

REPORT

OF THE

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

American Baptist Missionary Convention,

HELD IN THE MEETING-HOUSE

OF THE

ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, NEW YORK,

From Friday, Aug. 17, to Friday, Aug. 24, 1860.

ALBANY:

WEED, PARSONS & COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1860.

American Baptist Historical Society

REPORT

OF THE

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY

OF THE

American Baptist Missionary Convention,

HELD IN THE MEETING-HOUSE

OF THE

ABYSSINIAN BAPTIST CHURCH, NEW YORK,

From Friday, Aug. 17, to Friday, Aug. 24, 1860.

ALBANY:

WEED, PARSONS & COMPANY, PRINTERS.
1860.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. 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 enroll 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.

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 managers, and that the following named individuals compose said committee or board:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

WM. SPELLMAN,
THOS. DOUGHTY MILLER,
JEREMIAH ASHBE,
WM. L. NICHOLAS,

JACOB DAY,
SAMPOY WHITE,
GEORGE H. DIXON,
HENRY H. BUTLER,
NOAH DAVIS.

ALBANY, June 26th, 1845.

I certify that the certificate of incorporation of "The American Baptist Missionary Convention" was this day received and filed in this office.

ARCH. 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 of 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 of 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 *sic* 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.

7. 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 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 in _____ after my decease, to 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.

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.

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 negatived, the subject shall be dismissed.

10. Every person speaking on a motion shall arise 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. Application 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 alternates.

22. Choice of a writer of the circular letter.

23. Business of the relief fund.

24. Miscellaneous business.

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 list of annual members shall in no case be abridged, or altered except by marking with a star, deceased members, without special order from the convention.

8. That the corresponding secretary be requested to furnish each mission-ary 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 who attend on his ministry; the number of scholars in the sabbath-schools; 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.

Rev. WILLIAM SPELLMAN, *President*.
 Rev. HENRY H. BUTLER, *Vice-President*.
 Rev. THEO. DOUGHTY MILLER, *Recording Secretary*.
 Rev. JEREMIAH ASHER, *Corresponding Secretary*.
 Bro. JACOB DAY, *Treasurer*.

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 purpose of the said convention.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY.

The twentieth anniversary of the American Baptist Missionary Convention, held in the meeting-house of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, New York city, commencing Friday evening, August 17th, at 7½ o'clock.

The exercises were commenced by singing the 214th hymn of the Psalms. Rev. J. Cary, of New York, read a portion of scripture, and Rev. C. Leonard, of Washington, D. C., offered prayer. Rev. Theo. Doughty Miller, of Albany, N. Y., then preached the introductory sermon from the 12th chapter of Luke, 21st verse—"Rich toward God." Theme: "The rich soul."

A collection was taken, amounting to \$8.25.

The President called the Convention to order. Prayer by Rev. William Thompson.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee to Nominate Officers for the ensuing year: Brethren S. White, N. Y.; W. Thompson, Conn.; H. H. Butler, Washington, D. C.; J. Fells, Pa.; J. S. Jenkins, N. Y.

The following brethren were appointed a Devotional Committee: Brethren R. Vaughn, N. Y.; W. Spellman, N. Y.; J. Cary, N. Y.

Adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow (Saturday) morning. Benediction by the President.

SECOND DAY.

AUG. 18TH, MORNING SESSION.

President in the chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Davis, Md. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Committee on Nomination of Officers reported as follows:

For President—Rev. WILLIAM SPELLMAN, New York.
Vice President—Rev. HENRY H. BUTLER, Washington, D. C.
Recording Secretary—Rev. THEO. DOUGHTY MILLER, Albany, N. Y.
Corresponding Secretary—Rev. JEREMIAH ASHER, Philadelphia, Pa.
Treasurer—Bro. JACOB DAY, New York.

Report received, and, on motion, adopted.

The President then read the rules of order.

On motion, *Resolved*, That all visiting brethren be invited to take a seat with us during the session of the Convention.

The following presented their names, during the session of the Convention: Rev. C. B. Ray, of the Congregational; Rev. I. Coleman, of Zion A. M. E. Church, New York city. Rev. W. F. Butler, do., of Hudson. Rev. A. A. Constantine, Rev. D. S. Paruly, Rev. W. S. Hall, Baptist, New York city.

The following Committees were appointed by the President:

- 1st. *On Reception of Churches*: Brethren Kelley, Davis and Randolph.
- 2d. *On Circular Letter*: Brethren Grimes, Hamilton and White.
- 3d. *On Minutes of Corresponding Bodies*: Brethren Thompson, Leonard and Butler.
- 4th. *On Finance*: Brethren White, Leonard and Jenkins.
- 5th. *On Funds*: Brethren Asher, Kelley, White, Leonard and Grimes.
- 6th. *On Obituaries*: Brethren Jackson, Dixon and Thompson.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Brethren Hamilton and White be added to the Devotional Committee.

The Devotional Committee presented the following report of appointments for the Sabbath:

Abyssinian Baptist Church,	{	Morning, ...	Bro. Edmond Kelley.
		Afternoon, ...	Bro. Chauncey Leonard.
		Evening, ...	Bro. William Jackson.
Zion Baptist Church,	{	Morning, ...	Bro. Peter Randolph.
		Afternoon, ...	Bro. Leonard Grimes.
		Evening, ...	Bro. David H. Crosby.
Concord Street Baptist Church, Brooklyn,	{	Morning, ...	Bro. Eliza Hawkins.
		Afternoon, ...	Bro. Theo. Doughty Miller.
		Evening, ...	Bro. Henry H. Butler.
M Baptist Church, Brooklyn, ...	{	Morning, ...	Bro. David H. Crosby.
		Afternoon, ...	Bro. Noah Davis.
		Evening, ...	Bro. William Thompson.
Bethesda Congregational Church, ..	{	Afternoon, ...	Bro. William E. Walker.
		Evening, ...	Bro. Theo. Doughty Miller.

Report received.

On motion, Report amended, That the Committee have power to make any other appointments that may be applied for.

