

OUR HOME FIELD.

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

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NO. 10

SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.

THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION—FORTY-NINTH YEAR.

May 8th—11th, 1891 will be remembered by those present in Birmingham, Alabama, as a grand gathering of the Baptist clans, and one of the most notable sessions ever held by the Southern Baptist Convention.

The Committee on Hospitality reported that they assigned over 1,300 to homes, though the Secretaries of the Convention reported as enrolled only 898 delegates and 17 visitors.

The local pastors and their committees managed the arrangements for the meetings with great tact, and deserve great credit for the system to which they reduced their vast undertaking, and the zeal and enthusiasm with which they carried out their plans, while the abundant and graceful hospitality of Birmingham was all that could be desired.

The Opera House in which the meetings were held was utterly inadequate to hold the vast crowds in attendance, and there was a jam all the time; while at each session many were turned away unable to find even standing room.

The Convention organized by electing the following officers:

PRESIDENT.—Hon. Jonathan Haralson, Selma, Ala.

VICE-PRESIDENTS.—Hon. William Jonathan Northen, A. M., Atlanta, Ga.; Charles Lewis Cocke, A. M., Hollins, Va.; Col. James Alfred Hoyt, Greenville, S. C.; Thomas Treadwell Eaton, D. D., LL. D., Louisville, Ky.

SECRETARIES.—Lansing Burrows, D. D., Augusta, Ga.; Oliver Fuller Gregory, D. D., Baltimore, Md.

TREASURER.—Mr. George W. Norton, Louisville, Ky.

AUDITOR.—Junius Caldwell, Esq., Louisville, Ky.

The addresses of welcome by Hon. A. O. Lane, Mayor of the city of Birmingham, and Rev. Dr. W. L. Pickard, pastor of the First Baptist church, I did not have the pleasure of hearing, as I was called out on an important committee, but I did hear the brief but appropriate and eloquent response of Rev. Dr. E. C. Dargan, of South Carolina, who never fails to make a hit, and was particularly happy on this occasion.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Rev. Dr. H. A. Tupper, Corresponding Secretary, read an abstract of his report which was referred to appropriate committees, and of which, I regret that I have space to give only a brief summary instead of a full report.

And as I find in the admirable

report of the Convention in the *Standard*, of Chicago, what just suits my purpose, I will adopt it *verbatim*.

The missionary force abroad has been considerably strengthened, as indicated in the following:

"On August 4, 1890, G. T. Watkins, for Central China; on January 5, W. D. King and J. L. Downing, for Northern China, and P. H. Goldsmith, for Mexico; on February 3, 1891, T. T. Martin, W. E. Entzinger and W. H. Sears were appointed for Brazil. Brethren Downing and Goldsmith are married men. All these expect to sail this summer or fall, except Brother Watkins, who expected to sail last October with our

on foreign field are in China, Africa, Italy, Brazil, Mexico and Japan. The whole number of missionaries under appointment is, of males, 38, of females, 31, of unmarried females, 17, of ordained natives, 23; total, 109. The number of members in mission churches is 2,327; added during the year by baptism, 361; by letter, 41; the schools number 22, with 823 scholars.

Among the women's auxiliary societies "there has been," during the year, "a steady growth of interest and contributions in most of the States, and this year witnesses a completed union of all the States in the general organization, North Carolina, West-

cussion of deep interest, which we regret our space will not allow us to report.

There was a feeling not only of relief but of joy and thankfulness that the fear that the Board would be compelled to report a large indebtedness was not realized, and the "Report on the Treasurer's report of the Foreign Mission Board," which was unanimously adopted, so well expresses the general sentiment that I give it in full as follows:

Your committee would report that a comparison of the figures of this present with the past conventional year shows a healthy, though not great increase in the resources of the Board from the contributions of the churches. While a few States have fallen slightly behind in their gifts to this noble work, the larger number have increased their contributions.

Another gratifying fact, in connection with the Treasurer's report is, that the Board closes the present year practically free from debt, and so enters upon the coming year without encumbrance or embarrassment.

Your committee would emphasize that the same report shows that of the \$113,000 contributed by the churches, about \$100,000 have been expended upon the mission fields. After a careful examination of the various items of expense, in the conduct of the business of the Board, your committee can detect no evidence of extravagance or unwisdom of any kind; and are of the opinion that the Convention should feel the utmost confidence in the practical economy and sagacity of the management of this noble trust.

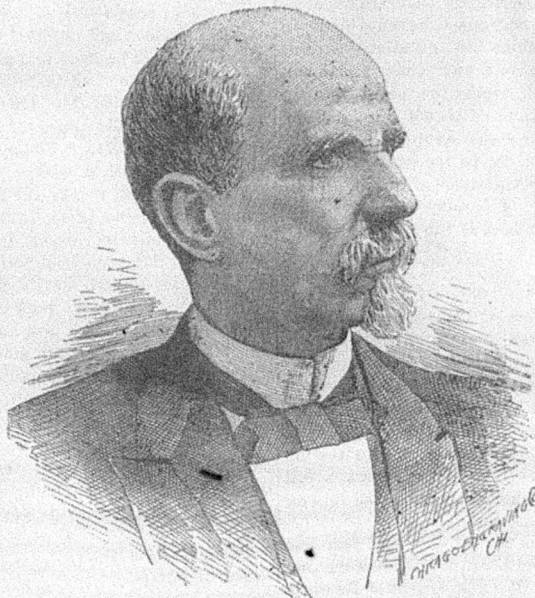
In closing this report, your committee would earnestly call attention to the necessity of enlarged contributions from all friends of Foreign Missions. Time was when the urgent plea was for men; the time has come when men and women are pressing upon us with the cry, "Behold, here am I; send me." May the Master inspire us with so large liberality that our Boards may be constrained to say, "We have plenty and to spare."

R. M. DUDLEY, CHAIRMAN.

THE CONVENTION SERMON.

As, for obvious reasons, this reporter may not notice fully, the Convention Sermon, he is glad to clip the following from the report in *The Standard* made by its able, and accomplished editor, Dr. Justin A. Smith:

"The Annual Sermon before the Convention was preached on Friday evening by Rev. Carter Helm Jones, pastor of the First Baptist church, Knoxville, Tenn. Mr. Jones is still a young man, having graduated at



JUDGE JON. HARALSON, OF SELMA, ALA.

President Southern Baptist Convention.

missionaries returning to China, Mr. and Mrs. E. Z. Simmons and Mrs. L. A. Davault. The Board regrets to report that Bro. Watkins' health has so failed that, by his request, he was released from his engagement as our missionary-elect. Several applicants for missionary appointment will meet members of the Board at the Convention. Many others have applied. If the churches will supply the means, the Board can send out the one hundred missionaries proposed for the centennial year of 1892.

The receipts of the treasury for the year have amounted to \$113,522.37. Including a balance on hand at the beginning of the year, the board has had of available funds \$115,444.71. The year closes with a balance of \$3,235.13 in the hands of the Treasurer. The missions of the Convention

ern Arkansas and Indian Territory having closed the circle." The amount received through the several State Central Committees of women is \$23,761.31.

The Treasurer's report, or a summary of it, was also presented and the whole referred to the following committees:

On Treasurer's Report and Finances: Rev. Dr. R. M. Dudley, of Kentucky, Chairman.

On Woman's Work and Sunbeams: Rev. Dr. W. R. L. Smith, of Tennessee, Chairman.

On Pagan Fields: Rev. C. S. Gardner, of Tennessee, Chairman.

On Papal Fields: Rev. George Braxton Taylor, of Maryland, Chairman.

These several committees reported on Saturday and Monday, and their well considered reports elicited dis-

the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary only seven years ago. He seems, in his general appearance, younger than he actually is, and it was a manifest tribute to the rising ministry of the South that a representative of their own class should have been chosen for such a service;—a tribute, also, to the admirable young preacher himself. The audience packed the house, while an overflow of several hundred repaired to the Methodist church near by, where they also heard a good sermon by Dr. F. M. Ellis, of Baltimore.

