

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOUTHERN

BAPTIST CONVENTION,

HELD IN

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA,

MAY, 8TH, 9TH, 10TH, 11TH, AND 12TH, 1845.

DARGA.
S. B. C. 1845. 1846. COMMISSION
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

RICHMOND:

H. K. ELLYSON, PRINTER, 176, WEST MAIN STREET.

1845.

30904



PREAMBLE AND CONSTITUTION
OF THE
SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

We, the delegates from Missionary Societies, Churches, and other religious bodies of the Baptist Denomination, in various parts of the United States, met in Convention, in the city of Augusta, Georgia, for the purpose of carrying into effect the benevolent intentions of our constituents, by organizing a plan for eliciting, combining and directing the energies of the whole denomination in one sacred effort, for the propagation of the Gospel, agree to the following rules, or fundamental principles :

ARTICLE I. This body shall be styled the Southern Baptist Convention.

ART. II. It shall be the design of this Convention to promote Foreign and Domestic Missions, and other important objects connected with the Redeemer's kingdom, and to combine for this purpose, such portions of the Baptist denomination in the United States, as may desire a general organization for Christian benevolence, which shall fully respect the independence and equal rights of the Churches.

ART. III. A Triennial Convention shall consist of members who contribute funds, or are delegated by religious bodies contributing funds, and the system of representation and terms of membership shall be as follows, viz : An annual contribution of one hundred dollars for three years next preceding the meeting, or the contribution of three hundred dollars at any time within said three years, shall entitle the contributor to one representative ; an annual contribution of two hundred dollars, as aforesaid, shall entitle the contributor to two representatives ; and so, for each additional one hundred dollars, an additional representative shall be allowed. Provided, however, that when application shall be made for the first time by bodies, or individuals, to be admitted into the Convention, one delegate shall be allowed for each one hundred dollars. And provided, also, that in case of great collateral Societies, composed of representatives, receiving contributions from different parts of the country, the ratio of representation shall be one delegate for every thousand dollars, annually contributed for three years, as aforesaid ; but the number of representatives shall never exceed five.

ART. IV. The officers of this Convention shall be a President, four Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and two Secretaries, who shall be elected at each triennial meeting and hold their offices until a new election ; and the officers of the Convention shall be, *each by virtue of his office*, members of the several Boards.

ART. V. The Convention shall elect at each triennial meeting as many Boards of Managers, as in its judgment will be necessary for carrying out the benevolent objects it may determine to promote, all which

Boards shall continue in office until a new election. Each Board shall consist of a President, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurer, Auditor, and fifteen other members, seven of whom, including one or more of the officers, shall form a quorum for the transaction of business. To each Board shall be committed, during the recess of the Convention, the entire management of all the affairs relating to the object with whose interest it shall be charged, all which management shall be in strict accordance with the constitutional provisions adopted by this Convention, and such other instructions as may be given from time to time. Each Board shall have power to make such compensation to its Secretaries and Treasurer, as it may think right; fill the vacancies occurring in its own body; enact its own bye-laws; have an annual meeting at any place it may appoint, and other meetings at such times and places as it may think best; keep a record of its proceedings and present a report of them to the Convention at each triennial meeting.

ART. VI. The Treasurer of each Board shall faithfully account for all monies received by him, keep a regular entry of all receipts and disbursements, and make report of them to the Convention, whenever it shall be in session, and to his Board as often as required. He shall also, on entering upon the duties of his office, give competent security to the President of his Board, for all the stock and funds committed to his care. His books shall be open at all times, to the inspection of any member of the Convention and of his Board. No monies shall be paid out of any of the Treasuries of the Boards, but by an order from that Board, from whose Treasury the money is to be drawn, which order shall be signed by its presiding officer.

ART. VII. The Corresponding Secretaries of the several Boards shall maintain intercourse by letter, with such individuals or public bodies, as the interests of their respective bodies may require. Copies of all such communications, with their answers, if any, shall be kept by them on file.

ART. VIII. The Recording Secretaries of the several Boards, shall keep a fair record of their proceedings, and of such other documents as may be committed to them for the purpose.

ART. IX. All the Officers, Boards, Missionaries and Agents, appointed by the Convention, or by any of its Boards, shall be members of some regular Church, in union with the Churches composing this Convention.

ART. X. Missionaries appointed by any of the Boards of this Convention, must, previous to their appointment, furnish evidence of genuine piety, fervent zeal in their Master's cause, and talents which fit them for the service for which they offer themselves.

ART. XI. The bodies and individuals, composing this Convention, shall have the right to specify the object, or objects, to which their contributions shall be applied. But when no such specification is made, the Convention will make the appropriation at its own discretion.

ART. XII. The Convention shall hold its meetings triennially, but extra meetings may be called by the President, with the approbation of any one of the Boards of Managers. A majority of the attending delegates, shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

ART. XIII. Any alterations which experience shall dictate, may be made in these articles, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present, at any triennial meeting of the Convention.

RULES OF ORDER.

1. The meetings of the Convention shall be opened and closed with prayer.

2. No motion shall claim the attention of the President, unless it is seconded, nor shall it be open for discussion, until formally announced by him.

3. When a motion has been made and regularly announced by the chair, no other motion shall be received, except to amend, to substitute, to lay upon the table, to postpone indefinitely, or to postpone to a certain time. But a motion for adjournment shall always be in order, except when a member is engaged in speaking, or the body engaged in voting.

4. When a member wishes to speak on any question, he shall rise in his place and address the chair. If two or more shall rise at the same time, the President shall determine who has the floor, and no member shall speak more than twice on the same question, without the permission of the body.

5. All questions of order shall be determined by the chair, subject to an appeal to the body.

6. All motions offered for the adoption of the meetings, shall be submitted in writing, if required.

OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION.

PRESIDENT.

