

OUR HOME FIELD.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE HOME MISSION BOARD OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION, ATLANTA, GA.

VOL. I.

ATLANTA, GEORGIA, NOVEMBER, 1888.

NO. 3.

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SKETCH OF THE HISTORY OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

We propose to compile from our file of the minutes a full sketch of the history of our convention, which we will publish in successive issues of our paper. But as introductory to this sketch we present the following account of the origin of the convention, given by Rev. Dr. William Williams, of South Carolina, in his introductory sermon before the convention at its session in St. Louis in 1871:

The Southern Baptist Convention was organized in the city of Augusta, Ga., in the month of May, 1845. It originated in a withdrawal of the Southern churches from union and co-operation with "The General Convention of the Baptist Denomination in the United States," popularly known as the Triennial Convention. This body was organized in Philadelphia, May 21, 1814. It had at first but one object, the prosecution of foreign missions.

This work was confided to a board of commissioners styled "The Baptist Board of Foreign Missions in the United States," and located finally at Boston. At the first triennial session, in 1817, the one object of the convention was enlarged so as to embrace domestic missions, both objects being intrusted to the one board until an experience of several years showed that it was wiser to confine the labors of the board to the one object of foreign missions. Domestic missions being withdrawn from the convention and its board in 1826, and there being a growing desire and demand for benevolent effort in this direction—a natural result of the foreign mission work—"The American Baptist Home Mission Society" was organized in Philadelphia in 1832. If it seem desirable to any, on the score of economy, to merge our foreign and domestic mission boards into one,

let us profit by the experience of our brethren in past years, and hesitate to sacrifice efficiency to a mistaken economy. The constitution of the Triennial Convention, as well as the history of its proceedings from the beginning, conferred on all the members of the Baptist denomination in good standing, whether at the North or the South, eligibility to all appointments emanating from the convention or the board. Unmistakable indications, however, not necessary nor profitable to speak of particularly, prompted the Alabama Baptist State Convention, in 1844, to adopt a preamble and resolution to be transmitted

When this reply was made known the board of the Virginia Foreign Mission Society addressed a circular to the Baptist churches of Virginia communicating this decision of the board of the Triennial Convention, and containing, among others, a resolution "that this board are of opinion that in the present exigency it is important that those brethren who are aggrieved by the recent decision of the board in Boston, should hold a convention to confer on the best means of promoting the foreign mission cause and other interests of the Baptist denomination in the South," and suggesting Augusta, Ga., as a



THOS. R. MUSICK, the first resident Baptist preacher of Missouri, was a native of Virginia. He removed to North Carolina and thence to Kentucky, and visited Missouri first in 1801. He settled in the State, near Bridgeton, a few miles from St. Louis, in 1803, was abundant in labors, was greatly blessed by the Lord, and was a pioneer preacher worthy of all honor.

ted to the board of foreign missions of the Triennial Convention, the second of the resolutions being as follows: "That our duty at this crisis requires us to demand from the proper authorities in all those bodies, to whose funds we have contributed or with whom we have in any way been connected, the distinct, explicit avowal that slave-holders are eligible and entitled equally with non-slaveholders to all the privileges and immunities of their several unions, and especially to receive any agency or mission, or other appointment which may run within the scope of their operations or duties." To this the board, in the course of their reply, frankly and explicitly said, "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. One thing is certain, we can never be a party to any arrangement which would imply approbation of slavery."

suitable place for holding such convention, and Thursday before the second Lord's day in May, 1845, as a suitable time. Both at the North and the South a separation seemed inevitable. At the North it was desired by many, regretted by few, and expected by all. Among the Northern churches, so prevalent was becoming the opposition to Christian fellowship and co-operation with Southern churches that there would have been a disastrous rupture among themselves if a separation of the Southern churches had not taken place, even without its being forced upon them by the infringement of their rights and the denial of their moral equality. Already in 1843 there had been organized in Boston a Free Mission Society in opposition to the board of the Triennial Convention, and upon the expressed basis of non-co-operation with Southern churches. This society was steadily gaining favor, and seriously endangering the

resources, if not the very existence of the board of the convention as one that affiliated with Southern Christians. If there must be a rupture, it was very naturally preferred by the North that it should be between the North and the South, and not between themselves.

The New York Baptist Register for April, 1847, said, "What, then, but an increased division at the North can be looked for by further efforts to perpetuate the union? A serious rupture in the North is seemingly inevitable if it be longer insisted on, and compromises and accommodations are arranged to effect it. * * * Would it not be seemingly far better that if there be a division it take place between the North and the South? Few of us, seriously considering the matter, even with strong sympathy for the South, can come to any other decision. For ourselves, we deplore the necessity of the division, but when things reach such a crisis as they appear to have done, deplore it as we may, there is no prospect of peace or comfort in the continuance, and weakness rather than wisdom would yield to efforts to effect it. Is there any prospect of making our annual meetings any other than places of excitement and debate if the union should longer be maintained? We certainly cannot see a gleam of hope, nor do we believe any one else can. If so, why is it not best that our Southern brethren take their position on one side of the line and we take ours on the other, and engage in the various departments of benevolent effort with renewed zeal and increased liberty? If this should be done, why may we not expect that both the North and the South will do much more than they have ever done before? * * But if the subject of slavery were entirely out of the way, we are strongly inclined to the opinion that such division would be desirable on account of the immense extent of our country. The distance for delegates to travel is exceedingly burdensome and expensive; and the Executive Board being located far to the north leaves the South almost without a sense of responsibility, and tends to keep them in a state of comparative indifference and inaction. Whereas, if they possessed a separate and distinct organization of the great interests within their own precincts, it would break up their leaning so much on the North as they have done, call out their resources and energies, and make them better acquainted with their own ability, and train them to independence and efficiency." These latter were wise words then, and they are wiser words now.

Before the proposed Convention in Augusta could meet to deliberate upon any course for the future, a separa-

and had certainly been made by the Home Mission Society at its meeting in Providence, April, 1865. At that meeting Dr. Magnus of New York, proposed the following preamble and resolutions:

Whereas, The American Baptist Home Mission Society is composed of churches in slaveholding and non-slaveholding States; and whereas the constitution recognizes no distinction among the members of the Society as to eligibility to all the offices and appointments in the gift both of the Society and of the Board; and whereas it has been found that the basis on which the Society was organized is one upon which all the members and friends of the Society are not now willing to act; therefore,

Resolved, That in any opinion it is expedient that the members now forming the Society should hereafter act as separate organizations at the South and at the North, so preventing the object which was originally contemplated by the Society.

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to report a plan by which the object contemplated in the preceding resolution may be accomplished in the best way, and at the earliest period of time, consistent with the preservation of the constitutional rights of all the members, and with the best possible maintenance of the missionary work of the Society.

There was adopted by a unanimous majority, subject to the action of the annual convention a committee was appointed which reported that "as the existing Society was organized in the North, has its Executive Board, and thus received a charter of incorporation which it seems desirable to preserve, and as a separation seems to many minds inevitable, owing to the strong views of churches and individuals against the appointment of slaveholders to serve the Society, and as such views prevail principally at the North," it was therefore recommended "that the existing organization be retained by the Northern and other churches, which may be willing to act together upon the basis of restriction against the appointment of slaveholders." This was adopted by an almost unanimous vote. Such, then, is the basis of the Home Mission Society. Of course, therefore, only those can consistently work with it and under its appointment, who recognize the scriptural propriety of such a restriction.

The Board of the Triennial Convention having by its decision, cut off Southern churches from the privilege of preaching the gospel to the heathen by their appointment, if any should at any time feel called to do so, and the Home Mission Society having declared a separation from Southern churches, and making arrangements to effect it upon the avowed ground of an unwillingness to work together with them upon terms of Christian equality, it was seen that there was but one aspect for the Southern churches to pursue. If Southern Christians were to have the privilege of preaching the gospel to the heathen abroad and to their kindred at home. However painful a separation might be, and whatever might be the responsibility, it

was felt that it rested not upon them. They were not making the separation. It was forced upon them, and the deed and responsibility rested upon others. Dr. Wayland, in a letter to Dr. Lister, said, "You will separate, of course. I could not ask otherwise. Your rights have been infringed. I will take the liberty of offering one or two suggestions. We have shown how Christians ought not to act. It remains for you to show us how they might act. Put away all violence, act with dignity and firmness, and the world will approve your course."