"Mr. Jones found his Scripture lesson in the first chapter of Ephesians; prayer being offered by Rev. J. M. Frost, D. D., of Richmond. The singing was led by a quartette choir, with organ and coraet accompaniment. The text of the sermon was taken at Eph. i. 22. "The church which is his body," and at 2 Cor. v. 20, "In Christ's stead." The delivery was easy, yet appropriate and impressive, the thought rich, and the diction tasteful and forcible. Our brief abstract will fail wholly in doing justice to the sermon, which was heard by the large audience with unflagging attention to the end.

"The theme was, as found in the two texts, viewed jointly. "Representatives of Christ." The question is often asked, "What is the true church?" That is the true church which has most of Jesus Christ in it; that which is in most vital union with him as its head; that which is in the truest sense representative of him, and most worthily manifests him to the world. This we may say without disparagement of what relates to church constitution and order, since what is required in this regard is implied in the definition as given. The true church is that voice in which Christ now speaks to men. In a picturesque way the magic of the human voice, and more especially what we may suppose to have been that of our Lord in his own earthly ministry were described. Of the ascended Christ the church and its ministry are now the voice and their words when a true gospel of salvation are his own utterance. They speak in Christ's stead."

"If, then, we are the representatives of Christ, these things must be true of us: (1) We must, so far as possible, put ourselves in his place. While men live they will love to visit the land where Christ lived and walked, and to put their feet, as it were, in the prints made by his own. But it is far nobler to imitate him in his character, and spirit, and work, and thus be and act, and speak "in his stead." (2) We must seek to put Christ in our place. If Christ were living in the present age, and saw things as we see them, how would he act and speak? In view of one startling truth—this, namely, that after nineteen centuries have passed since his ascension, there are

still a thousand of millions of men who have not heard his name, how would he act? In view, also, of this great, restless mass of humanity which ebbs and flows about us, the hundreds and thousands in this very land of ours, many of whom make a mere mock of religion and all that pertain to it, while others are conscious of a need which they do not understand, yet which only Christ can satisfy, what would Christ himself do, if he were here? Would it be with him as it is with us, when we build our churches in the midst of a teeming population, open their doors once, twice, three times in the week, yet when we see them standing empty as compared with the throngs around who never enter there, fail to ask what is the matter? Would he leave the work of the church, in caring for these masses in their various needs, to outside organizations? How would he act, as the citizen of such a free commonwealth as ours, while rendering to Caesar the things that are Caesar's? These questions were sent home in applications to questions current now in our own time, social and political, urging the point that in all relations of life, not simply when we act or speak avowedly as Christians, we are to remember that we are representatives of Christ, and in a spirit of loyalty to him should speak and act as "in Christ's stead."

HOME MISSIONS.

In the absence of our Secretary, Dr. Tichenor (who, to the deep regret of all, was detained at home by sickness), an abstract of the annual report, written by Dr. Tichenor and adopted by the Board, was read, after the sermon on Friday night, by Rev. Dr. J. B. Hawthorne. I give the following abstract of the report, a full copy of which we will be glad to send to any one desiring it:

During the conventional year just ended the Board has made some progress in the enlargement of its work.

The number of workers employed this year is 406 against 371 for the previous year. The result of their labors show a corresponding increase. The baptisms this year are 5,349, a gain of 872 over the preceding year. The total additions to mission churches for 1890 were 8,098; this year, 9,987. The churches constituted in 1890 by missionaries of the Board were 267; the number this year is 244. The Sunday-schools organized last year were 336; this year, 424. The houses of worship built were 84; this year they are 143. The sum expended in their erection last year was \$37,324.85; this year it aggregates \$60,473.00.

Last year the Board asked for forty thousand dollars increase of its current receipts, promising the Convention, with this additional amount, to put five hundred missionaries at work, pay for the property purchased in Havana and build one hundred houses of worship where they are so

much needed on its mission fields. The facts already stated show how easily it could have been done.

The summary of the work of the year is as follows:

MISSIONARIES.

Alabama, 21; Arkansas, 27; Cuba, 22; Florida, 32; Georgia, 17; Indian Territory, 16; Kentucky, 4; Louisiana, 27; Maryland, 3; Mississippi, 1; Missouri, 9; Oklahoma, 6; Tennessee, 5; Texas State Convention, 138; Western Arkansas and Indian Territory, 24; Western North Carolina, 17; West Virginia, 1; Texas Sunday-school Convention, 33; total, 407. Of these there have labored among the foreign populations, including Indians, 31; in Cuba, 22; among the negroes, 51; among native whites, 393.

WORK DONE.

Missionaries, 406; weeks of labor, 9,590; churches and stations, 1,231; sermons and addresses, 43,453; prayer meetings, 10,527; baptisms, 5,349; received by letter, 4,638; total additions, 9,987; Sunday-schools organized, 424; teachers and pupils, 13,200; day schools, 11; teachers and pupils, 1,200; religious visits, 67,634; churches constituted, 244; Houses of worship built, 143; pages of tracts distributed, 1,135,712; Bibles and Testaments furnished, 6,000.

The report then speaks in strong terms of the value of HOME FIELD and of the mission lessons in the *Kind Words* Sunday-school Series.

It gives interesting details of the work among our foreign population, the colored people, in Cuba, and at our Mission Schools, and gives in full the report of the "Woman's Missionary Union" (which we will print in our next issue), showing the contributions of these noble women to our Board during the past year to have been \$15,229.03, being an increase of \$5,214.16 over the year before.

The balance of the report is given in full as follows:

FINANCES.

During the first part of the year the receipts of the Board were unusually good. On the 1st of January they were five thousand dollars in advance of what they had been at the same time in any previous year. Then began a series of rainy and unpleasant Sundays, continuing almost unbroken until the first of March. Many, especially of our country churches, failed to take collections, and such as were taken were unusually small. Our receipts fell off rapidly, and with our increased expenditure sanctioned, encouraged, almost ordered, by the last Convention, the balance fell on the other side. About the first of March the Board advised the churches of its condition, and urged increased contributions. An estimate was made of what we needed to meet our obligations and end the year without debt. This amount was equitably divided among the States, and they were asked to

raise the sum indicated. These sums asked were not large in any State; they varied from \$5,000 for Georgia; to \$500 for Louisiana. The Board contented itself with this plain, business-like statement of the fact. It had a right to expect that the pastors and churches which had bidden it to do this work would secure the contribution of these amounts. It did not resort to extraordinary appeals to be saved from the humiliation of reporting a debt to the Convention. Such appeals always interfere with other work of the denomination, and in their ultimate results are not beneficial.

The present indebtedness of the Board need excite no alarm. We understand how to extinguish it whenever the Convention or denomination shall require it. We have but to say to Brother Diaz, "Dismiss half our missionaries in Cuba" to the men engaged in preaching the gospel in the Indian Territory, in half-starved Oklahoma and all along the far frontier, "We can support you no longer," and the thing is done.

But we shall adopt no such method until we are ordered to do it by the Convention, or forced to do it by the inaction of the churches.

Happy will it be if "the present distress" shall result in some better method of collecting funds for our Boards. This is the question to which this Convention ought to address itself with all earnestness and zeal. The present system of State agencies, while it has some excellent features, needs some modification which will enable us to secure more steady and larger contributions to the work of the Convention. There are needed some better methods in our churches themselves by which a larger number of our membership shall be reached and their contributions made more liberal and more certain. It ought not to be true that a shower of rain falling on a certain Sunday should for a whole year prevent the contributions of a church for the work of this Convention. That the meagre sum received should be so given by the million and a half of Southern Baptists as to require the Boards to borrow money and pay large amounts of interest ought not to be allowed to continue. Time after time the Board has pleaded with the Convention to do something that will improve the methods of our churches in this regard, and we shall rejoice that the present emergency has come, should it prove the occasion of inducing this body to take vigorous hold of this all-important matter.