REV. WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, D. D., South Carolina.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

1. HON. WILSON LUMPKIN, Ga.
2. REV. JAMES B. TAYLOR, Va.

3. HON. A. DOCKERY, N. C.
4. REV. R. B. C. HOWELL, Tenn.

DR. M. T. MENDENHALL, Charleston, S. C., *Treasurer.*

J. HARTWELL, Alabama,
JAMES C. CRANE, Richmond, Va., } *Secretaries.*

The above officers are also members of each of the Boards of Managers.

BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Located at Richmond, Virginia.

PRESIDENT.

JEREMIAH B. JETER, Virginia.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

E. BALL, Va.
W. CRANE, Md.
R. FULLER, S. C.
B. M. SANDERS, Ga.

I. T. HINTON, La.
T. MEREDITH, N. C.
H. MALCOM, Ky.
C. K. WINSTON, Tenn.

T. G. BLEWIT, Miss.
W. H. BAYLESS, Ark.
B. MANLY, Ala.
J. McDONALD, Fa.
R. HUGHES, Mo.

E. KINGSFORD, D. C.

C. D. MALLORY, *Corresponding Secretary.*

M. T. SUMNER, *Recording Secretary.*

ARCH'D THOMAS, *Treasurer.*

CHA'S T. WORTHAM, *Auditor.*

MANAGERS.

A. B. SMITH,
R. RYLAND,
A. SNEAD,
A. G. WORTHAM,
W. H. JORDAN,

H. KEELING,
J. THOMAS, JR.,
J. SNEAD,
A. FLEET,
TH. HUME,

E. L. MAGOON,
WM. H. GWATHMEY,
W. A. BAYNHAM,
J. TALMAN, SR.,
T. W. SIDNOR.

BOARD OF MANAGERS FOR DOMESTIC MISSIONS.

Located at Marion, Alabama.

PRESIDENT.

BASIL MANLY, D. D., Alabama.

VICE PRESIDENTS.

J. HARTWELL, Ala.
GEO. F. ADAMS, Md.
O. B. BROWN, D. C.
T. STRINGFELLOW, Va.

S. WAIT, N. C.
J. B. O'NEAL, S. C.
J. L. DAGG, Ga.
W. C. CRANE, Miss.
JAS. WHITSETT, Tenn.

J. B. SMITH, La.
H. S. LINTON, Fla.
W. C. LINCOLN, Mo.
W. C. BUCK, Ky.

J. L. REYNOLDS, *Corresponding Secretary.*

M. P. JEWETT, *Recording Secretary.*

THOS. CHILTON, *Treasurer.*

W. N. WYATT, *Auditor.*

MANAGERS.

E. D. KING,
S. S. SHERMAN,
J. H. DE VOTIE,
W. W. HORNBUCKLE,
L. GOREE,

A. TRAVIS,
D. P. BESTER,
D. R. W. McIVER,
J. B. MILLER,
T. F. CURTIS,

E. BAPTIST,
H. TALBIRD,
K. HAWTHORN,
L. Y. TARRANT,
L. C. TUTT.

PROCEEDINGS.

AUGUSTA, GEORGIA, MAY 8TH, 1845.

Pursuant to a call by the Board of Managers of the Virginia Foreign Baptist Mission Society, responded to by various other bodies, a large number of delegates assembled in the meeting-house of the Baptist Church in Augusta.

After a time occupied in devotional exercises, the meeting, at 10 o'clock, A. M., was called to order by Rev. W. T. Brantly, Pastor of the Church, and on motion of Rev. J. B. Taylor, of Virginia, Hon. Wilson Lumpkin, of Georgia, was called to the chair and Jas. C. Crane, of Virginia, and J. Hartwell, of Alabama, appointed Secretaries.

Rev. W. B. Johnson, of S. C., prayed.

On motion,

Brn. T. Stocks, J. B. Taylor, E. D. King, R. McNab, S. Furman, W. Crane, W. T. Brantly, and I. T. Hinton, were appointed a committee to ascertain and report the delegates to this meeting.

All the States and Territories were called in order, and the delegates handed their certificates to the committee.

By request, Bro. J. B. Jeter gave a short statement of the proceedings of the General Board of the Baptist General Convention, at its late meeting in Providence, R. I., which meeting he, with some other Brethren from Virginia, Maryland and Georgia, had attended.

The committee to ascertain who were delegates, presented the following report, which was accepted:

Maryland.

Calvert St. Church, Baltimore,—

J. A. McKean, Wm. Crane.

District of Columbia.

Ministers' Conference,—

O. B. Brown,* Th. W. Sydnor.

Virginia.

Norfolk Church,—

E. G. Robinson.

Emmaus Church,—

James Clopton.

Shiloh Association,—

Thornton Stringfellow, Cumberland George.*

Henrico Bethlehem Church,—

M. T. Sumner.

Bruington Church,—

R. H. Bagby.

Mattaponi Church,—

W. B. Todd, W. D. Gresham.

First Church, Richmond,—

J. B. Jeter, E. Ball, H. Keeling, A. Thomas, Jas. C. Crane.

Second Church, Richmond,—

Jos. Walker, W. Sands, Miles Turpin, A. J. Crane, J. F. Tanner.*

Grace St. Church, Richmond,—

J. B. Taylor, T. J. Evans.

Fourth Church, Richmond,—

A. B. Smith.

Four Mile Creek and Beulah Churches,—

J. O. Turpin.

St. Stephen's Church,—

W. Southwood,* T. W. L. Fauntleroy,* Benj. Fleet.

*Wicomico, Fairfield, Morattico,
and Lebanon Churches,—*

A. Hall.

*Columbia, Fork, and Willis'
Churches,—*

P. P. Smith.

Salem Union Association,—

B. Grimsley, T. D. Herndon,

G. W. Latham.*

Sharon and Nottoway Churches,—
Dan'l Witt.

Taylorsville Church,—

S. S. Sumner.

*Shoulder's Hill and Suffolk
Churches,—*

R. Jones, W. J. Wright.*

Portsmouth Church,—

Th. Hume, Wm. Brooks,* S.

