

THE BAPTIS

"This Gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all
ness unto all nations."

VOL. IV.] NASHVILLE, JULY, 1838.

MEETING OF THE NINTH TRIENIAL CONVENT *New York, April 25, 1838*

Convention met in the Oliver-street Baptist meeting-h
A few minutes were spent in devotional exercises, and
the arrival of the hour, the former officers took their sea
Br. Babcock, of Philadelphia, opened with prayer.

Credentials, of delegates were then received, and
credentials engrossed for a committee of elections, to be held
after appointed.

An affectionate and gratifying epistle was read, from the
Oliver-street Church, welcoming the Convention.

Proceeded to choice of officers. Brethren Babcock, Har-
rison and A. M. Beebee were appointed tellers.

The following officers were chosen:

Rev. S. H. CONE, *President,*

" H. MALCOM, *Secretary,*

" R. BABCOCK, JR., *Assistant Secretary.*

Upon resuming the chair, the Presedent said:—"Accept,
dear brethren, my unfeigned thanks for this renewed expres-
sion of your confidence and kindness. It shall be my untiring
effort to discharge the duties of the chair with promptitude
and impartiality; & that this effort may not prove to be utterly
ly unavailing, permit me affectionately to solicit your fervent
prayers for the divine benediction; and your cordial and
patient co-operation in conducting the appropriate business
of the Convention.",

Resolved, That brethren Heman Lincoln, G. S. Webb,
A. M. Beebee, J. A. Warne, and J. H. Raymond be a com-
mittee to examine the credentials of all the delegates, and
report. (We have omitted the names of the delegates and
visitors.)

3—Absent 16—Whole number 170.
Brethren of our denomination, in good standing,
to a seat in this body; when 63 accepted the

list of the Trustees of Columbian College,
that the following brethren be appointed to
list of fifty names, from which the Trustees of
College for the next three years shall be elected:
Chapin, Adiel Sherwood, Geo. F. Adams, James E.
n, and Jno. Smitzer.

Resolved, That the following brethren be a committee to
ange the religious exercises of the present session: L.
es, Geo Benedict, and J. C. Murphy.

Resolved, That an abstract of the Report of the Board be
read.

The Convention listened to the reading of such an abstract
br. S. Peck, assistant Secretary of the Board.

Resolved, That the Report of which an abstract has now
been read, be accepted and published under direction of
the Board.

Resolved, That brethren Irah Chase, D. D. Pratt, Leonard
Fletcher, Duncan Dunbar, and Wm. Southwood, be appoint-
ed a Committee on the Foreign Agency so happily and suc-
cessfully performed by br. Malcom.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M. Prayer by br. Sharp,
of Boston.

Afternoon Session.

Prayer by br. Parkinson, of New-York.

Committees were appointed as follows:

On *Asiatic Missions*, brethren D. Sharp, A. Bennett, R.
Fuller, Thos. Hume, and O. Winslow.

On *Indian Missions*, brethren E. Galusha, J. Peck, W.
Leverett, A. Fleet, and D. Ives.

On the *African Mission*, brethren E. Ball, N. W. Williams,
N. Kendrick, Wm. Hague, and Wm. Crane.

A communication from br. Isaac McCoy, addressed to the
Convention, was read, and referred to the Committee on
Indian Missions.

The following Report was presented by the Committee on
on Religious Services: The Committee to whom was referred
the consideration of the religious services of the present oc-
casion, beg leave respectfully to report, that they believe the

cause of missions will be promoted, if the Convention will
convene in this place on Thursday ev. next, at half past seven
o'clock; and after introductory services, listen, 1. to the read-
ing of an extract from the Annual Report of the Board of
Managers; 2. to an address from brother Howard Malcom,
and from brother Richard Fuller—all which is respectfully
submitted.

L. BOLLES, Chairman.

The Report was accepted.

(Religious services were held accordingly, on Thursday
ev., when, after prayer by br. Johnson, and the reading of
an abstract of the Report of the board, by the as. sec., ad-
dresses were made by brethren Malcom, Hague, and Jeter.)

Resolved, That the invitations for the next session of the
Triennial Convention, from the 1st Baptist Church, Balti-
more, and the 5th Baptist Ch., Philadelphia, be committed
to brethren A. Maclay, I. M. Allen, J. Walker, J. B. Jeter,
and B. Cook, jr., to recommend a proper place for holding
the next Convention, and to nominate preachers.

Resolved, That the 1st article of the By-laws be referred
for consideration to a committee, consisting of brethren Wm.
B. Johnson, J. B. Taylor, L. Leonard, T. Randolph, and
J. Cookson.