At the call of the Board of Managers of the Virginia Foreign Mission Society, those assembled in Augusta, May 8, 1866, three hundred and ten delegates from the States of Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana, Kentucky and the District of Columbia. Owing to the short notice of the meeting of the Convention, other States were reported only by letter. Rev. William B. Johnson, D. D., was chosen President. He was resolved "that a committee of two from each State represent it in the meeting be appointed to prepare and report a preamble and resolution for the action of the Convention."

The resolution reported by the committee is as follows:

Resolved, That for peace and harmony, and in order to accomplish the greatest amount of good, and for the maintenance 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 do now proceed to organize a Society for the propagation of the gospel.

This was unanimously adopted, and the same committee, with some additions, was appointed to prepare a constitution, which, after some amendments, was adopted unanimously. In the address of the Convention "to the brethren in the United States, to the congregations connected with the respective churches, and to all candid men," it is said: "The constitution we adopt is precisely that of the original union; that in connection with which, throughout his missionary life, Adoniram Judson labored, and under which Ann Judson and Boardman have died. We recede from it no single step."

We use the very terms as we uphold the true spirit and true object of the late General Convention of the Baptist Denomination of the United States. It would seem, then, from the resolution above given, and from this extract from the address of the Convention, that the Southern Baptist Convention, formed upon the constitution of the Triennial Convention, and "for the maintenance of the scriptural principle" on which it "was originally formed," is the real and proper successor and continuator of that body, which at a special meeting held in New York, November 18, 1865, was "dissolved," and the American Bible Missionary Union, with an entirely new constitution and a different basis of membership, organized in its stead.

At the meeting in Augusta a Board of Foreign Missions was appointed, to be located in Richmond, Virginia, and one for Domestic Missions, to be located in Marion, Alabama. Before the adjournment of the Convention, it was 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 regard the exhibition of the spirit which has governed its deliberations as a pledge of the divine blessing in the origin and prosecution of this organization."

STATE WORK.

We resume our sketch of "State Work" which was begun in our last issue, and will be continued from time to time until the readers of Our Home Field are in possession of the leading facts connected with the work and methods of the denomination in each State, affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

We repeat again that we shall not comment upon the methods of work which the several States have chosen to adopt, but hope that there may be among the leaders in each a disposition to study the methods of others with a view of improving their own and increasing the efficiency of the general work.

ALABAMA.

The Baptists of this State do their work through a General Convention which meets annually and appoints the following Boards to whom the work of the convention is committed:

Directors State Mission Board of which Rev. Dr. J. M. Frost is President and Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Cor. Secretary. **Board of Ministerial Education**; with Dr. M. B. Wharton, President and G. W. Ellis, Secretary. **Church Building Board**, with Dr. M. H. Lane as President and Dr. G. A. Nunnally as Secretary, Treasurer and General Agent. **Trustees of Howard College and Trustees of Judson Institute.**

The following extracts from the annual report of the efficient Cor. Secretary of the State Mission Board (Rev. W. B. Crumpton) will give a general idea of the work in the State.

The past has been a year of blessing to our people in Alabama. More than 6,000 were added to our churches by baptism; our contributions for all benevolent purposes, as reported in the minutes of Associations, have been over \$20,000; our schools have been well patronized; forty-four young ministers have been assisted in securing their education; our paper, the *Alabama Baptist*, has more subscribers than ever in its history; the Lord has blessed our State with fruitful seasons, and now there is no suffering in all our borders. With these blessings come increased responsibilities. Into our State is pouring a population which will give us trouble if we do not evangelize

them. This is your work; the Lord is ready your agent.

We are doing something toward evangelizing our State, but nothing like what needs to be done. We have accepted the new opens and important centers, and supplied the demand as far as we were able with the means in hand.

We need fifteen thousand dollars for our State work; it can be raised if pastors will press collections throughout the year; if anything like the same activity should prevail through the year as is exhibited in the last few weeks before our Convention, we would easily get all the mission money asked for from the State. Our missionaries have worked well, and are encouraging in their work as a general thing.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

Number of missionaries employed for all or a part of their time, 70; number now at work, 52; days of service, 4,720; miles traveled, 32,153; sermons delivered, 2,737; addresses made, 657; churches constituted, 18; number of persons baptized, 363; baptized by others in connection with their labors, 376; received by letter, 427; restored, 55; Sunday-schools organized, 247; Sunday-schools addressed, 247; ladies' missionary societies organized, 12; prayer-meetings organized, 27; prayer-meetings held, 736; number of visits to preaching stations, 291; number of churches visited, 440; number visits made, 5,024; subscribers to the *Alabama Baptist* secured, 267; subscribers to the *Foreign Mission Journal* secured, 97; families destitute of the Bible, 162; number of Bibles donated, 127; number of Testaments donated, 211; value of Bibles and Testaments donated, \$27.35; number of books and pamphlets sold, 806; value of books and pamphlets sold, \$638.24; pages of tracts distributed, 5,198; meeting-houses commenced, 24; meeting-houses finished, 4; money collected for meeting-houses \$4,261.20; money collected for State Missions, \$952.54; money collected for Home Missions, \$53.68; money collected for Foreign Missions, \$72.03; money collected for ministerial education, \$129.20.

RECEIPTS OF THE BOARDS.

State Missions, \$5,183.76; Home Missions, \$2,227.15; Foreign Missions, \$3,027.70; ministerial education, \$526.70; ministerial education, special, \$46.25; education colored preacher, \$47.55; endowment Howard College, \$95.15; indigent ministers, \$118.52; church building in Alabama, \$1,256.85; Bible work, American Baptist Pub. Society, \$90.26; gratuitous tract fund, \$23.00; Bible and colportage, \$170.14. Total, \$15,513.49.

MISSOURI.

This great State does its work through the General Association, which has one General Mission Board, but agents in the field for nearly every object—North and South. We will give hereafter the

details of their work, but can only give now the following summary from the very efficient Secretary of the State Mission Board, Rev. S. M. Brown.

The reports of our work for the year ending October 10th, 1887, show:

Missionaries employed, . . . 33
Conversions, . . . 938
Baptisms, . . . 646
Collected for the work, . . . \$12,046.18

The year closed with a balance in the treasury of \$2,377.70.

So far the present year's work is the most promising in the history of the denomination. At the end of the second quarter a larger number of conversions and baptisms were reported than were reported during the entire preceding associational year. The Mission Board has in its employ this year 48 missionaries and missionary pastors. The expenses of the Board this year will be some \$44,000. The Board closed the first half of the year without debt.

In addition to our State Mission work, our District Associations expended last year in District Mission work, \$19,435.86, which, together with \$9,437.98 expended in State work, aggregates the sum of \$28,873.84 expended in mission work in Missouri independent of mission houses built, etc.

June, 1888.

RECAPITULATION OF THE REPORT OF MISSION BOARD TO MISSOURI BAPTIST GENERAL ASSOCIATION, OCTOBER, 1888.

General missionaries, . . .	4
Local missionaries, . . .	13
S. S. missionaries, general and local, . . .	2
Churches aided, . . .	41
Days of labor, . . .	7,581
Sermons preached, . . .	4,846
Conversions reported, . . .	1,505
Baptisms, . . .	1,116
Associations contributing, . . .	54
Churches " . . .	415
Total collections for the year, . . .	\$15,585.15
Total expenditures, . . .	13,805.58
Balance in Treasury, . . .	2,751.17
Of this balance, cash for State Missions, . . .	1,779.77
Cash for colportage, . . .	246.15
Books and accounts in hands of colportage commission, . . .	725.45
S. M. Brown, October, 1888. Cor. Secretary.	

TENNESSEE.

We were very much disappointed in not being able to attend the recent meeting of the Tennessee Convention at Columbia, and have not yet seen the full text of the report of the Board. But we give now the following letter from Secretary Anderson, which was "crowded out" of our last, and some extracts from newspaper reports, which will give a general idea of the work in Tennessee:

Nashville, June 27th.

We have twenty missionaries now at work under appointment of the State Board, at an expense of about \$6,500 per annum. Twenty-two points are occupied. The work is

concentrated this year as never before perhaps. The policy of the State Board is the right man at the right place, in the right time, until the field becomes self-sustaining. Most of the Associations have fallen into line in this work or they are doing so. The points now occupied are Greenville, Loy's Cross Roads, Cleveland, Winter's Gap, Knoxville, Chattanooga, Salem Association, Nashville, Columbia, Chilhowee Association, Dyer, Bradshaw, Mt. Zion, Medina, Wayne Station, Tiptonville, Greenfield, Memphis, Lexington, together with several points in some of the Associations.