Y. Landrum.*

Charlottesville Church,—

I. S. Tinsley.

Farmville Church,—

T. W. Sydnor.

North Carolina. 4

Kennansville Church,—

R. McNab.

Wilmington Church,—

J. McDaniel,* A. J. Battle.

South Carolina. 5

Beach Island Church,—

I. Miller, W. J. Hard, H. May-
son.

Steel Creek Church,—

J. J. Wilson, W. S. Johnson.

Pendleton Church,—

Th. Dawson.

Congaree Church,—

J. Scott, J. Williams.*

Good Spring Church,—

D. J. Walker.

Lower Three Runs Church,—

J. A. Wood,* J. T. Furze,

Mount Lebanon Church,—

J. Morris, J. Curry.

Big Steven's Creek Church,—

S. Butler, S. Lenear.

Calvary Church,—

H. W. Mahony.

Swift Creek Church,—

J. Boykin, N. Graham.

New Providence Church,—

J. Culpepper.

St. Helena Island Church,—

W. Hall, L. R. Sams.

Harmony Church,—

C. M. Breaker.

Bethel Church,—

J. B. Miller.

Savannah River Association,—

H. A. Duncan, R. J. Davant,

F. W. Fickling,*

Newberry Church,—

J. B. O'Neal,* D. Nance, J. H.

Hunt,* W. Harrington.*

Matlach Church,—

G. W. Stalling,* J. Myer.*

State Convention,—

— W. B. Johnson, J. Gresham, J.

M. Chiles, T. Watkins, A.

Simkins, J. O. Nicholson, M.

M. Abney, S. Butler, D. D.

Brunson, J. Mims, J. G. O.

Wilkinson, J. Curry, W. Roy-
al,* J. Trapp, R. G. Mays, W.

Fort, L. Hickson, W. Brooker,*

W. Watkins.

Camden Church,—

B. W. Whilden.

Willow Swamp Church,—

E. Tyler.

Columbia Church,—

W. Curtis, J. F. Marshall, W.

Hooper,* J. Lyles, S. Bland-
ing.

Tyger River Association,—

T. W. Haynes, W. Walker, O.

H. Wells.

Barnwell Church,—

N. G. W. Walker, B. H. Brown.

Beaufort Church,—

— R. Fuller, W. R. Stancel, L. O.

Bannon, L. R. Sams, W. A.

Owens.

Beulah Church,—

T. Adams.

Healing Spring Church,—

D. Peebles.

Welch Neck Association,—

— Sam'l Furman, J. O. B. Dar-
gan, J. M. Timmons.

Welch Neck Church,—

J. F. Wilson, A. Sparks, J. D.

- Wilson, R. G. Edwards, J. K. McIver.*
Wentworth St. Church, Charleston,—
 T. Curtis, A. C. Smith, W. E. Bailey, B. F. Smith, C. H. Lannean, T. P. Smith, H. Bailey, W. S. Lawton, J. D. Boyd.
Beach Branch Church,—
 A. Smart.
Joice Branch Church,—
 H. D. Duncan.
Greenville Church,—
 G. F. Townes,* O. H. Wells.
Aiken Church,—
 J. Tupper.
High Hills Church,—
 L. J. Durkins, W. E. Hughson, A. China.
Anderson Village Church,—
 A. Rice, S. McCully.
Black Swamp Church,—
 T. W. Rambaut, W. H. Robert, J. S. Lawton, B. F. Buckner.
Sandy River Church,—
 B. McBride.
First Church, Charleston,—
 M. T. Mendenhall, D. R. Lide, J. D. Debow, S. Howe, W. Troul, A. J. Burke, W. Riley, A. Hobson, J. L. Reynolds.
St. John's, Great Salthetche, Little Salthetche, and Doctor's Creek Churches,—
 J. Fant.
Pipe Creek Church,—
 J. Nicholas.
Columbia and Philadelphia Churches,—
 L. M. Brown.
Union Church,—
 J. J. Boyd, D. M. Dunbar.
Mount Olivet,—
 D. Sheppard.
Springtown Church,—
 B. S. Sweat.
Coosahachie Church,—
 R. J. Davant.
Furman Institution,—
 J. S. Mims.
- Georgia.
Eatonton Church,—
 J. F. Hillyer.
Millstone Church,—
 P. V. Butler,* Z. H. Clark, M. Smith, M. Tiller.
Union Church,—
 M. Denerent.
Richland Church,—
 J. H. Campbell, H. Bunn.
Apalatchie Association,—
 J. Hendrick.
Shoulder Bone Church,—
 D. G. Daniel.
Powelton Church,—
 C. M. Irwin.
Penfield Church,—
 P. H. Mell, J. L. Brooks.
Madison Church,—
 T. J. Burney, P. W. Walton.
County Line Church,—
 T. R. Morgan, J. Winn.
Executive Committee of State Convention,—
 B. M. Sanders, J. L. Dagg, A. Janes, J. B. Waller,* V. Thornton, Th. Stocks, T. J. Burney.
Executive Committee Georgia Association,—
 B. M. Sanders, W. H. Stokes, J. S. Baker, D. G. Daniel, C. M. Irwin.
Louisville Church,—
 T. Kirklighter, M. Polhill.
Sharon Church,—
 L. Steed, J. S. Lasetter.
Hopefull Church,—
 W. L. Tucker, B. Palmer, A. Caswell, A. Wiggins.
Antioch Church,—
 H. H. Lumpkin, E. M. Gilham.
Damascus Church,—
 B. Blanchard,* J. Cartlidge.
Athens Church,—
 J. Hillyer, W. Lumpkin, W. Richards.
Shiloh Church,—
 C. M. Stevens, W. Handley.
Columbus Church,—
 A. Williams, A. M. Walker.
Central Association,—
 J. H. Campbell, T. U. Wilkes,