Report adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, Bro. Butler be substituted in place of Bro. Spellman, on the Devotional Committee.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the rules of last year, on page 8, relative to hours of meeting, adjournment, &c., be adopted for the government of the present session, as follows:

That the following order be observed during the session: meet at 9, adjourn at 12; meet 2, adjourn 3½; and also spend one hour in religious services; also a prayer meeting be held every day during the convention, from 6 to 7 o'clock.

The Committee on Reception of Churches, reported: "That they had received an application for membership from the Third Baptist Colored Church, of Washington, D. C.; and the Committee, after investigation, recommend that the letter of the church be read, and it be received into the membership of this

convention." Report received. The letter of the church was then read, and on motion, report adopted. The President then extended to the Pastor, Bro. A. Boulton, the right hand of Fellowship in behalf of the convention.

On motion, Adjourned till Monday morning, 9 o'clock. Prayer by Bro. Hawkins. Benediction by the President.

THIRD DAY.

AUG. 20TH, MORNING SESSION.

President in Chair. Opened with singing. Then listened to a discourse by Bro. Hawkins, of N. Y., from Acts 4:13: "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John," &c. Prayer by Bro. Grimes. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The Committee on Circular Letter reported that they had listened to the reading of the letter, approving the same, and recommend that it be read this evening at the opening of the Session, and printed in the Minutes. Report received, and on motion, adopted.

The following Committees were appointed by the President:

To nominate preachers of the introductory sermon and alternate, missionary sermon and alternate, widow's fund and alternate: Brethren Miller, Cary and Crosby.

On selection of place for next convention: Brethren Vaughn, Grimes and Kelly. *On writer of circular letter*: Brethren Jackson, Walker and Hawkins.

The Committee on Obituaries presented the following report: (See page 17.) Report received.

Impressive addresses were then delivered by Brethren Grimes, Leonard, White, Butler, and the President, when a portion of the 1173d hymn was sung, and prayer offered by Bro. Vaughn, when, on motion, report adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, Time of adjournment extended ten minutes.

The President appointed the following brethren as auditing committee: Brethren Walker, Randolph and Davis.

The Devotional Committee reported Bro. Davis, to preach this evening.

On motion, adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Hamilton. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Asher.

On motion, *Resolved*, A Committee of three be appointed to take names of annual members, and prepare them in order for the minutes.

Brethren Thompson, Randolph and Dixon were appointed such committee.

The reading of the letters was commenced and continued until time of adjournment; when, on motion, time extended until reading of letters completed.

Shiloh church, Newburgh, N. Y., being called, two letters were presented, and on motion, they were referred to a committee of three for investigation, Brethren Butler, Davis and J. F. Boulden; when the reading of letters was resumed, and completed.

A question being propounded to the convention in the letter of the Second Baptist church, New Bedford, relative to the dropping of the name of that church from the minutes,

On motion, *Resolved*, That the convention concur in the answer given by the Corresponding Secretary and President, relative to leaving off the name of that church; but as it was unintentional on the part of the Secretary, he is not to be impeached therefor.

On motion, adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Butler. Benediction by the President.

EVENING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Walker. Then listened to the reading of the circular letter by Bro. Walker; followed by a short discourse from Bro. Davis of Baltimore, from Romans, 10th chap., 4th verse: "For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth."

A collection was taken, amounting to \$2.17.

On motion adjourned. Benediction by Bro. Davis.

FOURTH DAY.

MORNING SESSION, Aug 21st.

President in Chair. Opened with singing. Then listened to a discourse by Bro. A. Boulden, of Washington, from Gal. 1:8: "But though we, or an Angel from Heaven, preach any other gospel," &c. Prayer by Bro. Kelly. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

On motion, The letters of the Spellman Missionary Association, and the Kainsville Baptist Church, N. J., which did not arrive in time for the regular reading yesterday, were read.

The Committee on Writer of Circular Letter for next session, reported as the writer of that letter, Rev. Theo. Doughty Miller. Report received and adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the subject of the African Mission be taken up to-morrow, at 2 o'clock, P. M.

The subject of the Essay appointed to be written last year, being called up,

On motion, *Resolved*, The substitution of Bro. W. T. Dixon, as its writer, by Bro. Theo. Doughty Miller, be concurred in by the convention.

The Committee to select place for next convention, presented their report, recommending the next meeting be held with the Shiloh Baptist Church, Philadelphia.

On motion, The Salem Baptist Church, New Bedford, was substituted therefor, by the convention.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, On motion, Time extended for one half hour.

The following resolution was presented by Bro. Asher:

Resolved, That each church in this convention be earnestly requested to increase their contributions to this convention.

A lively and interesting discussion took place thereon, participated in by Brethren Asher, White, Spellman and Jackson, pending which, the hour of adjournment arrived. On motion, adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Cooley. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President in Chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Geo. Dixon.

Resolution offered by Bro. Asher, morning session, taken up, and adopted.

The following resolution was presented:

Resolved, That we, the Pastors of the several churches, are affectionately recommended by this convention to solicit from the members of our churches and congregations the sum of one penny per week for the support of the cause of missions.

After discussion, on motion, adopted.

The Committee to Nominate Preachers for the next session, reported as follows:

Preacher of the Introductory Sermon, Rev. J. Hamilton; *alternate*, Rev. L. Grimes.

To deliver Addresses in behalf of Widows' Fund, Rev. J. F. Boulden, Rev. H. B. Butler, Rev. N. Davis.

To deliver Addresses in behalf of Missions, Rev. J. Asher, Rev. C. Leonard, Rev. W. Thompson.

Report received and adopted.

The Committee on Minutes of Corresponding Bodies, reported none had been submitted to them.

The hour for religious services having arrived, on motion time extended ten minutes.

Then listened to a discourse by Bro. J. Hamilton, from Acts 8:15, "And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him" &c.

A collection was taken, amounting to \$0.58.

On motion, the letters of the First African Baptist Church, Philadelphia, and of the Daughters of Convention, Philadelphia, were read, being just received.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, on motion time extended one-half hour.

On motion adjourned. Benediction by President.

