

J. E. DAVIS,
TOLUCA, MÉXICO.

Toluca Mexico, May 20th 1905

Inasmuch as I violated a rule of the Board in writing the letter to Dr. Willingham bearing date of March 24th, which letter related to the work in Toluca and as some of the statements of the letter appear to convey meaning which I did not intend, upon the advice of Brethren Newbrough, Cheavens and Hooker, I withdraw said letter for the sake of peace in Zion.

Respectfully,

J. E. Davis

RUFUS W. HOOKER, M. D.,
PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
MISSIONARY OF THE
SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

RESIDENCE, OFFICE, CHAPEL:
CALLE DEL PROGRESO, NUM. 48.

LEON, MEXICO. May, 23, 1905.

TO THE FOREIGN MISSION BOARD OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION,

Richmond Virginia.

Dear Brethren:-

The two brethren, J.S. Cheavens and R.W. Hooker, who were selected by the Board to adjust the differences between brethren J.E. Davis and R.P. Mahon of Toluca, deemed it best to select a third brother, and accordingly asked Bro. J.W. Newbrough to accompany them on this mission which he willingly did. This proved to be a wise step.

We deemed it best to go at our own time to Toluca without notice to the brethren, and upon arrival, Friday night May, 19th, went directly to a hotel where we might have seclusion and give neither brother the advantage over the other in presenting his side of the case. The committee was formally organized by electing Bro. Newbrough as chairman, and Bro. Hooker as secretary. After a season of prayer and deliberation, we decided to ask each brother to come before the committee separately and make his own statement of the case; and at the instance of the committee a full and complete statement of all the details was presented by each brother as he saw them. Whereupon considerable time was spent in prayer with each brother before he left the room. Not until the conference with these brethren was ended did we fully realize the gravity of the situation. In order to more fully grasp the entire situation, we asked the brethren to present to us a copy of all letters passed between them, and of all correspondence passed between each brother and the Board, dating forward from March 24, 1905, the first formal announcement of any dissatisfaction. These were put into our hands early the following morning. The entire morning was then given to a thorough investigation of these documents, and after much prayer a unanimous decision was reached in our minds as to what both brethren ought to do. We found that each brother had greatly erred, and it took much pleading, argument, and prayer to convince them of the course that each ought to pursue in the matter. The entire afternoon and a good part of the night were thus spent. Indeed, the night was far spent before a perfect understanding was reached. In order to secure a real reconciliation it was deemed necessary that each brother should make some concessions and acknowledgments. Bro. Davis finally agreed to withdraw his letter of March 24th to the Board, in which he makes certain criticisms of Bro. Mahon and his methods of work. Accompanying this report will be found a signed agreement by Bro. Davis to such withdrawal, and we as a committee therefore ask that Bro. Davis' letter to the Board bearing date of March, 24, 1905, be returned to him. The points in said letter which we consider too strongly stated, and which in conversation with the committee Bro. Davis admitted to be objectionable, are such as follow:

"There is nothing being done to evangelize this place or the surrounding places." "We are not even trying to win these boys and girls we have in the schools." "To my certain knowledge nothing is being done to accomplish this". "Then the spirit of the direction is such as to render it very dissatisfactory to me. He is exacting with others but can drag along and take his ease while the rest of us work....he preaches just as little as he can possibly get along with, and as to going out to the towns round about, he not only does not do it but does not let the boys of the school do it. I want to go out, but his advice is to wait. Ah, that is the spirit of the whole thing--wait, wait, tomorrow, tomorrow."

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PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON,
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SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

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2- Report of Committee.

LEON, MEXICO.

"I know of nothing being done to reach the people of the town". "I have no hope of coming into the directorship of the schools as has been planned. Le Sueur was to have taken that work but no, there is no one capable. You have the most senseless set of missionaries in this country, so we hear very often. They can scarcely keep out of the fire. The Board too, as to that matter. I, I know it all; you poor senseless fellows come and learn of me for six, eight or ten years and then perhaps you can do a little thing or two".

