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# REPORT

OF THE

Twelfth Anniversary

OF THE

**AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION,**

HELD IN THE MEETING-HOUSE

OF THE

FIRST INDEPENDENT BAPTIST CHURCH.

BOSTON, MASS.

On Friday before the third Lord's Day,

AUGUST, 1852.

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BOSTON:

J. M. HEWES & CO., 81 CORNHILL.

1852.

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## RULES OF ORDER.

1. The President of the previous year shall call the meeting to order, and preside until another is appointed.
2. The Secretary of the last year shall serve until another is appointed.
3. The Committee for the nomination of officers for the ensuing year shall be appointed.
4. Immediately after the organization of the Convention, the President shall read the Rules of Order.
5. Every sitting of the Convention shall be opened and closed with prayer.
6. The usual invitation shall be given to visiting brethren.
7. Appointment of Committees, to be nominated by the chair:
  - On the Admission of Churches.
  - On the Circular Letter.
  - On the Examination of Minutes of Corresponding Bodies.
  - On the Collection of Money for various objects.
  - Other Committees, if any.
8. No subject shall be open for discussion until a motion has been made and seconded.
9. When a motion has been made and seconded, if any member oppose its being discussed, the President shall immediately put the question—Shall this question be discussed? and if negative, the subject shall be dismissed.
10. Every person speaking on a motion shall rise from his seat and address the President, and shall avoid using personalities in debate.
11. No person shall speak more than twice, nor longer than five minutes, on any subject, without permission from the President.
12. Motions made and lost shall not be recorded, unless so ordered by the Convention.
13. Delegates sent to this Convention shall remain until the business is finished, unless excused by the President.
14. All resolutions presented to the Convention shall be reduced to writing.
15. Unfinished business of the previous year.
16. Written accounts from the churches, with prayers and singing, as the President may request.
17. Applications for admission.
18. Reading the Roll of the Convention.
19. Reports of Committees in the order of their appointment.
20. Choice of a place for the next meeting of the Convention.
21. Choice of a preacher and alternate.
22. Choice of a writer of the Circular Letter.
23. Business of the Relief Fund.
24. Miscellaneous business.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be called "THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION." It shall hold its sessions annually, at such time and place as shall be agreed upon at each meeting.

ART. 2. It shall be the object of this Convention to propagate the Gospel of Christ, and to advance the interests of His Kingdom by supplying vacant churches when requested; by sending ministers into destitute regions within our reach, and by planting and building up churches, whenever a favorable opportunity offers. This Convention shall in no case interfere with the internal regulation of the Churches or Associations.

ART. 3. Every Baptist minister who is in good and regular standing in any regular Baptist Church, and who is acceptable to the pastor or pastors of said church or churches, provided he or they are members of this Convention, may become a life member by contributing one dollar to its funds. Every Church, Association, or Missionary Society, contributing three dollars annually, shall be entitled to one representative, and another for every additional three dollars. Any person may become a member by contributing one dollar annually. None but a Baptist in good and regular standing shall be entitled to vote on questions before the Convention.

ART. 4. The Officers of this Convention shall be a President, Vice President, the Secretaries, and a Treasurer, and they shall be members of the Board, and the Board shall not exceed nine in number.

ART. 5. The Executive Committee shall constitute a Board, for the transaction of all business during the recess of the Convention. They are to apply the funds appropriated by the Convention, on approved missionary fields and laborers. Five members of the Board shall constitute a quorum, without which number no business shall be transacted.

ART. 6. The Treasurer shall give such security as shall be approved by the Convention, for all moneys committed to his trust; he shall keep a faithful account of all moneys received and expended, and report the same at each annual meeting. No money shall be drawn from the Treasury during the recess of the Convention, without an order from the Corresponding Secretary, signed by the President or Vice President, and regularly ordered by a majority of the Executive Committee.

ART. 7. The Recording Secretary shall keep a faithful record of all the doings of the Convention; he shall enrol the names of all the members of the Convention, from its origin to the time being, and submit the same for examination at each annual meeting.

