave to submit the following report: The Foreign Mission work is one of very great importance. It is one of the main principles in the great rule of action, given by our Master in His last commission. It is obligatory on us as chistians to do all we can to advance the interests of His cause. Every christian uo an we can to auvance the interests of his cause. Every christian represented in this Association ought to give something to Foreign Missions, even though it has to be done at a sacrifice. There are represented in this body over a thousand Baptista. These gave only \$86.00 last year for Foreign Missions. We believe this large number of Baptist is able, and ought to give several times this amount to this most important work. Of the 25 churches here represented, 10 gave absolutely nothing for this cause last year and the associational latter. absolutely nothing for this cause last year, and the associational letters

show that many have given nothing this year. Brethren, this ought not to be so. Your committee recommend that each individual, and more especially, each church, give something to Foreign Missions. We are glad to report that something is being done in this direction; but we pray that much more may be done next year. As to what is being done in the general cluss of Foreign Missions, we refer you to the minutes of last Association. We do not deem it necessary to repeat these statistics now, although there have been some changes made. now, although there is a Respectfully submitted BROCK, Chairman.

E. Home Missions.

Your committee beg leave to submit the following as their report: Under the blessings of God, the Board in its new location has prospered. The receipts during the last Southern Beptist Conventional year amounted to \$45,000. Of this amount Alabama gave only \$2,400. The Board had in its employ 95 laborers; ot these, 7 were in Arkansas, 3 in California, 22 in Florida, 4 in Georgia, 1 in Keptucky, 14 in Indian Territory, 7 in Louisiana, 1 in North Carolina, 1 in Tenerate and \$1.15 Tenerates nessee and 34 in Texas.

These missionaries have supplied 376 churches and stations, delivered \$571 sermons and addresses, baptized 245 persons, received by letter 494, traveled over 60,000 miles, and distributed 74,479 pages of

The Board desires to increase its working force among the 100,000 Chinese in California. It has already extended its work arrong the wild tribes in Indian Territory. It is addressing itself with recoming earnestness to neet the appalling destitution in Florida, Louislana Arkansas and Texas.

It has made arrangements looking to the total cancellation of the debt of the Collseum Place Church, New Orleans. The building of The building of the First Church, on which a mortgage rested, has been purchased by the Board. and a lot has been secured in another part of the city, on which to build another Baptist house of worship in the Rome of the South. The vigorous efforts being put forth by the Board commend it to the liberalities of Alabama Baptists. We are asked to raise this year for this Board \$3,000, and we must do it.

The Bigbee Association is called on to give one hundred and elev-lollars.

J. G. HARRIS, J.R. LARKIN.

Committee. en dollars.

W.T.SIMMONS.

F. Bible and Colportage Work.

We are living in age of progression; in this age the printing press is, indeed, a great power. The enemies of our holy religion are aware of this fact, and are utilizing it to the poisoning of the minds of our people with infidel and blasphemous publications. To counteract these influences of these vile productions of the press, God's people must utilize the press and furnish the people with books and periodicals which will elevate their morals and promote their religious well beginn. During the last veer the State Mischon Search had it men estimates. During the last year the State Mission Board had 16 men acting Colporters. Their labors have extended into 40 of our counties. They sold during the year 7.900 books and pamphlets issued at 2.900-42-100. They gave to poor families 655 Bibles and Testaments. This work must be extended into every county of our State as quick as possible. The Board will do this as quick as the means are furnished. The last session of this body raised a permanent Colportage fund of \$100 in cash and subscription, \$68.50 of this has been paid, and we hope the balance will be paid at this session

& Brookward

Treasurer's Report.

I. C. BROWN, in account with Bigbee Association 1882 To amount received of Finance Committee..... Sept. 9.

minutes of the Association.....

27 75-\$415 70

Respectfully submitted.

I. C. BROWN. Treasurer,

H Report On Sunday-schools.

Your committee regret to report to your body, that the condition of the Sabbath-schools has not changed materially within this associaof the Sabotan-Schools has not changed inateriary within this associational year. We learn from the letters, that there are many chirches without Sabbath-school instruction. We find so little data to report from as well as so little interest manifested in the church reports, that we are compelled to ask for the cause of so much lethargy in a work which, at your last meeting you pronounced the greatest and noblest-that of rearing man. We report Sunday-schools this year-1977 an inthat of rearing man, crease of two from last

Respectfully submitted,

W. T. SIMMONS, A. P. EVANS, J. J. ALTMAN.

Report On Education

The culture of the human mind has eyer been considered as one The culture of the human mind has ever been considered as one of the most important concerns of society; therefore, education which has for its object, the improvement of the intellectual powers, is a subject which demands the serious attention and the most liberal support of every individual in the community. A parent who is sensible that his child is a rational being, endowed with faculties succeptible of a high degree of cultivation, and is likewise conscious, that the happiness of the child would, in a great degree, be promoted by the improvement of those powers, would naturally bestow much attention to the subject. Accordingly, we find that from the earliest ages of the world, wherever the means of education have been enjoyed, few have neglected to avail themselves of its advantages.

world, wherever the means of education have been enjoyed, few have neglected to avail themselves of its advantages.