EVENING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened by singing. Prayer by Bro. Boulden. Then listened to the missionary sermon by Bro. Wm. Jackson of New Bedford, from John 10, 16: "Other sheep I

have, which are not of this fold,—them also I must bring," &c.; followed by a fervent appeal by Bro. J. F. Boulden of Philadelphia; after which a collection was taken amounting to \$4.15. A deeply impressive address was delivered by Bro. Asher of Philadelphia, when on motion, adjourned. Benediction by the President.

FIFTH DAY.

AUG. 22^D, MORNING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Crosby. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

On motion, proceeded to the reading of the lists of members, ministers, &c., for correction, during which hour of adjournment arrived; when, on motion, time extended one-half hour.

On motion, *Resolved*, All names of excluded ministers be dropped from the list; pending the continued reading, hour of adjournment arriving.

On motion time still further extended one-half hour.

Adjourned. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Clayton. The letter of the Daughters of Convention of 1st Colored Church, Baltimore, was read.

On motion, *Resolved*, The subject of the African Mission be deferred until one-quarter before 4 o'clock.

Reading of the lists continued. Time of adjournment arriving—on motion, time extended one-half hour.

On motion, *Resolved*, The report of the Board touching the African Mission be further deferred till this evening, in place of the Widows' Fund Sermon; and that the sermon on the Widows' Fund be preached to-morrow afternoon at half-past 3 o'clock.

The Committee on the case of the Newburgh Church, reported "that they had carefully considered the whole matter, and recommend the reception of the letter bearing the name of J. F. Mangin, church clerk, to be the letter of the Shiloh Baptist Church of Newburgh."

Report received. Pending discussion on adoption, hour of adjournment arrived. Adjourned. Benediction by the Vice-President.

EVENING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Underdue.

On motion, *Resolved*, We hear the report of the Executive Board. The Corresponding Secretary then read several interesting extracts of letters from Bro. Wm. J. Barnett, our missionary in Africa, closing with the following recommendations:

1. To pay our missionary \$50, being the amount due him last September.

2. To employ an agent who shall collect the balance of the money to build a chapel, pay the expenses of the journey, select the best place in his judgment, spend six or nine months and build the chapel and settle with the missionary, and attend to all other matters touching the interests of the mission.

Report received; and on motion, first recommendation adopted. A deeply interesting discussion ensued on the adoption of the second, participated in by Brethren Asher, White, Walker, Grimes, Dayton, Davis, and Constantine, of the African Civilization Society. When on motion,

Resolved, The whole subject be postponed until to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock, and it be discussed from that time until 1 o'clock. A collection was taken amounting to \$4.52. On motion, adjourned. Benediction by President.

SIXTH DAY.

AUG. 23^D, MORNING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Miller. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The second recommendation of the Board was taken up for action when, after another interesting discussion, participated in by Brethren Underdue, Butler, Kelly, Crosby, and others, on motion, adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, A judicious Committee be appointed to select an agent, presenting the same to this convention, and also recommend the amount of salary said agent shall receive. Brethren Jackson, Davis and Kelly were appointed such committee. The committee presented their report, "recommending the Convention to extend an invitation to the Rev. Jeremiah Asher to become their agent, and that his salary be \$600 per annum." Report received and adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, In case Bro. Asher cannot accept the offer, the board be instructed to select some other brother to fill the appointment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That we request the agent to collect \$2,500, before leaving this country on his mission.

On motion, *Resolved*, That we affectionately recommend said agent to the kindly sympathy, confidence and respect of the Christian public, particularly to our pastors and churches.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary have the matter relative to the appointment of an agent, &c., published in the Baptist papers of New York and Boston. Chris. Secretary, Hartford; Chris. Chronicle, Philadelphia; and such other papers as he may see proper.

The Finance Committee reported in part.

On motion, adjourned. Prayer by Bro. Butler. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Clayton. Then listened to the sermon in behalf of the Widows'

Fund, by Rev. M. C. Clayton of Baltimore, from 1 Tim., 5 chap., 4 verse: "Honor the widows that are widows indeed." The President followed with some appropriate remarks. A collection was taken, amounting to \$2.31. Report of the Widows' Fund was presented and received. (See page.)

The report of the Committee of the Newburgh Church, was taken up for action, and, after discussion, adopted.

The letter of the church was then read.

On motion, *Resolved*, That when the Convention adjourn, it adjourn to meet on Thursday before the fourth Lord's day in September, 1861.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the list of annual members shall in no case be abridged or altered, except by marking with a star deceased members, without special order from the Convention; and that this resolution be placed among the standing resolutions of the Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the "American Baptist" commends itself to the prayers, sympathy and patronage of this Convention; and that said paper be the organ of this Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, We hear the reading of the essay on "The Adaptation of the Baptist Church to give the Gospel to the World," to-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock.

On motion, adjourned. Benediction by President.

EVENING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Vaughn. Then listened to interesting missionary addresses from brethren Evans, Asher, Jackson, Crosby, Leonard, Gilmore and Davis.

A collection was taken, amounting to \$0.82.

On motion, adjourned. Benediction by the President.

SEVENTH DAY.

AUGUST 24TH, MORNING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Walker. Minutes of last meeting read and approved.

The matter of the money sent to the Convention in the name of the Shiloh Baptist Church, through L. T. Pelham, being introduced (the Vice-President presiding), after discussion, on motion, *Resolved*, That the money represented as coming from the Shiloh Baptist Church, Newburgh, through L. T. Pelham, be returned, with letter, to the bearer of the same.

The following is the vote on the above resolution:

Ayes—Brethren Walker, Clayton, Underdue, Kelley, Hubbard, Vaughn, Davis, J. F. Boulden, Randolph and Hawkins.

Noes (with a protest against the action of the Convention)—Brethren Asher, White, Spellman, Miller, Jenkins, Evans, Cole, Crosby and Jackson.

The Committee on Fields presented their report, recommend-

ing to the church at New Haven—the only application before them—an appropriation of \$12.50 for six months, on condition that they be supplied by Bro. Thompson. Report received and adopted.

On motion, time extended to 1 o'clock.