ART. 8. The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the correspondence of the Board. All communications from Societies, Churches and individuals, relating to the Convention, must be made to him. All letters, papers, packages, &c., officially received by him, shall be the property of the Convention. He shall present bills of the postage on the same, and shall present the reports of the doings of the Board at each annual meeting, for acceptance and payment. He shall draw drafts on the Treasurer, according to Article 6 of this Constitution.

ART. 9. This Constitution may be amended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any annual meeting, provided that at least three months notice has been given to the Corresponding Secretary, who shall report the same to the annual meeting.

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### STANDING RESOLUTIONS.

1. That in view of our profession as ministers of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and the legitimate claims of the people upon us, for correct Gospel knowledge and instruction, we will devote all the time we can spare from our other labors connected with the ministry, to reading the Scriptures and such standard works on divinity and ecclesiastical history as we are able to obtain, and by every means within our reach, to improve ourselves, and we will encourage all our ordained and licensed ministers to do the same, thereby elevating the standard of ministerial education, piety and usefulness among us.
2. That the use of intoxicating drinks as a beverage, is injurious, and most destructive to morals, and we recommend all over whom we have influence, immediately to abandon their use.
3. That each minister be requested to use his influence to procure donations from auxiliaries to the Convention, and in every laudable respect further the views of this body.
4. That the great destitution at present among the colored population of this country, calls loudly upon the members of this Convention to use every laudable exertion to supply the perishing with the appointed means of grace.
5. That the Bible, Sabbath School and Tract Societies, are institutions which commend themselves to the confidence of the Churches and members of this Convention.
6. That the education of young men for the gospel ministry, is an object which commends itself to the pastors of the Churches and the members of the Convention.
7. That the Corresponding Secretary be requested to furnish each Missionary with a copy of the following Rules.

### RULES FOR MISSIONARIES.

1. Every Missionary shall be required to make a report to the Corresponding Secretary quarterly, from the time he enters upon his labors, containing the number of sermons preached, the probable number of persons that attend on his ministry, the number of scholars in the Sabbath School, the different stations occupied by him, and the manner in which his labors are divided amongst them.
2. The present state of the Church, the number of members attached to it, the number received, and how, whether by letter, baptism or experience, the number excluded, and for what, also the number deceased.
3. That appropriations be made quarterly only when the above requisitions are complied with.

### OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION AND EXECUTIVE BOARD.

President,	RICHARD VAUGHN.
Vice President,	WILLIAM JACKSON.
Corresponding Secretary,	JEREMIAH ASHER.
Recording Secretary,	CHAUNCEY LEONARD.
Treasurer,	PAUL PONTAU.

### CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

OF THE

### AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION.

WE, the subscribers, persons of full age, and citizens of the United States and of the State of New York, do HEREBY CERTIFY that we have associated ourselves with others, for benevolent, charitable and missionary purposes; that the name assumed to distinguish such association, and by which to be known in law, is "THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION;" that the particular object of said Convention is to propagate the gospel of Christ, and to advance the interests of his kingdom by supplying vacant churches when requested; by sending ministers into destitute regions within our reach, and by planting and building up churches whenever a favorable opportunity offers; that the place of business and principal office of said Convention is in the city of New York; that the management of the business affairs of the said Convention is vested in an EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OR BOARD OF NINE MANAGERS; and that the following named individuals compose said Committee or Board:—

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

SAMPSON WHITE,	LEONARD BLACK,	WILLIAM JACKSON,
PAUL PONTAU,	GEORGE H. DIXON,	JEREMIAH ASHER,
WILLIAM NICHOLAS,	RICHARD VAUGHN,	C. LEONARD.

*Albany, June 26, 1848.*

I certify that the Certificate of Incorporation of "The American Baptist Missionary Convention," was this day received and filed in this office.  
ARCH'D CAMPBELL, *Dep. Sec. of State.*

### PLAN OF MINISTERS' WIDOWS' FUND.

UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED, AUGUST, 1845.

