

Colored

MINUTES

OF THE

Twelfth Annual Session

OF THE

COLORED MISSIONARY

Baptist State Convention,

HELD WITH THE

First Colored Baptist Church,

OF OPELIKA, ALA.

November 12th, 13th, 14th and 15th, 1879.

— OFFICERS: —

President—Rev. M. TYLER, Lowndesboro, Ala.

Vice-President—Rev. J. DOZIER, Uniontown, Ala.

Rec. Sec'y—N. R. NICKERSON, Marion, “

Cor. Sec'y—Rev. G. C. CASBY, Montgomery, “

Treasurer—CHARLES WHITE, Selma, Ala.

SELMA, ALA.:

“BAPTIST PIONEER PRINT.”

1880.

MINUTES.

OPELIKA, ALA., November 12, 1879.

The Twelfth Annual Session of the Alabama Baptist State Convention, met according to appointment with the First Colored Baptist Church at Opelika, Alabama, November 12, 1878, at 11 o'clock.

President M. Tyler called the meeting to order; gave a short talk thanking God that He had spared the lives of the brethren to meet in this Convention.

Rev. T. Smith, who was to preach the introductory sermon being absent, the President requested the Rev. S. W. Martson, D.D., to preach this sermon. Devotional Exercise was conducted by Rev. C. O. Booth. Hymn 261, "Rock of Ages Cleft for Me," was sung; the second chapter of Ephesians was read, and then prayer. Rev. S. W. Martson then preached the introductory sermon from Isaiah 28th chapter, and 16th verse. Prayer by Rev. T. Glenn.

Roll was then called, and Association's Churches, Sunday Schools and Delegates enrolled.

Auburn Association—Rev. T. Glenn.

Alabama District Association—M. Tyler and J. A. Foster.

Rushing Spring Association—W. H. McAlpine.

Bethlehem Association—A. Godden.

Dallas County Association—D. Boyd, P. Underwood and T. R. Mosely.

Uniontown Association—W. R. Pettiford and N. R. Nickerson.

Eufaula association—A. D. Gachet, Jerry Shorter, J. Wilhite and T. B. Ford.

Colored Bethlehem association—A. Cunningham.

Union association—S. Adams.

Pine Grove association—E. Thornton.

Shelby Spring association—H. Scott.

New Cahaba association—W. Wyatt.

Antioch association—S. Fantroy and E. A. McCall.

CHURCHES.

St. Philip's Street Church, Selma—G. J. Brooks and C. White.

Mulberry Church—Robert Buffin.

Second Baptist Church, Marion—W. H. McAlpine, E. K. Love and N. R. Nickerson.

Antioch Church, No. 1—J. P. Lucas.

Cubahatchie Church—J. W. Wood.

Hopewell Church—By letter.

Stone Street Church, Mobile—Rev. B. Burke.
 St. Louis Street Church, Mobile—A. Butler and A. Moore.
 Union Academy Church—W. Jenkins.
 Montgomery Church—J. A. Foster and G. W. Washington.
 Pike Road church—Samuel Franklin.
 Bethlehem church—S. Fantroy.
 Mt. Pisgah church—A. C. Jackson.
 Rock Creek church—L. C. Calvary.
 New Prospect church—J. C. Crawford.
 Green Oak church—J. McKesson.
 Ebenezer church—W. Wyatt.
 Palestine church—J. McKesson.
 Arkakelphia church—W. Allen.
 Hickory Bend church—H. Williams.
 Flatrock, Elmore county—H. Williams.
 Town Creek church—J. W. Wood.
 First Colored Baptist church, Greenville—S. Adams.
 Uniontown church—J. Dozier.
 Old Elam church—Jerry Cole and Curtis Wood.
 Mt. Olive—W. M. Melton.
 Antioch, No. 2, West Montgomery—S. M. Reeves.
 Tuscaloosa church—P. Murrell.
 Friendship church—W. Wyatt.
 Bethel church—G. C. Casby.
 Mt. Zion church—T. Smith.
 Lowndesboro church—M. Tyler.
 New Caanian church, Montgomery county—J. Ware.
 Union church—W. Wyatt.
 Damascus church—J. W. Wood.
 Epsibiah church—H. Scott.
 Mt. Zion church, near Mobile—A. Butler.
 Little Roxana church—S. Taylor.
 Beulah church—W. M. Harrison.
 Macedonia No. 2—T. T. Taylor.
 First Colored Baptist church, Wetumpka—S. Jones.
 Pleasant Grove church—W. Wyatt.
 New Hope church—L. C. Calvary.
 First Colored Baptist church, Union Springs—P. Mathews.
 Pinetop church—Wallace Allen.
 Goodship church—John Catin.
 Antioch church—W. Allen.
 Antioch church—S. Fantroy.
 Pleasant Hill church—A. Scott.
 Newbern church—H. Stephens.
 Greensboro church—H. Stephens.
 Summerfield church—J. W. White.
 Mt. Zion church, near Selma—J. W. White.

Good Hope Association--A. Butler.
 Mt. Zion church, Russell county--F. B. Ford.
 Shady Grove church, Russell county--B. Jones.
 Azion church--W. Jones and A. Vernon.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

Marion Sunday School---N. R. Nickerson.
 Lowndesboro Sunday School---M. Tyler.
 Bethel Sunday School---G. C. Casby.
 Bethany Sunday School---A. Cunningham.
 St. Philip Street Sunday School, Selma---John Ford.
 Alabama District Sunday School Convention---M. Tyler.
 Uniontown Sunday School---J. Dozier.
 Bellville Sunday School---A. Cunningham.
 Greenville Sunday School---S. Adams.
 First Colored Baptist Sunday School, Union Springs---P. Matthews.
 Mt. Pisgah Sunday School---A. C. Jackson.
 Tuscaloosa Sunday School---P. Murrell.
 Azion Sunday School---A. Vernon.
 Antioch No. 2, Sunday School, Montgomery county---S. M. Reeves.

ORGANIZATION.

The following named members were elected by ballot as officers of the Colored Baptist State Convention: President, Rev. M. Tyler; Vice-President, Rev. J. Dozier; Clerk, N. R. Nickerson. The election of Treasurer pending, the Convention adjourned to meet at 3½ o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. After singing hymn second, "O, God our Help in Ages Past." Prayer by Brother Prince Murrell. President announced that the body was ready for business.

By ballot Brother Charles White, of Selma, was elected Treasurer; in the same way Rev. G. C. Casby, of Montgomery, was elected Corresponding Secretary.

By the request of the President, Brother Rylee, pastor of the First Baptist Church at Opelika, made some cheering remarks which were received with much interest by all.

W. H. Roberts, General Evangelist and Theological Instructor of Freedmen, under appointment of Home Mission Board of Southern Baptist Convention, gave a cheering lecture to the Convention. All seemed to have been benefitted and instructed by his talk.