So much of the Report of the Board of Managers as relates
to the Missions of the Board in Europe, was referred to bre-
thren F. Wayland, jr., B. Stow, C. G. Summers, J. L. Rey-
nolds, and T. Meredith.

Resolved, That the Committee on Obituary Notices be in-
structed to prepare a suitable notice of the lamented broth-
er, Luther Rice, to whose labours, under the divine blessing,
this Convention is so greatly indebted.

Resolved, That the Secretaries of the Board be requested
to prepare an abstract of their Annual Report, this day pre-
sented, embracing the number and location of the missions
and stations, the number and stations of the missionaries and
assistants, the number, location, and operations of the print-
ing establishments, including their respective number of
printing-presses, and the vols. and pages printed and is-
sued; the number of churches and members, and additions
by baptism during the year; the state of the treasury, and
wants of the Board; to be printed during the present session
of the Convention, for the use of the members: and that each

ministering brother present, be requested to preach to his people, on his return, a missionary sermon, in which these important statistics shall be embodied.

The following abstract was prepared and printed:
Brief View of the Missions, Stations, &c, under the direction of the Board of Managers of the Baptist General Convention for Foreign Missions.

Missions.—The number of Missions under the direction of the Board is twenty-three. Of these, there are twelve connected with Indian tribes in North America; three in Europe—in France, Germany and Greece; one in Africa—in Liberia; and seven in Asia—in Burmah, and among the Karens, in Siam, Arracan, and Asam, and among the Chinese and the Telooos.

Stations.—There are sixty-nine stations, including thirty-two out-stations. Fifteen stations and six out-stations are among the N. American Indians; ten stations and five out-stations in Europe; two stations in Africa, and the residue in Asia.

Missionaries and Assistants.—The number of missionaries sent from this country, is ninety-eight, (51 males and 48 females,) and of native missionaries and assistants, about seventy, exclusive of native assistants in the printing department, viz.

In missions to Indian Tribes, 34 missionaries, 9 native missionaries and assistants;

"	" Europe,	8	" more than 11	"	"	"
"	" Africa,	5	"	"	"	"
"	" Asia,	51	" and about 50	"	"	"
Total,		98		70		

Fifty-three missionaries have been sent out by the Board during the last three years.

Churches and Members.—Connected with the missions are thirty-eight churches, twenty of which have been constituted since the last meeting of the Convention. The number of their members is about sixteen hundred and fifty.

Baptisms.—One hundred and twenty-five have been added to the Indian churches, by baptism, the past year; about fifty to the churches in France and Germany, and more than three hundred to the Karen and Burman. Total, at all the stations, about five hundred.

Printing Operations.—There are five printing establish-

ments, embracing fifteen printing presses, viz., one at Shawanoe, Indian Territory, with one printing press; one at Sadiya, Asam, with two presses; one at Maulmein, Burmah, eight presses, including a power press; one at Tavoy, in Tenasserim, two presses; and one in Bangkok, Siam, two presses, one a lithographic press. An additional press has been ordered to Bangkok. Of the presses attached to the Maulmein and Tavoy station, five were sent out the last year.

Three of the establishments for printing—those at Sadiya Tavoy, and Bangkok—have been founded recently. The first printing executed at Bangkok, was in the autumn of 1836. About 900,000 8vo. pages were printed prior to the close of the following May. At the Tavoy press, which went into operation in April of last year, about 1,500,000 pp. were printed during the four ensuing months. At Sadiya there were two works printed, of 500 copies each, prior to July, 1837, and a third was in progress. The returns from the Maulmein printing department are incomplete for the year ending June 20, 1837. The ordinary rate of printing on four presses, was nine thousand sheets per day. The issues, in the autumn of 1836, were at the average rate of 2,000,000 pages per month; and the demand for books and tracts, beyond the power to supply, was greater than at any former period. 4,800 vols., or 236,400 pp., were printed at the Shawanoe press, exclusive of a monthly periodical, in English and Shawanoe, and other occasional publications. The number of heathen languages, in which books have been prepared and printed by missionaries of the Board, during the year, is fifteen.

State of the Treasury.—The receipts into the treasury, during the year ending April 15, 1838, from all sources, were \$63,070 19; of which auxiliary associations, churches, and individuals contributed \$36,315 26. The total expenditures, for the same period, including an unpaid sum now due and decrease of funds in the hands of foreign agents, of about \$25,000, were \$107,410,90. Excess of expenditures above receipts, \$44,840 71.