The following Committee was appointed to nominate a Treasurer for the Widows' Fund: Brethren Kelly, Boulden and Asher.

The Committee reported the name of James M. Auter, of Pa. Report received and adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the matter relative to Treasurer of the Convention, security, &c., be referred to the Board.

The Committee on Nominations presented the following report:

For Executive Board: William Spellman, Theo. Doughty Miller, Jeremiah Asher, Jacob Day, William L. Nicholas, Sampson White, George H. Dixon, Henry H. Butler, Noah Davis.

Report received and adopted.

On motion, adjourned. Benediction by the President.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

President in the chair. Opened with singing. Prayer by Bro. Jenkins.

On motion, *Resolved*, The Secretary publish 1,500 copies of the Minutes (500 being retained for the use of the agent), and that the usual appropriation of ten dollars be made to the Secretary for his services.

On motion, *Resolved*—Owing to the illness of Bro. W. T. Dixon—the reading of the essay be deferred till next session.

On motion, *Resolved*, Our churches be requested to raise all the means they possibly can, for the support of the agent of the Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Convention hereby tender to the Abyssinian church and congregation their heartfelt thanks for the kindness and hospitality extended to them during the session of the Convention; and shall ever cherish them in our memories with gratitude and affection, beside giving our earnest prayers in her behalf.

Then listened to some interesting remarks, relative to the Free Mission Society, by Rev. Mr. Hall, of the Laight Street Baptist Church; when the following brethren were appointed delegates to represent this Convention in the next annual meeting of that society: Brethren Leonard, Asher, White, Jackson, Miller, Underdue, Hamilton, Boulden, Kelly and the President.

The matter relative to the loan of the Widows' Fund being introduced, on motion, the whole matter was referred to the Board.

The pledges of last year, from the pastors and others, were called for, when responses and explanations were given.

On motion, adjourned. Benediction by the Vice-President.

EVENING SESSION.

President in chair. Opened with singing.

The Auditing Committee being unable to report, were allowed until to-morrow morning, to report to the President or Corresponding Secretary.

The Finance Committee presented their report—(See page 18). Report received and adopted.

On motion, *Resolved*, That we most respectfully request each delegate to the next session of this Convention, to bring with him one or more copies of the Minutes of this body for fifteen years, or from 1840 to 1854.

The agents of Widow's Fund were appointed—(See page 22).

On motion, the Convention adjourned, to meet Thursday before the fourth Lord's day in September, 1861, with the Salem Baptist Church, New Bedford, *Mass.*

WILLIAM SPELLMAN, *President.*

THERO. DOUGHTY MILLER, *Secretary.*

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON OBITUARIES.

The Committee on Obituaries, presented the following report:

"We are called upon to record the death of Bro. Wm. Valentine, of Washington City, D. C., a licentiate of the First Colored Baptist Church of said city, and a recent member of this convention, who died January 8th, 1860. To the convention, the death of our brother is not so keenly felt, and only his absence induces us to inquire after him. But his history in his church, and native city, induces us to believe that we have lost much good fruit, early in its germ. Bro. Valentine, an unassuming but confiding man, was one, as he himself said at our last anniversary, who believed what he knew and testified to what he had seen. His labors as a member of the church, were assiduous; he became deeply interested in its welfare, in so much that he spent his time, his mind, yea, and his money, to the up-building of the same, and release it from all incumbrances. The last act of his useful life was to close the remaining debt upon the meeting house of the First Colored Baptist Church in Washington City. Nor was this all: in the prayer and conference meeting, he took a prominent part; in revivals, he was there as a confiding friend of the pastor, and as a true disciple of Jesus; and like an honest, industrious and thriving laborer, he has well done his work, and is now enjoying the rest which remains for the people of God. We are hereby admonished to do whatsoever our hands find to do, with all our might, remembering that now is the accepted time. We feel for the church, who has lost so great a pillar, and trust that our heavenly Father will replace the vacancy with one who shall follow the example of our deceased brother; and may this convention be hereby called to remember that as many a blossom is born to blush unseen, so many talents, many acts of usefulness and love, are hidden within those in whom we least expect to find them.

"Also, Bro. Champion Hill, licentiate, formerly of Philadelphia, recently of New Haven, who has passed from this world of conflict and cares, and we trust is receiving the reward of those labors which alone are the production of the spirit of God.

"Also, Bro. William Wilson Morris, of Philadelphia, Pa., a licentiate of the Shiloh Baptist church of said city, and treasurer of the widows' and orphans' fund, which duty he discharged with fidelity. In his church he was a useful member, and we deeply deplore those who are like pillars to the temple. May the Lord bless the church of which he was a member, and comfort and sustain his bereaved family, and fill his place in the convention and church with another whose heart shall be as warm, and whose zeal shall be as ardent, that he may labor until like our brother he shall pass from labor to reward."

WM. JACKSON, }
WM. T. DIXON, } *Committee.*
WM. THOMPSON, }

LICENTIATES.

NAME	Post-office Address	NAME	Post-office Address
David Thomas,.....	Philadelphia, Pa.	*Wm. Wilson Merris	Philadelphia, Pa.
*Henry T. Smith,.....		Frederick Woodson,	
*Oscar Taylor,.....		J. P. Miles,	
David H. Crosby,.....	Philadelphia, Pa.	Theodore Valentine,	
William E. Taylor,.....		*William Valentine,	
*David Neffitt,.....		William T. Dixon,.....	New York City.
Malachi Fersold,.....	Philadelphia, Pa.	William Stevens,.....	New Haven, Conn.
William Ferguson,.....	New Bedford, Mass.	John Taylor,.....	New York City.
John Wey,.....	Baltimore, Md.	John Roberts,.....	New Bedford, Mass.
Arnold E. Williams,.....		Sandy Alexander,.....	Washington, D. C.
Balar Cooley,.....	Staten Island, N. Y.	William Jenkins,.....	Richmond, Va.
Robert Johnson,.....	Boston, Mass.	William E. Walker,.....	Fredericksburgh.
*Champion Hill,.....		Whitefield Streets,.....	Fredericksburgh.
J. E. Carter,.....	New Bedford, Mass.		