On motion the report of Committee on Order of Business received and adopted.

On motion 200 copies of the Order of Business was ordered to be printed.

NIGHT SESSION.

Hymn 50 was sung ; prayer by Rev. A. C. Jackson. After which Brother J. W. White proceeded to preach the Baptismal Sermon from Mathew 28th chapter and 19th verse. Prayer by Rev. E. K. Love. There was a collection raised of \$9.75.

Adjourned.

THURSDAY, November 13, 1879.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment, with President in the chair.

Devotional exercise conducted by Rev. H. Stephens. Minutes of the last meeting read and approved with necessary correction.

On motion the partial report of committee on New Bodies received and adopted. See report.

Following resolution offered by W. R. Pettiford, received and adopted :

Resolved, That the Convention do hereby tender to Brother T. Smith, of Montgomery, our heartfelt thanks for the faithful and upright manner in which he has discharged his duty as Treasurer of this Convention for six years.

On motion the regular order of business was suspended for one half hour to consider the report of Sunday School Board.

After some report remarks on the subject of Sunday Schools by Brother Collins H. Lyons and others, the report was received, with the amendments, and adopted. See report.

After much discussion on the Temperance report, (pending the amendment to the report), the Convention adjourned to meet again at 4 o'clock.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Rev. B. Burke, of Mobile. The body then proceeded to business.

On motion the report of Committee on Temperance adopted. See report.

From 4½ to 6½, according to the order of business, Brother S. W. Martson gave a lecture instructing as to how sermons should be drawn up, and hints generally on the subject of preaching.

On motion the report of committee on Family Religion was re-committed.

Adjourned to meet at 7 o'clock.

NIGHT SESSION.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. After singing, and prayer by brother W. R. Pettiford, Brother W. H. Roberts gave a lecture on the observation of things in general that take to make up and constitute the upright man. He reviewed our condition as a race, and pleaded with us to make the best of our time, and ever

strive to move onward and upward. He showed the importance of relying upon self and not upon your neighbor to do *your* work ; and, also to do away with the mode of taking two men to make one. His talk was received with much interest by all.

Afterward, there was a collection raised of \$7.65. Adjourned.

FRIDAY, November 14, 1879.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President M. Tyler in the chair.

Brother Wilhite, of Eufaula, conducted the devotional exercise. The 17th chapter of John was read, and the 1124th hymn was sung. The body then proceeded to business.

The minutes of the last meeting read, corrected and adopted. On motion the report on Ministerial Education, after some discussion, was laid on the table for further consideration.

The hour having arrived, Brother E. K. Love proceeded to preach the sermon on Ministerial Education. Text: 20th chapter of Acts and 18th verse.

On motion that part of the Order of Business referring to the reading of letters was suspended, and the letters to be read after night service.

On motion the report on Ministerial Education was taken from the table.

Brother M. P. Sumner made some remarks on the subject and to the members generally. His remarks were received with much interest and gratitude.

Brother McArthur, corresponding messenger from Georgia, by request, addressed the Convention. He impressed upon us the important fact, that we must be united to accomplish any good ; and gave us his heartfelt sympathy and prayers that we might go on in this well begun work.

By some manner Brother McArthur's church had been burned down in Columbus, Georgia, and he appealed to the Convention for aid. The brothers of the Convention readily responded to his call, and gave him \$18.65.

On motion the report on Ministerial Education was adopted.

The resolution offered by Brother W. H. McAlpine pending, the Convention adjourned.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Convention assembled at 4 o'clock. Usual devotional exercise was held.

After some discussion, the resolution offered by Brother McAlpine was adopted.

On motion the report from the Committee on New Bodies was adopted with the amendment, that the Sea Coast Association, and Free Mission Association be received with all their churches.

On motion ten dollars was given to Rev. W. H. Robert, D.D., Missionary for the Home Mission Board South.

On motion the letter of Rev. G. J. Brooks, on church grievances, was referred to a Committee.

Reading of letters through with, the Convention then adjourned.

SATURDAY, November 15, 1879.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Usual devotional exercises were held, conducted by Elder H. Stephens, of Newbern.

On motion the minutes of the last meeting were read, corrected and approved.

On motion the following were appointed on Committee of Greivance: Revs. E. K. Love, J. Wilhite and Brother P. Mathews.

The following were appointed to make a report of deceased members of the Convention: Revs. J. W. White, C. H. Lyon and P. Murrell.

The resolution offered by Brother A. F. Owens, of Mobile, was adopted.

The following were appointed on the committee of General Historical Data: Revs. C. O. Booth, W. H. McAlpine, A. F. Owens, P. Murrell, P. Jones, G. C. Casby, S. Adams, H. Woods and Brother P. Mathews.

On motion the Historical Committee were allowed to have circulars printed to send over the State in gathering Historical facts at the expense of the Convention.

On motion all discretionary powers on the subject of the history of the Baptists of Alabama, was left to the Historical committee.

The report from committee on deceased members of the Convention was adopted. See report.

On motion the reports from Brother Woodsmall and Brother W. H. McAlpine, were made to the joint meeting of the Stockholders and Convention, as the report of the Board of Trustees of the School. Adopted. Adjourned.

On motion the letter from Rev. J. O. Lowry recommending Brother A. F. Owens to this Convention, was to be spread upon the Minutes.

On motion Revs. J. Wilhite and G. J. Brooks were appointed as corresponding messengers to the Georgia Baptist State Convention.

Brothers W. H. McAlpine and P. Mathews were appointed as corresponding messengers to the Mississippi Baptist State Convention.

On motion the report from committee on time, place and preachers of annual sermons, received and adopted.

On motion the case of St. Philip Street Church and Brother J. Blevins, was indefinitely postponed.

There was appointed a committee to wait upon the Moderator and Executive Board, in regard to the five hundred dollars stock taken by the Auburn Association in the Educational Association.

On motion the report of Committee on Finance was adopted.

On motion 2,000 Minutes were ordered to be printed.

On motion the clerk was allowed twenty dollars for his service, and the sexton five dollars.

The resolution offered by Rev. G. J. Brooks was adopted.

On motion the claim of five dollars on the Convention by Brother G. C. Casby, was ordered to be paid; and also, the President was allowed pay for writing materials used in asking reduced rates over the roads.

On motion the Clerk was allowed fifteen dollars for recording the Minutes of 1878 in a book.

On motion the resolution offered by Brother C. O. Booth, bearing upon the Normal and Theological School, was adopted.

On motion that no more Minutes should be recorded by the clerk, unless so ordered.

On motion, the Convention instructed the Board of Trustees to collect the outstanding claims on Thompson, Foster and Blackshear.

On motion the same trustees of the first five years of the Normal and Theological School at Selma, were elected with the amendment that Brother A. F. Owens, of Mobile, be put in the place of Brother A. Butler, of Mobile.