Wants of the Board.—The missions to Siam, the Chinese, the Telooos, and to several Indian tribes—not to mention others that have requested aid—are in urgent need of an immediate reinforcement of missionaries. Several

candidates for missionary service have been approved by the Board, and, if adequate funds were provided, would be sent forth to their work before the close of the current year. Requests have also been made for four additional printing establishments. The Board have not the means to meet these claims. *Their funds are exhausted.* If not replenished IMMEDIATELY, they will be constrained to consult, not for the enlargement of the missions, but for the least disastrous method of their reduction. The inquiry must be, What presses shall be stopped, what stations shall be abandoned, what missions shall be closed, what missionaries shall be called home? The God of missions, the great Head of the Church, who laid down his life for his people, graciously interpose, give to all our associations and churches a larger measure of his spirit and constrain them, by his love, to give even as they have received.

Adjourned to 11 o'clock, to-morrow. Prayer by br. Chapin, of Washington.

Thursday, April 26. Morning Session.

Prayer by brother Mason, of S. C.

Minutes of yesterday, read and approved.

A communication was presented from the American and Foreign Bible Society, as follows:

To the Baptist General Convention

BELoved BRETHREN—At the Annual Meeting of the American and Foreign Bible Society, on the 24th inst, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously passed:

“United with the Baptist General Convention of the United States, for Foreign Missions, in principle, aim, and effort; coinciding with them, especially, relative to the entire and faithful translation of the Scriptures, and believing their directions to their missionaries—“to transfer no words which are capable of being literally translated”—to be scriptural, and in perfect accordance with the sentiments of the denomination by whose patronage this Society and the Convention are both sustained;—therefore.

Resolved, That Charles G. Sommers, A. Maclay, Wm. Colgate, and John West, be our delegates to the General Convention, about to assemble in the meeting-house of the Baptist Church in Oliver Street, and that they be charged with the duty of assuring that venerable body of our cor-

dial co-operation with them in giving to the heathen, in their vernacular tongues, the glorious Gospel of the blessed God.”

As Corresponding Secretary of the Amer. and For. Bible Society, I have great pleasure in transmitting the above expression of the Christian affection and cordiality with which they regard the brethren composing the Baptist General Convention—brethren beloved in the Lord, and in whose prudence and practical wisdom they cherish entire confidence. To labor in concert with such associates, we regard as a peculiar privilege, and it is our fervent prayer, that in communicating the Gospel to the destitute millions of our race, the Missionary Convention and the Bible Society may mutually participate in the blessedness of those who turn many to righteousness.

CHARLES G. SOMMERS, Cor. Sec. of A. and F. B. Soc.

New-York, 25th April, 1838.

Resolved, That the communication just received, be cordially welcomed, and respectfully and appropriately responded to by the Secretary.

The following brethren were appointed a committee on Obituary Notices: Alva Woods, Robert Turnbull, Jos. T. Robert, E. Thresher, and Wm. R. Williams.

Committee on Publications of the Convention, B. Sears, D. Dodge, John O. Choules, J. Dowling, and J. E. Dawson.

The Committee to nominate names for the Trustees of Columbian College, reported a list of names as directed, which was approved.

The Committee on Columbian College beg leave to report the names of the following persons, out of whom a Board of Trustees is to be chosen for said College, by its authorized electors:

Hon. Heman Lincoln, Mass.	Rev. J. Kerr, Virginia,
Lucius Bolles D. D. “	Rev. Wm. F. Broadus, “
Hon. Nicholas Brown, R. I.	Rev. Robert Ryland “
Rev. S. H. Cone, N. Y.	Rev. Eli Ball, “
Col. W. W. Todd, “	Rev. J. B. Jeter, “
Wm. Colgate, Esq. “	Rev. J. B. Taylor, “
B. T. Welch, D. D., “	Thos. Hudgin, “
R. Babcock, Jr., D. D., Penn.	Rev. J. S. Baker, “
Rev. R. W. Cushman, “	Rev. T. Meredith, N. C.
Rev. G. S. Webb, N. Jersey.	Rev. Wm. H. Jordan, “
William Crane, Esq., Md.	—Moore, M. D., “
Rev. S. P. Hill, “	Wm. B. Johnson, D. D., S. C.

