

# OUR HOME FIELD

VOLUME IX.  
NUMBER 10.

Published Monthly by Home Mission Board of Southern Baptist Convention.

ATLANTA, GA.  
MAY, 1899.

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## NORTH CAROLINA AND HOME MISSIONS.

BY REV. JNO. E. WHITE, Cor. Sec'y State Board.

In its report recently adopted by the Baptist State Convention, our Board of Missions and Sunday-schools made the following statement with reference to the work of the Home Mission Board in North Carolina:

"In all its history our Home Board has been generous to North Carolina. For, besides what has been done in many of our rural districts, the Board has aided our churches in Raleigh, Edenton, New Bern, Goldsboro, Charlotte, Greensboro, Salisbury, Chapel Hill, Warrenton, Waynesville, Hendersonville, Murphy, Bryson City, Tarboro, Newton, Concord, Elizabeth City and other important places. Surely our Baptist people will rally warmly to the support of this Board, which has done such noble work for North Carolina."

This is but a brief and uncolored statement of facts, but it does not give the whole truth and its significance. The help of the Home Board to us in North Carolina was help that counted mightily because it came in an hour of crisis. We sometimes wonder here in North Carolina at our great progress since the war. That progress, one acquainted with the facts, has been in no small degree effected by the timeliness and thoroughness of the energy the Home Mission Board brought to bear on our North Carolina situation immediately after the war. As in other States, our cause was prostrate. The only remaining administrative officer of the Baptist State Convention had been forced to leave the work and go to the army as colporter and missionary. The churches named above were then mission stations of the State Board. When the war ended what had been gained seemed lost. Discouragement was general. It seemed impossible out of the wreck to restore the spirit of co-operation and bring to bear anything like a concerted effort in State Missions for the relief of our mission stations which at the outbreak of the war were full of promise.

It was then that the Home Mission Board, itself suffering, came to our rescue, took hold of these stations and sustained them until we came to our feet. The moral effect of the help that was given on our scattered and discouraged forces has never been overestimated, though at each recurring session of our Convention, our Board of Missions and Sunday-schools has never failed to mention it. It is an interesting fact which I have just ascertained, as showing the influence of Home Mission work on Foreign Missions, that the nineteen points above mentioned in North Carolina which the Home Mission Board helped to establish, to say nothing of what was done in our rural districts, contributed one-third of all the money raised in North Carolina for the support of our Foreign Mission Board last year. In 1893 and '94 the Home Mission Board was again called upon to help us in sustaining the work at five strategic points, the combined church membership of which at that time was only two hun-

dred and forty. Examining the minutes now, I note that the church membership of these points is six hundred and twenty-five, and that their church property is valued at \$19,000. At Southern Pines the Home Mission Board has within the past three years assisted us in the erection of a splendid building, and the church which is to occupy it, made up of northern settlers and visitors, it is estimated by a brother on the field, will soon be contributing not less than \$300.00 per annum to the Lord's work in North Carolina and the world. At the Tabernacle church in New Bern the same kind of help has been extended, and now they report to their Association a per capita contribution last year of \$60.00.

But I have already reached the limit in the length of this article. It was my purpose to have spoken of even greater things which the Home Mission Board will help North Carolina Baptists to accomplish in Western North Carolina. It is no secret that next year we are going to ask the Home Mission Board, in addition to the thousand dollars it is this year giving us for that work, for \$2,000, without which we will be unable to occupy and uplift educationally the great territory of our mountain section. Too well I know with sad heart that the Home Mission Board is already burdened and distressed with its divine opportunities. If God is saying anything at all in this epochal period of human history to those who love him and would serve him, surely he is saying to Southern Baptists that they must stand up and show cause why they shall not accept the inescapable obligation which such an opportunity as that which has been forced upon our Home Mission Board has laid upon them.

Raleigh, N. C., April 7th, 1899.

## HOME BOARD AND FLORIDA.

BY DR. W. N. CHANDON, Cor. Sec'y State Board.