On motion a vote of thanks was tendered to the citizens of Opelika for their kindness and hospitality to the messengers while with them; also a vote of thanks was returned to the Superintendents of the several Railroads for passing delegates to the Convention over the roads at reduced rates.

After shaking hands and general rejoicing that we had been so successful, by the aid of our Heavenly Father, in our work, the convention then adjourned to meet with the First Colored Baptist church in Marion, Alabama, Wednesday before the Third Lord's Day, at 11 o'clock, 1880.

N. R. NICKERSON,
CLERK.

M. TYLER,
PRESIDENT.

REPORTS.

(REPORT NO. 1.)

REPORT OF SABBATH SCHOOL BOARD.

The Sabbath School Board beg leave to submit the following report: The Sabbath Schools present an inviting field of labor—and every christian should feel himself called to do work in this department. No field presents a richer yield of harvest than the field of the Sunday School. We should hear the Apostle speaking in thunder tones, "to be ready to every good work. There is a place in the Sabbath School for every one. If you are not prepared to teach you can enter and be taught. We all may not expect to be preachers, but all of us can be Sunday School scholars.

After properly considering the matter of Sabbath Schools and what can be done to enliven this work, we would earnestly recommend that each Association organize Sunday School Conventions in their bounds, and that such conventions be allowed representatives to the State Convention, who shall report the condition and give statistics of their several Sunday Schools, and that such Convention discuss the interest of the Sunday Schools in their bounds.

In order to turn a due proportion of the concern labors, and interest many of the churches of the denominations toward the Sabbath School work of the Convention, we, the committee, would respectfully recommend the following:

1. That Brother C. O. Booth, the Sunday School Missionary of the American Baptist Publication Society of Philadelphia, be made the Sunday School Missionary of this Convention.
2. That each member of the Sunday School Board be instructed to aid him in arranging appointments and business meetings within the bounds of their respective sections.
3. That the Convention request the Sunday Schools of the State to raise \$200 toward his support during the next conventional year, and that as much of said amount as it is possible for the schools to collect at the time, be paid to the Missionary as he visits the several schools.
4. That Brother Booth shall, by aid of the several members of the Board, arrange his meetings and work, and publish the same in the *Pioneer* at least one month ahead of their time of holding.
5. That he shall submit a full report of his labors to each annual session of this Convention, regarding monies, etc. Also that the Missionary shall look and work toward District Sunday School Conventions, which shall at their earliest convenience, organize themselves into a general State Convention.

Your board, as far as it has been able to learn, find that the Sunday Schools throughout the State are in a prosperous condition though in some respects they are behind in Sunday School training, which deficiency is rapidly being supplied. We may do the cause good by devising plans more perfectly to carry the grand work into effect. One of the many objects of the Convention is to wave the blood-

stained banner of the Cross among the young. We feel that our future destiny hangs over our young people; we commend the Sunday School cause to the brethren of the State; too much labor cannot be spent in this direction; it is from the Sunday School that we shall get Bible trained persons. The Sunday School is the arm of the Church. Those who cannot be reached from the pulpit may be reached in the Sunday School. Respectfully submitted by your Board.

REV. W. R. PETTIFORD, Selma. REV. A. CUNNINGHAM, Bellville.
 " H. SULLIVAN, Camden. " G. C. CASBY, Montgomery.
 " J. P. BARTON, Tuscumbia. " S. RANSOM, Calhoun Station.
 " W. WYATT, Marion. " J. W. WHITE, Selma.
 " S. JONES, Wetumpka. " P. MATHEWS, Union Springs.
 " E. K. LOVE, Marion. " A. C. JACKSON, Birmingham.
 " H. WOOD, Talladega. " S. FANTROV, Eufaula.

(REPORT NO. 2.)

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The amounts received from the different Associations and Churches, are as follows:

New Cahaba Association	\$ 5 00	Bellville Sunday School	1 00
Friendship church	1 50	Little Maria church	2 00
Union church	1 20	Rama church	3 00
Ebenezer church	1 00	St. Philip street church, Selma . .	5 00
Pleasant Grove church	1 00	" " Sunday school . .	5 00
Beulah church	3 00	Azion church	1 50
Caanian church	3 00	Greenville Sunday School	1 00
Newbaran church	1 00	Green Oak church	3 00
Goodship church	2 00	Uniontown church	2 00
Rock Creek church	2 00	Old Elam church	2 00
Pike Road church	1 00	Summerfield church	1 75
Antioch No. 1, church	5 00	Hopewell church	2 00
Hickory Bend church	1 00	Little Roxana church	60
Second Baptist church, Marion . .	12 00	Old Roxana church	1 00
Flat Rock church	1 00	New Cahaba church	
Salem Association	4 00	Pleasant Hill church	1 00
Uniontown Association	10 00	Good Hope church, Brown street	2 00
Old Augusta church	2 00	Mt. Pilgrim Association	5 00
Colored Bethlehem church	3 00	Youngsboro Sunday School . . .	1 00
Macedonia church	3 00	Union Academy church	2 00
Friendship church	1 50	New Elam church	1 00
Wetumpka church	1 00	Auburn Association	
New Hope church	2 00	Bowen Association	10 00
Rev. T. Smith	10 00	Union Association	5 00
Bethel Baptist church	1 50	New Prospect church	1 00
Mulberry Baptist church	1 00	Greenville church	1 00
Mt. Olive church, Granville . . .	1 00	Dallas County Association . . .	10 00
St. Paul church	1 00	Willis Pleasant, Mitchell station .	1 25
Shady Grove Association	1 50	From new bodies by Rev. J. W.	
Mt. Zion church	1 70	White	29 00
" Sunday School	75		
Epsibiah church	1 00	Total received	\$200 95

Respectfully Submitted.

A. CUNNINGHAM,
 H. ALLEN,
 H. STEPHEN,
 J. WILHITE,
 Committee.

Received since the adjournment of the Convention the following amounts:

Rushing Springs Association	\$3 00
Shelby Springs Association	3 00
Mt. Moriah church	3 85
Church near Perdue's Hill, Monroe county Ala.	6 00
Courtland church	2 60

W. H. McALPINE, *Sec'y. Board Trustees.*

(REPORT NO. 3.)

COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Ministerial Education beg leave to report:

Ministerial education should claim our most profound attention. Indeed, the subject of ministerial education involves the principal means, aims and issues of all the interests loved and fostered by this Convention.