Rev. I. L. Brooks,	S. C.	J. S. Meehan, Esq.,	D. C.
Rev. R. Fuller,	"	Andrew Rothwell, Esq.,	"
Hon. J. B. O'Neil,	"	John Sessford, Esq.,	"
Wm. H. Turpin, M. D.,	Ga.	Geo. Wood, Esq.,	"
Jesse Mercer, D. D.,	"	Rev. J. L. Skinner,	"
M. A. Cooper,	"	Hon. A. K. Parris,	"
Hon. W. Lumpkin,	"	Rev. C. C. Park,	"
Rev. Jesse Hartwell,	Ala.	Peter Force, Esq.,	"
Rev. T. S. N. King,	Miss.	Jas. L. Edwards, Esq.,	"
Rev. R. B. C. Howell,	Tenn.	M. Nourse, Esq.,	"
Hon. R. M. Johnson,	Ky.	John Withers, Esq.,	"
Hon. John McLean,	Ohio,	Thomas P. Jones, Esq.,	"
R. Johnston, Esq.,	D. C.	Geo. Kendall, Esq.,	"

The Committee on the list of delegates entitled to a seat in this Convention, reported. (We omitted the names for the sake of brevity.)

The following brethren were appointed a committee to nominate a Board of Managers of the Convention for the ensuing three years: J. D. Knowles, J. S. Bacon, L. Howard, J. M. Linnard, Thos. B. Ripley, Jno. C. Harrison, and Wm. Colgate.

Adjourned. Prayer by br. Kendrick, of New-York.

Afternoon Session.

Prayer by br. Maclay, of New-York.

The Treasurer of the Board read an abstract of his annual report; which was accepted.

The Committee on the By-laws, reported a substitute for the 1st article, in the following words:

Art. 1st. A Triennial Convention shall consist of delegates from Missionary Societies, State Conventions, Associations and other religious bodies, and of individuals, of the Baptist denomination, that shall contribute to the funds under the direction of this body; which delegates or individuals shall be entitled to seats in Convention in the following ratio or order of contribution, viz., the payment of one hundred dollars to the Treasurer, shall entitle a delegate or individual to a seat and vote in the Convention, on his first becoming connected with the body; and at each succeeding triennial meeting thereafter, the payment of three hundred dollars at any time previous to such meeting, shall entitle a delegate or individual to a seat and vote in Convention; and

in the same ratio or order, additional delegates or individuals shall be entitled to seats and votes; but no member of the Convention shall be entitled to more than one vote.

The report was unanimously adopted.

The Convention on the Foreign Agency reported—accompanied with resolutions—as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred that part of the Report of the Board of Managers, which relates to their having delegated br. Howard Malcolm to visit the eastern missions, would report:

That the more we examine the measure, the more deeply are we convinced of its having been dictated by wisdom, and of its having been prosecuted in a manner pleasing to God, demanding our devout gratitude, and promising the happiest results.

The Board had long felt the importance of sending one of their number, to make a general survey of those distant missionary fields, and to ascertain numerous facts, which ought to be known by the Board, in addition to those which could reasonably be expected to be communicated by the missionaries. The observations of these must, for the most part, be limited to particular stations. The Board needed to have not only particular, but also comprehensive views, and to be fully informed respecting various things, and respecting the connections and bearings of various things, in order to prosecute their work the most successfully. At length, Divine Providence seemed clearly to designate our brother for the service which it was so desirable to have accomplished; and he went forth, amidst many prayers.

Some of his communications are already known to the Convention; and it is his intention, without delay, to prepare, from the great mass of his materials, a volume, which shall exhibit such information as he may deem most adapted to interest and benefit the christian public.

Much good, we are convinced, has already resulted from this delegation; and permanent, incalculable good, we have reason to expect, will result from it hereafter. The Board, by a unanimous vote, have expressed their high satisfaction; and the worthy and felicitous manner in which they have adverted to the subject, in their Report, supersedes the necessity of our adding more. We, therefore, close, by proposing the following resolutions, viz.

1. *Resolved*, That the sending of a delegation to visit the eastern missions, is approved by this Convention.

2. *Resolved*, That the Convention fully concur with the Board in the expressions which they have made of their high satisfaction with the services performed by br. Malcom; of their gratitude to God for preserving and prospering him; and of their confidence that those services will be signally blessed by our common Lord.

All which is respectfully submitted.

IRAH CHASE, *Chairman*.

The report was accepted, and the resolutions separately considered and adopted.

The Committee on Publications reported, accompanied with a recommendation to request of br. Stow a copy of his valuable sermon, delivered last evening, to be printed under the direction of the Board.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Publications, report:

That, in their opinion, this Convention is deeply interested in the power and influence of the press. In relation to the Baptist Magazine, they cannot withhold the expression of their strong convictions, that its present character, as a missionary paper, is most admirably adapted to accomplish the object for which it is published. We believe the chief effort now to be made, is to increase its circulation. Notwithstanding the difficulties which always attend the circulation of such periodicals in the remoter parts of the country, yet so inseparable is the connexion between missionary intelligence and missionary zeal in the great body of the people, that the subject of an increased circulation demands special attention.