CHURCHES.	Pastors.	Location.	When con- stituted	When started	Paid.
Abyssinian,.....	William Spellman,.....	New York City,.....	1808	1841	\$3 00
Union,.....	Joseph F. Boulter,.....	Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	1823	1841	3 00
Zion,.....	H. Vaughn (supp.),.....	New York City,.....	1823	1841	
First Colored,.....	James Underdine,.....	Baltimore, Md.,.....	1826	1842	
Oak Street,.....	T. Hanson (supp.),.....	West Phila., Pa.,.....	1827	1843	3 00
First African,.....	T. Hanson (supp.),.....	Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	1828	1843	3 00
Meeting Street,.....	Edmond Kelly,.....	Providence, R. I.,.....	1848	1849	
Second Baptist,.....	J. E. March,.....	Geneva, N. Y.,.....	1826	1843	
Second Baptist,.....	T. Donahy Miller,.....	New Bedford, Mass.,.....	1845	1846	3 00
Jay Street,.....	Jeremiah Anber,.....	Boston, Mass.,.....	1826	1845	
Hamilton Street,.....	John Cary,.....	Albany, N. Y.,.....	1821	1845	2 00
Shiloh,.....	Leonard A. Grimes,.....	Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	1843	1846	2 00
Shiloh,.....	Sampson White,.....	Newburgh, N. Y.,.....	1844	1848	3 00
Twelfth Baptist,.....	William A. Smith,.....	Boston, Mass.,.....	1847	1847	2 00
Concord Street,.....	Wash Davis,.....	Brooklyn, N. Y.,.....	1847	1847	4 00
Third Baptist,.....	S. Bondin,.....	Washington, D. C.,.....	1844	1847	
Pleasant Street,.....	B. Bondin,.....	Nantucket, Mass.,.....	1848	1849	
Saratoga Street,.....	W. Thompson (supp.),.....	Baltimore, Md.,.....	1848	1850	3 00
Berea,.....	Heory H. Butler,.....	Careville, L. I.,.....	1850	1852	
Union,.....	James Hamilton,.....	Baltimore, Md.,.....	1852	1852	2 00
Second Colored,.....	Chauncey Leonard,.....	Washington, D. C.,.....	1836	1849	1 00
Third Baptist,.....	R. Pina,.....	Brooklyn (E. D.) N. Y.,.....	1843	1853	
First Colored,.....	William Jackson,.....	Washington, D. C.,.....	1843	1854	1 00
Zion,.....	Albert Bondin,.....	New Haven, Conn.,.....	1838	1854	2 00
Baptist Church,.....	Samuel Stone,.....	Columbia, Pa.,.....	1833	1854	
Third Baptist,.....		Redbeter, N. Y.,.....	1849	1854	
Bata,.....		New Bedford, Mass.,.....	1848	1859	3 00
Third Colored,.....		Washington, D. C.,.....	1843	1850	
Kainville,.....		Kainville, N. J.,.....	1817	1837	

AUXILIARY SOCIETIES.

United Daughters of Shiloh, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	\$14 75
Balar Cooley, five children,.....	2 00
Spellman Association, New York City,.....	6 00
Oak Street Church (per E. Kelly, for 1858), West Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	8 27
Daughters of Convention, Baltimore, Md.,.....	3 00
Daughters of Convention, First African Church, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	3 00
Young ladies of Abyssinia, New York City,.....	3 00
First Colored, Washington, D. C.,.....	
Union, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	
Twelfth Baptist, Boston, Mass.,.....	
Daughters' Convention, Second Church, New Bedford, Mass.,.....	

MISSIONARY SOCIETIES.

First Colored, Washington, D. C.,.....	\$3 00
From Eliza Jones, per S. White,.....	10 00
Union, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	
Shiloh, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	

SABBATH SCHOOLS.

First Colored, Washington, D. C.,.....	
First African, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	3 00

(WIDOWS' FUND.)

Abyssinian, New York City,.....	\$4 00
Oak Street, West Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	1 00
Collection after sermon,.....	2 21
First African, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	
Union, Philadelphia, Pa.,.....	

The following were appointed agents of the several churches in behalf of the above fund:

- Abyssinian, N. Y.—Sisters Augusta Wilson, Susan Nicholas.
- Union, Philadelphia.—Sisters E. Armstrong, E. Fells.
- Zion, N. Y.—Sisters B. Jones, P. West.
- First Colored, Baltimore.—Sisters S. Clayton, F. Fuller.
- Oak Street, West Philadelphia.—Sister J. Gray.
- First African, Philadelphia.—M. Stevens, N. Weeks.
- Second, New Bedford.—Sister C. Thompson.
- Hamilton Street, Albany.—Sister M. Durham.
- Shiloh, Philadelphia.—Sisters C. Dunston, L. Bevans.
- Shiloh, Newburgh.—Sisters C. Tinbrook, — Dubois.
- Twelfth, Boston.—Sisters H. Hayden, O. Dalley.
- Concord Street, Brooklyn.—Sister C. Williams.
- Saratoga Street, Baltimore.—Sisters B. Lytle, M. Jackson.
- Union, Baltimore.—Sister S. J. White.
- Second Colored, Washington.—Sisters E. Beckwith, M. Dunlop.
- Third, Brooklyn.—Sisters M. A. Weeden, J. M. Scotran.
- First Colored, Washington.—Sister E. Duncan.
- Zion, New Haven.—Sisters B. Thompson, E. Harris.
- Salem, New Bedford.—Sister G. Lucas.
- Third Colored, Washington.—Sisters R. Terry, H. Valentine.

DONATIONS.

Mary Burrell, Washington,.....	\$0 50
Elizabeth Burrell, Washington,.....	0 25
Winnis Burrell, Washington,.....	0 25
Agnes Burrell, Washington,.....	0 25
Abyssinian Church, New York City,.....	4 67
A friend,.....	1 02
Israel Edwards,.....	0 30
L. T. Palham, Newburgh,.....	0 75
A friend,.....	0 50
Ariand A. Dixon,.....	0 25
E. Nicholas,.....	0 25
A friend,.....	0 82

ANNUAL MEMBERS.