It is questionable, quite, if there is a State in the Southern Baptist Convention that, considering population, and time and money spent, can show better results of the Home Board's work than Florida. The progress we have made since the organization of the Board of Missions, eighteen years ago has been very largely co-operative work with the Board without which we would have been able to do very little indeed.

Eighteen years ago we had not a respectable house of worship in a town or city in the State, or one that would at all be considered so now, while in several such we had no house of any kind.

During the eighteen years we have been doing work in the State, consequently every city and town of any size has had either to build houses or rebuild their old, small, antiquated ones, or they are doing so now. In many cases these churches have not only not been able to do much for missions while building but have needed, imperatively needed help to build.

A part of my work for two years or more after my election to the work of secretary and treasurer, was to visit the older States and collect help to erect houses of worship. Weak, financially and numerically, we could scarcely have done anything standing alone, but with the moral and financial help of the Home Mission Board, we have made progress in erecting houses of worship, in organizing churches, and in ministerial education.

We have very few county towns without a house of worship, and probably not a county that has not a Baptist church organization. Churches have been organized and houses built in a number of county sites, and other best towns of the State, but best of all perhaps our people have been and are yet developing in a spirit of missions, of enlarged, broad, deep, and consecrated missionary spirit, that embraces the whole work of missions and of Christian education.

And this let me say, not in any spirit of self-praise, has been more conspicuous and remarkable, because of disasters by repeated freezes, by storms, drought and bank failures. These, but for co-operation with the Home Board, would have completely prostrated us, and how much the aid and sympathy of the mother-board has had to do in developing us, only the Heavenly Father knows.

But, we have not yet reached our majority, or ready to be left to go alone. We have just passed through another freeze that resulted in heavy losses. We have also just raised the money to pay the largest deficit we have ever been burdened with, the result of circumstances beyond our control, and we are much like an invalid recovering from repeated sickness, much enfeebled, and the work still needs to be pressed with vigor. To aid some important points to rebuild or build anew, and some of them to support preaching as well, we must have help or the cause linger in a languid state to our great disadvantage. Our State is by no means grown, but despite drawbacks, is yet growing by the influx of population, consequent upon the development of its resources, and by natural increase of the population. We say to the Home Mission Board, help awhile longer, unless you become convinced that your assistance is spoiling us, making supine, looking to aid and depending alone upon you.

In helping us in the past, you have helped every thing in Missions and Christian education. Our contributions to Home and Foreign Boards have increased from ten to fifteen fold.

## TEXAS AND HOME MISSIONS.

BY DR. J. B. GAMBRELL, Cor. Sec'y State Board.

It is difficult for the people anywhere to appreciate the enormous size of Texas. From Orange to El Paso, or from Brownsville to Texarkana, or Toline, is about the distance between New Orleans and Chicago; from the eastern border of Texas to Columbia, S. C., or Columbus, O. Over every part of this vast domain a marvelous development is going on. The Eastern, or wooded section, as large as an average state, is waking up to new life. Cities all over the "black land" belt are growing at a rate to daze the conservative Eastern man. Farm products are on a scale that no man with care for his reputation will dare describe in the hill countries of the older states. South Texas, embracing a section about the size and shape of Tennessee, is one vast mission field. And it is uncommonly fertile. The ranches have become too valuable for grazing. They are being divided into small farms. The country is not settled in the slow way common, but people go in droves and settle a large com-

(Continued on Page 3.)





PUBLISHED ONCE A MONTH BY THE  
**HOME MISSION BOARD.**

—OF THE—  
**SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION.**

728-724 Austell Bldg., - - - ATLANTA, GA.  
ATLANTA LITHO. & PRINT. CO.

**Subscription Price 10 Cents per Year.**

Fifty copies or more mailed in one wrapper, to one address, 5 cents per copy, per year.

Subscriptions payable invariably in advance.