- S. G. Hillyer, J. T. Hillyer, T. J. Burnley, J. B. Slack.
- Rocky Creek Church*,—
J. Polhill, G. W. Evans, J. W. Jones, J. Applewhite,*
- County Line Church*,—
J. Carter, J. Neal.
- Warrenton Church*,—
W. J. Harley.
- Sparta Church*,—
W. H. Stokes.
- Palmyra Church*,—
J. Davis, B. O. Keaton.
- Bethel Church*,—
S. Crumb, A. Perry.*
- Black Creek Church*,—
M. N. McCall.
- Little River Church*,—
J. B. Slack.
- Savannah Church*,—
E. F. Winkler.
- Freeman Church*,—
N. Hill.
- Ways Church*,—
E. Perryman, W. H. Baldy, M. Brinson.
- Rehoboth Church*,—
J. Davis.
- Clark Station Church*,—
J. N. Bolton.
- Sardis Church*,—
E. Calloway, J. M. Jackson.
- Bethesda Church*,—
E. S. Hunter, R. Newsom.
- Bethany Church*,—
J. Davis.
- Friendship Church*,—
W. Sanders.
- Antioch Church*,—
J. Davis.
- Ruckersville Church*,—
A. Chandler, B. Thornton.
- Pine Grove Church*,—
J. H. T. Kilpatrick, A. Templeton,
- Elm Church*,—
J. M. Holl.
- Sandy Creek Church*,—
G. Prior, A. Robertson.
- Beard's Church*,—
S. D. Durham, W. O. Cheney.
- Talbotton Church*,—
J. Perryman, C. H. Stillwell.
- Richland Church*,—
W. J. Harley.
- Rocky Creek Church*,—
C. D. Mallary.
- Suiz Creek Church*,—
W. Harris.
- Providence Church*,—
B. Thornton.
- Greensborough Church*,—
J. E. Jackson,* V. Sandford.
- Sardis Church*,—
B. Thornton.
- Fishing Creek Church*,—
W. Q. Anderson, H. P. Wotton,
T. C. Armstrong, R. Joynor.
- Darien, South Newport, North
Newport and Sunberry Churches*,—
J. S. Law, W. H. McIntosh, E. H. Bacon, W. K. Gignelliat, J. Smith,* O. Stevens.*
- Augusta Church*,—
W. T. Brantley, J. W. Whitlock, M. M. Dye, N. B. Moore,
W. H. Starke, M. Hill, J. A. Barnes.
- Washington Church*,—
N. M. Crawford, W. H. Pope,
D. E. Butler, W. F. Baker.
- Pennfield Young Men's Missionary Society*,—
H. Keeling, J. F. Dagg.
- Crawfordsville Church*,—
D. S. Anderson, A. Darden.
- Reeds Creek Church*,—
J. Huff, J. W. Stapleton.
- Bethel Church*,—
A. Chandler.
- Burley Creek Church*,—
A. Lewis,* D. P. Smith,* P. Robinson, E. R. Caswell.
- Philadelphia Church*,—
J. S. Calloway.
- Little Brier Creek Church*,—
A. Atkins, T. Heart, J. Swint.*
- White Plains Church*,—
J. B. Thomas, E. P. Jarrell, J. Chapman.
- Mercer University*,—
J. Devant, B. Brantley.
- Carmel Church*,—
H. L. Graves, J. S. Bledsoe, J.

- Perry,* J. M. Carter, J. L. Graves.
- Eatonton Church*,—
E. A. Marshall, J. C. Mason.
- Providence Church*,—
Th. U. Wilkes.
- Western Association*,—
H. Posey, J. E. Dawson,* J. W. Cooper,* W. P. Burks.
- Sweet Water Church*,—
W. P. Steed.
- Sugar Creek Church*,—
J. F. McNeil, B. W. Beard.
- Social Circle Church*,—
T. A. Gibbs, E. Henderson, J. L. Gresham.
- Macedonian Church*,—
J. Carter, J. H. Starke, J. H. Fielder.
- Mount Zion Church*,—
J. J. Pierce.
- Ephesus Church*,—
R. Tolefree.
- Evergreen Church*,—
C. D. Mallary, Geo. Walker.
- Benevolence Church*,—
A. M. Albritton, J. Matthews,*
- Antioch Church*,—
F. W. Wilkins, J. Swanson.
- Horeb Church*,—
W. H. Stokes, S. Evans.
- Long Creek Church*,—
Wm. Harris.
- Alabama. 7
- Tuskegee Church*,—
A. W. Chambliss, G. W. Gunn.*
- Bethany Church*,—
K. Hawthorn.
- Gravel Creek Church*,—
J. C. Jones.
- Cuhihatchie Church*,—
A. W. Chambliss.
- Blackbluff Church*,—
J. C. Jones, K. Hawthorn.
- Attention & Fellowship Churches*,
J. J. Sessions.
- Board of State Convention*,—
J. Hartwell, B. Manly, D. D.,*
E. D. King, D. P. Bestor,*
J. H. De Votie,* A. G. McCraw,* H. Talbird, A. Travis,
D. R. W. McIver,* T. F. Curtis, S. Henderson,* F. Calloway, W. B. Jones, W. P. Chilton,* K. Hawthorn.
- Mount Gilead, Hopewell, Ash Creek and Benton Churches*,—
D. Lee.
- Union Town Church*,—
A. A. Connella.
- Montgomery Church*,—
H. Talbird.
- Tuscaloosa Church*,—
Th. F. Curtis.
- Siloam Church*,—
J. H. De Votie,* E. D. King, Th. Chilton,* M. P. Jewett,* Wm. Hornbuckle,* S. Lindsley.*
- Liberty Association*,—
W. B. Jones, F. Calloway, J. R. Humphrey, L. Parks.*
- Louisiana. 8
- New Orleans Church*,—
I. T. Hinton, R. Holman.
- Kentucky. 9
- Isaac McCoy.