The minister's main source of information is the Bible; and it requires no little effort to prepare him to explain its mysteries. Notwithstanding the Bible is a book of wonders, yet, by hard and prayerful study its truth, mainly, may be understood. Study is indispensably necessary to the successful preaching of the blessed Gospel of the Son of God. Jesus commands to "search the Scriptures," which is done by arduous study. We are commanded to "feed the flock." We are to feed them from God's pasture, which is the blessed Bible. To do this efficiently the minister must study the Bible. If it is absolutely necessary for other professional men to spend time and money to prepare themselves for their respective occupations, what must be required of him who occupies the highest and most responsible position under heaven. The men who have done the most for the cause of God and suffering humanity, have been those who were educated. We would strive in vain to rise as a people, until the leaders, the ministers, have first been elevated. We earnestly contend for intelligence in our pulpits. When education has graced our pulpits, adorned our pews and decorated our Sunday Schools, we may look for a glorious change of things to follow. Your committee would most prayerfully commend the educational enterprise at Selma, to the prayers, sympathies, and support of all the Baptists and well-wishers of the cause in the State of Alabama. Your Committee feels that there comes a strange and secret whisper, and yet distinct, upon the night air to our spirits, which tells us that God is graciously using us as instrumentalities in his hand to bring about a happy revolution of things. The cause is appealing to us in tones as a sudden peal of thunder of a midnight storm, for educated ministers. Will we regard its cry? Will we not use every means in our reach to acquire an educated ministry. Your committee feels that the pressing and immediate need of our people is an educated ministry. Give us this and we have the desired weapon.

Resolved That we urge upon the Associations to request the churches in their respective bounds, not to license or ordain any man to the Gospel ministry who is incompetent to preach the Gospel.

Resolved 2, That the churches be requested to get a presbytery of ministers to examine men aspiring to the Gospel ministry, who are capable of judging candidates for the sacred position.

(REPORT NO. 4.)

COMMITTEE ON DECEASED MINISTERS.

Your Committee on Deceased Ministers beg leave to report:

That after a careful and minute examination, we find that since our last conventional session, it has pleased our good Lord to remove from our midst, Revs. D. M. Phillips and Frank Brooks.

These were venerable and influential christians, faithful preachers and impartial advocates of the cause of Christ. To our regret they resigned their humble position here. But bless God they have resumed a more glorious one in immortal youth. Their departure was our loss, but their eternal gain. Their churches, though deprived of such language as would best express their grief, have very fully manifested it in tears and bleeding hearts. They are sleeping in Jesus that blessed sleep from which none ever wake to weep. We will meet them in the morning.

Your Committee recommend that prayer be offered immediately to the Great Headed of the Church for His providential care over the lives of our ministers. And that prayer be offered for their bereaved widows and children.

W. J. STEPHENS,
P. MURRELL,
C. H. LYONS,

Committee.

(REPORT NO. 5.)

COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Brother President: Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to make the following report:

We are proud to say that our brethren are beginning to realize the evils which spring out from the use of intoxicating drinks; and that some of our ministers and other brethren are beginning to put themselves on the side of temperance. It is a fact too well known for comment, that intemperance is the main cause of nine tenths of the evils that affect our people. Your committee would urge upon every member of this Convention to use every means possible to banish intemperance from the land. This monster has proven to be the greatest enemy of the Church of God, on earth. It underlies all that is dear to society, sacred to the church of Christ, and of vital interest to our people. No conceivable single evil is tending so much to sap the foundation of society, reproach the church and corrupt the morals of our people—none so debasing as the evil of intemperance.

Unheeding the warnings of science, turning a deaf ear to the voice of experience and spurning the words of God of Heaven, our people are blindly rushing upon this vortex of evil—intemperance. What is to be done?

Voices from widowed mothers, neglected children and starving orphans; voices from the poor houses, hospitals and penitentiaries; voices from the drunkard's grave—yes, united voices from the three worlds call upon the church of Christ with no uncertain sound to arise from her condition of apathy and indifference, and redeem not only her fallen members, but redeem the world from the malstrom of intemperance.

Your committee feels that by strenuous efforts, this fell destroyer and bane of society will be consigned to oblivion. We earnestly recommend that our brethren preach sermons on temperance to their congregations. The Bible is plain on this subject, and no one is competent to lead a people who is not strictly temperate. We are fully aware that no people can be elevated who use this enemy of God, and of His cause. We feel that God is on our side, and with His strong arm to help, we shall conquer.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. JONES,
P. MATHEW,
J. WILHITE,

Committee.

Reports of W. H. McAlpine and H. Woodsmall, made to the Board of Trustees of Alabama Baptist Normal and Theological School, and submitted to the joint-meeting of the stockholders and Convention as the report of the Board.

(REPORT NO. 6.)

REPORT OF FINANCIAL SECRETARY.

OPELIKA, ALA., November 15, 1879.

To the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Baptist Normal and Theological School; Selma, Alabama:

DEAR BRETHREN:—I take great pleasure in submitting to you my annual report. I was appointed by your Board as Financial Secretary, November 18th, 1878, and from that time up to the present date, I have been engaged in the work as best I could.

When the Convention adjourned November 15, 1878, there was \$1,200.00 turned over to the Board. There was, at that time a debt of \$1,000.00 on property, with six months interest, and \$200.00 owed to Rev. H. Woodsmall for services rendered during the summer as agent traveling North to secure teachers and their salaries.

There was also the running expenses of \$85.00 per month on teachers salaries to be met, and only \$1,200.00 to meet it all. A very cold and severe winter set in right after our meeting, and money came in very slowly. I went forward and borrowed \$200 on my own responsibility, and mortgaged my house and lot for the money for two months. I used this money to help pay the running expenses until we could get in some. With the advice of the Executive committee of the Board, sub-agents were appointed in different parts of the State. One-fourth of what was raised was allowed them as salary and to pay traveling expenses, and three-fourths was sent to the Financial Secretary. A good deal was done by these sub-Agents. The names and the amounts they raised will appear in another part of this report. By the close of the school, May 30th, 1879, we had made the second payment on the property, met the running expenses on the teachers salaries, all but about \$65, and paid back the \$200 of borrowed money. We found at the close of the school that we greatly needed more room. The school had increased so rapidly, until no one room of the present building would seat all the school; but where and how to get the money to put up another building was a question not easy to answer.

The Board decided, however, to attempt the erection of another building. The plan settled upon was about this:

To publish a circular and send to all the churches and Sunday Schools in the State, asking them to raise as much as \$1.25 for four months. A good deal was raised in this way. Another arrangement that worked finely was the appointment of four young brethren by the Baptist Missionary Society of Selma, who were to travel as missionaries in the different parts of the State; and among other things to raise money for the school. The above named Society paid the salaries and traveling expenses of these brethren. The names and amounts raised by these brethren will appear in another part of this report.

We have succeeded by the help of our Heavenly Father in putting up the building 36x50, and have it now ready for use. The building cost us about \$700, all of which to about \$200 is paid. I will leave Brother Woodsmall to report the present condition of the school, number of scholars, etc.

I have visited about eleven Associations; traveled about 1,855 miles; written about one thousand letters and cards; preached about forty sermons, and delivered about forty-five lectures.

MONEY RAISED DURING THE YEAR.