In pious and grateful remembrance of our departed brethren in the ministry, whose widows and orphans may be left in circumstances of need, the Baptist Missionary Convention *Resolved* to contribute to their relief, as far as our compassionate Saviour may indulge us with ability. In order, therefore, to create a Fund for this benevolent purpose, we recommend the following:—

#### MEANS.

1. That on the fourth Lord's day in May, in every year, the respective churches composing this Convention, make a public collection, for the purpose of aiding this Fund.
2. That a subscription book be opened in every such church and congregation, to receive either annual subscriptions or donations, to this desirable object.

#### OBJECTS.

1. Persons intended to receive the benefit of this Fund, are the widows and orphans of deceased ministers, who at the time of their death, whether *ordained*, or licensed, shall have been in good standing in this Convention, and no others. As to all the portions of said Fund, received or accruing at or after the session of 1847, the Trustees of the Fund have power, when the case of the applicant seems to be a peculiar one, to extend the advantages of the Fund to the family of any deceased minister in good standing, who may at any time have belonged to this Convention.
2. Relief afforded to widows, to continue during their widowhood, and no longer.

3. If there be no surviving widow, and the children, if any, of such deceased minister be under twelve years of age, and in need, they shall receive the same portion as allowed to a widow, until they arrive at their fifteenth year: Provided, also, that should any one of the said children, destitute of both father and mother, be found by disease or accident, incapable of providing a living for him or herself, the allowance from this Fund may continue until such person shall have arrived at twenty years of age.

#### MANAGERS OF THE FUND.

1. That this Convention at their annual meeting, shall elect and appoint out of its members five Trustees, who shall have the sole management of this Fund; one of whom shall be appointed Treasurer, and one other as Secretary; and that such Trustees continue in office three years, and until others are appointed.

2. That this Board of Trustees, (three of whom shall form a quorum,) shall meet annually, or oftener as the case may require, for the transaction of business; and that the said Board shall have the power to fill any vacancy in their number which may be occasioned by death or otherwise, until the next meeting of the Convention.

3. All applications for relief shall be made to the Board in writing, stating the name, residence and circumstances of the applicant.

4. It shall be the business of this Board to receive and keep in charge, all moneys collected, or otherwise contributed to this Fund,—to receive and examine all applications for relief, and that they make such allowance of money to the needy, as in their opinion the case may require, and the state of the funds may warrant.

5. It is further resolved, That the Board of Trustees, whenever the moneys in hand shall amount to \$300, and there be no applicant for immediate relief, be and they are hereby authorized to invest the same in some secure stock, or loan the same on bond and mortgage, for the purpose of creating a PERPETUAL FUND,—the interest of which only shall be employed to relieve the necessitous. And, further, whenever other moneys in their hands successively shall amount to \$100, and not be immediately required for use, the said sum shall be added to the Perpetual Fund; which it is presumed will ultimately prove essentially beneficial to the object intended. And, likewise, that the said Permanent Fund shall in no wise be disposed of, but by the order of three-fourths of this Convention.

6. Finally, it is required that the Trustees of this Board present to this Convention at their annual meeting, a statement of their funds, collections and disbursements; with whatever else may be combined with this benevolent object, and the performance of their duty.

N. B. Whereas, it is highly probable that benevolent persons will be disposed to remember the Ministers' Widows' Fund, while making their last Will and Testament,—the following form of a bequest is respectfully submitted to their attention.

*Form of a Bequest to the Ministers' Widows' Fund of the Baptist Missionary Convention of Baptist Ministers and Churches for Missionary Purposes.*

I bequeath to my executors the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, in trust, to pay over the same to \_\_\_\_\_ after my decease, in the person who, when the same is payable, shall act as Treasurer of the Widows' Fund of the American Baptist Missionary Convention, formed in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-five, to be applied to the aid of widows and orphans of deceased Baptist Ministers, as expressed in their Constitution.

#### CERTIFICATE, &c.

A majority of the Executive Board made and filed in the office of the Clerk of the City and County of New York on the eleventh day of December, one

thousand eight hundred and fifty, the names of the officers of the Convention, inventory of the property, effects and liabilities thereof, with an affirmation of the truth of the same.