THE FUTURE.

There never was a time when the Board needed so much as now the most liberal and persevering support of the churches, that it may meet the rapidly increasing demands of its work. So repeatedly has the Board called attention to the extraordinary

increase of wealth and population within the territory of the Convention that it hesitates to venture upon the subject again. It would not but for the fact that the masses of our people, even the majority of our leading men, seem unimpressed by forces that are sweeping us forward into the splendors of a material development unequalled in the history of the world.

Gathered here to-day, in the very midst of marvellous achievements wrought within the last decade, we urgently invite, we implore, the Convention to scan the facts brought within the range of our vision, and then looking forward ten short years, behold what is in store for this land, and, "rising to the height of this great argument," determine what is the duty of Southern Baptist to this and coming generations.

The recent census of the United States, though all its results have not been tabulated, contains a marvellous record of the growth and more marvellous prophecy of the coming power and greatness of this Southern land. Within the past decade, and mainly within the latter half of it, the mineral interests of the South have grown so wonderfully that the production of iron ore, pig iron and coal in 1890 was equal to that produced by the whole country twenty years ago. In 1880 this city where we meet had less than 10,000 population; to-day it is the centre of industrial activity for 75,000 people.

Mr. Hewett, of New York, and Mr. Edward Atkinson, of Boston, two of the best informed men of this country in regard to iron production, tell us that in 1900 this country must make double its present product of iron if the demands of the world are met. To do this, they tell us, will require 400 new furnaces with an average capacity of 100 tons per day.

Everybody knows that should 400 iron furnaces be constructed in the next ten years, 300 of them will be built in the South. Placed two and half miles apart they would stretch in an unbroken line from Birmingham seven hundred and fifty miles to Harper's Ferry—a great battle line under whose black banners a mighty host of the sons of toil would wrest from conquered nature's grasp riches that for a thousand ages have been concealed within her stony bosom.

Her commercial progress is as marvellous as her mineral development. In 1890 Southern ports increased their exports nearly \$25,000,000, while those of the remainder of the country showed an actual diminution. Baltimore increased her exports more than New York, Philadelphia, and Boston combined. The increase of foreign trade from Hampton Roads, Va., was greater than the combined increase of New York and Boston. Five cities of the South, Baltimore, Newport News, Norfolk, Savannah, and Galveston, increased their exports more than either New

York or Boston; while both Savannah and Galveston are rivaling in actual amount of foreign trade San Francisco, the great city of the Pacific coast.

Newport News, the name of what a few years ago was but a rural locality, has just finished the finest ship-building plant in America, and one superior in some respects to any other on the globe.

From Hampton Roads, that ideal harbor of the world, two great transcontinental lines of railway have crossed the Alleghenies and are furnishing Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis a nearer line to the sea. The roads terminating at Savannah and Brunswick are linked by bonds of steel with those west of the Mississippi, and are inviting the trade of Kansas City and Little Rock and Memphis to their ports as their nearest point to the ocean. Galveston is sending her ever-lengthening lines

of its value, and be helped to some imperfect conclusions as to what it may become when science and skill and industry shall have coaxed from its dark bosom the secrets enfolded there. Forty bushels of wheat have been grown on an acre of the poor, sandy soil of Alabama, and this may be repeated on every square mile of her territory. Five bales of cotton have been grown upon a single acre in Middle Georgia, and the alluvial lands of the Great Mississippi, extending from Memphis to the sea, can easily grow the ten millions of bales required by the world. The largest yields of corn ever made, more than 200 bushels per acre, have been grown once and again in South Carolina. The far-famed blue grass and clover of Kentucky and Tennessee are equalled, if not surpassed, both in quantity and quality, by the Bermuda pastures of the more Southern States. The largest yield of hay

the far-famed English Southdown is found in the markets of New Orleans, grown in the piney woods that border the Gulf. The immense herds of Texas cattle have multiplied so greatly as seriously to diminish their value.

Facts like these when known must control the movement of populations. They are the magnetic forces which, when fully brought into action, must draw the swarming population of the globe into her bosom until all her natural advantages have been utilized for the benefit of our race.

What this means to us we may learn from a simple illustration. Alabama and Pennsylvania are nearly of equal area. Of the two, Alabama is slightly the larger and has more coal, more iron ore, greater water power, more timber, a finer climate, a greater variety of agricultural products, a larger area of fertile soil, and is capable of sustaining a larger population. Yet Pennsylvania has five millions of people, while Alabama has but a million and a half. That Alabama will have her five millions is as certain as that the world shall stand. It is only a question of time, and of short time, when this will be accomplished.

Dr. Strong, in that admirable book, "Our Country," referring to the development of the West, says: "Vast regions have been settled before, but never before under the mighty whip and spur of electricity and steam." Quoting the *London Times*, he says: "Unquestionably this is the most important fact in contemporary history. It is a new fact. It cannot be compared with any cognate phenomenon in the past." And then Dr. Strong adds: "As it is without a precedent, so it will remain without a parallel, for there are no more new worlds." It is but little more than five years since these words were written by this most sagacious thinker, and yet what he declared "must remain without parallel" is being surpassed by the onward movement of the South to-day.

In the great Northwest capital ran its long lines of railway far out into the wilderness, hundreds of miles beyond human habitation, and then transported the people to make that wilderness blossom as the rose. It was a marvel of human enterprise, and was indeed without a parallel. But now we see a far grander movement, when whole organized industries, with their machinery, their skilled laborers and their capital, are transported almost in a day from some distant section of our country and located on our soil. Though this movement is just begun, the *Boston Commercial Bulletin* declares that, because of it, "Massachusetts' industries are imperilled," and calls upon her legislature to remove the taxes upon such industries that they be thus retained. The great storm clouds that sweep over our continent

(Continued on fifth page.)



REV. OLIVER FULLER GREGORY, D. D., OF BALTIMORE.
Secretary Southern Baptist Convention.

northward to clasp hands with Santa Fe, Denver, and Bismarck, and thus invites Colorado, and Nebraska, and the Dakotas to trade in her sunny clime.

The 20,000 miles of railway of 1880 have grown to be 40,000 to-day, and will be 60,000 in ten years more.

But when her mineral sources and commercial advantages have been developed to their highest capacity, you have but touched the outer border of that empire of wealth vast enough to sustain in comfort all the inhabitants of the globe. It is her soil, the marvellous product of divine power, in which the hand of the Infinite has stored the sustenance of a thousand generations, that must forever constitute her glory and the chief sources of her power. How generous it is we cannot know, for man has never fathomed the depths of its beneficence or reached any one of its confines or the limits of its multiform capacity. As compared with other lands we may learn something

ever made, from five to eight tons per acre, is made on the Bermuda meadows of Georgia. The finest tobacco of the continent is grown upon the tertiary soils that stretch along the Atlantic coast from the Potomac to the everglades of Florida. The Georgia peach and the Georgia melon have spread their reputation over the land. The finest oranges of the globe grow in Florida. The vineyards that adorn the banks of the wide and winding Rhine never reeled under the clusters more purple and gushing than those that will grow anywhere upon the banks of our own bright rivers. In animal industry she is equally fortunate. England has sought to improve her herds by importation of cattle from Kentucky. Mr. Cockerell, of Tennessee, who more than once bore away the prize at European international exhibitions for his unequalled Merinos, says that the finest animal of that unrivaled flock was reared upon his plantations in Central Mississippi. Mutton equalling in flavor that of

OUR HOME FIELD.

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

The price of *OUR HOME FIELD* has now been reduced to 25 cents per annum, for each paper regardless of the number taken by churches or individuals. We thus furnish an eight-page, illustrated paper for a mere pittance, and urge pastors and others to exert themselves to extend our circulation.

We have also reduced our advertising rates, for the terms of which application should be made to the Editor.

All communications for the columns of the paper, and all subscriptions or advertisements, or other matter pertaining to the paper should be addressed to J. Wm. Jones, Editor, P. O. Box 361, Atlanta, Ga.