First.—By Missionaries appointed by the Missionary Society of Selma :

Rev. W. R. Pettiford	\$87 95
D. T. Gully	40 80
J. C. Curry and M. W. Alston	52 76

A part of the amount raised by these brethren was sent to Brother H. Woodsmall.

Second.—By Sub-Agents :

W. Wyatt, Marion, Ala.	\$ 17 05.
I. Walker, Hamburg	23 25
A. A. Scott, Selma	12 85
J. White, Selma	29 25
A. Butler, Mobile	62 00
A. Cunningham, Bellville	29 15
W. Allen, Greenville	14 40
G. C. Casby, Montgomery	70 25
A. C. Jackson, Birmingham	105 80
E. Sca, Prairie Bluff	3 10
S. M. Ransom, Calhoun Station	9 00
M. Tyler, Lowndesboro	37 00
M. C. B. Qden, Sylacanga	6 85
C. D. Reid, Whistler	7 00
E. Thornton, Union Springs	3 90
A. A. Lucius, Williams Station	2 25

Third.—By myself as Financial Secretary: From Associations, Churches, Sunday Schools and individuals, the sum of \$1,733.30.

The whole amount raised during the year by myself, Sub-Agents, and Missionaries appointed by the Selma Baptist Missionary Society, is \$2,349.00.

EXPENDED AS FOLLOWS.

Paid over to Treasurer of the Board for teacher's salary, chapel, and for last payment on property	\$1,114 18
Printing catalogues and programmes	26 75
“ Articles of Association	3 50
“ certificates for sub-agents	2 10
“ receipts and book of orders	4 00
“ postals and circulars	8 50
Stationery for the year	20 00
Traveling expenses for the year	165 42
Printing <i>Pioneer</i> and postage	76 07
Mailing Convention Minutes	5 72
To executive Board of Uniontown Association, for borrowed money	46 00

Total \$1,472 24

There is now a balance in my hands of money collected of \$ 846 76

There is a balance now in the Treasurer's hands of money turned over to him by myself of 507 00

Making in all of cash on hand \$1,383 76

This does not include what may be collected by the Convention during the present session.

W. H. McALPINE, *Financial Secretary.*

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

To the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Baptist Normal and Theological School:

DEAR BRETHREN:—I submit the following, in regard to my labors, and matters connected with the school since your last meeting, May 30, 1879.

I spent the vacation holding institutes for ministers and deacons, as planned by the Board, visiting churches, in the interest of the school, aiding the young men sent out from the school, by supplying them with books, and otherwise. I went North in October and spent three weeks; visiting the Baptist State Conventions of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio. I visited eleven Associations, held thirteen institutes attended one Sunday School Convention, and one Association in Alabama. In all I traveled over 3,600 miles.

I submit herewith an itemized statement in regard to money collected and traveling expenses. My expenses would have been greater, but for the kindness of the railroads in giving half-fare and in some cases free passes. The brethren also made arrangements, almost everywhere, for my entertainment.

The attendance at the Minister and Deacon's meetings, as a rule, was very good, at some very large. I found great need everywhere for this kind of work; and felt that my labors were never more blessed. The warm interest manifested in the school by the people, and willingness with which they gave money was very encouraging. It was also gratifying to see the interest manifested in the meetings and in the school, by the white friends.

Our Missionaries from the school, brethren Alston, Pettiford, Curry and Gully, were partly supported by the Selma Baptist Missionary Society, and the American and Foreign Bible Society, of New York, and Captain Morgan, of Connecticut. Their labors extended over fifteen counties in central, western and southwestern Alabama. They preached, visited from house to house, read the Scriptures to thousands who can not read, sold and distributed nearly one thousand Bibles and other books, and raised over \$300 for the school. I supplied several others, of our students with Bibles and tracts, who did valuable Missionary work. The result of this Missionary effort clearly shows the great work the school may do for the churches, through the pupils even while yet in school.

The attendance in school is 112; we have an excellent class of pupils, and eighteen are studying for the ministry. The discontinuance of the primary department, enables us to do far better by those of proper age. We find the new chapel admirable.

One of our great needs is means to aid worthy students for the ministry, and others: Some of our best young men and young women, have to leave about the time they get fairly started in their studies. Fifty dollars will enable almost any one to keep in school all the year with what he can make during vacation. A few churches and associations have agreed to partly support young men this year. I hope that the Board may make every possible effort to get the churches interested in this matter. An excellent way of aiding young men studying for the ministry, is to give them Missionary work to do during vacation, and pay them a good salary. Three of our young men at \$25.00 a month, for four months, made enough to keep them in school during this year.

Another thing of pressing importance is the matter of providing rooms for pupils. The boarding hall, when completed, will accommodate over fifty young men; but before another year we shall probably need rooms for twice that number. The most practical way as it seems to me, is the one that has been discussed by the Board, namely: The building of cottages, that will cost not to exceed from \$100 to \$125. A good many churches might be induced to put up cottages with the privilege of having them occupied for a term of years by persons sent by them or that they might designate.

The two teachers selected by the Board last spring, Prof. E. H. Rishel, of Illinois, and Mrs. L. N. Stone have both entered upon their work. Miss Jordan, of

Indianapolis, and Prof. Alston are with us still. All four are choice workers. Prof. Rishel and Mrs. Stone both gave up good positions and came from a conviction that it was the Lord's will, and wholly trusting Him for a support. It is noble in them, and their example ought to inspire us to work still harder to build up the school. Their coming in that way means that God is helping us. Contributions towards their support have been promised by brethren and sisters in Illinois and Ohio. The Baptist women in Indiana, through Miss Hoyt, of Indianapolis, who has so generously aided in the past, promise to continue Miss Jordan's support. Captain Morgan, of Connecticut, will continue to support Prof. Alston. I hope that some of the colored Baptist churches North will send contributions. The most of the aid now given, is given through the American Baptist Home Mission Society, New York. An effort is being made by friends to have the Society assume the support of part of our teachers.

We have every reason for encouragement and gratitude. The crisis is past, the school is a fact. The growth of the school in property, pupils, teachers, in the hearts of the people in every way, has been wonderful. But while this is true, the heavy work has just begun. As the work grows the burden necessarily increases. Larger contributions from the churches and greater wisdom on the part of the Board and greater interest on the part of all, will be needed to meet the growing demands of the school. None must grow weary in well doing. If you will only continue to acquit yourselves like men, the work will still prosper under your hands.

H. WOODSMALL.

Opelika, Ala., Nov. 15, 1879.

STATEMENT.

Names of Associations, Churches, Sunday Schools and individuals, who have given money during the year.