NEW YORK.

*Dea. Low Octon.
Dea. Alex. Duncan.
*Dea. John Osborne.
*Dea. Thomas Wilson.
Dea. George H. Dixon.
*Dea. John Anderson.
Dea. Malles Franck.
Dea. Ann Francis, pd.
Lewis B. Napoleon.
*Isaac Loney.
*John O. Bonner.
Paul Postau.
*George Washington.
*William M. Jackson.
Peter Wilson, pd.
Mrs. Hector.
William Thomas.
James Johnson.
Elizabeth Jones.
Martha Hill.
Caroline Westbrook.
Anella Lewis.
Samuel Winslow.
R. Osborne.
H. W. Johnson.
J. J. Washington.
Isaac Caldwell.
John E. Jenkins, pd.
Richard Edmunds.
*John Couling.
John De Hart.
*James Clark.
*Narbon Foster.
Isaac Bagwel, pd.
Sarah Freshorn.
Eliza Jenkins.
Cynthia A. Boulden.
Maria Jenkins.
Jane De Hart.
Charlotte Stewart.
Eliza Jones.
Emeline Smith.

David Copeland.
David Holland.
Elizabeth Brown.
Gilbert Gilmore, pd.
Harrison Powell.
Matilda Thomas.
Mrs. Gray.
William L. Nicholas, pd.
Eliza Jones.
*David Pearson.
*Mary Ann Segins.
Ann Jones.
Susan Plant.
Ann Maria Thompson.
Ann Jenkins.
Edmond Taylor.
Daniel Moon.
Mary E. Shivers.
Sarah Benson.
Arland Dixon.
Robert Cousins.
J. Delkaut.
Sarah Johnson, pd.
Sarah Jane Wright.
Julia Laurence.
Mary Furman.
Miss Foubette.
Ann Eliza James.
John H. Evans.
S. Hoehrook.
S. Bebee.
William Backus.
Maria Hawkins.
Mary Lewis.
*Richard Swan.
*Robert Allen.
Harriet Barber.
Elizabeth Smith.
Hannah Crummell.
Nelly Denny.
M. A. Thompson.
Thomas Pryor.

Mary Ann Harris.
Julia Freeman.
Francis Thompson.
Caroline Williams.
*Wm. A. Godwin.
*John Young.
R. Bureoghs.
T. P. Reed.
W. Emery.
Matthias Vanstuy, pd.
George Dickson.
Wm. Fenwick.
Russel Hubbard, \$2.00.
Mary Liggins.
Elizabeth Nicholas, pd.
Elizabeth Whipton.
G. Stanton.
Mary Brown.
Nancy Manning.
Mary Darham.
Noah Jenkins, pd.
Sarah Deboise, pd.
Wm. Nicholas, for 1869,
\$1.00.
Ella Nicholas, do \$4.00.
Marie Jockins.
Ann Gwins.
Mary Harkin.
Abby Ruffin, pd.
Edy Nichols, pd.
Sarah Johnson, pd.
Jane E. Cunningham, pd.
Mary Cunningham, pd.
E. Clark, pd.
Jane Rankin, pd.
Ella Taylor, pd.
Percilla Willis, pd.
Thos. West.
Eliza White, pd.
Elizabeth Harris.

PENNSYLVANIA.

*Dea. Joshua Bundick.
*Dea. Frank Williams.
Thomas Watkins.
Reuben Coots.
James Harris, Jun.
William Stephens.
John Irwin.
Henry B. Adderson.
Frederick Woodson, Jun.
Joseph Hart.
*Charles M. Freeman.
David Thomas.
Jonathan Miller.

Basal Goings.
*Margaret S. Freeman.
Leri Stockley.
Julia Banks.
Samuel Bevaus.
Francis N. Bryon.
William Gordon.
R. Burroughs.
John Brown.
M. Bryan.
John Pride.
Eliza M. Lewis.
Matthias Black.

Lecta Ricks.
Edward Cook.
Martha Ann Jackson.
Benjamin G. Hill.
*Henry Roche.
Augustus Knight.
Mary Ann Ford.
General Saunders.
John Urlick.
George W. Goings.
Maria Bird.
Mary Ann Cooper.
Ellen West.

*Frederick Woodson, Sen.
John Deputy.
*James Gibbons.
John Henderson.
Mary London.
J. M. McCrummell.
*Randall Jackson.
*Rev. J. J. G. Bras.
Dea. James Fells.
*William Washington.
R. U. Campbell.
Eliza Perrall.
Levi Vitiens De Lina.
Ann Gardner.
James Bevens.
Mrs. Edith Mayhew.
Mrs. Ann Glines.
*William Goines.
*Samuel Monroe.
Sarah Spesgus.
Rev. Stephen Smith.
*Luke Goings.
Westward F. Keeling.
Sarah E. Smith, pd.
Maria Ames.
Dea. H. Gray, pd.
George Green.
Joseph B. Smith.
Julia Green.
Joshua Tamar.
Mary Booker, pd.
Pompey Jackson.
P. Allen.
Caroline Johnson.
J. Evans.
C. Selby.
Robert Laws.
Alonso Laws.
Dacey Dodge.
*Abby Carter.

William D. Lewis.
F. Watkice.
Lucy Ann James.
Albert Martin.
J. H. Kirk.
Ann Smith.
Elizabeth Green.
Anne Kemp.
Marie F. Wilson, pd.
Emily Walker.
Samuel F. Daseey.
Ann Watson.
Harriet Barbour.
Fannie Moore.
David Esck.
Susan Moses.
Ellen Morris.
Fanny Roberts.
Deriel Ruffin.
Collis Russell.
Rachel Johnson.
*Abby Prosser.
Elizabeth Burdick.
Mary Larus.
A. E. Brown.
William Parker.
Anna Dutton.
Susan Bedford.
Jabel K. Kinoh.
George Hazzard.
Cynthia Hazzard.
Mary E. Pier.
Mary Davis.
J. E. Kinney, pd.
Peter Gulton.
James Green.
Edward Cook.
Rev. C. Brown.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Simpeon H. Lewis.
Paul Shelds.
*Betsey Brown.
*Mary M. Pitts.
Henry Johnson, Rag.
John A. Grimes.
Ann E. Terrill.
Henry Johnson.
J. J. Johnson.
Peter Nelson.
Susan Johnson.
William Jones.
J. N. Barbour.
E. Riley.
J. H. Sterling.
A. Wilson.
Rachel Thompson.
S. B. Ross.
Dea. Coffin Pitts.
Mary Williams.
William Jackson.