To any one sending ten subscriptions at 10 cents each, or fifty to one address at 5 cents each, we will send one copy free.

**REMITTANCES:** We have to pay exchange on checks drawn on all points except Atlanta, Savannah, Augusta and Covington, Ga., and Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York and Boston.

Subscribers who can not send checks on one of these points are requested to remit by registered letter, Express, or Postoffice Orders. Small amounts may be sent in stamps.

Address all remittances to OUR HOME FIELD, ATLANTA, GA.

Entered at the Postoffice at Atlanta, Ga., for transmission at Second Class Rates.

**SAMPLE COPIES:** Persons receiving sample copies of OUR HOME FIELD are urgently requested to aid in increasing its circulation. Secure a club of subscribers in your church, Mission Society or Sunday-school. See terms above.

Before this issue of OUR HOME FIELD reaches its readers the records will be made up, the year will be closed and the aggregate of its work known. As we have to go to press, however, some days before the close of the month we cannot now do more than forecast results.

From the imperfect compilation of reports made up to the time of this writing, every indication points to a larger measure of the divine blessing upon the efforts put forth through the agency of the Home Board than in former years. The final summing up will probably show a larger number of missionaries than any previous year, with corresponding increase in actual work accomplished and results attained.

During the year every department of work and every field of labor has earnestly appealed for enlargement. In some directions the Board has been constrained to make increased appropriations, while it has been forced to reluctantly decline many deserving appeals, where a little additional help would have accomplished much for the advancement of the Master's Kingdom.

The general trend of correspondence during the year emphasizes the fact that the spirit of an increasing interest in the cause of Missions as represented by the Home Board is manifest in all sections.

Various circumstances have existed during the year which have seriously retarded contributions to the Board. But if we must close the year with a debt we hope it will be comparatively small.

We earnestly appeal to the brethren everywhere to remember that the Board needs funds immediately after May 1st and continuously during the year. If the work

is to be enlarged to meet the expectation of the denomination; if we are to discharge any considerable portion of the obligation that divine providence has laid upon Southern Baptists to redeem and save our own land, and evangelize and christianize Cuba, we must, during the coming year, be furnished with far more means than in the past. Appreciating the importance of rising to the measure of their opportunities and obligations, we urge pastors and other christian workers to commence planning for increased contributions during the coming year that it may be made a year of crowning results.

#### NEEDY STATES.

We publish in this issue communications from the Corresponding Secretaries of the State Mission Boards of Florida, North Carolina and Texas.

These will be followed by similar publications from other States. We commend them to the careful study of Baptists generally, and particularly to those living in States favored with greater religious development.

#### AFFAIRS IN CUBA.

After carefully reviewing the whole field, and conferring with Dr. Powell who, at the request of the Board visited Cuba and inspected in person the most important points of the Island with reference to locating our work there, the Committee on Missions in Cuba submitted a report which was adopted at the last meeting of the Home Board, somewhat definitely outlining the work deemed advisable to be established and pushed forward at present.

So great and varied are the openings for presenting, and so willing and eager the people in all parts of the Island for receiving the truth, that it has required great care and study to determine where to utilize the limited resources of the Board available for Cuban work, to the best advantage.

The work agreed upon for the present is as follows:

#### IN HAVANA.

The work to be continued as at present by Dr. Diaz at Gethsemane church, and the schools and mission stations now in operation.

#### IN MATANZAS PROVINCE.

Brother Cova has been located at Matanzas, the capital of this Province, and a house rented in which he is to open a Mission church and school assisted by members of his family.

#### SANTA CLARA PROVINCE.

In this Province there are a number of important points and work is arranged at a greater number of places than in any other Province. At Santa Clara the capital of the Province, a city of about 20,000 population, Bro. O'Halloran and his wife are located. Brother O'Halloran is charged with an oversight of the work in the entire Province. He will be assisted by Brother Bueno, Brother Ecay and some other preachers and teachers. Churches and schools have already been established at Santa Clara and Cienfuegos, and Brother O'Halloran is instructed to establish work at Sagua la Grande, and Remedios, two other important towns.

