

### To the Southern Baptist Convention

From the day I was appointed to the mission Field it was less than one month till the Southern Baptist Convention held its annual meeting in Chattanooga, and the Board asked Dozier, Rowe and me to be there. We three were introduced to the Convention and each of us was allowed to speak a few words. The school-teacher from Meridianville reached the city after I did and I met her at the train and escorted her to her Convention-house<sup>me</sup> where she was guest of a Chattanooga family. One afternoon when I didn't have to attend a meeting "we two" went up lookout Mountain on the "Incline." It was a beautiful May afternoon and we had a wonderful visit in wonderful surroundings.

Soon the teacher was finishing her teaching in the U. S. A. until many years later and I was back at Louisville finishing my work for Th. M.

By correspondence we soon had the important "date" settled:—, the afternoon of Thursday, June 14 at the family home about three miles North of Decherd, Tennessee. Present were Elias Lee, wife and three daughters, the mother Mrs. Jane Krotger le<sup>S</sup>, Mrs. W. F. Hereford, my brother Gideon P. Bouldin, the preacher Brother Eshmond, and last but not least the Bride and Groom. I had \$10 for the preacher and we were soon on our way, the newly-weds spending their wedding night at the Read House in Chattanooga following the suggestion of my sister Laura.

We spent some of the days before we were to "sail" from San Francisco on September 4, 1906 at the home of Brother Gideon, and while there Maggie joined the Baptist Church at Hollywood and was baptized in the Tennessee River by the Pastor Charley Starkey (giving up her membership in the Cumberland Presbyterian Church at Winchester where she had been brought up), and I brought my letter to the same church and was there ordained to the full work of the Ministry by C. T. Starkey, D. S. Collins, Virgil Bouldin, and G. P. Bouldin in July 1906. + M. T. Davis,

New Missionaries are usually kept pretty busy when they are around, and we were no exception. (Do people have curiosity about new Missionaries?)

We had the advantage, when called upon to speak, of knowing very little of the world into which we were about to plunge, and of being free to create a world of faith and ideals, and at the same time the disadvantage of having little experience upon which to draw. But in the main those who heard us were in a similar condition and were as free as we were to draw upon their imaginations to picture us going through the experiences of a life as yet untasted.

But we had hopes and visions based upon what we had been taught to believe, and like Abraham we looked for a city which had the foundations whose maker and builder is God.