"Miss Schantz came here for work in the training department. She has to drudge along like the rest of us under a spy and 'next year we are to have the training school. She is displeased. I do not blame her a bit. Dodd wants to get away as soon as possible. I do not blame him. It is hard for a man.. ..to come here to nagged at every day of his existence--told that he is not learning anything, that he will have to learn a great deal before he can do anything, spied on by a native teacher and that at the suggestion of the director, laughed at for every little mistake when others make many mistakes, gayed at and other things I could mention. We are all disgusted."

Bro. Mahon also agreed to make due apologies for all wrongs which we considered done Bro. Davis and also for whatever actions that Bro. Davis had misconstrued as intentional slights or wrongs done him.

The next course decided upon was to have the brethren meet each other face to face in our presence. Upon their admittance into the room, Bro. Mahon stepped forward and feelingly asked Bro. Davis to forgive him of his former unchristian language and of whatever other wrongs Bro. Davis considered he might have done him. In a like feeling manner, Bro. Davis also asked forgiveness of Bro. Mahon of all wrongs done him. Each accepted the apology offered by the other. The scene which then followed is simply indescribable. Brethren all wept like children, embraced each other and confessed their faults one to another, while strong resolutions were made to live as brethren and companions in the great work of the Lord. We all then fell upon our knees in thanksgiving to God for the grace of forgiveness and reconciliation in the religion of Christ. The most beautiful thing of all was the fervency with which brethren Mahon and Davis prayed for each other.

We therefore fully believe that the whole matter is settled, and suggest that no changes are at present necessary, or should be made, at least until the close of the present school year.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. Newbrough
J. S. Cheavens.
R. W. Hooker

Com.

J. E. DAVIS,

Toluca, México.

Toluca Mexico, May 24th 1905

Dr. R.J.Willingham,
Richmond, Va.

My Dear Brother:-

I want to congratulate you on the great success of the work and the great report you had to make at Kansas City this year. It does me good in my soul. May the Lord ^{lead} his people to do all you have asked for the coming year! Surely his seal of approval is on the work and why can we not pray for a great revival at home and abroad for 1905-1906?

Well, our trouble is all settled for which I am devoutly grateful. I think I shall now stay here till the end of the school year any way. The brethren have been here and adjusted things satisfactorily to all concerned. It is good to have peace. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" You will get their report if not already.

Well, we are working hard to finish our first issue of Expositor. We have been rushed so we have not put out the job we expect to next time. We did not have time to do the work as it deserves to be done but it is very good as it is, yet I hope to do better and not be rushed so.

The other day I went over to the City and bought a Gasoline engine with which to run the press. I found it would be cheaper by about half as to the expense of running, although the engine cost more than a motor would have cost. The engine cost me with the fixtures necessary to tie it to the press about \$400 Mexican. I am wondering if the Board might not, now as it is recognized what a great good can be done with this press here,

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TOLUCA, MÉXICO.

grant me an appropriation to pay for this engine. If I can once get it paid for, I am not afraid but that we can make the plant self-sustaining. I have done enough work for the brethren already to assure me of this, but it is such a heavy press that we cannot run it with foot-power without killing ourselves, and the power was an absolute necessity. We are going to get out an issue of five or six tracts right soon now that will probably run up to 50 or 75 thousand. We have one now in ready for type written by Brother Newbrough of Chihuahua on Who are the Baptists? that is pronounced an excellent tract. Others are to follow. I am negotiating with Brother Chaavens for a translation of Dr. Dargan's new book on Baptist Doctrines which we intend to bring out within a year if possible. To do all this work, we had to have the power and the engine was the best under the circumstances as a motor would be useless on any other current if I should have to move whereas the engine will work anywhere.

Let me hear from you what you think about this. And will you also put it before the Board?

I will close. With much love I remain,

Yours Fraternally,

J. E. Davis