The Greeks and Romans, among whom were produced such prodiges of excellence in every kind of writing, and in every part of civil and military life, were remarkably attentive to the education of their children; they began in infancy their education. In Sparta, children were taken from their parents at an early period of their age and educated at the public expense; and a celebrated Homan writer advises those parents who destined their children for public speakers, to choose nurses for them who had a good pronunciation.

At the present day, we find no less attention paid to this momentous subject; aithough, the modes of education adopted by the moderns, differ in many respects from those which were practiced in ancient times. The strictness of discipline which prevailed among the Spartans, Bomans and Greeks, have given place to a milder regimme:

Spartans, Romans and Greeks, have given place to a milder regimme; but whether this very atrictness coupled as it was with methodical in-struction had not a beneficial tendency, is a question which is not yet fully decided. But, however, the ancient and moderns may differ in their modes of discipline and instruction, the subject of education, itself,

has received from all nations, and in all ages, that attention which its importance demands. Even the savage take care to instruct his child in hunting, fishing and those branches of knowledge which are necessary for him. In no country has greater attention been paid to the aubject, than in this. Here its importance is properly estimated, and on no subject has more expense been lavished and more talent employed than in the advancement and improvement of the cause of edneathm. Our forefathers have incorporated it in their civil institutions, and pledged their substance for its support. Hand in hand with religion, it has received the smiles of the aged, the favor of the good, and the support and encouragement of the law. From the promotion of this important subject, the greatest benefits have been derived. The knowledge acquired by one portion of the world has been transmitted to another without distinction or distance or diversity of age. The circle of human enjoyments has been enlarged, and a wide field has been opened, where the happiness of which our nature is succeptable, may be enjoyed independently of the common sorrows of life. The enlarged and enlightened views it gives of the world at large, justly entitles it to much attention and go very far to supply those imperfections which every one feels. Nothing will show the advantages of education in a stronger light, than a contrast with the disadvantages which arise from the want of it. A person who has been well educated, has the finled and body so well cultivated and improved, that any natural defects are removed, and the beauties of both placed in so fine Our forefathers have incorporated it in their civil institutions. natural detects are removed, and the beauties of both placed in so fine a light, that they strike us with double force, while one who has en-joyed no such advantages has all his natural imperiections remaining and to these are added artificial ones, arising from had habits. The and to these are added artificial ones, arising from bad habits. The former engages the attention of tinnes with whom he converses by the good sense he shows on every subject, and the agreeable manner in which he shows it. The other disguist every company which he enters either by his total silence and stuplidity, or by the ignorance and impertinence of his observations. The other is obliged to act an inferior part among his equals in fortune, and is sometimes forced to seek shelter for his ignorance among the lowest orders of mankind. From these considerations, we must rank the cause of education among the vital interests of mankind. To extinguish it, would produce darkness in the moral world, like that which annihilation of the sun would cause in the material; while every effort is made to advence

sun would cause in the material; while every effort is made to advance and promote it, is like removing a cloud from the skies and giving

and promote it, is like removing a ciouu iron the sarce and giving free passage to the light which freely lighteth all things.

With pleasure we recommend to you our own institutions of learning—the Howard College, the Alabama Central Female College and the Judson Female Institute, as being worthy of your attention and patronage.

W. P. BREWER, Chairman.

Report on the Necessity of an Educated Ministry.

Heport on the Wecessity of an Educated Ministry.

In all the ages of the christian era, infidelity in its varied forms, has been seeking new methods by which to subvert the principles of refigion; when thwarted on certain points through the wisdom of her votaries, she is ever on the alert to devise new modes of attack. Even before the apostolic period closed, the learned and wise men of that day were attempting to prevent the teachings of the Hply Nazarine; and disprove the truthuiness of the doctrine tanget by the last inspired man of God. As Paul realized in himself, the link in the gospel chain that connected revelation with inspiration, (as the power of the latter passed away and the former was piaced instead) he commands his son Timothy in the gospel "to study to show himself approved unto God, that he might know and understand the revealed will of God, and be ever ready to defend the principles of the faith he professed." If, then, Paul saw the necessity of culture and mental training, that they might "rightly divine the word of truth," even they, who had been the associates of the spostles, and heard from them the gospel message; how much more, brethren, should we

strive for high mental attainments, that we may meet, and successfully combat the philosophy of infidelity, and the science of the athelat, as they attempt by plausable philosophical and scientific arguments, to overturn the basis of the christian's hope—the Bible. The false theories of science have beclouded the moral sky of truth, her seemingly consistant reasonings have led men to embrace her teachings, her cunning has entrapped the unwary and unthinking; and to-day, infidelity in all its hideous aspects is spreading throughout our land. First from the old world, comes the old decirine of evolution, clothed with the habiliments of the 19th century; started upon its heigons errand by the beautiful lozic of a Darwin, forwarded by the mysticisms of Tyndale, it reaches its climax through the pollabed arguments and evasive reasoning of a Haekel, and who of us to-day, are able to need and repel the attack usade with this pollshed weapon from the armory of science. In the new world, through the printing press and the rostrum it is ramifying all the guilds of society, its loathsome presence and influence is found in all the ranks of life.