The meeting then proceeded to organize, by the election of its officers. The following were chosen :

Rev. Wm. B. Johnson, D. D., of S. C., President ;
Hon. W. Lumpkin, of Ga., and Rev. J. B. Taylor, of Va., Vice Presidents ;

And Jesse Hartwell and James C. Crane, Secretaries.

On motion of Rev. R. Fuller,

Resolved, That a committee of two from each State represented in this meeting, be appointed to prepare and report a preamble and resolution for the action of the Convention.

Brethren R. Fuller, M. T. Mendenhall, J. A. McKean, W. Crane, T. W. Sydnor, J. B. Jeter, T. Hume, R. McNab, B. M. Sanders, C. D. Mallary, A. Travis, E. D. King, I. T. Hinton, R. Holman and I. McCoy, were selected as the committee.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Bro. W. T. Brantley.

AFTERNOON, 4 o'clock.

The Convention met. Prayer by Bro. T. Curtis.

On motion,

Brethren J. Davis, H. Posey, J. L. Reynolds, A. Hall and H. Talbird, were appointed a committee to prepare and present rules of order, for the adoption of the Convention.

Ministering brethren present, were invited to participate in the deliberations of the meetings.

The committee to prepare rules of order presented a report, which was accepted, the rules were adopted and the committee discharged. See page 5.

The committee to prepare a preamble and resolution for the action of the Convention, presented a report, which was accepted, and during the discussion on its adoption, the Convention adjourned to 8 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow. Prayer by Bro. W. Lumpkin.

FRIDAY MORNING, May 9th, 8 o'clock.

The Convention met. Prayer by Bro. J. B. Taylor.

Several communications received through the President, were presented and read.

Bro. J. L. Burrows, appeared as a corresponding delegate from the American Baptist Publication Society, and the Pennsylvania Baptist State Convention, and was invited to participate with us.

The report of the committee, under discussion at the time of adjournment yesterday, was taken up, and after a full, free and harmonious discussion, the preamble and resolution were separately adopted, by the *unanimous* vote of the Convention, as follows:

"The committee to whom it has been referred to report a preamble and resolutions, cannot but express their profound sense of the responsibility resting upon your body at the present eventful crisis, as the integrity of the nation, the interests of truth, and the sacred enterprise of converting the heathen, are all involved in your deliberations. That this Convention was imperatively demanded, must be apparent to all. The Boston Board have, in their answer to the Alabama resolutions, most clearly and unnecessarily exceeded their power and violated their trust.

"It is a question admitting no debate, that the Triennial Convention was formed on the principle of a perfect equality of members, from the South and North. And what is all important, the very qualifications of missionaries are prescribed by the original constitution of that Convention,—the fifth article providing that "such persons as are in full communion with some regular church of our denomination, and who furnish satisfactory evidence of genuine piety, good talents and fervent zeal for the Redeemer's cause, are to be employed as missionaries."

"Besides this, too, the declaration of the Board, that if "any one should offer himself as a missionary, having slaves, and should insist on retaining them as his property, we could not appoint him," is an innovation and a departure from the course hitherto pursued by the Triennial Convention,

(such persons having been appointed.) And lastly, the decision of the Board is an infraction of the resolution passed the last spring, in Philadelphia; and the General Board at their late meeting in Providence, have failed to reverse this decision.

"Amidst such circumstances, your committee esteem it absolutely necessary, that the friends of the Constitution of the Triennial Convention, and the lovers of the Bible, shall at once take their stand, and assert the great catholic principles of that Constitution, and of the Word of God.

"Your committee therefore submit the following resolution, as embodying all that they are now prepared to suggest to your body :

Resolved, That for peace and harmony, and in order to accomplish the greatest amount of good, and for the maintainance of those scriptural principles on which the General Missionary Convention of the Baptist denomination of the United States, was originally formed, it is proper that this Convention at once proceed to organize a Society for the propagation of the Gospel."

The same committee, with the addition of Br'n W. B. Johnson, J. L. Dagg, J. Hartwell, T. Curtis, Jas. C. Crane, T. Stringfellow, S. Furman, and J. S. Baker, were appointed to prepare a Constitution for the proposed organization.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Bro. R. Fuller.

AFTERNOON, 4 O'CLOCK.

The Convention met. Prayer by Bro. H. Posey.

A communication was received from the Faculty of the Medical College, inviting the members of the Convention to visit the College Building and Museum; and also presenting 200 copies of an address by Rev. W. T. Brantly, to the graduating class of said College.

Whereupon, the President was requested to reply to the communication, expressing the thanks of the Convention for the copies of the address, and its acceptance of the invitation to visit the College.

On motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention be tendered to the several Rail Road and other Companies, for the facilities afforded the members in attending this meeting.

Bro. Burrows then addressed the meeting, on behalf of the American Baptist Publication Society.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow.

Prayer by Bro. J. S. Calloway.

SATURDAY MORNING, MAY 10TH, 8 O'CLOCK.

The Convention met. Prayer by Bro. I. McCoy.

The committee appointed to prepare a Constitution, presented a report, which was accepted.

The Constitution was taken up, and after a free discussion, and amendments during its passage, was, on motion, adopted unanimously. See page 3.

The publishers of the Chronicle & Sentinel, presented a number of copies of their paper, containing reports of our proceedings, for the use of the members. And on motion,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Convention, be tendered to the publishers of the Chronicle & Sentinel.

Resolved, That Br'n W. B. Johnson, T. Curtis, R. Fuller, and C. D. Mallary, be a committee to prepare an address to the public, setting forth the reasons which have led to the formation of the Southern Baptist Convention, and giving an exposition of its principles and objects; to be published with the Minutes, and in such public prints as will allow it a place in their columns. See page 17.

Adjourned to 3 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Bro. J. Hartwell.

AFTERNOON, 3 O'CLOCK.

The Convention met. Prayer by Bro. B. Grimsley.