#### MISSIONARY OPERATIONS.

The missionary operations of the Convention have been directed to Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Indiana, Connecticut, Maryland, Delaware and the District of Columbia. Revivals of religion have been enjoyed in some of these States, and numbers added to the churches. The missionaries report the baptism of seventy-four persons, and the organization of two churches. Some of the churches have been enabled during the past year to cancel all of their debts, and are now in a very prosperous condition. "God is in the midst of his people, they shall not be moved; he shall help them and they shall not be moved."

#### CONTRIBUTIONS.

Contributions to the Convention amount to \$203,90 during this session, and there are no liabilities against the Convention.

#### GENERAL SUMMARY.

Since the organization of this Convention, thirteen ministers have received their commission, and have jointly performed eighteen years' labor. God speed them on their way.

## JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

BOSTON, MASS., AUGUST 13, 1852.

PURSUANT to adjournment, August 23, 1851, the Twelfth Annual Meeting of "THE AMERICAN BAPTIST MISSIONARY CONVENTION" met with the First Independent Baptist Church, Boston, Mass., on Friday evening, August 13, 1852. The exercises were opened by singing, reading of Scriptures and prayer. Agreeably to previous appointment, Br. J. ASHBA, of Philadelphia, Pa., preached the introductory discourse from John's gospel, 3: 5. "Jesus answered, verily, verily I say unto you, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." A beautiful exhibition of the true Spirit of Christianity.

After which the Convention was called to order by the President, Rev. SAMPSON WHITE, of Brooklyn. Prayer by Br. RICHARD VAUGHN. A collection was then taken amounting to \$11.04. The following brethren were appointed to nominate a list of officers for the ensuing year:—R. VAUGHN, E. HAWKINS, D. H. CROSSY, L. A. GRIMES and Wm. THOMPSON. After singing, adjourned to meet on Saturday morning at 10 o'clock, A. M.

SAMPSON WHITE, President.

CHAUNCEY LEONARD, Rec. Sec.

August 14, 1852. Morning Session, 10 o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment, Rev. S. WHITE, President, in the chair. Prayer by Br. CHAUNCEY LEONARD. The Secretary being absent, Br. C. LEONARD was appointed Secretary pro tem. The Committee on Nomination reported the following list of officers for the ensuing year:—

President—REV. RICHARD VAUGHN, Philadelphia, Pa.

Vice President—REV. WILLIAM JACKSON, "

Recording Secretary—CHAUNCEY LEONARD, Hartford, Ct.

Corresponding Secretary—REV. JEREMIAH ASHER, Philadelphia, Pa.

Treasurer—PAUL PONTAU, New York.

The report was accepted and adopted.

The following Committees were appointed:—

1. *Committee on Reception of Churches.*—Brn. CRAWFORD and PITTS.
2. *Committee on Circular Letter.*—Brn. WHITE and THOMPSON.
3. *Committee on Examination of the Minutes from Corresponding Bodies.*—Brn. HAWKINS and FELLA.
4. *Committee on Finance.*—Brn. ASHER, GRIMES, FELLA, LANE and PITTS.
5. *Committee on Devotional Exercises.*—Brn. THOMPSON, RANDOLPH and GRIMES.

6. *Auditing Committee.*—Brn. WHITE, CROSSY and BROWN.

Visiting brethren were invited to sit with us in the Convention.

Whereupon Rev. E. GRIFFIN, Rev. J. MATTHEWS and Rev. M. D. WARD, of Boston, Mass., and Rev. J. BOSWORTH, of Providence, R. I., accepted the invitation.

*Resolved*, That the following be our order of meeting during the session. To meet at 9 A. M., and adjourn at 1; meet at 3 P. M., and adjourn at 5; meet at 8 before 8. After prayer by Br. CRAWFORD, and singing, adjourned to meet at 3 P. M.

*Afternoon Session.*

President in the chair. Prayer by Br. E. HAWKINS. Then received the letters from the Churches and Auxiliary Societies. The Committee on the Admission of Churches reported the Pleasant Street Baptist Church in Nantucket for admission, which was received; also the Shiloh Baptist Church, Philadelphia, Pa. After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. NELSON.