If we, as ministers, would study to obtain a ligher mental standard, seek to be conversant with the sciences and arts, then could we harmonize all with God's truth, unfolded in all the works of nature; as it lies hidden in the structure of the earth; invisibly written on the everlasting rocks, "Shimering in the gleam of the sea and thesheen of the stars." Philosophy clothed with the garment of truth, walks the earth proclaiming its sanctity, science guarded by this gentle foster mother, unwarps the hidden things of earth, and verifies her heaven born origin; art, with its intricate beauties, clothed with the manite of truth, asserts that all things are from God.'

Let us pause and reflect a moment on the boundless range of mind. The menory may be cultivated until it shall understand all knowledge; the judgments operfected as to resolve all human mysteries, ledge; the judgment so p

The memory may be cultivated until it shall understand all knowledge; the judgment so perfected as to resolve all human mysteries; the reason so improved as to labor through the mazy labarinth of all argument, the taste so purified as to appreciate nothing but the bean-tiful and grand. If we combine the culture of the world, if we comblue all the knowledge of earth, the achievements of mind will ahine brighter than all the planetary worlds rolled up into one grand cen-

tral orb.

tral orb.

Such then, is the great power we are killed upon to employ in our ministerial position; such the capacities we are commanded to use for good, by the master of the vinyard. Though seemingly to us simple in its nature; yet it is sublime, and the very triumphs of its achievements with its powers of affinity, places upon us a solemn and awful trust. The Expytian kings built for themselves, each, their own pyramid, that, it might mark the era of their reign, and the grandeur of their progress. So abould it be with us, brethren, in the advancement of mind; so add to the works of art, so solve the mysteries of scheme accessfully the truths of philosophy, so matan the ries of science, so establish the truths of philosophy, so sustain the sacredness of the Bible, that we may thereby mark the period of our labor and the powers we used for supporting truth, and destroying. labor and the powers we used for supporting truth,

CONSTITUTION.

1. This body shall be known by the name of the "Bigbee Bapitst Association."
2. The officers of this Association shall consist of a Moderator, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall be elected at each annual meeting, from its own body, and shall hold their officer until their successors are elected.

3. The Moderator shall present officers presiding over deliberative bodies.

4. The tilek shall keep a fair record of the proceedings of this Association, and shall attend to the printing and distributing of the minutes.

5. The Treasurer shall perform the duties usually assigned to such officer, and shall report annually to the Association.

6. The Association shall bold its meetings at such time and place as it shall, from time to time, appoint.

7. Every church shall be entitled to two dalegates, and, also, one for every twenty-five members exceeding wenty-five.

8. This Association disclaims all right of exercising authority over the instemal regulations of churches, belia ving that within their awa sphere they are accounted by the conductive of three-fourths of the members composing the Association.

ARTICLES OF FAITH.

We believe in one living and true God; that in the Godhead are Father,

1. We believe in one living and true God; that in the Godnesd are rather, Son, and the Holy Spirit.

11. We believe that the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the New Festament is the only rule of fisht and practices.

11. We believe that the Church of God is composed of such persons as believe in Jesus Curist and have been baptized; that baptism consists in the Innersion of the whole body in water, and that the Lord's Hupper should be administered to church benchmark of Grace taught by the United Baptists, In the deprivative of man; in the converting grace of God; in the respriction of the dead; in the general judgment, in the eternal life of the right-cous—in the everlasting punishment of the sicked.

RULES OF DECORUM.

lst. At each meeting of this Association, the Moderator shall take the cisals, shall call the members to order, shall decide questions of order subject to an appeal, shall open and piose the Association with prayer, shall appoint committees when not otherwise ordered, and shall pronunce the decisions of the Association.

mittees when not otherwise ordered, and shall pronunce the decisions of the Association.

2d. The names of nembers shall be called each day, and invitations to scate extended to ministering brethren.

3d. The members shall observe repect to officers and to each other, shall rise when sudressing the b'oderator, shall confine themselves to the questions, shall svoid personalities, shall not speak without leave more than once until every member shall have opportunity to speak, and shall sustain that bearing to each other which becomes gentlemen and christians.

3th. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the M iderator, and then shall be in possession of the Association, but may be withdrawn by the mover before amendment or decision.

5th. When a question is noder debats, no motion shall be received, except to adjourn, to lay on the table, to amend or postpone; which motion shall have precedence in the order snumerated.

3th. All questions except those relating to the Constitution shall be decided by a majority. Any member votice with the majority, may move for a reconsideration on the day of decision. Members may not leave the Association without permission.

7th. When questions of order are not provided for in these rules, they shall be decided according to the rules and regulations governing legislative bodies generally.

generally. The Association shall have power to receive into its body and fellow-ahlp such churches as apply for admission; and shall also be ampowered to withdraw its fellowship from any church or body of men walking disorderly, and supposed to be unworthy the fellowship of this Association.

CHURCHES PASTORS CLERKS, PREACHING.

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