J. WILLIAM JONES, EDITOR.

ATLANTA, GA., JUNE, 1891.

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ATLANTA, GA.

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OUR PAST YEAR, AND FUTURE OUTLOOK.

No careful reader of the report of our Board submitted to the Convention at Birmingham, can fail to note that in many important particulars it was not only the best report ever made by this Board, but one of the very best ever submitted by any Home Mission Board.

The summary of *Work Done and Results Accomplished* is indeed inspiring. Four hundred and six missionaries employed; 5,249 baptisms, and a total of 9,987 additions to mission churches; 244 churches, and 424 Sunday-schools organized; 143 houses of worship erected by the missionaries, at an expenditure of \$50,473.00; other work accomplished, the details of which are shown in the tables, and far more which statistics cannot give, but "whose record is on high"—surely this is a year's work of which the Board has no cause to be ashamed, but at which we may well "thank God and take courage."

Last year we asked for an addition of Forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) to our receipts, and the Convention not only endorsed our appeal, but apportioned among the States the amounts to be raised by each. These quotas were not met, and we were compelled to report a deficit, not be-

cause the amounts asked were unreasonable or beyond the ability or, we believe, the willingness of the churches, but from a combination of causes beyond our control, or reasonable expectations. Up to the 1st of January, our receipts were over \$5,000 in excess of those of the year before, but the stringency of money, the protracted bad weather which cut off many collections, especially in the rural districts, and the pressing appeals of the Foreign Mission Board to prevent their threatened large indebtedness, all combined to lessen our receipts, while increased expenditures, expressly authorized if not ordered by the Convention, put our balance on the wrong side.

And yet if we add to our reported receipts \$4,000, paid to support students at the Levering School by the Creek Council (which has been usually included in our receipts, but was not put in this year because our Treasurer did not receive the vouchers in time), and will note that our receipts for the Havana house for the year ending April 30th, 1890, were \$6,407.97, while for this past year they were only \$1,713.62, it will be seen that our receipts this past year were about \$3,000 more than the year before, and our receipts for general mission work still larger in excess of those of the previous year. But about the future we have this to say:

Either we must retrench our work, or the churches must increase their contributions.

We propose simply to ask again for the following amounts, which the Convention at Fort Worth apportioned among the States to be raised last year, and with which we promise to do the more pressing work that is presented to us, meet our obligations on the Havana house, and show a clean balance sheet in our next report.

The apportionment is as follows: Alabama, \$6,500; Arkansas, 2,000; Florida, 1,500; Georgia, 15,000; Kentucky, 13,500; Louisiana, 2,000; Maryland, 6,500; Missouri, 8,500; Mississippi, 3,000; North Carolina, 7,500; South Carolina, 7,500; Texas, 7,500; Tennessee, 6,000; Virginia, 13,500. Cannot these sums be raised?

We are instituting vigorous measures to secure them, and we beg the hearty co-operation of our brethren generally.

Meantime let Treasurers forward without delay any home mission funds they may have on hand, as we need *not* every dollar we can raise.

THE NEW SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

We cordially welcome into the fraternity of Boards the new Sunday-school Board created at the recent session of the Convention, and located at Nashville, and we tender it our heartiest co-operation.

While it is not true that the idea of this Board was suggested by "this organ of the Home Mission Board"

[in view of the enthusiastic unanimity with which the idea was adopted by the Convention, we would be proud of the honor of having originated it], yet we were honestly in favor of it, and look forward to a bright career of usefulness for it.

With the President of the Board, Rev. Dr. W. R. L. Smith, we have had long and most pleasant relations, and we had opportunity of testing his ability, zeal and efficiency during the years he was President of our Home Mission Board, at Lynchburg, Virginia. He brings to the discharge of his new duties rare qualities of mind and heart which must command success.

We know most of the members of the new Board, and we are satisfied that they will show proper wisdom and zeal in discharging the important duties, and meeting the high obligations which the Convention has imposed upon them.

The most important officer of the Board will be, of course, the Corresponding Secretary, and as the Board meets to-day (May 26th) to elect that officer and organize its work, we are praying that they may be divinely guided in selecting the man, and in devising the best methods for successfully organizing and prosecuting the grand work before them.

It seems to us the new Board begins its work under the most flattering auspices—that it has very important advantages over the other Boards of the Convention—and that, if its affairs are administered with the wisdom which we confidently anticipate, there lies before it a career of grand success and wide usefulness to untold millions.

God grant that it may be so. And let all of our people say "Amen!"

THE SECRETARY ELECT OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

After our article on the Sunday-school Board was in type a telegram from Dr. Smith to Dr. Tichenor brought the information that the Board had unanimously and heartily elected as its Corresponding Secretary Rev. Dr. Lansing Burrows, of Augusta, Georgia. The election of Dr. Burrows will be generally accepted as a pre-eminently fit one, and should he accept, the success of the new Board is at once assured. A fine organizer, thoroughly posted on all the details of printing, capable of editing any or all of the publications, of wonderful power before the people, a walking encyclopedia of statistics and the best collector of statistics in the country, and capable of doing any amount of work, Dr. Burrows would bring to the discharge of the duties of this office rare qualities of mind and heart which would command success.

It is not yet known whether he will accept the position. We know that he did not seek it, that he is pleasantly located with a loved and loving people, and that it would be

a great sacrifice for him to give up his pleasant pastorate, but we venture to express the hope that he may make the sacrifice and enter this "open door" of wide and ever increasing usefulness.

We are sure that our readers will be glad to have the admirable cuts of the officers of the Convention, which we present in this issue. By the way, Judge Haralson is winning fresh laurels every year as an able, impartial, and graceful presiding officer, and Secretaries Burrows and Gregory are voted to be unrivalled in their positions. They "beat their record" this year by having copies of the minutes in our office at 4 p. m. the day after the Convention adjourned.

The meeting of the "Woman's Missionary Union," at Birmingham, was one of great interest.

We had in type a full and excellent report of it from the graceful pen of Mrs. F. M. Ellis, of Baltimore, written for the *Baltimore Baptist*. But, very much to our disappointment, we are informed at the last moment, just as we were going to press, after "the forms" have been made up and it is too late to leave out something else, that there is "not room for it," and we are compelled to let it lie over.

We have made our report of the Convention much longer than we intended by printing in full some of the more important reports. True these could be gotten from the Minutes but many of our readers will never see the Minutes, and we are very anxious to have these reports read and studied by our people.

WM. E. GLADSTONE, BY J. L. M. CURRY, L. L. D., RICHMOND, VA.; B. F. JOHNSON & CO.

We are indebted to the accomplished author for a copy of this deeply interesting, and valuable sketch of England's "Grand old man."

The book is rather a presentation of his character than a detailed biography, and no one can read this admirable delineation of England's great statesman, by this distinguished American statesman, without feeling that the one was fortunate in his subject and the other in his biographer.

We cordially commend the book as worthy of a place in our homes, for our young people cannot read the faithful and beautiful delineation of the statesman, scholar, orator, patriot, and Christian here presented without having higher aspirations and having left upon mind and heart, a deep impress for good.

B. F. Johnson & Co. have brought out the book in a style which reflects great credit on that enterprising firm, of whose success as publishers our Southern people generally should be proud.

RENEWALS are very much "in order" at this office.

(Continued from third page.)

throw out long streamers, stretching across our skies, the heralds of their coming. So what we have seen of these mighty changes is but the long cloud finger that stretches back to the grander events yet below the horizon of our future. Men speak of the new South as though it were another race that now inhabited this country. It is a misnomer. It is the old South shaken from her bed of ease by the earthquake of civil commotion, rebuilding her devastated homes according to the demands of her new environment, and proving herself as skillful in constructing the new, as she was dauntless in defending the old.

Had such facts no relation to the religious interests of our country, no bearing upon questions of duty, no power to stimulate Christian zeal, no warning of coming danger, no summons to higher sacrifices for our country and our Master's honor, they would find no place in this report. That these things are so, and that they will affect most profoundly the religious welfare of not only our own country, but that of all the nations of the earth, it needs no argument to prove.