Several new houses of worship are being built, and baptisms are frequent. Altogether, this will doubtless be the most fruitful year in the history of our State mission work.

Truly yours,

J. H. ANDERSON.

We clip the following from the re-



OLD BETHEL, THE FIRST PROTESTANT HOUSE OF WORSHIP WEST OF THE MISSISSIPPI.

It was constructed of very large, yellow, hewn poplar logs; its dimensions were about twenty by thirty feet, and it was located about a mile and a half south of Jackson. Now there are over 1400 Baptist churches in Missouri. We regret that we have not a cut of one of these—the Second church in St. Louis for example—to show the progress in church architecture.

port of the recent meeting of the Tennessee Convention in the *Western Recorder*.

The report of the Statistical Secretary showed that in the State, there are 43 Associations, 555 preachers, 1,177 churches, 6,185 baptized, 2,672 received by letter, 342 received by relation, 420 restored. Total white members, 90,554. They gave \$10,669 for missions, or an average of eight cents per member. There are also in the State, 32,005 colored Baptists, making a total of 122,559.

STATE MISSIONS.

Rev. J. H. Anderson, Corresponding Secretary, made an encouraging report. One great difficulty was the lack of circulation of denominational papers and other literature. There is great need of colportage.

Cleveland, Tiptonville, Antioch and Greenville have become self-sustaining. The report showed work as follows: Days' labor, 3,933; miles traveled, 25,140; sermons, 1,700; addresses, 408; prayer-meetings, 552;

baptisms, 173; additions, 386; families visited, 3,514; in Sunday-schools, 1,830.

Dr. Lofton offered the report of the Committee on State Missions. Congratulating the denomination on what has been done, the committee urged the raising of \$20,000 for missions next year, the amount to be apportioned among the Associations. The destitution in Middle Tennessee was emphasized. Now is the best opportunity the Baptists of Tennessee are likely to have.

KENTUCKY.

The Baptists in this State have one General Board, which works to secure contributions from all the churches for all of the objects to which they are accustomed to contribute.

Rev. Dr. J. W. Warder is the Corresponding Secretary, and has been working to develop the "Kentucky

Families visited, . . .	2,145
Houses of worship commenced, . . .	3
Temperance meetings attended, . . .	21
Foreign mission societies attended, . . .	4
Home mission societies attended, . . .	14
Letters and cards written, . . .	299
Sabbath-schools organized, . . .	13
Sabbath-schools supplied with literature, . . .	40
Subscribers Foreign Mission Journal, . . .	443
Subscribers Chronicle, . . .	55
Addresses, . . .	195
Religious conversations, . . .	487
General meetings and associations attended, . . .	68
Prayer meetings held, . . .	492
Pages tracts distributed, . . .	23,309
Bibles and Testaments distributed, . . .	402
Baptisms, . . .	552
Restorations, . . .	116
By letter, . . .	118
Total accessions, . . .	786
Churches organized, . . .	6
Journals distributed, . . .	360
Total receipts of the Board, . . .	\$8,606.60
Advance over last year, . . .	\$2,539.60

MARYLAND.

The last report shows that the "Maryland Baptist Union," with which the churches of Maryland are connected, has fifty ordained ministers, fifty-seven churches and a membership of 13,117.

At the recent session of this body Rev. Dr. O. F. Gregory, Corresponding Secretary, gave a detailed account of his work during the year. He visited all the counties in the State where Baptist missions are located, and found the missionary preachers a faithful set of men. There are twenty-five Baptist missions in the State, white and colored included. The missionaries have put in about 1,000 weeks of labor, preached 2,500 sermons, made 1,000 addresses, held 1,500 prayer meetings, made 10,000 visits, distributed nearly 40,000 pages of tracts, and baptized about 400 persons.

Messrs. F. W. King and James Pollard submitted the report of the work among the colored people. Great progress, says the report, is being made among the colored people in the interest of the Baptist churches. The colored preachers are able and consecrated men, and are working with might and main to advance the interests of the kingdom of Christ in the earth.

The educational committee reported that eleven young men have been assisted in obtaining an education for the ministry. For this purpose \$643.75 had been expended. One thousand dollars will be needed to push this same work this year.

The contributions of the churches last year amounted to \$106,000—an average of about \$8.00 per member and an increase of \$5,000 on the contributions of the year before; eight new churches were added to the Association; there was exhibited a spirit

(Continued on 7th page.)

Received from June 1, 1887 to June 1, 1888:	
For Foreign Missions, . . .	\$ 7,537.43
For Home Missions, . . .	6,565.95
For State Missions, . . .	12,111.05
Sunday-school and colportage, including the \$1,000 raised and expended in Mission Sunday Schools, Louisville, by Mission Society of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and \$5,000 from book sales, . . .	10,457.83
Ministerial Education, . . .	1,500.00
Baptist Orphan's Home, . . .	6,000.00
	\$44,172.26
Number of missionaries, . . .	23
Sermons preached, . . .	1,420
Miles traveled, . . .	23,980

OUR HOME FIELD.

(Entered at the Post-office at Atlanta, Ga., as second class mail matter.)

TERMS, PER ANNUM.

- I. For papers separately addressed, either to
 a pastor or to a different post-office:
 One copy \$1.00
 Five copies for \$4.00
 Ten copies for \$7.00
 Twenty copies for \$12.00 or more at
 the rate of \$1.00 per copy.
- II. For packages sent to one person, who shall
 be responsible for their distribution:
 Twenty copies for \$10.00 or more at
 the rate of \$1.00 per copy.

ADVERTISING RATES.

Per inch for each insertion \$1.00
 If one-half column is taken 15% per cent. off.
 If one column is taken, 25 per cent. is taken off.
 All communications for the columns of the
 paper should be addressed to J. W. Jones,
 Editor, 21 North St., Atlanta, Ga.
 All advertisements or advertisements should be
 sent to A. C. BRISCOE, Business Manager, P. O.
 Box 196, Atlanta, Ga.

J. WILLIAM JONES, EDITOR.
 A. C. BRISCOE, BUSINESS MANAGER.

ATLANTA, GA., NOV., 1888.

WHAT SUNDAY-SCHOOL HELPS
SHOULD OUR SCHOOLS USE?

We give below two opinions of
 KIND WORDS from two of our ablest
 Baptist papers, the *Southern Baptist
 Record* and the *Western Recorder*:

We are glad to call attention to
 the advertisement of "KIND WORDS
 publications" in our columns this-
 week. There is no question of the abili-
 ty, thoroughness, practicalness and
 soundness of these expositions and
 helps. No Sunday-school will suffer
 loss by using them in preference to
 others, and every one will get great
 gain who adopts and makes good use
 of them. The publishers say the
 quarterlies for the fourth quarter are
 now ready and all orders sent will re-
 ceive prompt attention. Remember
 this series of Sunday-school helps is
 authorized and endorsed by the
 Southern Baptist Convention, which
 ought to be commendation enough
 for Southern Baptists.—*Southern Baptist
 Record*.

KIND WORDS TEACHER.

Our Board has secured the services
 of Dr. Shaver as editor of this valuable
 magazine. Dr. Manly will aid in the
 expositions of the lessons.

For the Board has felt the import-
 ance of having the expositions of the
 lessons which are to be taught to our
 Baptist children written by those
 whose soundness in doctrine and
 whose scholarship are alike known in
 all our Southern churches. The ex-
 positions will be veritable expositions
 of the word of God.

Of Dr. Shaver's ability as an editor
 it is not necessary to speak, as he has
 been tried in that capacity and found
 all that any of us could wish. No
 Sunday-school teacher or superin-
 tendent in our States can afford to be
 without the *Teacher*, and no one who
 has ever once used it will be willing
 to be without. A teacher who has
 never used this magazine can form
 no idea of the great help it will be in
 preparing the lessons. There is no
 one commentary which will be found
 as useful. We know that Peloubet
 and others write every year a series
 of expositions of the Sunday-school
 lessons. Some of these are very good,

and we hope no one will accuse us of
 attacking them if we insist that none
 of them begin to equal our *Teacher*
 for Southern Baptists. As a general
 thing they are not written by Bap-
 tists; when they are, they are by
 those who are not strictly under the
 control of the churches; and there
 isn't an expositor among them to
 surpass and far to equal Drs. Manly,
 Whitsett, Frost, etc.