ASSOCIATIONS.		CHURCHES.	
	STOCK.		
Uniontown.....	\$300 00	Talladega church and S. S.....	\$25 00
Alabama District.....	150 00	Battle Springs.....	1 00
Bethlehem.....	25 00	Selma.....	29 00
Dallas County.....	40 00	St. Paul.....	10 65
Rushing Springs.....	20 00	Good Hope.....	8 50
Snow Creek.....	10 00	S. S.....	3 65
Mt. Pilgrim.....	10 00	Woodlawn.....	1 00
Muscle Shoals.....	20 00	Hepzibah.....	8 15
Shelby Springs.....	20 00	Seranton, Miss.....	3 00
New Cahaba.....	20 00	Marion.....	14 40
Union.....	5 00	Tuskegee.....	2 00
Colored Bethlehem.....	10 00	Mt. Pleasant, Sumpter county.....	1 00
Antioch.....	10 00	St. Lewis St. S. S.....	1 00
Auburn.....	75 00	Friendship and S. S.....	7 00
Eufaula.....	20 00		
S. S. Convention.....	50 00		
Alabama District Sunday School Con- vention.....	20 00	Everdale.....	6 90
		Uniontown.....	26 20
		S. S.....	15 00
		Mt. Azion.....	3 00
		Birmingham.....	18 50
		Union.....	3 50
		Mt. Zion.....	1 00
		Florence.....	7 75
		Mt. Moriah.....	1 00
		Antioch.....	2 00
		Decatur.....	2 50
		Spring Hill.....	7 05
		Pleasant Gap.....	7 00
		Mt. Pleasant.....	2 00
		Dry Creek.....	1 00
		Seales and S. S.....	1 00
		Good Hope.....	2 00
		P. Simmons.....	5 00
		Pleasant Hill, Dallas.....	9 25
		African.....	4 00
		Bethel.....	11 00
		Mt. Pilgrim.....	1 00
		E. Bethel.....	1 00
		Mt. Zion.....	4 00
		Zion.....	2 00
		County Line.....	2 00
		Cedar Grove.....	2 00
		Rev. J. Pratcher's.....	2 00
		Tusculum.....	5 85
		Sumterville and S. S.....	1 17
		Beech Grove.....	2 50
		Hope Well.....	11 25
		Providence.....	1 15
		Poplar Grove.....	2 56
		Green Liberty S. S.....	3 90
		Little Zion and S. S.....	1 80
		Lovingsboro and S. S.....	5 00
		Ramah.....	5 00

Rock Creek.....	5 00	A. McQuary.....	8 00
Pernell Chapel.....	3 80	D. Jordan.....	9 00
Oxford.....	10 00	J. F. Washington.....	10 00
Colwell.....	5 00	Andrew Golden.....	2 00
Eagle Grove.....	2 70	R. White.....	2 00
Montgomery.....	15 00	Charles Ward.....	1 00
Scott Grove.....	5 00	S. Jayne.....	1 00
Arkadelphia.....	1 25	J. ".....	1 00
Pine Grove.....	1 50	J. W. Archer.....	1 00
New Mt. Cilla.....	3 50	D. C. Jackson.....	80
Bethel, Calhoun county.....	1 50	J. W. Clift.....	1 00
First Colored, Jacksonville.....	3 15	A. Lothen.....	1 00
New Hope.....	2 65	E. D. Gallaway.....	1 00
Greenville.....	4 80	Miss E. Dokes.....	50
Dry Branch.....	1 00	J. C. ".....	1 50
Courtland.....	5 00	H. C. Stores.....	1 00
Center.....	10 00	Miss H. Hellem.....	10 00
Shiloh.....	15 00	M. McGrada.....	10 00
Shiloh.....	2 00	R. Turner.....	5 00
Shiloh.....	5 00	O. Wald.....	3 00
Amity.....	5 00	S. Abercumby.....	5 00
Mars Hill.....	5 00	S. Hichumbaton.....	1 00
Antioch No. 2.....	2 80	A. McConico.....	1 00
New Prospect.....	4 00	Charles Bonner.....	1 00
Bethlehem.....	3 00	J. Ricks.....	1 00
Antioch.....	2 00	Miss J. Jenkins.....	1 00
Palestine.....	5 00	R. Banks.....	1 00
Pinetop.....	5 00	Jas. H. Dorsey.....	1 00
Pinetop, Barbour county.....	2 00	M. S. Stewlworth.....	1 00
Old Elm.....	4 00	D. Grason.....	1 00
Mulberry.....	2 00	J. G. Prince.....	3 00
Mt. Zion, Lowndes county.....	4 00	C. Ward.....	1 00
Stone St. Mobile.....	29 6	A. Lawson.....	1 00
Palestine S. S.....	5 00	W. B. Patterson.....	10 00
Pinetop S. S.....	5 50	J. P. Billingsley.....	10 00

INDIVIDUALS.

Rev. A. Gordon.....	5 00	D. Perry.....	5 00
Rev. J. Smith.....	1 0	P. Mathews.....	1 00
B. Snow.....	1 40	L. Crasby.....	1 00
G. Low.....	2 00	J. Thomas.....	1 00
C. Crawford.....	1 10	C. W. White.....	10 00
J. P. Lucas.....	1 50	E. Williams.....	1 00
N. James.....	25	D. Givan.....	4 00
A. L. Gool.....	1 00	A. Smith.....	10 00
J. R. Capus.....	1 00	R. Miles.....	1 00
J. N. Young.....	1 00	H. Barron.....	2 00
W. Wyatt.....	5 00	B. Dixon.....	5 00
S. Mosely.....	1 00	J. B. Lovelace.....	2 00
J. Dozier.....	10 00	Wm. F. Davis.....	2 00
P. Underwood.....	2 00	Wm. Sherrard and Brother.....	2 00
S. Flantroy.....	3 0	H. H. Hurt.....	2 00
J. W. Stephens.....	7 00	C. W. Lovelace.....	5 00
M. Tyler.....	10 00	Moore & Fitzgerald.....	1 50
A. Cunningham.....	5 00	P. T. Hurt.....	2 00
K. Fajens.....	4 00	A. Lawson.....	50
H. Stephens.....	10 00	A. Cummins.....	1 00
B. J. Burk.....	10 00	J. C. and W. H. Perkins.....	2 00
J. W. White.....	7 00	Wm. F. Fignat.....	1 50
C. O. Booth.....	10 00	S. M. Fowlkes.....	50
J. Shorter.....	2 00	M. W. Perry.....	50
H. Wood.....	1 00	Jas. A. Smith.....	1 00
J. Bleving.....	5 00	M. V. Hendrix.....	1 00
		R. R. Killford.....	25
		John Moore, Esq.....	2 50

W. H. McALPINE,
Financial Secretary.

STATEMENT OF H. WOODSMALL.

Statement in regard to money received and paid out by H. Woodsmall, as agent of the Board of Trustees of the Alabama Baptist Normal and Theological School, from June 1 to Nov. 15, 1879:

RECEIVED FOR THE CHAPEL.