There are other publications, which, though not directly under the control of this Convention, are so intimately connected with it, in their influence, that it cannot feel indifferent to their success. Your committee would, therefore, express their sense of the important service done to the cause of missions by the Memoirs of Mrs. Judson, and of Mr. Boardman, and brother Choules's History of Missions; to which we must not fail to add the valuable Memoir of the venerable Carey. - We would also express the hope, that a work, embracing the Details of the Deputation to India, will soon be prepared, and be sent out to strengthen

and perpetuate the impulse already given by the brief sketches now before the public.

The christian Review is, indeed, neither a publication of the Convention, nor directly a missionary work. Still, so vast is its importance to all the great interests of our whole denomination, that we would recommend it to the attention of this body, as well as to the public at large. We beg, also, respectfully to recommend to the Convention, to request a copy of br. Stow's sermon, to be printed under the direction of the Board.

B. SEARS, *Chairman*.

The report was accepted, and the recommendation adopted.

The report of the Committee on Missions to Europe, was presented and accepted.

The Committee on place of the next session, [arrangements, &c., reported—

That they unanimously recommend to the Convention to hold its next session with the First Baptist Church in the city of Baltimore; that br. Richard Fuller, of Beaufort, S. C., be appointed to preach the sermon, and that br. S. W. Lynd, of Cincinnati, be his alternate. All which is respectfully submitted.

ARCHIBALD MACLAY, *Chairman*.

The Committee on Indian Missions reported, as follows:

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Indian Missions, offer the following Report:

Being in possession of no important information, in relation to this department of your labors, except what is communicated by the Report of the Board, and unable, by our own reflections, to shed any new light upon this familiar subject, we should deem it reprehensible to occupy your precious time with mere speculations, or encumber the valuable pages of your minutes with useless verbosity. We shall be content, therefore, with a brief expression of our unabated sympathy for the injured, depressed, and perishing race of red men, and of our undiminished desire for their preservation, their political, intellectual and moral elevation, and their spiritual and eternal salvation.—It seems now to be certain, that the Indians are to retain no footing this side of the Mississippi. When collected in one great community, as they soon will be, in the far west, the only hope of preventing those fearful evils to which they will be liable from

their mutual jealousies and hostilities, and the bitterness of their feelings toward our race, excited by the numberless injuries which have been inflicted upon them, arises from a consideration of the pacific and consoling influences of the gospel of Christ. If its pure and peaceful doctrines, its kindly spirit of forbearance and forgiveness, be speedily and widely disseminated among them, and its balm of consolation be soon poured into their lacerated and bleeding bosoms, there is good reason for expecting a happy result. But, if left to the kindlings of their resentment, the exasperation of their maddening passions, the sullen brooding of their minds over unredressed wrongs and unmitigated sorrows, they will be driven to desperation, and the fair territory, assigned to their cultivation, will become one great battle-field, reeking with blood, and resounding with death-groans. To your benevolent efforts, together with those of similar societies, of other denominations of Christians, then, are we to look for the temporal and eternal salvation of these remnants of once mighty nations. The dealings of divine providence with these poor exiles, are awfully mysterious, and utterly inexplicable. The recent ravages of that desolating disease, (the small pox) by which this withering people have been so often and so severely scourged, are really appalling. The almost instantaneous extinction of a whole tribe, and the rapid reduction of others to a mere handful, should excite our deepest commiseration and most fervent prayers. Whatever may be the designs of Jehovah respecting them, it is evidently our duty to do what we can, to save them from the vortex of present and everlasting ruin. While new and important fields of missionary labor are opening upon the view, and pressing their claims upon the consideration of the Board, we beg that they will not lose sight of the imperious demands of this miserable race, upon their continued sympathies, prayers, and labors of love. We close by praying that the destroying angel may soon sheathe his sword, the human spoilers cease from their cruel spoliations, and the weary wanderers find an earthly home, and finally a heavenly rest.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ELON GALUSHA, *Chairman.*

The report was considered and adopted.

The communication of br. Isaac McCoy, yesterday refer-

red to the above Committee, was, on motion, referred to the Board.

Adjourned, to meet at nine o'clock, to-morrow. Prayer by br. Johnson, of S. C.

Friday, April 27. Morning Session.

Prayer by br. Bolles, of Boston.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

The report of the Committee on European Missions, yesterday accepted, was reconsidered, and recommitted, with the addition of brethren Chase and Malcom, to the Committee.

The Committee on Obituary Notices presented their report, which was adopted.