We looked over one of these vol-
 umes lately. So far as we read, and
 that was a large portion, there was
 nothing to which we could object.
 Signs of commission there were none,
 but signs of omission on every page
 but three. For example, where the
 doctrine of God's absolute sovereignty
 was clearly taught in the lesson, and
 would have been forcibly set forth
 by Dr. Manly had he written the ex-
 position, there was not a hint of it in
 the writer's words. And all the great
 doctrines which Baptists love were
 skillfully avoided. This was not be-
 cause the writer himself did not be-
 lieve them, very likely—about his
 private faith we know nothing—but
 because the book would have a more
 "general" sale.

The longer we live the more firmly
 we are convinced that the deacons of
 our churches are the grandest set of
 men on the earth. And now we wish
 to appeal to those who read this ar-
 ticle, because we know they feel their
 responsibility to their Lord to do all
 they can for his churches. If you do
 not get the *Kind Words* for your
 brethren, write to Atlanta for a spec-
 imen copy, inclosing three stamps,
 and when it comes examine it care-
 fully. If you find it what it ought
 to be, not flashy and sensational,
 but sound, Baptist and scholarly,
 then see to it that the Sunday-school
 of your church subscribes for enough
 copies to give every teacher one. The
 same amount of money could not be
 spent in any way which would, un-
 der God, do more good to the church-
 es. Many of our deacons are able,
 and will be willing, when once they
 make themselves acquainted with the
Kind Words Teacher, to present the
 Sunday-school with a year's sub-
 scription to as many copies as there
 are teachers.—*Western Recorder*.

We beg our pastors, Sunday-school
 superintendents, officers and teachers,
 that in deciding on their Sunday-
 school "Helps" for 1889, they will
 consider whether they ought not to
 patronize the *Kind Words Series*,
 which our Home Board is publishing
 by order of the Southern Baptist Con-
 vention.

FIELD FOR KIND WORDS.

The number of Baptist churches
 in the South is 25,527 with an
 aggregate membership of 2,250,876.

The number of Sunday-schools
 reported is 9,580. We are sure they
 are not less than 10,000.

The number of teachers and pupils
 reported is 594,599, or say in round
 numbers 600,000. This is the pre-
 sent status.

In the Northern States, with 8,364
 churches and 684,439 members, they

have 5,967 Sunday-schools with
 641,287 teachers and pupils.

Now suppose our Southern
 churches can in respect to Sunday-
 schools be brought up to the same
 degree of efficiency as now obtains
 in the northern churches. They
 can and will in a few years. The
 increase in railroads and the rap-
 id building up of towns and cities
 is hastening this result. The in-
 crease of our membership is now
 nearly 100,000 per annum. The
 annual increase of the next ten
 years will fully average that num-
 ber. The new churches average
 500 per annum, so that in ten years
 we will have in the South 30,000
 churches and more than 3,000,000 of
 members. If then, our Sunday-
 schools shall bear the same proportion
 to the numerical strength of our
 churches that the Sunday-schools
 of the Northern churches now do,
 we shall have about 27,000 Sunday-
 schools with about three millions of
 teachers and pupils.

DENOMINATIONAL STATISTICS.

The New York *Independent* pub-
 lishes a lengthy and able article on
 the "Churches of the United States,"
 from which we take the following
 figures:

Baptist (all kinds) Churches,
 45,434; ministers, 30,998; Com-
 municants, 3,971,685; net gain for
 the year: Churches, 4,587; minis-
 ters, 3,109; Communicants, 244,478.

The figures show that more than
 one-third of all the Protestant
 churches and ministers are Baptist
 and about one-fifth of the mem-
 bership.

The difference between the propor-
 tion of ministers and churches and
 the number of church members is
 significant. We have one-third of
 the former, but only one-fifth of the
 latter. This is due largely to the con-
 dition of membership, and to some
 extent to a stricter discipline.

The increase of the Baptists during
 the past year has been:

Churches.....4,587.
 Ministers.....3,109.
 Members.....244,478.

The increase during the past year
 has been over 61 per cent., while the
 increase of the Methodist has been
 but little over 31 per cent.

These statistics show that fully
 one-third of the people of the United
 States are Baptists in their beliefs.
 The Lord has prospered us wonder-
 fully. If we will but liberalize and
 elevate these masses now under our
 influence, with them by the blessing
 of the Lord, we can soon convert the
 world.

IN THE DEATH OF MRS. DR. H. A.
 TUPPER, of Richmond, we have sus-
 tained a personal bereavement. For
 years she has been our warm friend,
 and we have admired her many ad-
 mirable qualities of mind and heart.
 A truer, more consecrated, nobler
 woman we never knew. We tender
 to our afflicted brother, the
 smitten home-circle and her many
 sorrowing friends our sincere sym-
 pathies and fervent prayers.

THE MISSOURI GENERAL ASSO-
CIATION.

It was a great privilege to attend
 the recent meeting of the Missouri
 General Association at Clinton, and
 we greatly regret that our space will
 allow only a brief notice instead of a
 full report.

The Baptists of Missouri report
 seventy District Associations, 896
 ordained ministers, 1,528 churches,
 and an aggregate membership of
 118,461.

The ability of the ministry, the
 efficiency of their churches, the in-
 telligence and progressive spirit, as
 well as the wealth of their laymen,
 and the rapid progress they have
 made within the past few years, all
 give assurance that there is a grand
 future before the Baptists of this
 great State.

There were present at the meeting
 in Clinton about 600 delegates and
 visitors, but Pastor Broadbush and his
 people, aided by the entire commu-
 nity, were fully equal to the emer-
 gency, and there was extended to
 every comer (the sisters as well as the
 brethren) a hospitality as graceful
 and cordial as it was abundant.

State Missions, Home Missions,
 Foreign Missions, Ministerial Edu-
 cation, etc., were assigned proper
 places on the programme and elicited
 earnest discussion and suitable ac-
 tion.

To a visitor who was there for the
 first time, it seemed strange that the
 reports presented the Missions of
 both the Northern and Southern
 Boards, and that each had their rep-
 resentatives present to speak for
 them. It is not at all surprising that
 Missouri brethren are growing restive
 under two sets of agents for Home
 and Foreign Missions in the State,
 and took action at their meeting last
 year looking to an adjustment of the
 seeming conflict. It will be remem-
 bered that both the Foreign and the
 Home Mission Boards referred this
 matter, in their reports, to the South-
 ern Baptist Convention, and that the
 Convention (disclaiming any will-
 ingness to consider even the "unifica-
 tion" of Northern and Southern or-
 ganizations) instructed the Boards to
 appoint a committee to confer with
 similar committees from Northern
 organizations "to adjust all questions
 of difference which have arisen in the
 prosecution of their work."

The committee of the Missouri
 General Association made their re-
 port at Clinton and recommended
 certain action, but it being announced
 that the Boards would have a con-
 ference in Washington on the 28th
 of November, the General Associa-
 tion very properly, it seems to us,
 referred the whole question back to
 the committee with instructions to
 send representatives to the Confer-
 ence and report next year.

We refrain from anticipating the
 action of the Conference, or of mak-
 ing any comments now on certain
 things that have occurred in arrang-
 ing for it. But we may say that the
 overwhelming sentiment in Missouri

(as shown by the contributions) is in favor of the Southern Baptist Convention, and that our Northern brethren would do a very graceful thing if they would solve the problem by withdrawing their agents from a State which was one of the original constituents of the Southern Baptist Convention, and where there was no diversity of action until the war and the condition of things after its close gave them an opportunity of creating a division. The Introductory Sermon of Dr. Rafferty, the address of Dr. Rothwell, of William Jewell College, before the Missouri Baptist Historical Society, the presiding of the Moderator, Dr. W. Pope Yeaman, the singing of brethren Hunt and Brown, the lectures of Prof. A. F. Fleet, of the University of Missouri, and other features of the meeting which we cannot now mention, all combined to add to the interest of this very delightful meeting.

It was a great pleasure to us to meet our old seminary friend, Dr. Geo. W. Hyde, and to learn from many of the brethren what his reports have indicated, that he is a most efficient and successful agent for Home Missions, having raised nearly \$5,000 for our Board during the past year.