It is the desire of the Board to establish mission work at six other points where missions and schools can be maintained to advantage at a cost of about \$250 each per year.

#### PINAR DEL RIO.

The Board has not yet entered this Province. We

are informed that the land in this Province is exceedingly rich, that the people are perhaps in better condition than elsewhere. In the country districts of the Island, and that work can and should be opened here as soon as possible. The promise of success is very great, and at an expenditure of \$100 per month most effectual work can be started and pushed forward with satisfactory results. It is the desire of the Board to take up work in this Province as early as practicable.

#### THE MORMON DOCTRINE OF GOD AND HEAVEN.

Under the above caption the Sunday-school Board at Nashville has published, in pamphlet form of 64 pages, an address by Rev. A. C. Osborn, D. D., delivered before the Baptist Minister's Conference, and published by request of the South Carolina State Convention. Price, 10 cents.

This tract discloses the fearful and dreadful system of the Mormon doctrine and practice; a system so horrible and revolting in detail as to shock every sense of virtue and morality. It depicts God as a man with a physical body like other men, except that he is immortal; he has violated his own moral law; he is a monster of sensuality; he holds his place as supreme only because he has more wives and more numerous progeny than any other; and he is only one of a multitude of gods who are his peers in everything but sensuality. The Mormon Savior is a like sensualist. He is next in rank and dignity to the Eternal Father, because he has more wives and is the natural father of more children than any other person except his father. Next in rank comes their innumerable gods, so attained by the number of wives and children they have had in this life.

After a most searching investigation Dr. Osborn declares: "There are doctrines taught in almost every Mormon family in Utah, and publicly in their religious assemblies, concerning God and Christ and heaven that would bring a blush to the cheeks of the vilest occupants of the vilest houses of the vilest streets of our great cities."

"There is no eternal salvation for women except in marriage; all sense of moral responsibility is taken away from her. She may in her life be a perfect vixen; or, in her moral character a devil incarnate; yet if she be but sealed in marriage to a saint her eternal happiness is assured. On the other hand, she may be most virtuous, devout and godly, yet if she die unmarried, she goes hopelessly to perdition."

These and other fallacies of the Mormon system, including its utter disregard of all State and National authority, are exposed by Dr. Osborn, and every position taken by him is sustained by Mormon authorities.

No one, whose mind has been led to waver by the seductive representations of the Mormon Missionary, can, in justice to his or her own safety, afford not to read this pamphlet. No pastor, Sunday-school teacher or other missionary or church worker in any section where these Mormon emissaries are engaged in their work, can afford not to have it. It is his duty and opportunity to inform himself on the question.

Send 10 cents to the Baptist Sunday-school Board at Nashville, Tenn. Procure a copy and read it.

#### INDIAN TERRITORY AND OKLAHOMA.

The annual report for the year will show the following gratifying results of the work in these Territories:

Number of missionaries 127; Sermons and addresses 11,981; Baptisms 668; Additions to churches 1,734; Sunday Schools organized 74; Teachers and pupils 2,135.

The Board desires to largely increase the circulation of OUR HOME FIELD. Please help.



# WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION.

Auxiliary to S. B. C.

No. 304 N. Howard St., BALTIMORE, MD.

Motto:—GO FORWARD.

MISS ANNIE W. ARMSTRONG, EDITOR.

## FAITH TRIUMPHANT.

God's work goes on in spite of war and famine,  
The dreaded pestilence or baneful blight;  
In spite of all the selfish greed of mammon  
That toils amid the shadows of the night;  
In spite of evil hearts and hands assaying  
To crush the temple that we build upon,  
The law and order so divine obeying;  
Unmoved by man's device, God's work goes on.