The Committee on Obituary Notices beg leave to present the following Report:

While, with heartfelt gratitude, we acknowledge the goodness of that Being, who has kindly preserved the lives and the health of most of the members and missionaries of this Convention, during the last three years, it is our duty, on this occasion, to recall to our recollection the names and the virtues of those who have ceased from their labors, and whose works do follow them.

Our valued associates, John S. Wilson, Bela Jacobs, and Gustavus F. Davis, now live among us only in the brightness of their pious examples and of their godly labors. "Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."

Of those who have fallen in the missionary field, toiling to give the bread of life to the perishing, it is our painful duty to record the names of Samuel Aldrich, Matilda C. Dean, Elizabeth Mylne, Jacob Thomas, Levi Hall, Catharine B. M. Hall, Alanson Reed, Elhira B. Osgood, Elizabeth P. Kellam, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Munroe, Peyton Stewart, and the distinguished Burman assistant, Ko Shoon.

These removals should call forth our humble and earnest supplications to the great Head of the Church, that he would bestow his protecting care and his gracious benediction on those who are still in the field of missionary toil, and that he would add greatly to their numbers, till the world shall be full of the knowledge and glory of God.

It is our special duty, at this time, to recall to our vivid recollection the unwearied labors, the self denial, and the

entiring zeal of our lamented brother, Luther Rice. His name is inseparably connected with the cause of christian missions, and of christian education, and can never be forgotten while this Triennial Convention exists, or while the Collumbian College endures. His example of unceasing toil; and of self-sacrifice for the public good, is worthy of all imitation.

In fine, let the death of these servants of God awaken in us a remembrance that our time of toil and trial will soon be over; and excite us to do with our might whatever our hand findeth to do, in the cause of God and of man.

All which is respectfully submitted.

A. Woods, *Chairman.*

The Committee on the African Mission presented their report, which was adopted.

The Committee on the African Mission beg leave to present the following as their Report:

The Committee have reviewed, with great pleasure, the measures adopted by the Board in regard to the African Mission during the three past years, and have read, with increasing satisfaction, the history of its progress and success.

While they give their unqualified approbation to the labors of the Board to sustain and carry forward this mission; they cannot, they ought not, to withhold their grateful acknowledgements to the God of missions, for his gracious smiles upon those labors.

A dark cloud has often rested upon this mission, and it has caused many of its most ardent friends to ask, "Does our gracious God intend that the benighted, the long abused land of Ham shall ever be illuminated by white men?" But recent events have, to some extent, dissipated the gloom, and encouraged us to go on with our work.

The Committee are unanimously of the opinion, that the Board ought to be sustained in its present efforts, and, as far as their means will allow, ought also to establish primary schools both among the natives; and the colonists from this country.

The native Africans have, generally, no written language, and little or no knowledge of a regular education, though thousands of them evince a great desire to possess it. Little, therefore, can be done by a missionary, beyond the sound

of his own voice, and even that little under great disadvantages, unless the people are taught to read. To form for the natives an alphabetical language, to establish schools for their instruction, and to qualify a competent number of native teachers to instruct their own countrymen, appears to the Committee, to call for the immediate and persevering attention of the Board.

In order to carry on this plan, a printing press is, in the view of the Committee, indispensable. School-books will be needed; tracts may be profitably circulated, whenever the people can read; and the New Testament, which is being translated into the Bassa language, must be sent to the thousands of that tribe, so soon as they are prepared to receive it.

In view of all these things, the Committee would submit the following resolutions—

Resolved, That the Board be earnestly requested to promote, as far as they may deem it proper, the establishment of primary schools among the natives, and the colonists, under the superintendence of their missionaries.

Resolved, That the Board be encouraged to send out to Africa a printing press, as soon as it may comport with their means.

All which is respectfully submitted.

ELI BALL, *Chairman.*

The Committee on European Missions, as this morning enlarged, presented their report, modified in that part relating to France, which was adopted.

The Committee, to whom was referred the consideration of the missions of the Baptist General Convention in Europe, beg leave to report:

That they have given to the subject committed to them, such attention as their circumstances would permit, and have come to the following conclusions, which they respectfully submit to the Convention.

1. The mission to France has, from the commencement, labored under great disadvantages, arising from the repeated sicknesses of our missionaries, the opposition of other denominations, and impediments thrown in our way by some local magistrates. The missionaries themselves, have expressed sentiments of discouragement, and one has been obliged, by ill health, to return.

Some of these difficulties are not, in their nature, permanent, and hopes may be entertained that a recent decision of a provincial court, in favor of religious freedom, may be confirmed by the higher tribunals.

So much of our plan as embraced the renovation of existing Baptist churches, by affording instruction to the rising ministry, remains as practicable as ever.