On motion,

Resolved, That the individuals, churches and other bodies, approving the Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention, adopted by this body, be recommended to meet, according to its provisions, for organization, by members or delegates, on the Wednesday after the first Lord's day in June, 1846, in Richmond, Va.: And that this Convention now proceed to the election of its Officers and Boards of Managers, to continue in office until said meeting.

Whereupon, the officers of the Convention were chosen. (See page 6.)

Resolved, That the Convention appoint a Board of Managers for Foreign Missions, and also one for Domestic Missions, and that a committee be appointed to nominate the members of such Boards.

Br'n E. Ball, H. Keeling, W. Sands, R. McNab, A. J. Battle, S. Furman, J. L. Reynolds, S. Blanding, J. H. Campbell, B. M. Sanders, C. D. Mallary, H. Talbird, A. Travis, T. Curtis, I. T. Hinton, R. Holman, W. Crane, J. A. McKean, T. W. Sydnor and I. McCoy, were appointed the committee.

The committee requested the Convention to decide on the location of the Boards of Managers, that the nominations might be made in accordance therewith: And it was

Resolved, That the Board for Foreign Missions be located at Richmond, Va., and the Board for Domestic Missions, at Marion, Ala.

On motion,

The Secretaries were appointed to superintend the printing and distribution of five thousand copies of the proceedings of this meeting.

A special collection towards defraying the expense of publishing was taken, amounting to \$98 36.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, P. M. Prayer by Bro. J. L. Burrows.

EVENING, 8 O'CLOCK.

The Convention met. Prayer by Bro. J. B. Jeter.

The committee to nominate members of the Boards of Managers, presented a report, and the several Brethren nominated, were chosen. See page 6.

Br'n T. W. Sydnor, W. Curtis and I. T. Hinton, were appointed a committee to nominate a Brother and alternate, to preach the Annual Sermon at the meeting next year: and, after consultation, proposed Bro. B. Manly, as the preacher, and Bro. R. Fuller, as the alternate. And these Br'n were appointed to perform the service.

On motion,

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this Convention are due, and are hereby tendered, to the citizens of Augusta, for the kind hospitalities, so generously extended to us during our meeting, and we earnestly

supplicate that God's mercy may descend in rich effusions, and more than repay in spiritual blessings, the efforts of our friends to render our stay among them so agreeable.

Resolved, That a collection be taken up at the close of the service, in the Baptist meeting-house to-morrow morning, for Foreign Missions, and in the evening for Domestic Missions.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock, on Monday morning. Prayer by Bro. N. M. Crawford.

MONDAY MORNING, 8 o'clock.

The Convention met. Many of the brethren having left the city, only about one hundred members were present. Prayer by Bro. A. J. Battle.

On motion, the following resolutions were severally proposed and adopted, accompanied with free discussion, and harmonious interchange of views and feelings, in regard to the important objects of the Convention :

Resolved, That in accordance with the provisions of the 2nd Article of the Constitution, this Convention will cordially embrace and affiliate auxilliary societies upon its principles, and recommend to the brethren the formation of such societies.

Resolved, That the several State Conventions and other bodies who may be in possession of funds for Foreign or Domestic Missions, be requested to forward such funds to the Treasurers of the respective Boards, as promptly as convenient.

Resolved, That the Aborigines of America, have strong claims on American christians for the Gospel, and as the Indian Mission Association has been organized with special reference to their spiritual benefit, we recommend the churches to sustain that body with zeal and liberality.

Resolved, That the Board of Domestic Missions be instructed to take all prudent measures, for the religious instruction of our colored population.

Resolved, That the Foreign Mission Board of this Convention be instructed to communicate with the acting Board of the Baptist Triennial Convention, in reference to any claim we may have upon that Convention, or any claim which that body may have, or think they have upon us, and that the said Board report fully at the next meeting of this Convention.

Resolved, That our Foreign Mission Board be authorized to enter into any equitable and prudent arrangement, with the acting Board of the Baptist General Convention, to take a portion of its Missions under the patronage of this Convention.

Resolved, That application be made to the proper authorities of the State of Georgia, for a charter of incorporation ; and that Judge J. Hillier, Hon. Wilson Lumpkin, Judge Thos. Stocks, Mark A. Cooper, Esq. and Rev. Ch's D. Mallary, be a committee to present a petition for this object.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend to the Board of Domestic Missions, to direct its effective attention to aid the present effort, to establish the Baptist cause in the city of New Orleans.

Resolved, That with profound gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, this Convention recognizes the harmonious and unanimous action to which it has arrived ; and that we do regard the exhibition of the

christian spirit which has governed its deliberations, as a pledge of the divine blessing in the origin and prosecution of this organization.

And then the Convention adjourned.

The President offered the concluding prayer, earnestly supplicating the blessing of Almighty God on the efforts of the Convention and on its members, after which a hymn was sung, and the usual token of affection and fellowship closed this interesting meeting.

WILLIAM BULLEIN JOHNSON,
President of the Convention.

JESSE HARTWELL, }
JAS. C. CRANE. } *Secretaries.*

The undersigned has found it difficult to arrange the list of delegates, and is still uncertain as to the entire correctness of the names of churches and individuals. The report of the committee was subjected to alterations and interlineations, during the progress of the meetings, and the Chairman was unable to furnish a corrected copy. It is hoped, however, that the list is sufficiently correct to answer the purpose of publication.

JAS. C. CRANE, *one of the Secretaries.*

THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION,

To the Brethren in the United States ; to the congregations connected with the respective Churches ; and to all candid men.

A painful division has taken place in the missionary operations of the American Baptists. We would explain the origin, the principles and the objects of that division, or the peculiar circumstances in which the organization of the Southern Baptist Convention became necessary.