It is disheartening, it is painful, to witness the indifference with which they are regarded by the masses of our Baptist people. It is enough to move to tears to see how deaf many are to the thunders of that rushing tide of events rolling in upon us as the breakers roll in upon the storm-beaten shore. It is discouraging to call and entreat and warn and feel that utterances freighted with the heart's deep conviction, fall on heedless ears. What doom can be more sorrowful than to be made as Cassandra "who always prophesied in vain?"

May this Convention open its eyes and heart to these momentous facts, and its members go back to awaken our inconsiderate people to see such imperative duties, such darkening dangers and such noble opportunities as have never before faced any generation of men and as have never crowded themselves into such brief years in all human history.

Year by year the Board has seen the work it ought to do increasing far more rapidly than its ability to perform it, until it has grown to be a burden on our hearts, sometimes scarcely to be borne. There are within our field single cities, as Memphis, St. Louis, New Orleans, not to mention the needs of Nashville, Little Rock, Birmingham, Chattanooga, Brunswick, Jacksonville, and many others, in which the Board might expend the whole of its income for the next five years, and then not fill up the yawning chasm of its spiritual necessities. There are a hundred towns springing into life and future importance whose wants cannot be measured by the entire receipts of our Board, and before an-

other year there will be a hundred more. The colored population, to which we owe so much and for which we have done so little, need now a supply of the bread of life that all the resources of the Board could not buy. The frontier field of Oklahoma, the Indian Territory, New Mexico, Texas, 800 miles long and 400 miles wide, cannot be defended against spiritual foes by all the forces at the Board's command.

And Cuba, where yet the spirit of the Inquisition reigns, where ecclesiastical authority wields the arm of civil power and consigns your missionaries, without color of law, to the jail and dungeons where thieves and murderers are imprisoned; Cuba, manacled with chains and longing

before our summons comes, do for our country and our God a work in which the earth and the heavens will rejoice.

There was read also the Report of our Treasurer, of which there is given here only his "Consolidated Report," (as we gave in our last issue his receipts by States) which is as follows:

May 1, 1891—By cash received from May 1, 1890	\$67,188 31
Bills payable—borrowed money....	38,500 00
Paid back.....	28,500 00
Difference.....	10,000 00
Amounts raised and expended on the field for mission work as per report.....	72,741 07
For church building as per report.....	60,463 52



REV. LANSING BURROWS, D. D., OF AUGUSTA, GA.
Secretary Southern Baptist Convention.

to be free, how could you, with the meagre means of the Board, meet all her crying needs?

Brethren of this Convention, you have laid this work upon us. Its vastness has awed our souls. Its sore pressing needs have touched our spirits. Its crying wants have moved our hearts to pity, and sometimes to tears. Its boundless opportunities have excited our enthusiasm. We want to do the work you have assigned us, but how can we when we are trammelled by the slowness of our churches and the scantiness of our resources. Take from hands that are eager to do what we see so plainly needs to done these shackles that restrain our efforts and limit our action. Equip us for this gigantic task before us; panoply us for this struggle that must decide the question of Baptist supremacy in our land, and let us,

Total receipts, cash and vouchers.....	210,233 50
To cash expenditures.....	73,714 31
Expenditures on field.....	133,235 19
Cash on hand.....	3,474 00—210,233 50
A. D. ADAMS, Treasurer.	
First Church, N. O., valued at.....	7,500 00
Balance St. Church, N. O., valued at.....	7,500 00
Kind Words.....	30,000 00
Key West Chapel.....	2,000 00
Cuban Cemetery.....	5,000 00
House of Worship, Havana.....	75,000 00
Insurance policy, Miss Snow.....	430 00—127,135 00
The Board owes on the Havana house about our currency.....	10,000 00
Not Assets.....	67,188 31

May 1, 1891.

A. D. ADAMS, Treasurer.

These reports were referred to the following committees:

On Cuban Work: M. D. Early, of Tennessee, Chairman.

On the General Work and Needs of the Board: M. M. Riley, of Kentucky, Chairman.

On the Treasurer's Report: A. G. McManaway, of North Carolina, Chairman.

On Tuesday afternoon the Committee on Treasurer's Report was submitted and unanimously adopted as follows:

Your committee note, with regret, that the cash receipts for Home Missions are not quite as large as they were last year. Financial stringency and unfavorable weather are, no doubt, responsible for the deficiency, but the churches should remember that these things tend to increase rather than diminish the necessities of the faithful missionaries, and should, therefore, practice retrenchment in other directions, and make all necessary sacrifices to keep the treasury of the Lord in proper condition.

We beg leave to suggest to our honored Treasurer that, in our opinion, the spirit of the report adopted last year on "Methods and Workings of the two Boards," requires that the items in the column of receipts marked "Cuban Cemetery," "Payment on Levering School Building," and "OUR HOME FIELD," should be placed elsewhere under a separate heading.

We take especial pleasure in acknowledging the unselfish generosity manifested by our Treasurer in voluntarily relinquishing the compensation of \$500 allowed him for his faithful services to the Board.

The Treasurer earnestly requests us to express his great regret that an unfortunate wording of an item in his report makes it possible for any one to suppose that the "\$623.25 paid to Miss Annie Armstrong, Secretary of the Auxiliary Committee," was in any way a compensation for her services. It was, of course, simply passed through her hands, as Secretary, to meet the Board's share of the necessary expenses of the Executive Committee. Miss Armstrong, the accomplished and efficient Secretary, performs her patient, untiring, and self-denying labors without any compensation whatever, every suggestion of which she has steadfastly refused. Respectfully submitted, A. G. McManaway, T. H. Ellett, C. T. Dearing, T. A. Hurt, M. E. Broadus, T. M. Bailey, G. W. Pickett, Committee.

As explained in an editorial paragraph of this issue the receipts of last year were really in excess of those of the year before, and the apparent deficit grew out of a failure to receive in time to enter it a voucher for \$4,000, received and paid for the support of the Levering school.

The Committee on "General Work and needs of the Board" reported through its Chairman, Rev. M. M. Riley, of Kentucky, and presented so well our work among our foreign population, and our native population, that we will hereafter publish the report in full.

This report elicited admirable speeches from Rev. Dr. J. C. Hiden, of Eufaula Ala., who discussed the work among our Foreign Population in his trenchant, witty, and telling style; Hon. J. C. G. Black, of Augusta, Ga., who made an eloquent and powerful plea for work among our native population; Rev. Dr. J. B. Cranfill, of Texas, who told in his own inimitable style the needs of that great empire, and the grand work being done among his people by the Home Board; Rev. M. Vann, of Nashville, who is a Missionary of our Board for Tennessee, and also represented the American National Convention of Colored Baptists, and who captured the Convention by an eloquent and powerful appeal to his white brethren to help his people; Rev. F. C. McConnell, of Georgia, who talked earnestly and eloquently of the needs of our mountain regions; and Rev. J. O. Hickson, of Alabama, and Rev. J. H. Gambrell, of Mississippi, who spoke on methods of work among the negroes.

It was conceded that this was one of the very best sessions of the Convention.

Cuban work was presented Friday night to a house packed, and running over.

Rev. M. D. Early, Chairman of the committee, read the following report, which was adopted after telling speeches by Rev. A. J. Diaz, Dr. J. B. Hawthorne, and Dr. Lansing Burrows, and a collection, admirably engineered by Dr. Burrows and Dr. T. T. Eaton, amounting in subscriptions to be paid by the first of November next to nearly \$2,300.

Your committee would beg leave to submit the following:

The results of work in the field during the past year have been very gratifying. There have been 210 baptisms, the title to the theater has been secured and the house dedicated to the worship of God. There has been an average attendance of 679 pupils in the Sunday-schools, and 62 in the day school, where the Bible is taught. A new cemetery has been opened at Guanabacoa. The persecutions of our missionaries have turned out to the furtherance of the gospel, and the prospects for Cuba's redemption are brighter than ever before.