The committee are of opinion, that the experiment of a mission to France has not yet been of sufficient duration to afford ground for positive conclusions in regard to it. They therefore recommend that the subject be left with the Board. The miserable state of France, as to religion, the influence of that country on Europe, the low state of our denomination in that kingdom, and many other reasons, seem to demand of us an especial prayerfulness. We beg our brethren to remember the mission at a throne of grace.

2. The mission to Germany, under the labors of Mr. Oncken, and several assistants, has, thus far, realized the most sanguine expectations of its friends. Many souls have been converted. The demand for evangelical tracts and the scriptures, is increasing, and a spirit of inquiry is spreading abroad, which promises the happiest results to the cause of the Redeemer. The committee recommend that the Board be directed to prosecute its interests with unabated energy, and to furnish Mr. Oncken and his associates with every suitable means for the dissemination of divine truth.

It may also be worthy of the attention of the Board, to ascertain in how far openings may be found for carrying the gospel into other countries of the north of Europe. They would specially recommend the propriety of making inquiries into the expediency of establishing a mission in Denmark.

3. The mission to Greece has been so recently established, that no decisive results can yet be expected from it. The committee entertain unabated confidence in the views in which this mission was founded, and recommend that it be strengthened, in so far as the funds of the Convention will warrant.

All which is respectfully submitted.

(In consequence of the absence of br. Wayland, the chairman of this committee, when considerable alterations were made in the report, his name is omitted.)

The Committee on Asiatic Missions reported, as follows:

The Committee appointed to prepare a Report upon the state of the Asiatic Missions, would respectfully submit the following:

Mingled emotions pervaded their minds, while rapidly surveying the recent history of these missions, particularly that of *Burmah*, of which your Committee would first speak. It was natural that they should recur to the period and the circumstances of its formation. They could not forget that the door, opened by God in his providence, that "the nation that keepeth the truth might enter in," bearing that truth to the heathen world, first conducted us to *Burmah*, and that at that time, and from that point, an impulse was given to the cause of missions, which has gone on, growing with the growth and strengthening with the strength of the churches, and which, they believe, will continue to expand, until missions and missionaries are superseded by the final and universal supremacy of truth. Nor could your Committee forget how long this extensive and powerful empire continued the undisturbed and undisputed dominion of the "prince of the power of the air," until invaded by your missionaries; and how their labors have been sanctioned and sanctified by the Spirit of God. Recent events, however, impart a tinge of sadness to their feelings. The facts alluded to by your Committee, will be readily anticipated. The late changes in the political administration of the Burmese Government have terminated inauspiciously to our cause, compelling the missionaries to recede from *Burmah* Proper for a while. Your Committee would offer no comment dictated by a spirit of unbelief or despondency. With the history of the first establishment of Christianity before them, they cannot doubt of ultimate success. As in the first age of the church, the disciples, scattered abroad by the storms of persecution, went every where, preaching Christ, so your Committee hope it will be now. Your Committee cannot but regard this new exhibition of hostility to our cause as God's voice to us; and without presuming to interpret its meaning, would hope that it might not be permitted to pass by without proper improvement. May it lead us more closely and more humbly to the mercy seat, there to search our hearts, weigh our motives, and read the lesson this

chastisement would teach us, amid the silence and the light that encircle the throne of grace.

Your Committee can but group, in their Report, the remaining, and not less interesting portions of the Asiatic missions. The *Kacén* mission retains its encouraging aspect. At no station, probably, has the Gospel more rapidly and gloriously triumphed than here.—At *Siam* considerable progress has been made in the translation of the New Testament, by Mr. Jones—the Gospel of Matthew being already finished and printed. From the growing importance of this mission, and the prospects of usefulness unfolding to the view of the feeble band at Bangkok, your Committee would hope that an additional number of holy and devoted men might soon enter as laborers into this inviting harvest.—The mission to *China* is one of increasing solicitude and prayer to our denomination. It is now an interesting and authenticated fact, that there exist points of access into the interior of this empire, hitherto unknown to the penetrating spirit of commercial enterprise.—The *Arracan* station seems peculiarly deleterious to the health of the missionaries, suggesting the expediency of its relinquishment for a more salubrious region.—The *Telioga* or *Teloogoo* mission opens an extended and inviting field of operation. We have but one missionary, with his wife, laboring on this far-reaching field. What is this among a population numbering from five to ten millions?