REV. DR. WM. HARRISON WILLIAMS, of the *Central Baptist*, was prevented from attending the meeting of the Missouri General Association by the illness and death of a beloved daughter. We join a wide circle of loving friends in tendering our old friend and beloved brother and his afflicted household our deepest sympathies, and in praying that "the God of all comfort and of all grace" may help them in their great sorrow and sanctify it to their good.

THE STATE CONVENTIONS are piling in thick upon us and the Secretaries are using their best endeavors to solve the old problem of "being in two places at the same time."

We were "quarantined" from attending the Texas Convention by living in Atlanta, which had opened wide her doors to Florida refugees and failed in a special application for a permit to enter Texas. The Western North Carolina, the Maryland Union, and the Tennessee Convention conflicted with the Missouri General Association. We had fully purposed attending the Arkansas Convention, but the absence of Dr. Tichenor in Cuba, a Conference in New Orleans, between the Louisiana and Mississippi State Boards and the Home Board in reference to our work there, and the necessity of getting out at once this already delayed issue of our paper, will prevent us from doing ourselves that pleasure.

By a change in the time of holding the Virginia General Association, it conflicts with the meeting of the North Carolina Convention, but it is hoped that one of the Secretaries can attend each meeting. We love to meet with our brethren in the different States and it is a great disappoint-

ment to us when we cannot do so. But we are glad to know that the Home Mission Board has so many friends and champions that the cause does not suffer serious detriment when we are forced to be absent.

"MISSOURI FOR JESUS" is the title of a beautiful song, the words and music of which were composed by the Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board, Rev. S. M. Brown, Kansas City. One of the most decided hits of the recent session of the Missouri General Association was the rendering of this song by brethren Brown and J. M. Hunt. It is sold for \$1 per dozen, and the proceeds go to the State Mission Board. We would like to have this beautiful song (it could be changed to suit other localities—to "Our Southland for Jesus") ring all through the South, and would advise lovers of good music to order copies from brother Brown.



JOHN M. PECK, ONE OF THE FIRST MISSIONARIES TO MISSOURI.

Born at Litchfield, Conn., in 1789, he moved to Missouri in 1817, organized (in connection with his co-laborer, Rev. James E. Welch) the first Baptist church in St. Louis in 1818, and was a laborious and successful worker in Missouri until 1821, when he removed to Illinois and established Rock Spring Seminary, which subsequently became Shurtleff College, founded the *Pioneer*, the first Baptist paper published in the West, in 1829, and died in 1858 full of labors and honors.

BUREAU OF MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

We call attention again to this admirable institution which has been so well managed by the ladies of Baltimore. They have collected in their room, No. 10 E. Fayette St., Baltimore, a full supply of missionary literature, and Pastors, Women's missionary societies, and others desiring information concerning any department of mission work, could not do better than to write to the *Bureau of Missionary Intelligence*, No. 10 E. Fayette St., Baltimore.

THE PROPOSED CONFERENCE IN WASHINGTON.

As we have said in another paragraph, we will not permit ourselves to discuss in advance of the meeting the questions which will come before the Conference called to meet in Washington on the 28th of this month.

But in order that there may be a clear idea of the origin of the Confer-

ence, we give the following statement:

At the meeting of the Missouri General Association, in 1887, the following resolutions were adopted:

"WHEREAS, There are two distinct Boards in each of the departments of home and foreign mission work in the United States; in the home work, one known as the 'Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention,' and the other as 'The American Baptist Home Mission Society,' and in the foreign work, one is known as the 'Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention,' and the other as the 'American Baptist Missionary Union'; and

"WHEREAS, There being no difference of faith or doctrine existing to cause this separation; therefore, be it

"Resolved, That it is the sense of this Association that in union there is strength.

"Resolved, That a committee of five be appointed by the Moderator, with

Societies of our Northern brethren exist.

"With the view of obviating these and of allowing each to perform its own work without let or hindrance from the others, we respectfully suggest that the Convention give this matter such consideration as its importance deserves."

The Convention referred the matter to a special committee who reported to the Convention; and their report was, after free discussion, adopted as follows:

The committee to whom were referred the suggestions of the Home Mission Board, beg leave to recommend:

First: That a committee of five brethren be appointed by the two Boards of this Convention, jointly, whose duty it shall be to confer with representatives of the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the American Baptist Publication Society and the American Baptist Missionary Union, not with a view of uniting the Baptists North and South into one organic body, but to adjust all questions of difference which have arisen between them in the prosecution of their work.

T. H. PRITCHARD,
I. B. LAKE,
W. H. OSBORNE,
S. M. YEATMAN,
H. M. KING,
J. D. STEWART,
W. J. E. COX.

Committee.

Our Boards at once opened correspondence with the American Baptist Home Mission Society, the American Baptist Publication Society, and American Baptist Missionary Union, appointed its joint committee (consisting of Rev. Drs. T. T. Eaton, H. A. Tupper, H. H. Harris, I. T. Tichenor, and J. B. Hawthorne), and endeavored to secure a conference in the early summer. The arrangement was not, however, consummated until recently, and the 28th of this month has been finally fixed upon as the time, and Washington the place, of meeting. The Missouri General Association, the Missionary Union, the Publication Society and both Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention expect to be represented, but we are not advised whether the American Baptist Home Mission Society will reverse its previous action and send representatives.

It seems that in Washington during the anniversaries, Dr. H. L. Morehouse, Corresponding Secretary of the Home Mission Society, had an interview, not with our Secretary, Dr. Tichenor, or with the chairman of the Missouri committee, Dr. Ford, both of whom were there, but with two honored brethren of Missouri, only one of whom was a member of the committee), and as the result induced his Board to take the action indicated in the following letter:

New York, July 18, 1888.

Rev. H. A. Tupper, D. D.:

DEAR SIR—Your communication on behalf of the Southern Convention, concerning the appointment of

instructions to open a correspondence with the general missionary board of the denomination looking to and inquiring into the possibility of unifying our missionary agencies in the State—with the ulterior view of the unification of all our missionary boards in the United States—to report at the next session of this body.

Committee—S. M. Ford, N. J. Smith, E. F. Rogers, T. M. S. Kenney, B. G. Tutt."

Both the Foreign and the Home Board referred this matter to the Southern Baptist Convention for its action. The Home Board, in its report, said:

"In a series of resolutions adopted by that body, the General Association of Missouri calls attention to the fact that two sets of agents, representing the missionary organizations both North and South, are appealing to their churches for support, and in the kindest spirit asks for some relief from this double appeal. Other cases of friction between the Boards of this Convention and the great co-ordinate

a committee by the Home Mission Society to meet with a committee of the Southern Baptist Convention, was duly considered by our Board. I am directed to communicate to you the decision of the Board in the matter which is as follows:

Resolved, That the following reply be made to the communication from the Southern Baptist Convention concerning the appointment of joint committees to consider and adjust differences that may exist in our works:

The Executive Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society being unaware of any matter requiring the consideration proposed, save only that referred to in the recent communication from the Missouri Baptist General Association, and having approved an arrangement to meet that case which is understood to be acceptable to a committee of that body, perceives no necessity for the appointment of such a committee, but deems it sufficient to communicate its action in this matter to the committee of the convention and to the Home Mission Board thereof, requesting their concurrence in the essential features of the aforesaid arrangement.

Action of our Board in respect to Missouri is as follows:

Resolved, That the Executive Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society hereby approve of the informal arrangement between the Corresponding Secretary of this Society and representatives of the Missouri Baptist General Association at Washington, D. C. to-wit:

That the Executive Committee of the Missouri Baptist General Association recommend to this Board and to the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention a suitable and impartial man to be the joint agent and representative of the two bodies in securing contributions from Missouri for the work of Home Missions, such contributions to be divided between the two bodies, respectively, on the basis of two-fifths to the former and three-fifths to the latter, except designated contributions, which churches or individuals shall be permitted to make; the joint representative, however, to make no solicitations for designated offerings for either body to disseminate freely and impartially missionary literature of both bodies, his salary and expenses to be defrayed by each on the basis of two-fifths by the former and three-fifths by the latter body, and reports in duplicate to be made to each body.

Will you kindly communicate this action to the committee? I trust it will be considered satisfactory so far as the Home Mission Society is concerned.

(Signed) Yours very truly,

H. L. MORRISSE,

Corresponding Secretary.