When we remember that the first Baptist church in Cuba was constituted in January, 1836, and that we now have in that field seven churches, seventeen other preaching stations and a total membership of 1,917, and that much of the public sentiment, which has revolted from Romanism, has crystallized around our Baptist, New Testament, faith, we cannot but exclaim, "what hath God wrought," and cannot but regard the grand work already accomplished as an earnest of yet more glorious things to come.

The pressing needs of our Cuban work just now seem to your committee to be—

1. A Girls' High School, where the girls of our Baptist people and others

can be properly educated without being compelled to attend the convents. The arrangements are being perfected to furnish suitable accommodations and our noble women are providing for the support of the girls, and the rents from the stores and residences connected with our new building will provide for the other expenses.

2. On the 1st of December next another payment on our splendid house of worship in Havana will be due and must be met. The last payment will be due one year later. But if we could make both payments at once we could, by discounting our notes and the difference of exchange in our favor, save at least \$5,000.

Indeed, the Secretary of the Board and our Missionary Superintendent, Rev. A. J. Diaz, feel confident that, with \$35,000 in hand on December 1st, they can pay every dollar of the present indebtedness. Your committee would, therefore, recommend that the Board be instructed to institute at once vigorous measures to collect money pledged for this purpose, and to raise, by December 1st, if possible, the whole amount necessary to pay for the building.

Respectfully signed by committee, M. D. Early, L. L. Henson, J. W. Perry, T. M. Hunnicutt, J. B. Hawthorne.

SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD QUESTION.

The "Sunday-School Committee" of the Convention made their report on Friday night. After giving the Sunday-school statistics, referring to the matter of catechetical instruction, and detailing the steps taken during the year in the publication of the *Kind Words* series, the report concludes as follows:

On January 12, 1891, specifications as to the publications of *Kind Words* Series, a copy of which is filed herewith marked "B," were prepared and notices were sent to the Baptist papers in the South inviting bidders to write the Secretary of this committee for specifications. In response, the committee received bids from various publishers in Kentucky, Alabama, Georgia and Virginia. After carefully considering these bids, in view of all the points involved, the committee decided unanimously that the bid offered herewith marked "C" was, on the whole, the best, and we therefore recommend it to the Convention for acceptance.

In regard to examining and recommending suitable books for Sunday-school libraries, the committee have, after careful examination, approved numerous books, sending lists to the papers for publication. Lists of approved books are being prepared from which libraries of various sizes may be selected. These lists will be given to our successors.

The Treasurer's report is herewith submitted. Marked "D."

Your committee have endeavored to carry out faithfully the instructions of the Convention. In doing so, the work has grown upon our hands, and many calls have been

made upon us from different parts of our territory, which we were unable to meet, because of the limitations of our powers. Your committee unanimously believe that the needs of the denomination require either a considerable enlargement of the powers of the committee, or what is much better, the appointment of a Board to whom these great interest can be entrusted.

Respectfully submitted,
ARTHUR PETER, Chairman.

On motion of Dr. J. M. Frost of Virginia, the report was referred to a committee consisting of one from each State, and the report of this committee made the special order for 10 o'clock on Monday.

The next morning the chair announced the following as the committee:

On Report of the Sunday-School Committee: J. M. Frost, Virginia; H. S. D. Mallory, Alabama; A. J. Holt, Arkansas; S. M. Provence, Florida; F. C. McConnell, Georgia; Wm. S. Ryland, Kentucky; B. W. Bussey, Louisiana; Joshua Levering, Maryland; J. B. Gambrell, Mississippi; W. R. Rothwell, Missouri; L. L. Polk, North Carolina; J. A. Mundy, South Carolina; W. C. Grace, Tennessee; B. H. Carroll, Texas.

This committee had frequent and protracted sessions, and at 11:30 o'clock on Monday morning presented the following report which was signed by every member of the committee except Col. L. L. Polk, of North Carolina, who had left the city and did not meet with the committee:

Your committee, to whom was referred the report of the Sunday-school Committee, have given it very earnest consideration and beg leave to submit the following:

We desire to express our appreciation of the painstaking and conscientious manner in which they have discharged, with very limited powers, the duties imposed upon them by this Convention.

1. From papers presented we find that the *Kind Words* Series, on the basis of the present circulation, can be issued at a cost of less than twenty (\$20,000) thousand dollars per annum, while the income is over thirty (\$30,000) thousand dollars per annum. We therefore cannot recommend the ratification of the bid which the Sunday-school Committee has presented with its report and which offers to the Convention one-half of the profits. We think a better arrangement can be made as presently will be indicated.

2. We recommend the adoption of this suggestion to create a new Board, to be called the Sunday-school Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, to have a Corresponding Secretary, and to be nominated from year to year as the other two Boards are.

3. That said Board be entrusted with the Convention's Sunday-school series, and be authorized to use their best efforts to improve

the series and to increase the circulation, but shall not engage in any other publication work except hereinafter provided.

4. That the Board be entrusted with the Sunday-school interests in our territory, and be requested to gather statistical information as to the condition of our Sunday-schools, to see what can be done toward increasing their number and efficiency, and by annual report to bring the whole Sunday-school work fully before the sessions of the Convention.

5. Thinking it best to discontinue the leasing system, so as to eliminate all personal interest from the business we recommend that the Board be instructed to make the best arrangement possible for having the series brought out at the lowest cost under a printing contract.

6. That the board continue the work begun by the Sunday-school Committee of making a list of such books as may be wisely recommended to the Sunday-schools.

7. We recommend that the Board carry out the following arrangement, as suggested by the Sunday-school Committee along with its report:

As to the matter of catechetical instruction referred to the committee, we found that Dr. John A. Broadus had been applied to by the American Baptist Publication Society to prepare such catechisms as were proposed, viz.: Advanced, Intermediate and Primary. He declined to do so unless the work could be done for the Society and for the committee jointly. Conferring with him and with the Society, it was agreed to suggest to the Convention that Dr. Broadus be employed to prepare an Intermediate catechism first, for the sum of \$500, to be paid jointly by the committee and the Society, \$250 each, the copyright belonging to both, and each to publish at a uniform price; and each, in publishing, should place its own imprint first.

It is further proposed that Dr. Broadus prepare the Primary catechism for \$200 when called for, upon and under the same conditions. It was deemed best to make no arrangement for the Advanced catechism for the present.

8. The Board in its work will aid mission Sunday-schools by contributions of literature and money; doing this, however, through State organizations, and using for this purpose the net proceeds of the business, together with all contributions therefor, provided that, while the Secretary may, when necessary, raise funds for the promotion of the Sunday-school interests committed to the Board, no system of State or sub-agencies shall be organized.

9. That the Board be located at Nashville, Tennessee, and to be composed of fifteen brethren, as named by the Committee on Nominations.

10. That the selection of a Corresponding Secretary be left to the Board.

11. That the Sunday-school Com-

mittee be instructed to perfect the necessary arrangements for the issue of the third quarter's series of the Sunday-school literature, and after making such arrangement, the committee be authorized to close its affairs by handing over to the Board, as provided for above, all its assets, books, papers, etc.

In conclusion your committee, in its long and earnest consideration of this whole matter in all its environments, have been compelled to take account of the well known fact, that there are widely divergent views held among us by brethren equally earnest, consecrated and devoted to the best interest of the Master's Kingdom. It is, therefore, recommended that the fullest freedom of choice be accorded to every one as to what literature he will use or support, and that no brother be disparaged in the slightest degree on account of what he may do in the exercise of his right as Christ's freeman. But we would earnestly urge all brethren to give to this Board a fair consideration, and in no case to obstruct it in the great work assigned it by this Convention.

SIGNED BY THE COMMITTEE.