1879.			
June	15,	Demopolis church.....	\$ 5 00
"	29,	Mr. Harris, Mobile, by Rev. C. O. Booth.....	25
July	7,	Prairie Bluff.....	5 00
"	10,	St. Phillip's St. Baptist church, Selma.....	6 00
"	23,	H. A. Lovelace, Montgomery..	1 00
Aug	4,	Union Springs.....	5 25
"	4,	Union Springs S. S.....	3 00
"	10,	Rev. J. D. Maddox.....	25
"	14,	Pine Grove church.....	1 2
"	19,	Mt. Pilgrim church.....	1 35
"	19,	Benjamin White, Elyton.....	50
"	20,	Birmingham church.....	7 00
"	21,	Helena church.....	20
"	22,	Calera church.....	2 00
"	22,	Wm Minnie Shuord, Calera....	50
"	24,	Montevallo S. S.....	4 30
"	24,	Montevalla church.....	3 50
"	24,	Monteva lo brethren.....	4 55
"	26,	Sunday school of First Baptist church, Montgomery.....	5 00
"	28,	County Line church.....	1 25
Sept.	1,	Antioch No. 2.....	5 55
"	4,	Brethren Alston and Curry Mis- sionaries.....	3 50
"	13,	Rev. A. C. Jackson.....	15 25
"	14,	Notasulga church by W. R. Pet- tiford.....	3 8
"	14,	Loachapoka church.....	2 15
"	17,	Collected at Eufaula Association by Rev. C O. Booth.....	13 05
"	22,	Rev. W. J. White, as agent....	13 65
"	22,	" " " ".....	54
"	25,	Rev. W. J. White, as agent, from St. Paul church.....	5 00
"	25,	Richard Farr.....	2
"	26,	Summerfield church, by Rev. W. J. White.....	4 75
"	26,	W. R. Pettiford collected in Eastern Alabama.....	15 50
"	30,	W. R. Pettiford collected in eastern Alabama.....	20 00
Oct.	1,	D T Gully collected in Sept....	40 00
"	2,	St Phillip's street church, Selma	5 00
"	2,	Miss Susie Brown.....	5 00
"	9,	Brethren Montevallo church on pledges.....	5 7
"	12,	St. Phillip's street sunday school Selma.....	12 36
"	14,	Center church by J C Curry.....	2 00
"	14,	Brethren of Antioch, No. 2, Ac- kerville, on pledges.....	15 00
"	14,	W R Pettiford.....	20 00
Nov.	12,	Brethren of Montevallo church on pledges.....	5 00
"	14,	Shelby Spring Association by D L Prentice.....	8 00

Total am't received for chapel... ..\$276 16

RECEIVED ON STOCK.

June 8.	Snow Hill church.....	\$ 7 70
" 22.	Livingston church.....	7 70
July 7.	Prairie Bluff church.....	10 70
" 9.	Mrs. O Howes.....	25 00
" 22.	Wetumpka church.....	5 00
Aug 11.	Enfants S S Association.....	30 00
" 16.	Canaan church, Jonesboro.....	5 00
Oct. 1.	Enfants Association by T H Sturgis.....	20 00
Total received on stock.....		\$111 10
Received on tuition from October 1, to November 15.....		53 77

Received on tuition for last year, and old lumber.....	6 40
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Total amount collected in Alabama.....\$416 41

RECEIVED FROM THE NORTH

For the support of Teachers :

1879.		
June 29,	C L Burton, Mit hell, Ind.....	\$ 1 00
Sept. 10,	Elizaville church, Reeses Mills, Indiana.....	6 45
" 19,	W H Herakills children Vernon Connecticut, by Dr Wayland.....	1 50
Oct. 16,	Deer Creek Sunday Schol, Ind.....	3 35
" 16,	Mrs P McDade, Kokomo, Ind.....	1 00
" 16,	A Friend, by Rev P McDade.....	50
" 22,	Ladies at Springfield, Ohio.....	3 15
Nov. 1,	Mrs Matlocks, Markle, Ind.....	1 00
" 1,	Mrs Nancy E Hannah, Brown's Valley, Ind.....	1 00
" 1,	Rev C H Blanchard, Wolcott- ville, Ind.....	1 00
" 1,	R H Bouslog, Peru, Ind.....	2 00
" 1,	Mrs J O Ward.....	1 00
" 1,	Simpson Tanner, Greensburg, Indiana.....	1 00
" 1,	James Beattie, Blue Grass, Ind.....	50
" 1,	Rev C N Gartin, Forest Hill, Ind.....	1 00

5	Total	\$25 40
5	Received for Missionary work from American and Foreign Bible Society, New York, and Capt Morgan, and paid over as designated.	\$300 00
5	"Platiny dressed lady" by Dr Wayland of Philadelphia, and expended for Bibles	45 00

00	Total.....	\$195 00
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RECEIVED IN BOOKS.

American Bible Society.....	\$ 45 00
American Baptist Pub. Society.....	20 00
Sheldon & Co., New York.....	150 00
Rev Emerson Andrews, Boston.....	50 00
Total.....	\$265.00

PAID OUT.

Traveling expenses in Alabama during four months and on trip north, see statement A and B.....	\$ 84 55
Traveling expenses of Rev E Thornton and Rev A C Jackson see statement C	3 15
Current expenses of school vouchers see statement D.....	18 75
On chapel and Vouchers, statement E..	135 58
Paid to Treasurer.....	179 43
Total	\$446 41

Total	8446 41
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RECEIVED FROM THE NORTH

For the support of teachers during the past year:

0	Captain Morgan, of Conn, through the	
0	American Baptist Home Mission So-	
0	ciety for Prof Alston's support.	\$4 0 00
0	Baptist Women of Indiana through	
0	Miss Hoyt for Miss Jordan's support,	
0	and Miss Heustis traveling expense-	441 55
0	Other sources received by H Woodsmall	
0	from Nov 15, 1878, to June 1, 1879, as	
0	shown by report to Board, May 30,	
0	1879.	165 60
0	Received by H Woodsmall since May	
0	30, 1879.	25 40

Total.....\$1,089 5

(REPORT NO. 7.)

COMMITTEE ON NEW BODIES.

The following are the Associations, Churches and Sunday Schools report by the Committee on New Bodies:

ASSOCIATIONS.

Bladen Springs	Whistler
Evergreen	Tate Creek
Bethel	Pernell Chapel
Free Mission	Spring Hill
Sea Coast	Little Hill
	Third Baptist Church, Mobile.

CHURCHES.

New Elam	New Canaan
Mt. Olive	Evergreen

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

W. H. McALPINE,
J. W. WHITE,
H. STEPHENS,

G. J. BROOKS,
S. ADAMS,
P. LUCAS,

P. MURRELL,

Committee.

(REPORT NO. 8.)

TIME, PLACE AND PREACHERS OF SERMONS.

Introductory—Rev. Jas. A. Foster, of Montgomery, Ala. Alternate—Rev. J. W. White, Selma, Ala.