Let there go up much prayer that the Conference may be divinely guided to wise conclusions, and that this whole matter may result in a better understanding between the two divisions of our Baptist hosts, and a more harmonious working of

the best plans for promoting the common cause of our common Lord.

FOR THE ADMIRABLE CUTS in this issue we are indebted to Dr. Wm. Harrison Williams, of the *Central Baptist*, who spares neither pains nor expense to make his paper one of the most attractive as well as one of the best edited that comes to our office. Our readers will join in us in thanking brother Williams for allowing them to see the first "church house" built west of the Mississippi, and the pioneer preachers who laid broad and deep the foundations of Baptist success in that vast empire.

OUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP IN HAVANA.

We presume that before this paper reaches our readers Dr. Tichenor, who has gone to Cuba for the purpose, will have completed the purchase of a lot in Havana and arranged for the speedy beginning of the house of worship which we propose pushing to a speedy completion. This house is an absolute necessity to our work in Havana and must be built at once. We have had a very liberal response from all quarters to our appeal for this object, and our brethren and sisters everywhere have shown their appreciation of it; but we have not, by any means, received the amount of money necessary to build the house, and we earnestly appeal to our friends everywhere to help us now.

Several practical hints may be given:

1. We need some large subscriptions to realize the sum necessary. Are there not a few brethren who can give us \$1,000 or more, \$500 or \$250, for this great object? Are there not large numbers who can send us \$100, \$50 or \$25?

2. We will also need smaller gifts, and will cheerfully receive the dollars, or even the nickels of the poor, as well as the larger sums of the rich.

3. The "brick books," which were inaugurated by our noble women of Baltimore, and are now being circulated through the women's missionary Societies, are yielding us very handsome returns.

In making a remittance of \$9.80, the proceeds of five "brick books," Mrs. Thos. D. Osborne, of Louisville, enthusiastically writes: "I hope that with them, we Southern women can build the church alone."

Miss Minnie Slaughter, of Dallas, Texas, writes most hopefully of the success of the "brick books" in her State, and has already remitted us several hundred dollars from the proceeds.

Mrs. M. G. Gibbs, Secretary of the L. M. S., of Social Circle, Ga., sends us from her brick books, \$29.09; Mrs. G. R. Farnham, of Evergreen, Ala., \$50, and many others equally encouraging sums. But we mention these merely as specimens of how it can be done. Have you tried it in your church and Sunday-school? If not, order some "brick books" at

once from Miss Annie Armstrong, Corresponding Secretary, No. 10 E. Fayette St., Baltimore, or if more convenient, from our office, and put the young people to work.

4. Sunday-school superintendents can interest their schools in this work and send us a contribution from each school.

The following letter is from a brother who was superintendent of the East Baptist Church Sunday-school, Louisville, and may serve as a specimen of how it can be done. It adds a touching interest to the letter to recall the fact that a very short time after it was written our brother Waters was called from his noble service on earth to the rest and reward of the faithful.

ARTESIA, MISS., July 7, 1888.

DEAR BROTHER JONES—As you see, I am away from home (Louisville, Ky.) But I always have my religious papers sent to me, and have just read in the *Western Recorder* the two letters from Bro. Diaz, of Cuba. I have always been much interested in missions, especially Mexico and Cuba. This news from Cuba is grand.

You remember, when you were in Louisville last, I promised to try to raise \$100.00 in my Sunday-school. I have raised part of it, and hope to raise the rest soon. I am a drummer and am away from home a good deal, or I think I would have had it mostly raised by this time. I give every Sunday to missions. I have given \$5 to this Cuba church, and intend to give \$15 more (will be included in the \$100). I wish I were able to sacrifice \$1000 to it.

I think Bro. Diaz ought to have this church at once, not this winter, but now, and I do hope these letters will stir up the Baptists to give to this church building. What has become of the priest who was converted by attending Bro. Diaz's meetings?

Yours, etc.,

HORACE G. WATERS,
646 W. Main St., Louisville, Ky.

5. A great many have promised to "contribute when the time to build comes." It has come now, brethren, and you can send forward your contributions.

6. A number of others have made individual subscriptions, or pledges for churches, Sunday-schools, missionary societies, etc. We have not worried you about these pledges, but the time has come when we desire to gather them in, and those who have not made pledges we would be glad to hear from at once, either by a cash contribution or a pledge of help later on.

In a word, we want help for the Havana house, in whatever shape brethren or sisters may find it convenient to give it, and we want it at the earliest day practicable.

While we are writing this paragraph, there comes a pleasant letter from a sister in Randolph, Mass., enclosing a check for fifty dollars for the House. "Go thou and do likewise," and if you cannot send as much as fifty dollars, by all means send us such contribution as you can.

OUR RECEIPTS.

The acknowledgment of the receipts of the Board since the first of May last, found in another column, will show a very healthy increase over the receipts for the corresponding period of last year. The figures would be largely increased by adding the amounts raised by co-operating bodies and spent on the field, but we reserve those figures for our final report. But let not our pastors or churches imagine for a moment that we do not need largely increased contributions. The truth is that we could judiciously appropriate several times as much money as we are receiving, and beg for larger contributions from every quarter. Some of the States have shown a most gratifying increase in their contributions, but in some others there are blanks which we should very much like to have filled. How is it with your church, brother pastor? Have you taken a collection since last May for the Home Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention? If not please arrange to do so at the earliest day practicable.

We want every church and every member of every church represented in contributions to our great work, and we beg pastors, deacons and church members generally to unite with us in working for this great end. Surely a pastor of a church affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention, ought not to rest satisfied to pass a year without giving his people a chance to contribute to one of its boards.

M. H. Smith, V. P. and General Manager of the Louisville and Nashville Railway; H. W. Fuller, G. R. Agent of the Chesapeake and Ohio route, and R. A. Anderson, Superintendent of the Western and Atlantic Railway, have placed us under renewed obligations for courtesies over their admirably managed railways.

THE TIME OF ISSUE OF OUR HOME FIELD must depend somewhat on the engagements which may take the editor away from home. We desire to issue the paper promptly on the first of each month, but necessary field work, as was the case this time, may call us away from home at the time and cause a few days' delay. We will promise, however, to mail the monthly issue as near the beginning of each month as other duties will allow.

THOSE PROMISED CLUBS and subscriptions are now in order, brethren, and you will please send them forward without delay. We are obliged to friends who have favored us, but we are very anxious to largely increase our subscription list. We believe that our paper will help pastors in their work, and we especially appeal to pastors to help us reach their people.

STATE WORK.

Continued from third page.

of consecrated zeal and wise planning, and the outlook for the future is decidedly hopeful. Scarcely anywhere are the Baptists making more steady progress or laying more solid foundations for future prosperity than in Maryland.

Maryland has given within the past year over \$5,000 to our Home Mission Board, and of this amount the Women's Home Mission Society has contributed three thousand dollars (\$3,000). We rejoice in the efficient pastors and active, intelligent laymen of Maryland, and we especially thank God for her noble Christian women.

MISSISSIPPI.

The Baptists of this State, in co-operation with the State Convention, do their work through one general board appointed by the Convention, which is located at Jackson, and of which Rev. J. T. Christian is the efficient Corresponding Secretary. We regret that our crowded columns will not allow us to give now more details of the constantly growing work of this State, but the following, from a recent appeal of brother Christian to the churches, will give a general idea of what the Baptists of this great State are doing:

The Board would congratulate the Brotherhood of the State upon the happy condition of affairs among us. Every department of our great work has prospered. There have been over 17,000 baptisms—white and colored—in the State the past year, and we now have a membership of over 200,000, and with at least half of the population of the State in accord with our views. During the last Conventional year your Board raised and expended nearly \$37,000 for Missions and Education. This work has been quietly done, but it has been full of thrilling interest. Perhaps it may be explained on the ground that our people are thoroughly united and our ministers see eye to eye and work shoulder to shoulder. Wrangling has been laid into a dishonored grave, and we trust with no chance of a resurrection. But the best of all is, God is with us.

It has happened, as it should, that the pastors have generally done the collecting. The idea is now prevalent that the pastors and churches are the proper parties to look after these things, and we believe the time not distant when every pastor among us will act on this principle.

In order to meet the expenses of the Board, we are compelled to raise \$10,000 for State Missions; \$8,000 for Foreign Missions; \$2,000 for Home Missions of the S. B. C.; \$4,000 for Mississippi College; \$2,500 for Ministerial Education; \$500 for Sustentation, and there should be raised not less than \$10,000 for church building on mission fields.