Emily Johnson.
E. R. Davis.
Mary A. Butcher.
Miles Crosby.
R. Johnson.
Mrs. Smith.
Lewis Howard.
Susan M. Raymond.
James Johnson.
Susan Queens.
*C. Atkins.
Lucy Rogers.
M. Price.
W. Turner.
E. Williamson.
J. H. Smith.
M. Johnson.
P. M. Peckham.
*Mrs. Kent.
John P. York.

H. A. Howard.
Martha Fletcher, pd.
Rev. T. M. D. Ward.
John Butler.
Francis Shipley.
Rebecca Latimore.
Francis Montgomery.
M. Price.
J. Barton.
D. Merton.
J. Borden.
Samuel Murray.
Charles H. Brooks.
Rebecca Taylor.
L. Robertson.
Thomas R. Watson.
M. Lucas.
J. Lucas.
John Holmes, pd.
Francis E. Burton.
Martha Olney.

*John Butler.
Mrs. M. Thomas.
William Bush.
*Ann M. Pitts.
Robert Morris, Esq.
E. R. Davis.
Thomas Nelson.
S. Swan.
William Wright.
P. Smart.
L. F. Sidney.
L. Bush.
Lansford Lann.
P. Harris.
C. Wright.

*Des. G. C. Willis.
C. K. Cozens.
*David Ofee.
Susan Roberts.
Charles Garbam.
Hamilton Hamblin.
J. W. Chandler.

Anna Wilson.
James Ross.
Caroline Bailey.
Harriet Hayden.
Catharine Wright.
Elizabeth Butler.
G. W. Brouson.
J. Brown.
Amelia Piper.
Thomas Reams.
C. Flint.
George Turner.
William Preston.
J. T. Sidney.

RHODE ISLAND.

George Waterman.
Z. B. Martin.
*Elyia Ofee.
John Bliss.
Z. Jones.
Julius Hamblin.
S. Hunter.

CONNECTICUT.

William Tilman.

William Stevens, pd.

MARYLAND.

Mary Williams.
Thomas Jones.
Ann Williams.
Mary Kelly.
Sarah J. White.
Lucy Margrove.

Des. Charles Smith.
Cheestman Roberts.
*Rev. A. T. Driver.
Francis Fuller.
Mary Brown.

VIRGINIA.

Richard Henderson.
*William D. Baptist.
H. Davenport.
*Peter Hnett.
Samuel Dickson.
Lucinda Olden.
William E. Walker, pd.
Whitefield Street, pd.
Beverly Horton, pd.
Mary E. Walker, pd.
Caroline Taylor, pd.

Sarah Washington, pd.
Nelson Morse.
J. R. Bowling.
T. Godwell.
Richard Johnson.
Edward White.
John S. Taylor, pd.
James Washington, pd.
Henry Talliferic, pd.
Lucinda Horton, pd.

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Cornelius Clark.
Jane Scott.
Alfred Upsher.
Daniel G. Muns, pd.
Albert Bouldin, pd.
Winnie Jefferson, pd.
Jane Scott, pd.
Caroline Clark, pd.

Martha Clark.
Sophia Pollard.
Thomas Bouldin, pd.
Russell Butler.
Sandy Alexander, pd.
Benvieta Harris, pd.
Ann E. Cartwright, pd.
Caroline Everett.

CHARLESTON, S. C.
Rachel Forebear.

LOUISIANA.

William Steward.

LIBERIA, AFRICA.

George Tucker.

A. Nelson.
Emily Winters.
Louise Guess.
C. S. Johnson.
C. Lyons.
C. Coburn.
William Piper.
Fantine E. Carter.
Emeline York.
Mrs. Founting.
Sarah Barnett.
Sarah Craig.
Rebecca Lee.
Elizabeth Preston.

*William H. Howard.
*Phillis Church.
Sarah E. Warren.
William J. Brown.
Julia A. Gorham.
Joseph Coale, pd.

Hester Potter.
L. Olden.
*James Goldham.
Ann Weaver.
Eliza A. Marder.

*Michael Hall.
Rev. R. Whitehead.
James Husely.
John Davis.
Edmund Walker, pd.
Samuel J. Scott, pd.
Edward Brooks, pd.
Washington Wright, pd.
May Elie Walker, pd.
Ann E. Jackson, pd.

Mary Leonard, pd.
William Wornly.
McIntire McKay, pd.
Mary Burk, pd.
Fanny Booth, pd.
Julia Dent, pd.
Emily Orr.

CIRCULAR LETTER.

BY WILLIAM E. WALKER.

DEAR BRETHREN:

Conformably to usage, we present some few thoughts, suggestive of our condition, prospects and intentions; the pecuniary operations or financial condition of this body do not come under our immediate notice, further than to glance at it in passing; much may be said in regard to our spiritual interest and our duties pertaining to it. These are considerations which need not only be presented, but enforced upon your attention.