*Morning Session, Aug. 16.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. S. WHITE. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. It was then moved and carried, that Br. JACKSON present his resolutions on Tuesday, at 11 o'clock, A. M.

The Committee on Churches reported the Hamilton Street Church, Albany, for admission, which was received.

A Committee of five were appointed, consisting of Brn. GRIMES, HENSON, CROSSY, FELLA and BROWN, to report concerning the right of the Corresponding Secretary to give notice in the Convention concerning the alteration of any of the articles of the Constitution.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises appointed Brn. SPELMAN, JACKSON and LEONARD, to deliver missionary addresses this evening at a quarter before 8. After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. BUTLER.

*Afternoon Session.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. JACKSON. Then listened to the reading of the letters from the Churches and Auxiliary Societies. After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. PITTS.

*Evening Session.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. FERRIS. Then listened to addresses on missionary operations, by Brn. SPELMAN, JACKSON and LEONARD. The addresses were brief, but able and interesting in their character, and produced a happy effect upon the congregation. Then took a collection amounting to \$7.50. After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. JACKSON.

*Morning Session, Aug. 17.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. ANDERSON. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. A Committee were appointed to nominate a preacher and alternate to preach the Introductory Sermon at the next session, consisting of Brn. CLAYTON, BROWN and FELLA.

A Committee were appointed to nominate a writer of the Circular Letter for the next year, consisting of Brn. JACKSON, CRAWFORD and GRIMES.

A Committee were appointed to recommend a place for the sitting of the next annual session of this Convention, consisting of Brn. SPELMAN, CROSSY, RANDOLPH, CRAWFORD and ANDERSON, who submitted the following report.

*Resolved*, That when the Convention adjourns, they adjourn to meet with the Second Baptist Church in New Bedford, which was accepted.

The annual letter was read by the author and approved.

The Committee on the Choice of Preuder and Alternate reported Rev. L. A. GRIMES to preach the Introductory Sermon, and Br. S. WHITE his alternate.

The Committee on Circular Letter reported Br. CHAUNCEY LEONARD to write the Circular Letter, which was accepted.

The Committee on Devotional Exercises appointed Brn. WHITE, CRAWFORD and ASHER, to deliver addresses in favor of the Widows' Fund this evening at a quarter before 8. After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. HENSON.

*Afternoon Session.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. BUSS.

Ministering brethren present were invited to seats with us. Dr. CHASE accepted the invitation.

The Committee on Nomination of Trustees for the Widows' Fund reported Brn. GEORGE H. DIXON, of New York city; L. A. GRIMES, L. HOWARD and S. H. LEWIS, of Boston; J. BUNDECT, of Philadelphia, Pa. Which were accepted.

*Resolved*, That in no case shall the Board be allowed to appropriate larger amounts than the Convention have been accustomed to give to similar fields, and the Executive Committee have no power to take up new fields within three months of the annual meeting. Which were accepted and adopted. Adjourned. Prayer by Br. CLAYTON.

*Evening Session.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. WHITE. Then listened to very interesting addresses from Brn. WHITE, CRAWFORD and ASHER. After which a collection was taken amounting to \$8.14. Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. ASHER.

*Morning Session, Aug. 18.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayer by Br. WATKINS. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on Admission of Churches reported the Union Church, Baltimore, for admission; which was received.

Committee on Devotional Exercises appointed Brn. CROSSY and JACKSON to address the audience this evening.

Then listened to the report of the Committee on Fields, as follows:—

That Williamsburgh be occupied as soon as a suitable man can be found. On motion, twenty-five dollars be appropriated to the First Colored Baptist Church, Baltimore. Also, that twenty-five dollars be appropriated to Shiloh Baptist Church, Newburgh.

After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. BUTLER.

*Afternoon Session.*

The President in the chair. Prayer by Br. WATKINS. The following resolution was offered.

*Resolved*, That the law known as the Maine Liquor Law, is worthy of the support of this Convention; therefore we recommend the Churches, Auxiliaries and Members of this Convention to support it now and forever.

After an animated discussion, it was unanimously received and adopted.