We must make an advance all along the line. With the mighty interests God has committed to our care we dare not do otherwise. Growth is the law of the universe, and we must grow or die. Our very success has made a crisis in our history which demands that we must go forward. God has given to Mississippi Baptists the greatest prosperity they have ever known; and it is a call to us for more consecration and for more aggressive deeds in his service.

J. T. CHRISTIAN,

Cor. Sec. Con. Board.

Jackson, Miss.

REMINISCENCES OF A FORMER SECRETARY OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD.

We publish with pleasure the following letter from our venerable brother, Rev. Dr. Joseph Walker, a former Secretary of our Board. We hope at no distant day to present pictures and sketches of all of the former Secretaries:

Editors of Our Home Field:

DEAR BRETHREN—I have received No. 2, Vol. 1, of your attractive paper for October, 1888. It covers the history of the Southern Baptist Convention, which is, in part, my own official history. I was a member of the Convention, at Augusta, Georgia, when it was organized, and was the second Corresponding Secretary of its Board of Domestic Missions when located at Marion, Alabama. Though now past 84 years of my life, I have not lost my interest in Baptist affairs, nor in those of Georgia Baptists, in particular. With Tucker, editor of the good old *Christian Index*, Shaver, of the *Kind Words Teacher*, and Boykin to bring out the *Kind Words Series*, I feel tolerably sure that the Southern Baptist Convention will continue to honor its distinctive adjective.

At its meeting in Montgomery, Alabama, many years ago, we had a sharp contest on the question of inviting preachers of other denominations to seats. I voted with the majority against the introduction of such custom. In Richmond, 1854, only 128 out of a delegation of over 400 were found in the negative of this question. If I had gotten there in time, the number would have been 129. But the Levering school and the 'Indian Territory' recalled to my mind my visits to the Indians to receive cert-in schools and stations which the Indian Mission Association had turned over to the Domestic Board. At Louisville, Ky., I received a formal transfer from Rev. W. C. Buck and other officials of all that remained of the Indian Association, which agreement was confirmed in the convention at Montgomery mentioned above.

Now for my visits to the schools and stations. First, I went to Washington and received three thousand dollars annuities, paid by the government for educating the Indians. This, with other funds, I deposited in a bank in St. Louis, and took blank checks to be filled out in favor of missionaries and teachers to whom salaries were owing. The Missouri Pacific Railroad did not reach further at that time than Jefferson City. From there I went by stage via Independence to Westport, on the border of the Kansas Territory. I had to tarry for a night in this, now respectable, but then the filthiest place I had ever seen, perhaps due to a large degree to the presence of armed men, who came to conquer the Territory.

The North and the South were attempting to colonize the territory. The first, to make it free soil, and the other, proslavery.

Early in the morning I took passage in an ordinary wagon for the Shawnee Mission Station, seven miles within a large prairie. This mission was Methodist, and under the control of a sturdy preacher who seemed just suited to the times and the circumstances which called into action his peculiar talents. The Mission promises consisted of a large brick house with adjoining out-houses, and there being no other accommodations for them, the Territorial Legislature, now in session, boarded there. The proprietor very kindly invited me to accept of his hospitality, which I gladly did.

One visit to that Legislature satisfied my curiosity. Fierce looking, heavy bearded men were sitting with their coats off, their feet on desks, with pools of tobacco-juice on either side of their seats. By threes and fours they would repair to the outside bushes to swig whiskey. This they tried to do also in the Mission House, but the resolute preacher in charge threw their jugs out of a window, and warned them to bring no more.

Ten miles due south brought me to the Baptist schools, among the Miami's and a little farther on, the Potawomies and Pankieshaws. There I found a dreadful state of things. John Brown and his raiders had just committed several murders, and at the Mission School every man was belted in pistols, and loaded muskets were in every part of the house. On retiring to rest, I said to Brother Lykins, "what means all these guns?" He replied, "we know not at what moment we may be attacked. But don't be alarmed; there are men enough within call to use them all, and we'll protect you." The outlook was not pleasant, but I did sleep, and safely.

Next day I had a conference with eight Indian chiefs on the subject of educating their children, partly with the money due them from the government for their lands. They met in full feather and an ample supply of paint, complained that agents had cheated them, and demanded that their children must not only be taught to read and write, but to plant corn and potatoes.

I promised them to do what I could, and dismissed them with a gold coin to buy tobacco, at which they seemed to be very much pleased.

While there I saw an outflow of affection from those dusky children, which ought to inspire our sisters who are teaching the Indians with hope. Miss Osgood, a devoted teacher, had fallen at her post. Her grave was enclosed by a low stone wall. Every evening at sunset, her surviving pupils, mostly little girls, would gather wild prairie flowers and strew them on her grave. It seems to me I would rather have such a coronet than the decorations of the conqueror of Waterloo.

But immense cities and crowded populations cover that country now. More than ever ought the Indians to be educated and evangelized.

I hope the Levering school will flourish, and that your paper will defend and sustain all your mission interests.

Yours truly,

JOSEPH WALKER.

Rockville, Md., October 12, 1888.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENCE.

We have space for only a few extracts from our large correspondence.

From the Indian Territory we give the following from our veteran Missionary, brother J. S. Murrow:

ATOKA, I. T., Oct. 30, 1888.

MY DEAR DR. TICHENOR:

I think our work has a more cheerful aspect. The native preachers are more lively and hopeful. Several new church houses are building. They cannot be finished this fall for want of means to purchase sufficient material and will probably not be used much until next fall. They will be too cold to worship in; indeed, dangerous; but we will peg away until complete.

I married Rev. Geo. W. Hicks and Miss Jane Ballew—our young missionaries at the Wichita agency, he a Cherokee and she white—last week here at Atoka. They are doing a good work.

I understand Bro McComb was much encouraged at the Missouri State Convention.

Brothers L. M. Berry, of Waukensburg, and M. E. Broadus, of Clinton, Mo., will visit the Territory this fall and winter and preach a few weeks. I have written, asking brother Perry to go on the line of Frisco railway from Fort Smith to Paris, Tex. That needs help terribly. The railroads are almost entirely neglected by Baptists. The Indians cannot supply them and there are 110 white preachers. Pedos have captured nearly all the railway towns.

Our school here is doing excellent work. Quite a number of large Choctaw young men are in attendance—four studying for the ministry. Nearly all are beneficiaries and have a pretty hard time to get enough to eat and a place to sleep. I am helping the four young preachers all I can out of my salary. May God bless you and yours.

As ever yours,

J. S. MURROW.

FROM BROTHER WM. M'COMB.

DEAR BROTHER TICHENOR—This has been a year of great blessing to us in this Territory. We are blessed with fine corn crops. Our people have suffered for three years, caused by drought.

Our meetings this summer have been very interesting and profitable. Some of our best citizens, who became cold and indifferent during the troubles we had in 1882, have come back and taken hold of the work, and they will do a great deal of good, for they are men of influence and members of our council. Two of our promising educated young men (Indians) have joined the church and wish to study for the ministry in the States. I have encouraged them all I can, for educated ministry is what we need here. Couldn't some of our Baptist schools in the States educate them? Would the board object to my visiting the General Association of Missouri in the interest of these young men next month? I have organized all of the women in

our churches into a missionary society; they are so interested in it I think they will do a great deal of good. This society is composed of the Creek and Seminole churches. I have given them a constitution and by-laws to work by. They like it and take right hold of it. There is a full-blood Indian girl, about 12 years old, who has given a cow to the Lord, and the increase she gives to the church will be a great lesson to our people; so you will see that our people are now awakening to their duty. The work in the future is very hopeful. May God bless his work everywhere. Your brother,

Wm. McCombs, Missionary.

September 29, 1888.

FROM GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF MISSISSIPPI.

PAULDING, Miss., Aug. 14, 1888.
J. Wm. Jones, Asst. Cor. Sec. Home Mission Board of S. B. C., Atlanta, Georgia.

MY DEAR BROTHER—Your letter of June 13th just to hand. I have been absent from Paulding since May, and hence did not get your letter in time to comply with your request in time to suit your purpose, but will give you, as the Secretary of the General Association, some idea of the work of the Board of said body for the current year, to-wit:

Six missionaries in the home field with flattering results—not able to keep the work of each for this year. I send you a minute of our last year's work itemized, etc. Copies of OUR HOME FIELD also just received; much pleased with the July number and will circulate as best I can and to the best advantage among the Baptists in the bounds of the General Association of Mississippi Baptists and hope many will subscribe. Oh! how pleasing and hopeful the Cuban Mission and the work of brother Diaz in that benighted and priest-ridden country. Is it not a wonder our people did not try sooner?