No human power can interrupt its mission,  
As well attempt the planets to remove,  
Or change a single star from the position  
It holds amid the galaxy above.  
And so, when all our plans prove unavailing,  
When busy hands and throbbing hearts are stilled,  
Doubt not, but rest assured that still unfailing,  
God's work goes on, His plans are all fulfilled.

## MONTHLY MISSIONARY TOPIC—THE COLORED PEOPLE.

The colored population of the United States numbers nearly 8,000,000. 1,600,000 are Baptists.

**BASIS OF CLAIMS ON BENEVOLENCE:** They are at our very doors; they are willing to hear; they need the gospel; they also need wise leadership along all lines of development; upon them the evangelization of Africa seems largely dependent.

**CO-OPERATIVE WORK** engaged in unitedly by the Home Board S. B. C., the American Baptists Home Mission Society, and white and colored Baptist State Conventions, was inaugurated in 1895.

**GENERAL PURPOSE:** To educate, train, discipline and awaken deeper spiritual interest by means of Institutes at which various helpful subjects are discussed.

Lectures are delivered by well known men from the North and South, and representative colored Baptists.

Last year, forty-five Institutes were held, an aggregate of 152 colored and seventy white lecturers. 31,000 were in attendance, including 660 ministers.

**UTTERANCES OF SOME IN ATTENDANCE:** "This Institute has shown me my ignorance;" "I am glad beyond expression, evermore give us this bread;" "I feel like I have been drinking at a spring and got full;" "My heart is full of gratitude."

Co-operative work has been done in Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Missouri and Kentucky.

"The New Era Institute work has proven a wonderful stimulus to the intellectual development of the ministry."

Besides this effort, missionaries are employed by the Home Board among the colored people in Maryland and Tennessee.

Industrial schools and Mothers Meetings are held in Baltimore, Sunday-schools and various activities in other sections, conducted by ladies from white churches.

There is a great need for instruction by christian women to these "weaker ones" with whom many come in daily contact.

## THE WEEK OF SELF-DENIAL.

For some time past we have been looking forward to it, and now that its observance is about over, doubtless many are wondering about the results. It should be remembered that in all our work, two distinct records are kept. One by Woman's Missionary Union, one by God. From the former, we learn that special literature was prepared and distributed through faithful Central Committees, that 6319 sample packages were sent to pastors, that for the first time, frontier missionaries were urged through a personal letter from the Corresponding Secretary to take part in this effort, and that nearly 60,000 envelopes went forth as silent missionaries, pleading for the enclosure of that which was the cost of sacrifice. We also know that many pastors and others gave hearty co-operation, and that a spirit of earnest prayer was manifested. Genuine self-denial was practiced, as illustrated by the fact that a contribution of only \$1.60 included an offering from every member in a little frontier church, and by the knowledge of one who sacrificed a much valued quilt, this being her only means of raising money. There is reason to believe that when all receipts have been gathered together, they will bring with them, abundant proof that very many throughout our Southland nobly did their duty towards securing the successful observance of Self-Denial Week, yet after our report is completed, knowledge is still limited. Let us then look forward to the time when our divine co-laborer will open up His record, the wonderful Book of Remembrance. In it we shall see the account of every earnest prayer, every self-denying service, every gift of wealth or mite of poverty that was prompted by love. We shall know how the gifts were multiplied, how in His own good time, the prayers were answered, and see amid the ransomed host, those who were gathered into the kingdom as the result of this special effort for the Home Board. To those who have been faithful to the responsibilities of Self-Denial Week, how bright the prospect!

## ANNUAL MEETING W. M. U.

When is it?

At the same time as the Southern Baptist Convention, May 12, 13, 14, 15. Daily sessions, 9:30 A. M. Friday, Saturday, Monday; Sunday, 3 P. M. Where?

At Louisville, Kentucky, in Broadway Baptist church, between First and Brook streets.

Who will receive free entertainment?  
Only delegates, the number of whom by the Constitution, is limited to four from each State, besides vice-presidents.