The following resolutions came up for the consideration of the Convention, and after eliciting a pretty general expression of sentiment, were adopted unanimously.

*Resolved*, That this Convention view with deep abhorrence the unmerited stigma cast upon the reputation of the free people of color by the promoters of the American Colonization Society. That we reject its inhuman and barbarous proposition of driving us from the land of our birth, to one of sickness, devastation and death, when they are unwilling to give us a Christian education while among them.

*Resolved*, That the principles and objects of the American Colonization Society are at war with the scriptural injunction, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you" cruel, unkind, iniquitous and devilish; and they elicit, as heretofore, our irreconcilable repugnance.

*Resolved*, That we, as a people, deprecate any movement on our part which can, in any light, be construed into a virtual recognition of those principles. As Americans, we love our homes; here were we born, here have we lived, and here will we die and be buried.

*Resolved*, That these resolutions be published in the *Liberator*, *Boston Herald* and *Commonwealth*.

Signed by order of the President,  
CHAUNCEY LEONARD, Rec. Sec.

After which the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. COZENS.

*Evening Session.*

President in the chair. Prayer by Br. CROSSY. Then listened to a discourse by Br. CROSSY, from Rev. 20: 12. A refreshing discourse. After which a collection was taken amounting to \$2.12. Convention adjourned. Benediction by the President.

*Morning Session, Aug. 19.*

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. President in the chair. Prayed by Br. HAWKINS. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. Visiting brethren were invited to sit with us. Brn. LEWIS, FULLER and CUSUMANO, accepted the invitation.

A Committee of three were appointed to wait on the Treasurer, and in case of failure to get the required security for the money in his possession, to deposit it in the Massachusetts Bank.

The following resolution, presented by Dr. Wm. JACKSON, was read and approved.

*Resolved*, That we hail the advancement of this Convention, and in order that its sphere of usefulness may be extended, resolved that a Committee be appointed to consider the expediency of having a travelling agent to solicit funds in aid of the object for which this Convention was organized.

A Committee of five were appointed, consisting of Brn. WHITE, GRIMES, THOMPSON, MORRIS and VAUGHN, for the above purpose.

Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. LANE.

*Afternoon Session.*

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Br. WILLIAMS. Then listened to the Report on a Travelling Agent.

The Committee appointed to consider and report upon the expediency of appointing a Travelling Agent, whose duty it shall be to visit our friends throughout the country for the purpose of raising money to carry forward the objects of this Convention successfully, viz:—To plant or establish churches among our people in the cities, towns and villages, where none now exist, &c. beg leave briefly to Report,—

That in the opinion of your Committee the appointment of such an agent is significantly important. Such an agent, besides raising money and establishing churches as above stated, could be usefully employed in looking after and reporting upon the condition and prospects of the churches under the su-

perision of this Convention. He might visit our white brethren when in Convention, and their churches, for the purpose of raising funds, and see and understand how they manage their church affairs, and other religious Associations, which tend so greatly to make them prosperous and happy, and make report thereon annually to our Convention when in session. To visit all the churches under our supervision, and by example to encourage the minister, and with words of encouragement, consolation and advice, strengthen the pastor and people under his charge. And to make a full report of all his collections, expenditures and doings while travelling about the country. Your Committee earnestly recommend the appointment of such an agent forthwith.

*Resolved*, That we immediately appoint a Travelling Agent, whose duty it shall be to visit the cities, towns and villages in and about our free States, for the purpose of raising money to enable the Convention to carry forward successfully its objects, and by aid with the advice and consent of the President of this Convention, (for the time being,) to establish and plant a church or churches where it is needful and necessary, where none now exist; and to make a report of his doings and observations to this Convention at its next annual session. Said Agent to make a full report of all his collections and expenditures, and pay the surplus over and above his necessary travelling expenses, to the Treasurer of this Convention.

*Resolved*, That the salary of said Travelling Agent when appointed be four hundred dollars per annum over and above his necessary travelling expenses.

The Committee recommend Br. CHAUNCEY LEONARD as Travelling Agent; who was received and accepted by the Board; after which, the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. THOMPSON.