Let not the extent of this disunion be exaggerated. At the present time it involves only the Foreign and Domestic Missions of the denomination. Northern and Southern Baptists are still brethren. They differ in no article of the faith. They are guided by the same principles of gospel order. Fanatical attempts have indeed been made, in some quarters, to exclude us of the South from christian fellowship. We do not retort these attempts ; and believe their extent to be comparatively limited. Our christian fellowship is not, as we feel, a matter to be obtruded on any one. We abide by that of our God, his dear Son, and all his baptized followers. The few ultra Northern brethren to whom we allude, must take what course they please. Their conduct has not influenced us in this movement. We do not regard the rupture as extending to foundation principles, nor can we think that the great body of our Northern brethren will so regard it. Disunion has proceeded, however, deplorably far. The first part of our duty is to show that its entire *origin* is with others. This is its history.

I. The General Convention of the Baptist denomination of the United States *was* composed of brethren from every part of the American Republic. Its Constitution knows no difference between slaveholders and non-slaveholders. Nor during the period of its existence, for the last thirty years, has it, in practice, known any thing of this distinction. Both parties have contributed steadily and largely (if never adequately) to those funds which are the basis of its constituency ; both have yielded its office-bearers of all grades ; its missionaries and translators of God's word ; its men of toils many, and of prayers not unavailing, abroad and at home. The honored dead of both these classes have walked in closest sympathy with each other ; anticipating in the Board-room and in the Monthly Concert, that higher, but not holier union now in their case consummated. Throughout the entire management of its early affairs, the whole struggle with its early difficulties, there was no breath of discord between them. Its Richard Furman and its Wm. Staughton, its Jesse Mercer and its Thomas Baldwin, led on the sacramental host shoulder to shoulder, and heart to heart. Their rivalry being only in earnest efforts for a common cause, their entire aversions and enmities were directed dead with all the strength of their souls, against the common foe. And to the last, did they not cherish the strong belief that they left no other enmities or aversions ; no other rivalry to their successors ?

In particular, a special rule of the Constitution defines *who* may be missionaries, viz : "Such persons only as are in full communion with some church in our denomination ; and who furnish satisfactory evidence of genuine piety, good talents, and fervent zeal for the Redeemer's cause." Now, while under this rule the slaveholder has been, in his turn, employed as a missionary, it is not alledged that any other persons than those above described, have been appointed. Moreover, the important post of a superintendent of the education of native missionaries, has been assigned, with universal approbation, to the pastor of one of our largest slaveholding churches.

But an evil hour arrived. Even our humble efforts in the conquest of the world to God, excited the accuser of our brethren to cast discord among us ; and in the last two Triennial Conventions, slavery and anti-slavery men began to draw off on different sides. How did the nobler spirits on each side endeavor to meet this ? They proposed and carried almost unanimously, the following explicit resolution :

"*Resolved*, That in co-operating together, as members of this Convention, in the work of foreign missions, we disclaim all sanction, either expressed or implied, whether of slavery or anti-slavery; but as individuals, we are free to express and to promote, elsewhere, our views on these subjects, in a christian manner and spirit."

Our successors will find it difficult to believe that so important and plain a declaration had become, before the close of the first year of the triennial period, a perfect nullity. In December last, the acting Board of the Convention, at Boston, adopted a new qualification for missionaries, a new special rule, viz: that "If any one who shall offer himself for a missionary, having slaves, should insist on retaining them as his property, they could not appoint him." "One thing is certain," they continue, "we could never be a party to any arrangement which implies approbation of slavery."

We pray our brethren and all candid men to mark the date of this novel rule—the close of the first six months of their three years' power, a date at which the compromise resolution could scarcely have reached our remoter mission stations. If usurpation had been intended, could it have been more fitly timed? An usurpation of ecclesiastical power quite foreign to our polity. Such power was assumed at a period when the aggrieved "thousands of Israel" had, as it now appears, no practical remedy. Its obvious tendency was, either our final subjugation to that power, or a serious interruption of the flow of Southern benevolence. The latter was the far more probable evil; and the Boston Board knew this well. They were from various quarters apprised of it. We, on the other hand, did not move in the matter of a new organization until three liberal States had refused to send northward any more contributions. Our leaders had chosen new rules. Thus came war within our gates: while the means of war on the common enemy were daily diminishing.

By this decision, the Board had placed itself in direct opposition to the Constitution of the Convention. The only reason given for this extraordinary and unconstitutional dictum being—that "The appointing power for wise and good purposes, is confided to the acting Board." On such a slight show of authority, this Board undertook to declare *that* to be a disqualification in one who should offer himself for a missionary, which the Convention had said shall *not* be a disqualification. It had also expressly given its sanction to anti-slavery opinions, and impliedly fixed its condemnation on slavery, although the Convention had said that "neither" should be done. And further, it forbade those who shall apply for a missionary appointment, to "express and promote elsewhere" their views on the subject of slavery in a right "manner and spirit," when the Convention declared they "were free" to do so. These brethren, thus acted upon a sentiment they have failed to prove—That slavery is, in all circumstances, sinful. Whereas their own solemn resolution in the last Convention, (their's as much as our's) left us free to promote slavery. Was not this leaving us free, and "*in a Christian spirit and manner*" to promote that which in their hearts, and according to the present shewing of their conduct, they regard as a sin?

Enough, perhaps, has been said of the origin of this movement. Were we asked to characterize the conduct of our Northern brethren in one short phrase, we should adopt that of the Apostle. It was "*FORBIDDING US TO SPEAK UNTO THE GENTILES.*" Did this deny us no privilege? Did it not obstruct us, lay a kind of Romish interdict upon us in the discharge of an imperative duty; a duty to which the church has been, after the lapse of ages, awakened universally and successfully; a duty the very object, and only object, of our long cherished connection and confederation?