Is attendance confined to these?

Not at all; all workers and friends from all States will be gladly welcomed, but because of the large number expected at the Convention, invitations to homes must be limited.

What is the present outlook?

Bright and encouraging. The Committees in Louisville have been exceedingly prompt in making very complete arrangements for the comfort and happiness of those in attendance, and have cheerfully acceded to all special requests that have been made. As for the program, in its preparation, the counsel of workers in the various States has been sought, and thoughtful effort made to embody in it, the wishes of the largest number. In addition to other attractive features, the following missionaries are expected to be present (possibly others): Mrs. E. N. Walne, Japan; Miss Mollie McMinn, China; Mrs. W. H. Kuykendall, Indian Territory; Miss M. Buhlmaier, Baltimore; Rev. J. O'Halloran, Cuba.

## A SEASONABLE WORD.

Since the organization of Woman's Missionary Union, eleven years ago, much pioneer work has been done, but much more remains to be done. Many formerly opposed to woman's work, are now

staunch advocates and friends; many more are in a state of indifference. Societies have been organized in many places; a far larger territory is yet unoccupied. Contributions have been gratifying, but a more general and more generous response is necessary if all the poor and needy are to be supplied with the Bread of Life.

At the annual meeting, consideration will be given to the best plans for advancing our Master's cause, for going forward in the work to which we have been called. The wisdom which is from God is needed. We would therefore ask that W. M. U. workers in attendance and those who remain at home, will unite in earnest prayer that the Holy Spirit will control our hearts and minds, and that God's will may be done in all things.

## THE KINGDOM.

"I have long since ceased to pray, 'Lord Jesus, have compassion on a lost world.' I remember the day and the hour when I seemed to hear the Lord rebuking me for making such a prayer. He seemed to say to me, 'I have had compassion upon a lost world, and now it is time for you to have compassion. I have left you to fill up that which is behind in mine affections in the flesh for the body's sake, which is the church. I have given My heart, now give your hearts.'"

A. J. GORDON.

## THE CHRISTIAN'S ARITHMETIC.

Notation: "I will put my laws into their hearts, and in their minds will I write them."

Numeration: "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

Addition: "Add to your faith, virtue; and to virtue, knowledge; and to knowledge, temperance, patience; and to patience, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, charity."

Subtraction: "Let us therefore cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light."

Multiplication: "Mercy on you, and peace, and love, be multiplied."

Division: "Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and I will receive you." EXCHANGE.

## A TIMELY PUBLICATION.

Have you seen it? If not, we would heartily advise every Woman's Missionary Union worker to invest ten cents in a copy of Dr. A. C. Osborn's pamphlet, "The doctrine of God and Heaven," published by the Sunday-school Board. It is written in an interesting style, is clear, pointed and convincing. What he says needs to be said, and could scarcely be better said. Mormonism is indeed both a disgrace to our country and a danger to the growth of Christ's kingdom. This timely pamphlet should arouse thoughtfulness and inspire more determined effort on the part of those who recognize the gospel of Christ as the great remedy for all evil. We hope it may have a very large circulation.

## Texas and Home Missions—Continued from Page 1.

munity in a week. Galveston, with deep water now assured, will become one of the great cities of the continent in a few decades, and so, also, Houston. The west is forming settlements too fast to count. The water question has been settled on the plains, and the line of settlements is pushing out further and further. Irrigation will densely populate the innumerable fertile river valleys of the west. The work has already begun, and its feasibility proved. In fifty years Texas will have eight or ten million people. The Washington Post says the state can support the entire present population of the United States. The Baptists lead all other people in Texas, and this is to be credited to the constant help of the Home Board for more than fifty years. The demand for help does not decrease, but increases with the accelerating development of the state. There is urgent demand for 300 missionaries. With the continued and increased support of the Home Board, Texas will become the "imperial" Baptist state of America, and in fifty years will do more for the spread of the gospel than all the South is now doing.