After a few earnest words from Dr. J. A. Broadus, begging brethren who might discuss the report to disappoint those who had predicted "warm times at Birmingham," and the newspapers which had arranged for specially full reports of the "Baptist fight," there were loud calls for the "question." Dr. Frost gracefully yielded the floor, the question was put, and the chair declared the report "unanimously adopted," but his attention was called to the fact that there were a few straggling "noes," and he then decided it carried, "with a few dissenting votes."

And so the vexed question was settled by the overwhelming voice of the Convention on the line of the modest suggestion incidentally made in an editorial in the April number of HOME FIELD and we are to have a new Sunday school Board and an efficient Corresponding Secretary (i. e., we hope the Board will be divinely guided to the selection of an efficient man), to whom shall be committed our great Sunday-school interests.

I confess that I did not sympathize at all with the idea that Christian gentlemen could not discuss this question without unseemly heat, and I should have been glad to have heard it ventilated by some of the ablest men on either side, but as the temper of the Convention seemed against discussion, and as the report was entirely satisfactory to me, I was of course more than willing to have it thus settled. "Blest be the tie," was sung with a will, and the Convention was led by Dr. J. B. Hawthorne in a fervent and appropriate prayer.

SYSTEMATIC BENEVOLENCE.

The resolutions adopted by both Boards were referred to the following committee:

J. A. Hoyt, South Carolina; T. G. Bush, Alabama; J. B. Searcy, Arkansas; E. L. Compere, Arkansas; W. F. Holtzman, District of Columbia; N. A. Bailey, Florida; E. B. Carroll, Georgia; H. A. Tupper, Jr., Kentucky; G. A. Turner, Louisiana; F. M. Ellis, Maryland; S. M. Ellis, Mississippi; M. J. Breaker, Missouri; J. M. Heck, North Carolina; R. A. Venable, Tennessee; W. R. Maxwell, Texas; Wm. Ellyson, Virginia.

This committee, after full consideration, made the following report, which was adopted and which it was regretted there was not time to discuss fully:

The committee to whom was referred the preamble and resolutions of the Home and Foreign Boards upon the subject of raising funds for our mission work, beg leave to submit the following report:

1. As preliminary to our recommendations we append the preamble and resolutions adopted by both Boards, as follows:

WHEREAS, The present methods of raising funds for the Boards of the Convention appear to be susceptible of some modifications and improvements whereby there may be (1) less uncertainty with the Boards as to the amounts they may expect to receive, and (2) more regularity in the reception of these amounts, and whereby there may be (3) less need for borrowing large sums of money, and (4) less necessity for the intense pressure at the close of the year in order to save the Boards from reporting a debt; therefore,

Resolved, That this Board, acting concurrently with the Home Board, respectfully requests the Convention to give attention to this matter, and, by reference of it to a judicious committee, seek to devise some plan by which funds for its Boards may be more systematically and regularly raised.

It is the earnest recommendation of the committee that in States where it is acceptable the collections for Home and Foreign Missions be placed in the hands of the Home and Foreign Boards, and in States where there are reasons for other methods, and control, that the State Boards be requested to so modify their plans as to contribute as far as possible to uniformity in contributions for Home and Foreign Missions.

3. That the times for taking collections for Home and Foreign Missions in the several States be so arranged that the money raised shall come in equal quarterly payments throughout the year.

4. That a committee of one from each State be appointed by the President of this Convention to correspond with the State Boards, and, in conjunction with these Boards, suggest to the churches the changes in times and methods of collections which may be agreed upon; and that this committee be instructed to act with as much speed as practicable; and further, that any necessary expense incurred by this committee shall be defrayed by the Home and Foreign Boards.

5. That the committee submit a digest of its action to the next Convention, with special reference to the progress made in each State upon the lines indicated in the foregoing recommendations.

6. That it shall be the duty of the members of this committee in the

respective States, in cooperation with the State Boards or with associational committees having in charge the matter of developing plans of systematic benevolence in the churches, to do what can be done in securing the adoption and development of such plans of systematic benevolence.

In behalf of the committee.

JAMES A. HOYT, Chairman.

CHURCH EDIFICE FUND.

On motion of Dr. J. B. Link, of Texas, this question was referred to a committee who made the following report, which was adopted, and concerning which we shall have much to say in the future:

Your committee beg leave to report as follows:

The primary conception of a church of Christ being an assembly of his people, a place of meeting becomes of paramount importance. There can be no mission work done of more value in any community, whether in city or country, than to make provision for a suitable place of meeting, worship and preaching. In our rapidly developing towns and cities in the South, at the present time, amid the multitude of other demands, it is not always possible for even the most willing and interested to build a house of worship without help from abroad. It often happens that the stimulus of a little help in new and enterprising towns will develop help on the ground, that can be secured in no other way. In these new and rising cities and towns, eligible building lots can be secured for a mere trifle that a little later on will require thousands of dollars, and sometimes cannot be secured at all.

There are to-day hundreds of struggling churches in the South that a little timely aid in building a house of worship would have placed on a vantage ground that is now scarcely possible to them, and on some of them a large amount of mission money has been already expended almost in vain, from the lack of a suitable place of worship. And these disadvantages must attend our labors in all the years to come, only in an increasing ratio, unless speedy and ample provision is made to meet the demands that are pressing on us in this direction.

It is much easier to preoccupy strategic points than to recapture them when occupied by the enemy. Our success has been hitherto largely in the country, but the people of the country are going into the towns and cities, and we must provide for them or lose them. We cannot continue to prosper and grow in the future by the same methods merely as in the past. Our methods must be adapted to the changed condition of the country. Our people from the rural districts moving into the towns, and finding no church of their own, are going into other denominations, and we are not only losing them, but other thousands with them.

A small sum will often accomplish very large results; a small loan here,

a gift there, the payment of interest on money that can be borrowed for church building at another place, and sometimes a mere visit to give wise direction to affairs, will give us a needed house of worship in a growing town, and soon a strong church, instead of a feeble, unhelped band.

The 750,000 Baptists of the North, in 1889 and 1890, built three houses a week; the past year they expected to build one a day, and the Methodists have been doing this a year ago. With over a million white Baptists in the South, we ought to be doing as much or more than either of them have done.

Then it is necessary to disseminate information and prevent imposition and to know who especially ought and who ought not to have help. Much has been wasted by unwise expenditures that should have been avoided.

How shall this proper important and greatly needed work be done? Our enterprising Home Board Secretaries may be already overburdened with work, but for the present we would recommend that the raising of a special and permanent church edifice fund be committed to our Home Mission Board, and suggest that it be made a part of the special business of the Secretaries to lay it upon the hands and hearts of our people from Maryland to Texas, and let the results of this work be a special and separate item in the annual report of the Board to this body.

The Board is now called on almost every week for help to build churches with no means in hand for this special purpose. Our missionaries need this help and scores of feeble churches need it. They look to this Convention for relief. Let them no longer look in vain. Respectfully submitted.

J. B. LINK, Chairman.

The printers warn me that the paper is "full," and other matters of interest, such as the report of the Committee on the "Centennial of Missions," the action by which over \$20,000 was raised for the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, and pledges secured by which individuals will endeavor to raise, in sums of \$100 each, \$10,000 more, so as to secure the addition of \$100,000 to the endowment fund and the \$60,000 for building given by the Norton family, and other items must "lie over."

Nor have we space for a report of the deeply interesting meeting of the Education Convention held on Friday and Saturday afternoons. The next session will be held in Atlanta, with Dr. J. B. Gambrill, of Mississippi, to preach the convention sermon, and Dr. W. R. L. Smith, of Nashville, as alternate.

The speaking during the Convention did not reach as high a standard as it sometimes does, but it was generally good, and some it very effective. The spirit of the meeting was admirable, and there has gone out

from it hallowed streams of influence to make green and glad our wide stretching fields.

Memorial pages in the minutes show that our veterans, DeVotie, J. C. Furman and Henry Keeling Ellyson, answered not to our roll call, because they had "gone up higher" and other seats were vacant from the same cause. But, dropping a tear for our fallen leaders and comrades, we "close up ranks" and press forward to new conflicts and more glorious victories under the banner of the great "Captain of our Salvation." J. Wm. Jones.