And this would seem the place to state, that our Northern brethren were dealt with as brethren to the last moment. Several of our churches cherished the hope that by means of remonstrance and expostulation, through the last Annual Meeting of the Board of Managers, at Providence, the Acting Board might be brought to feel the grievous wrong they had inflicted. The Managing Board was therefore affectionately and respectfully addressed on the subject, and was entreated to revise and reverse the obnoxious interdict. Alas! the results were—contemptuous silence as to the application made; and a deliberate resolve, expressing sympathy with the Acting Board, and a determination to sustain them.

II. The PRINCIPLES of the Southern Baptist Convention, it remains then to be stated, are

conservative ; while they are also, as we trust, equitable and liberal. They propose to do the Lord's work in the way our fathers did it. Its title designates at once its origin, and the simple, firm abiding of the South on the ground from which it has been so unconstitutionally and unjustly attempted to eject us. We have but enquired for "the old paths" of missionary operations ; "asked" for, and attempted to restore the practically "good way." The Constitution we adopt is precisely that of the original union ; that in connection with which, throughout his missionary life, Adoniram Judson has lived, and under which Ann Judson and Boardman have died. We recede from it no single step. We have constructed for our basis no new creed ; acting in this matter upon a Baptist aversion for all creeds but the Bible. We use the very terms, as we uphold the true spirit and great object of the late "General Convention of the Baptist denomination of the United States." It is they who wrong us that have receded. We have receded neither from the Constitution nor from any part of the original ground on which we met them in this work. And if, we ask in parting, the original and broad Bible ground of confederation were *not* equitable, how came it so nobly and so long to be acted upon ? If equitable, why depart from it ?

We claim to have acted in the premises, with liberality towards our Northern brethren. Thrust from the common platform of equal rights, between the Northern and Southern churches, we have but reconstructed that platform. Content with it, we adhere to it, and reproduce it, as broad enough for us and for them. Have they thrust us off ? We retain but one feeling in the case. *That we will not practically leave it on any account* : much less in obedience to such usurped authority, or in deference to such a manifest breach of trust as is here involved. A breach of covenant that looks various ways—heavenward and earthward. For we repeat, **THEY WOULD FORBID US TO SPEAK UNTO THE GENTILES.** The Jerusalem church, then, must be regathered at the suspected Samaria, or at some new centre of operations, like Antioch. "One thing is certain"—We must go every where preaching the word.—"We can never be a party to any arrangement" for monopolizing the Gospel : any arrangement which like that of the Autocratical Interdict of the North, would first drive us from our beloved colored people, of whom they prove that they know nothing comparatively, and from the much-wronged Aborigines of the country ;—and then cut us off from the whitening fields of the heathen harvest-labor ; to which by cogent appeals and solemn prayers, they have so often protested that, without us, they were inadequate.

III. OUR OBJECTS, then, are the extension of the Messiah's kingdom, and the glory of our God. Not disunion with any of his people ; not the upholding of any form of human policy, or civil rights ; but God's glory, and Messiah's increasing reign ; in the promotion of which, we find no necessity for relinquishing any of our civil rights. We will never interfere with *what is Caesar's*.* We will not compromit what is God's.

These objects will appear in detail on the face of our Constitution, and in the proceedings, which accompany this address. They are distributed, at present, between two acting Boards for Foreign and Domestic Missions, having their respective seats at Richmond, Va., and Marion, Ala. We sympathise with the Macedonian cry from every part of the heathen world,—with the low moan, for spiritual aid, of the four millions of half stifled Red Men, our neighbors ; with the sons of Ethiopia among us, stretching forth their hands of supplication for the gospel, to God and all his people,—and we have shaken ourselves from the night mare of a six years' "strife about words to no profit," for the profit of these poor, perishing and precious souls. Our language to all America, and to all christendom, if they will hear us, is "*come over*," and for *these* objects, as ye love souls, and the divine Saviour of souls, "*help us*." We ask help at this juncture for nothing else. We have had more talk than work about these objects too long. We have waited quite too long for the more learned and gifted, and opulent, and worthy, to lead our way toward these objects ;

*It was not dwelt upon in the Augusta Convention—we do not recollect its being named, but it is too stringent a fact in the case to be here omitted,—that one of the missionaries, with whom the Acting Board, and Board of Managers can sympathise, we presume, and whom they sustain (we hope, however, not in this particular act, but they have in no way openly protested against it)—Brother Mason has actually remitted money to the United States to aid in assisting slaves to "run away from their masters," a felony by the Statute Law of several States.

and we have shortened debate upon them to get to business. Our eyes and hearts are turned with feelings of parental fondness to Burmah and the Karens; with a zeal in which we are willing to be counselled by God and all considerate men, (but by none else,) to the continent of Africa, and *her* pernicious fountains of idolatry, oppression and blood; but yet more, with unutterable hope and thankfulness, to China and her providentially opened ports, and teeming thirsty millions. Among us, in the South, we have property, which we will offer to the Lord and his cause, in these channels—some prudence with which we would have our best wisdom † to dwell; and professions of a piety which we seek to have increased and purified, like that of the first Baptist churches, when they had “rest; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.”

In parting with beloved brethren and old co-adjutors in this cause, we could weep, and have wept, for ourselves and for them; but the season, as well of weeping as of vain jangling, is, we are constrained to believe, just now past. For years the pressure of men's hands has been upon us far too heavily. Our brethren have pressed upon every inch of our privileges and our sacred rights—but this shall only urge our gushing souls to yield proportionately of their renewed efforts to the Lord, to the church universal, and to a dying world; even as water pressed from without rises but the more within. Above all, the mountain pressure of our obligations to God, even our own God; to Christ and to Him crucified; and to the personal and social blessings of the Holy Spirit and his influences, shall urge our little streams of the water of life to flow forth; until every wilderness and desolate place within our reach (and what extent of the world's wilderness wisely considered is not within our reach?) “shall be glad”—even at this passing calamity of division; and the deserts of unconverted human nature “rejoice and blossom as the rose.”

By order of the Convention.

WILLIAM B. JOHNSON, D. D.

Augusta, Ga., 12th May, 1845.

† Prov. viii: 12.