Baptismal—Rev. B. J. Burke, Mobile, Ala. Alternate—Rev. M. Tyler, of Lowndesboro, Ala.

Sacramental—Rev. J. Dozier, Uniontown, Ala. Alternate—Rev. E. K. Love, Marion, Ala.

Church Government—Rev. A. C. Jackson, Birmingham, Ala. Alternate—Rev. G. C. Casby, Montgomery.

Historical—Rev. A. F. Owens, Mobile. Alternate—Rev. G. J. Brooks, Selma.

Educational—Rev. C. O. Booth. Alternate—Rev. W. R. Pettiford, Selma.

Missionary—Rev. H. Stephens, Greensboro. Alternate—Rev. T. Glenn, Opelika, Ala.

Perseverance of Saints—Rev. J. Wilhite, Eufaula. Alternate—Rev. S. Flantroy, Eufaula.

To meet at Marion, Ala., Wednesday before the third Thursday in November, 1880.

RESOLUTIONS.

WHEKEAS, It is important that we should collect, arrange and secure in proper order and systematic form all important facts concerning the history of our denomination in Alabama, which may be of use to us and to generations after; therefore, be it

Resolved, 1. That we appoint a Committee of five on Historical Data, whose duty it shall be to gather historical information of the Baptists of Alabama.

Resolved, 2. That each Association of this Convention, and churches not belonging to any Association, be requested to appoint an agent or agents on Historical Information—whose duty it shall be to report the said information to the general Committee on Historical Data.

Resolved, 3. That the general Committee on Historical Data, be requested to make reports to the Convention year after year.

Resolved, 4. That the Committee be requested to find out how many preachers

we have, when they commenced preaching; how long they preached; when they died, and how many they baptized—and to whom they belonged and what were the circumstances under which they preached.

Resolved, 5. That we find out how many churches we have and when built; how many schools we have and when built, and what are the degrees of their education, and how they secured it.

Respectfully,

A. F. OWENS.

The following resolution was introduced by P. Mathews:

Resolved, That the action of the Executive Board of the Auburn association in refusing to turn over the money, which was voted by said association to the State Convention is wrong, and deserves the serious displeasure of this Convention, and if said Board refuses to turn over the money, which is \$100.00 to the State Convention, the said Board and Brother Glenn, who is the principle leader, is not worthy of membership, and should be excluded from this Convention.

WHEREAS, There is now existing in the ranks of the Ministry, steps taken that cause dissatisfaction to those who desire to comply with the rules laid down for Baptists to follow in the government of the church. We are commanded to walk by one Gospel rule. There are Gospel rules that some of our ministers do not follow. We can't agree in this particular, or do not desire to do so. The Scriptures explicitly teaches us to note every Brother that causes divisions and strife among you, to keep no company with such a one, neither so much as to eat with him; and also, we are commanded to withdraw the hand of fellowship from every brother that walks disorderly among us, therefore, be it

Resolved, That as brethren representing the respective churches belonging to the State Convention of Alabama, will do all in our power to practice and sustain the principal rules laid down in the Scriptures for the government of the church in discipline of its members, and guard against all evil communications.

WHEREAS, The cause of Christ has suffered and is yet suffering from the fact that some of our ministers have more churches than they can attend to, therefore,

Resolved, 1. That we think it is not best for our brethren to over-burden themselves.

Resolved, 2. That we discountenance the anxiety of brethren to get 3, 4, or 5 churches, and all starve from want.

Resolved, 3. That no brother can attend to more than two churches—and that we advise the brethren not to accept more than that number.

The above resolutions were by Brother E. K. Love.

WHEREAS, The papers of our white brethren, North and South, in speaking of the Alabama Normal and Theological School, designate it as "Bro. Woodsmall's School;"

Resolved, 1. That it is the wish of this Convention that said school be known and spoken of as the school of the colored Baptists of Alabama.

Resolved, 2. That copies of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk to the *National Baptist*, Philadelphia, Pa.; *The Christian Index*, Atlanta, Ga.; *Religious Herald*, Richmond, Va.; *Journal and Messenger*, Indianapolis, Ind.; *Alabama Baptist*, Selma, and the *Baptist Pioneer*, Selma, for publication. By Brother C. O. Booth.

Resolved, That we express our gratitude to the American Baptist Home Mission Society, for the appointment of Rev. S. W. Marston, D.D., as superintendent of Freedman Missions, to labor by holding Ministerial Institutes for the promotion of theological education among the ministers of our race in the South, and to the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board for the appointment of Rev. W. H. Robert, D.D., to labor with Dr. Marston.

Resolved, That we welcome them to our State, and that as far as possible we will avail ourselves of benefits offered us by the Institutes which they may conduct in our midst.

MOBILE, ALA., November 13th, 1879.

To the President of the Convention :

DEAR BROTHER :—Learning that the church represented by Brother A. F. Owens desired admission into the Convention, and might be opposed in this by some—I write to say that this young Church, of which Brother Owens is pastor, is one of the best colored churches I ever saw, in tone and spirit. If God continues to bless it, it will be an honor to you and all good Baptists.

Without unnecessarily reflecting on anybody who may entertain a differet view, permit me to say that Church has claimed, merited and secured the recognition and kind feeling of the pastors of white churches in Mobile, and that representative members of several Baptist churches, such as Brethren Hudson, Bush, etc., took part in the movement to reconcile, or recognize.

Those who differed from these brethren, and may now oppose the admission of this church, are entitled to their own opinion. I only state that the organization, progress and success of the church represented by Brother Owens, have commanded the interest of our white churches here,—and the Convention may find it a pleasure to recognize and receive one of the most intelligent colored Baptist churches in Alabama.

May the Lord bless you in your deliberations.

Fraternally,
J. O. B. LOWRY.

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

W. R. PETTIFORD, Selma . . .	H. STEVENS, Uniontown. . .
E. THORNTON, Union Springs. . .	G. J. BROOKS, Selma . . .
P. MATHEWS, Union Springs. . .	W. ALLEN, Greenville . . .
J. A. FOSTER, Montgomery . . .	H. WOOD, Talladega.
B. BURKE, Mobile	S. RANSOM, Calhoun Station .

SUNDAY SCHOOL BOARD.

A. F. OWENS, Mobile	J. McKESSON, Demopolis. . .
G. C. CASBY, Montgomery . . .	J. M. POLLARD, Notasulga . .
P. MURRELL, Tuscaloosa. . . .	Z. MICHEL, Evergreen.
A. C. JACKSON, Birmingham . .	H. WILLIAMS
J. WILHITE, Eufaula.	A. T. CURTIS, Lowndesboro. .
S. ADAMS, Greenville	J. W. WHITE, Selma
A. CUNNINGHAM, Bellville . . .	P. JONES, Russellville, Frank-
A. GORDON, Gainesville	lin County

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