The Northern Baptist' Anniversaries were held this year in Cincinnati, and seem to have been largely attended and to have excited the usual amount of interest and enthusiasm.

The reports to the societies were generally very encouraging as to the funds contributed, the work done, and the outlook for the future.

There was in the meeting of the Home Missionary Society the usual misrepresentations and abuse of Southern whites which seem to have become an essential part of these meetings, and which have so disgusted visiting brethren from the South.

But the situation was decidedly brightened by a speech from Dr. J. B. Gambrill, of Mississippi, who told our Northern brethren some very plain and wholesome things in a very striking and spicy manner.

Another very notable thing was the prominence given in both the Home Mission and the Publication Society meetings to the new "Young Peoples' Movement," and the proposed "National" Convention of Young People at Chicago.

Several of the speakers avowed that this movement would "unify" (centralize) the Baptists of America, and Rev. Dr. Thos. Armitage, who presided over the Publication Society, boldly and earnestly argued for the breaking up of the Southern Baptist Convention, and having the same organizations for the whole country.

There can be little doubt that the tendency, if not the design, of this organization of "Young People" is to destroy the Southern Baptist Convention, and we hope, therefore, that for this as well as for other reasons, our Southern young people will be conspicuously absent from the proposed convention at Chicago in July. We bid our Northern brethren a hearty "God speed" in their work, but the country is too large for consolidation, and the Southern Baptist Convention has a mission, in more directions than one, from which we cannot and will not swerve.

CHRISTIAN OLD AGE.

The following lines, published in the *Christian Index*, were written by Rev. Dr. J. H. DeVotie not long before his death, and so beautifully express the feelings of the grand old

veteran that we are sure our many readers will be glad to have them:

Think not of old age as dreary,
When one of this life is weary,
All pleasures fled,
All comforts dead,
A great mistake,
The unknowing make,
Christian old age is cheery.

Old age should be viewed as cheerful,
It may be tinged with the tearful,
Work to be done,
And glory won,
The end and prize,
Salute our glad eyes,
Why should the aged be fearful?

Age is the time of believing,
Very near the hour of receiving,
Age and decay,
Heaven's break of day;
Faith near to sight,
Night meeting light,
Earth nearly of heaven conceiving.

Age has its evils and aches,
Disappointment of life's undertakings,
The Spirit's union,
With God communion,
Makes compensation,
Brings consolation,
God's grace heaven's twilight making.

Are autumnal forests less beautiful
Than woods robed in garments of
Spring?
Or trees bough bent with luscious fruit
Than the time of their blooming?
Does the reaper's joy, and bringing of
sheaves
Compare small with the seed time of tears?
Or the bowed heads, loaded with precious
grain,
Less lovely than in ripe growth appears?

Having battled long for the right,
Example ripe ecstatic delight;
The race run,
The victory won,
The crimson sky,
Heaven's chariot nigh,
Sublime sunset, to earth good-night.

RECEIPTS OF HOME MISSION
BOARD FROM MAY 1 TO MAY
28, 1891.

ALABAMA.

Young Ladies' Society, Cusseta, \$6.00; cash collected at Conv. Union, Birmingham, for Havana House, \$9.25; New Hope church, 1.25; Ladies' Society (box for missionary), Tuscaloosa, 7.00; Ladies' Society (box for missionary), Hickmans, 5.75. Total for the month, \$41.00.

ARKANSAS.

Rev. Dr. A. B. Miller (collections), Little Rock, \$42.60. Total for the month, \$42.60.

FLORIDA.

L. G. Akins (brick cards), He idville, 40c. Total for the month, 40c.

GEORGIA.

Rev. J. G. Gibson, Cor. Sec. and Treasurer, \$100.00; B. T. Stevens, Reuna Vista, 5.00. Total for the month, \$105.00.

KENTUCKY.

Georgetown, \$10.00; Ladies' Society, Cardye (box for missionary), 20.00. Total for the month, \$30.00.

LOUISIANA.

G. A. Turner, Treasurer, \$100.00. Total for the month, \$100.00.

MARYLAND.

Woman's Home Mission Society, Maryland 7th church Baltimore, (box for missionary), 67.97. Total for the month, \$67.97.

MISSOURI.

H. B. Babb, Treasurer Home and Foreign Mission Board, \$572.54. Total for the month, \$572.54.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Readeville, \$25.15. Total for the month, \$25.15.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

Cheraw, \$6.69; Church, Cartersville, 1.90; Sunday-school, Cartersville, 2.75; Citadel Square church, Charleston, 33.20; Shiloh church, Aiken Association, 4.28; Sunday-school, Chester, 4.25; J. B. Anderson, 5.00; Otto, 2.60; Millstream, 4.30; Big Fork church, 1.80. Total for the month, \$66.77.

TENNESSEE.

Paris, \$6.00; Winchester, 7.50; Henning, 1.65; W. H. Thomas, treasurer, Henderson, 0.75; Woman's Missionary Society, Murfreesboro, Cuban Cemetery and Printing

Press, 25.00; Trinity Mission S. S., Memphis, 10.00. Total for the month, \$41.30.

TEXAS.

Sent through Rev. J. T. Harris, Dublin, S. M. Dial, \$2.50; F. E. Edmunds, 2.00; N. W. Griffin, 2.50; Gonzales church, 10.30; Marshall church, 5.00; Gainesville church, 15.25; C. B. Potts, 2.50; Sylvan church, 15.00; Mrs. A. Caswell, 2.50; Miss Cora Caswell, 2.50; San Angelo, 3.85; Waco Association, by Dr. R. H. Carroll, 132.30; Center Point church, 11.45; Association, Floresville, 5.00; Church, Floresville, 10.80; W. T. Hatchett, Selden, 5.00. Total for the month, \$228.45.

VIRGINIA.

Mrs. Susannah Bartlett, Stillman, Cuban missions, \$1.00. Total for the month, \$1.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rev. J. Mid. Hill, New Mexico, \$25.00. Total contributions for the month, \$1,323.18.

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What

Royal Germetuer is doing in China and Brazil!

Miss Laura T. Barton (a missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention) writes from Tung Chow, China, December 6th, 1890, as follows: "I know not how to thank you for sending it (the Royal Germetuer), but I certainly expect to pay for it. Miss Lottie Moon thinks it is the greatest medicine known. Says since she has been taking it, she feels like a new person. Mrs. Thornton (another missionary) says the same thing. And I know she looks like a different person. When she arrived here, she was so thin, and in such bad health, I feared she would soon break down, but she thinks now she is stronger than I am. I, too, have been taking it, and can testify to its superiority. I have given it to a number of native Christians for different diseases, and in every case except two they have reported themselves cured.

Rev. Z. C. Taylor, missionary of the Southern Baptist Convention, located at Bahia, Brazil, writes from that city under date of January 10, 1891, as follows:

"Your letter of the 6th December and 24 boxes Germetuer received. I took medicine out of Custom House Dec. 31. On that day my health was so low that I could not sleep and began to think of giving up my work for a while, and let some one else take my place. I began to take the Germetuer five or six times a day, and have improved daily ever since. I had suspended on Thursday night, not being able to preach more than twice a week (on Sunday). I am confident that in a short time my health will be restored, and so have banished the idea of having to leave my work. I sleep well and eat heartily. Brother Boyes, one of our most effective native preachers, who has suffered 5 years from paralysis, having taken some 10 or 12 bottles, is a great deal better, and he is confident of a cure within 3 months. My two oldest children had times of vomiting and light fevers, which have been stopped by using Germetuer, and they are growing fat and frisky."

It is a source of joy to the members of the Germetuer Company to learn that this remedy has resulted in keeping at least two missionaries at work who would otherwise have failed because of broken down health.

The headquarters of this medicine are at 14 N. Broad Street, Atlanta, Ga.

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