Our mission is one that involves great responsibilities, and is fraught with great results. The cause is God's; we are heaven-appointed messengers of the gospel; we represent the court of heaven; a higher office—much more exalted than any position we could possibly occupy before any earthly realm; yes, more elevated in its character, and important in all its relations, than even to be king, or emperor, or president; we are ambassadors of the King of Heaven and Earth. While the line of our duty is confined to this world, it is with the avowed purpose of preparing mankind for a better world than this; a world made glorious because of the residence of the Great King. The question naturally arises, how are we fulfilling our mission? do we rightly and honorably represent the court of Heaven? is the Savior's cause promoted by us? if not, what are the causes that prevent it? and are we doing all we can for their removal? Fidelity to the cause, and love to our King, demand untiring vigilance and activity. Have we been thus faithful? All these questions we are required to answer. Shall we be speechless? Shall it be said of us, "Ye knew your duty, and did it not?" or shall it be said, "Well done good and faithful servant?" This will apply to churches as well as ministers; aye, it would apply to each follower of Christ. You are not only accountable for not being good, but for not doing good; yea, further, you are responsible for the good you might have done; still further, you are responsible for not making opportunities for doing good; the field is wide—it is the world; labor is in demand, always and everywhere. You cannot go amiss for want of opportunity; the vineyard needs cultivating; you must work it unasked, unthought; "work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work." You may say, and truly, "Unto whom much is given, much also is required," and *vice versa*; but do you not know that your obligation to do what you can, is as great as the man's who can do more. The man who had but the one talent was just as accountable for the use of it, as the one who had ten. You may reply, that "I do as much as that man who has ten, and more," very good—but this is not sufficient, unless you have done all you can possibly do, by your influence, example and means. No man knows the power he has for doing good; it is impossible to form a right conception; there is no rule or standard by which he can rightly determine how much he can do. The duty of man is to prepare himself for the most extended usefulness; leave no means unemployed to develop the faculties of his being; then he must labor assiduously, looking unto God for strength and support. Although your interest and happiness are sweetly blended and interwoven with that of all mankind, yet, in this particular, you stand alone, separate and apart from every known being.

You are bound to do all you can for the good of souls and the interest of Zion, independent of every being on the face of the earth. This principle lies at the foundation of all human accountability. It is a vital principle which cannot possibly be set aside, because if it were not so, each individual would shuffe off his responsibility on another; but God has so ordained that we are to be left without excuse. This is a principle universal in its application, that all men are dependent one upon the other, and must labor for each other's good. This is a solution to the problem why man does exist at all; for, in thus acting, he fulfills the object and end of his being. This

principle enters into all the diversified relations of life, for in it we find the idea of dependence, which presupposes obligation. Man owns not himself—he belongs to God. Man lives—God is the author of all life. Man, then, owes his existence to his maker only, who is the Creator and dispenser of all good; all the blessings he enjoys, both temporal and spiritual, are from the source and fountain of all blessing. Man thinks, reasons, speaks and acts. God is the author of all light, liberty, knowledge. All the powers and faculties of the human soul, are but the emanations from Jehovah's hand.

But more than this, man is purchased by God himself, when he had by reason of sin disinherited himself, and become a debtor; he was bought not by corruptible things, such as silver and gold, but by the precious blood of Christ, therefore it is his duty to glorify God in his body and spirit which are his—man, then, is God's by creation, preservation and redemption; all that man is, or ever will have, are God's by right. We are but the stipendiaries of God's bounty—the almoners of his grace and kindness. In view of this fact, shall we be recreant to our duty? The world is the theatre of action, and each one must see to it that he plays well his part.

Your own salvation is but a narrow-angled view of the subject; this is but a part of your duty; and you are just as much bound to seek the salvation of others as your own; this is required of you—the duty is plain. Now, have the ministers thus acted? Have the churches thus acted? Have individual churches thus acted? Africa, benighted Africa, appeals to you. A whole continent, the largest on the face of the globe, calls upon you; her brethren, with longing eyes and yearning hearts, plead to us: shall they be utterly neglected? Shall we turn a deaf ear, unto them? Shall we pay less attention to them, than those belonging to other races? Oh, brethren, we have done but little, compared to what we might have done. Shall the cause perish for want of support? Shall we say to our king, we have buried our talent, and thus have our one talent taken away? This must not be—now, out of the large number of churches represented in this convention, and the number of members belonging to it, together with the large number of friends of the cause outside the church, is it possible that our mission can not be kept up? Is it possible we cannot sustain one missionary in the field, when we ought to have at least a dozen? In the light of what has been said, then, let us acquit ourselves like men. Millions upon millions of our fellow-creatures are famishing for the bread of life. Shall we not give it them? If we withhold it, we are verily guilty before God. "If any one seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his bowels of compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him?"

Now, what are we doing? Here they are not only in want, but perishing—we have bread in abundance—shall we not let them have it? Surely it is far more incumbent than giving them that bread which sustains only the body; the soul is immortal and shall live forever; for "God breathed into the nostrils of men the breath of life—and he became a living soul." Now shall these hungry, starving souls, live with God forever in a world of joy, light and inexpressible happiness, or shall they be banished from his presence, into a world of darkness, sorrow, and interminable misery? Their wallings, lamentations and cries come falling upon our ears in every breeze. We hear the sound in the distance. "Come over and help us." Shall we remain unmoved? Are we lost to all feeling? What have become of the pledges made to God and the church? How have they been kept? Oh! think of the infinite value of one immortal soul; yet millions of our fellow-creatures are living without God, and without hope in the world; they do not know the only true God, and Jesus, the Christ, whom he has sent. How do we stand in the sight of God in respect to them? This is a solemn question, which you are required to answer: have you done to the extent of your ability? have you, like Mary, done what you could? Beloved brethren, and churches, ye standard-bearers of the cross, have ye done what ye could? ye, churches of Christ, who are the salt of the earth, have ye done what ye could? Ye, old veterans of the cross, you have borne the heat and burden of the day, and who still live to labor and to wait—ye, young soldiers, who have lately enlisted in the army, whose battles have been but few, and who

have not received any scars and wounds in the strife, have ye done what you could? Finally, brother, sister, young and old, saint and sinner, one and all, have each and all of you done what ye could, both in your individual and collective capacity, for the salvation of immortal souls, especially in Africa. If not, I beg of you to put on your armor, gird up your loins, and be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might; and with faith and hope and earnest zeal, and fervent prayer and the use of all those means that God has given, our heads, our hands, our hearts and our purses, we shall be instrumental in sweeping away ignorance, idolatry and superstition, and have prevailing in its stead, light, knowledge and civilization. Shall it be done? Shall we do it? If so, let us earnestly, diligently, fervently, prayerfully, labor and wait, and our ardent and devoted desires shall surely be consummated.