*Evening Session.*

The President in the chair. Prayer by Br. ASHRA.

Addresses were given to a crowded audience by Brn. ASHRA and CRAWFORD, after which a collecting was taken amounting to two dollars. Convention adjourned. Prayer by Br. CRAWFORD.

*Morning Session, Aug. 20.*

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. The President in the chair. Prayed by Br. CARV.

Minutes of the previous meeting read and approved. The Treasurer's report was read and accepted.

APPROPRIATIONS.

First Colored Church, Baltimore, Md., . . . \$25.00  
Rev. E. Hawkins, Shiloh Church, Newburg, N. Y., . . . 95.00

*Resolved*, That with a view to establish uniformity in the creation of Licentiate to preach the gospel of Christ, we recommend to our churches, previous to such act, to invite neighboring pastors to sit in council with judicious brethren chosen from their number; who, if satisfied with the candidate, shall recommend the church in question to license him accordingly. Such license to be renewable annually, where satisfactory improvements are made, otherwise they shall be null and void.

*Resolved*, That sermons be delivered by the ministers of this Convention on the Lord's day previous to the next annual meeting, from Psalm 126, 3d verse, reviewing the whole history, and presenting all the claims of this body as a preparatory measure to active and progressive steps towards permanency and perfection.

*Resolved*, That ten dollars be appropriated to a Committee to superintend the printing of the Report and Minutes; and that brethren THOMPSON and LEONARD be that Committee.

Adjourned. Prayer by Br. LEONARD.

*Afternoon Session.*

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment; the President in the chair. Prayer by Br. CROSSY. Report of Widow's Fund read and accepted.

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Resolved, That this Convention extend a vote of thanks to the members of the Independent Baptist church and choir, also to the Twelfth Baptist church and the citizens of Boston in general, for their hearty welcome, and kind hospitality shown on while in this city.

Resolved, That this Convention extend to the First Independent Female Society in Boston their warmest thanks for their polite invitation to attend their social entertainment, and their earnest endeavors to increase their happiness on that occasion. May their future course be prosperous.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be extended to the Recording Secretary for his services during this session of the Convention.

The Convention adjourned to meet with the Second Baptist Church in New Bedford on Friday before the third Lord's day, August, 1853. Prayer by the President.

RICHARD VAUGHN, *President.*

CHAUNCEY LEONARD, *Rec. Secretary.*

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

Balance in hands of the Treasurer from last year and this,	\$ 316 41	
Cash from Abyssinian ch., N. York, for annual membership,	90 88	
Received by collections, . . . . .	181 43	\$ 498 00
Amount paid out, . . . . .	177 88	
Committee's bill for preparing and printing Minutes, . . . . .	40,00	217 63
Balance in the Treasury, . . . . .		\$ 280 44
	PAUL FONTA, <i>Treasurer,</i>	
	per C. Leonard.	

#### MEMBERSHIP.

Every Church, Association, or Missionary Society, contributing three dollars annually, shall be entitled to one representative, and another for every additional three dollars. Any person may become a member by contributing one dollar annually.

#### FORM OF A BEQUEST TO THE CONVENTION.

I give and bequeath unto "The American Baptist Missionary Convention," incorporated in the city of New York, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-eight, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_ dollars, for the purposes of the said Convention.

#### REPORT ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

We beg to be indulged in a few preliminary remarks. The increase recorded in our minutes of previous years, naturally excited a deep solicitude to ascertain the results which subsequent experience would develop. After a large ingathering, many are led to fear a rapid falling away, if not in full proportion to the additions, yet to an extent unusual and painful. Such fears, we bless God, have not in any considerable extent been realized. The increase to the several Churches the present year, though much less than at some preceding years, has still reached or exceeded the full amount of average additions in former years; so that again we are constrained to exclaim with admiring gratitude, "What hath God wrought!"

The spirit of enlarged liberality which hitherto has characterized this body, as among the foremost in every good work, has been fully sustained. The Churches, with one or two exceptions, are in peace, and seem imbued with the discreet zeal which the gospel inspires, to be constantly progressing