Our Choctaw mission work in Mississippi is almost as successful, though not so speedy.

Truly your brother,

BENJ. THOMPSON, Sec. Gen. Asso.

RECEIPTS OF THE HOME MISSION BOARD, S. B. C.

From May 1st to October 1st, 1888.

[Note—These acknowledgments only embrace the cash that has actually come into the hands of our Treasurer. They do not include the vouchers for money raised by bodies with whom we co-operate and expended on their fields.]

Alabama, \$521.37; Arkansas, 74.50; D. C., 176.60; Georgia, 769.62; Florida, 161.33; Kentucky, 1,460.84; Louisiana, 700; Maryland, 1,068.81; Missouri, 821.47; Mississippi, 157.87; North Carolina, 263.19; South Carolina, 808.37; Tennessee, 423.12; Texas, 310.45; Virginia, 2,622.26; miscellaneous contributions, 391.45. Total, \$10,109.17.

From October 1st to November 1st, 1888.

Alabama—Evergreen, Ala., from "brick books," for Havana church, \$50.00; Mrs. A. Moss, 1.50; Tenn. River Association, 5.00; Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Cor. Sec'y, Home Missions, 107.41; Cuban Missions, 72.97; Miss Minnie Diaz's work, 50.00; Havana Cemetery, 1.05; Havana S. S., 1.50; Indian Missions, 1.00. Total, \$234.93.

From November 1st to December 1st, 1888.
Alabama—North River Association, 3.23; for Miss Diaz, 6.25; Ladies' M. Soc'y for Havana Church, 10.00; W. G. Morris, Tr. for Havana Church, 50.00; Rev. W. B. Crumpton, Cor. Sec'y, for Havana Church, 104.75; Tuscaloosa Ass'n, for Havana Church, 18.00; for Havana Church, 7.60; Indian Missions, 7.65; for Cuban Missions, 6.00; Sunbeam, 6.00. Total for the month, \$277.51. Previously reported, \$21.37. Total contributions since May, \$1,306.88.

ARKANSAS—Children's Mission Band, \$3.00; Sunbeam Soc'y, 2.00; Mrs. Forbes, from "brick book," for Havana Church, 10.15; Spring Valley, for Cuban Missions, 10.00; Jonesboro, 2.00; cash for Havana church, 7.00. Total, \$37.15.

Previously reported, \$74.30. Total since 1st of May, \$111.65.

GEORGIA—Little girls at Social Circle, for Havana church, from "brick books," \$29.60; Willing Workers, 1st church, Atlanta, 6.00; Miss Miln's class, 2.60; Rev. Dr. H. H. DeVotie, Cor. Sec'y, 300.00; Girls' Soc'y 2d church, Atlanta, for Miss Diaz, 10.00; Miss Perry, from "brick books," 8.00; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Cor. Sec'y, 799.04; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Indians, 38.15; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Cuba, 24.75; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Havana church, 12.45; J. H. Neal, "brick books," 2.10; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Cor. Sec'y, 723.44; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Cuban Missions, 41.65; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Indian Missions, 2.25; Rev. Dr. DeVotie, Havana church, 6.55; Miss Sharp, Havana church, 2.00. Total, \$2,019.27.

Previously reported, \$769.62. Total since May 1st, \$2,788.89.

KENTUCKY—A friend, through Dr. T. T. Eaton, for Havana church, \$50.00; Rev. Dr. J. W. Warder, Cor. Sec'y, 538.50; J. S. Milliken, Tr., 5.00; through Rev. L. C. Tichenor, for Cuban Missions, 25.00; Broadway church, Louisville, 148.55; Boys' Missionary Society, Walnut St. church, Louisville, through C. J. Manly, 25.00; Mrs. S. D. Osborne, from 5 "brick books," 25.00. Total, \$801.64.

Previously reported, \$1,840.84. Total since May 1st, \$2,642.48.

MARYLAND—River side S. S., Baltimore, \$80.00; income from "Rider Fund," 248.11; Seventh church, Baltimore, 115.10; High Street church, Baltimore, 16.00; Rockville church, 9.99; Pocomoke City, 30.00; Barnesville, 5.00; Macedonia (colored) church, 2.90; Pitts Creek church, 2.80; Woman's Home Mission Society, Baltimore (Mrs. James Pollard, Treasurer), Havana church, 427.00; Indian Missions, 268.66; Work in N. O., 142.54; work among colored people, 12.00; Levering school, among the Indians, 67.95; Fuller Memorial church, Baltimore, 1.45. Total, \$1,306.10.

Previously reported, 1,508.81. Total since 1st of May, \$2,815.21.

MISSOURI—Mrs. S. Semple, for Havana church, from "brick books," 2.00; Rev. Geo. W. Hyde, 1,383.84. Total, \$1,385.84. Previously reported, 832.42. Total since May 1st, \$2,218.26.

SOUTH CAROLINA—Camperdown S. S., \$64.47; York church, 10.00; First church, Charleston, 8.00; Williston, 3.00; Belton church, 15.00; Woodrow, 9.00; Dr. Charles Manly for Cuba, 5.00; 1st Union Meeting, 5.61; Barnwell S. S., 1.00; Bethel S. S., 3.00; "Six Miles," 2.00; W. M. Soc'y, through Miss McIntosh, Cuban Missions, 10.00; Havana house, from "brick books," \$37.75; for Miss Cole, N. O., and her schools, 12.30; Red Oak church, 7.51; Barberville church, 1.50; Congaree church and S. S., 3.94; Hartsville, 9.21; Bethlehem Union, 6.12; Edisto Union, 2.15; Greenville S. S., 21.55; H. B. Buckhalter, Tr., 103.45; Elam church, for Havana, 3.00; Hurricane church, 6.00; H. S. Hardin, Tr., 25.00; Manning church, 10.00; Four Holes church, 23.00; Church church, 5.00; North Greenville Ass'n, 13.42; North Greenville Ass'n, 2.67; North Greenville, Cuban Missions, 8.70; Tabernacle church, 3.10; Abbeville Ass'n, 48.40; for Havana ch. Ass'n, 7.25; Kuban's Creek, 5.05; Orangeburg Ass'n, 10.40; Mt. Zion church, 5.00; Due West, 7.31; Yorkville Association, 48.55; Chester, 8.70. Total, \$680.55.

Previously reported, \$508.37. Total since May 1st, \$1,188.82.

TENNESSEE—J. C. R. Williams, Havana church, 2.30; Chautauque Ass'n, 4.57; W. C. Hall, Tr., 10.00; Ocoee Association, 8.00; W. M. Soc'y, "brick books" for H. Ch., 6.00; Beulah Ass'n, 19.05; Rev. O. L. Halley, 75.00; Rev. O. L. Halley, for Havana Ch., 25.00; Cedar Creek, 1.00; Ramoth Ch., 1.00; Prosperity church, 1.00; Buena Vista church, 1.00; J. W. Stewart, 1.00. Total, \$154.87.

Previously reported, \$43.12. Total since May 1st, \$197.99.

TEXAS—Miss Minnie Slaughter, Cor. Sec'y, W. M. Soc'y, from "brick books," for Havana house, \$108.45.

Previously reported, 319.45. Total since May 1st, \$427.90.

(N. B.—Texas has contributed other amounts for Home Missions, the vouchers for which we have not yet received, and over \$9,000 to our "co-operative" work since the 1st of May.)

VIRGINIA—Novell Ryland, Tr. General Association of Va., \$1,000.00; N. Ryland, Tr., 500.00. Total, \$1,500.00.

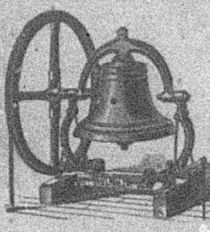
Previously reported, 2,262.26. Total since May 1st, \$3,762.26.

MISCELLANEOUS—Upper Lake, Cal., for Cuba, \$1.10.

Previously reported, 391.45. Total since 1st of May, \$392.55.

Aggregate for October, \$5,600.45.

Previously reported, 10,109.17. Total receipts since 1st of May, \$15,709.62.



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