The invasion of disease and of death among the ranks of our beloved missionaries, is a circumstance demanding solemn submission to God's holy will, and the sincere adoption of the patriarch's language.—“The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.” We cherish the hope, that fresh conscripts to the armies of the Redeemer, impressed with the life, and inspired by the death, of our departed brethren and sisters, will rush to the spot, and raise on high the standard of the cross. If so, then, dark as these events of providence may appear to be, we yet shall see them fringed with light, and speaking not in anger, but in love,

Were not your Committee restrained, by the fear of trespassing upon the duties of another, they would gladly avail themselves of this seemingly appropriate occasion, to express their devout gratitude to God for the merciful guar-

dianship vouchsafed to our beloved brother Malcom, and to express their confidence in the wisdom that planned the agency, and in the able and effective manner in which it has been conducted. They anticipate from it the happiest results, both to the churches at home and to the missions abroad.

The enlarged effusions of the Spirit on some of the stations—the great ingathering of genuine converts to the christian faith—the extensive circulation of a complete and faithful version of the Holy Scriptures in the Burmese vernacular—the distribution of evangelical tracts, borne through the empire as on the wings of every wind—present, also, powerful incentives to gratitude, prayer, and redoubled effort. God seems wisely and mercifully so to have blended chastisement with blessing, as that we should neither despond on the one hand, nor yet be elevated by self-gratulation on the other.

Your Committee cannot resign the duty committed to their hands, without adverting to the impressive demand now made upon the churches, for a renewal and an increase of the funds needed to sustain and carry forward the operations of the Board. Never, perhaps, was that call more imperious than at this moment. An exhausted treasury—heavy liabilities incurred—missionaries waiting the signal to depart—widening spheres of effort abroad—present facts which your Committee believe need but be mentioned, to carry deep conviction and awaken powerful interest. Your Committee have alluded to the necessity of increased prayerfulness. This, they feel, cannot be too frequently nor too strongly urged; but, to the prayers must be added the *property* of the church. Prayer must sanctify the offering of property, and property must endorse the sincerity of prayer; while both find a common acceptance through the Redeemer's blood. The call to enlarged charities and redoubled effort in this holy cause, comes up loud and impressive from various quarters, with a moment's advertence to which your Committee would close their report. The millions of India, yet unvisited by the truth imploringly cry—“Give us the gospel.” The missionaries, scattered by persecution, and thinned by sickness and by death, urge the admonition of their Lord.—“The harvest truly is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that

he would send forth more laborers into the harvest." The Board of Managers ask of their constituents, a replenished treasury, stating that their movements must be embarrassed, and their operations curtailed, unless funds be immediately placed at their disposal. The spirits of the departed missionaries, now gazing with intense interest on our movements, beseech us, that the cause for which they labored, and in which they sacrificed their lives, and whose magnitude and importance they never perfectly knew till surrounded by the scenes of the eternal world, may not be forgotten in our prayers, or languish in our hands. A wail of despair comes up from the prison-house of the lost.—"Oh send a missionary to my father's house, where I have five brethren, that he may testify unto them, that they come not into this place of torment." Can we, with truth, reply to this—"They have Moses and the prophets, let them hear them?"

DANIEL SHARP, *Chairman.*

The report was adopted.

The Committee on nomination of officers and members of the Board, presented their report, which was accepted; and an election, according to the By-laws, was ordered by ballot. Wm. Crane, Alfred Bennett, James D. Knowles, and Charles L. Roberts, were appointed tellers.

They reported that the following brethren were duly elected officers and members of the Board for the ensuing three years:

JESSE MERCER, *President.*

Vice-Presidents.

DANIEL SHARP,
NATHANIEL KENDRICK,
STEPHEN CHAPIN,
FRANCIS WAYLAND, JR.,
JEREMIAH CHAPLIN,
WILLIAM T. BRANTLY,
BASIL MANLY,
JESSE L. HOLMAN,

WILLIAM B. JOHNSON,
JONATHAN GOING,
JOHN L. DAGG,
ELON GALUSHA,
THOMAS STOCKS,
JOHN H. COTTON,
STEPHEN B. MUNN.

LUCIUS BOLLES,
SOLOMON PECK,
HOWARD MALCOLM.

Corresponding Secretaries.

*JAMES D. KNOWLES, *Recording Secretary.*

HEMAN LINCOLN, *Treasurer.*

LEVI FARWELL, *Assistant Treasurer.*

*The above was hardly in type, when the distressing and

Managers.

Joel S. Bacon,
Eli Ball,
Alex. M. Bebee,
Alfred Benno,
Matthew Bolles, Jr.,
Irah Chase,
John O. Choules,
William Colgate,
Oliver C. Comstock,
John Conant,
John Cookson,
William Crane,
Duncan Dunbar,
William Hague,

R. B. C. Howell,
Henry Jackson,
Noble S. Johnson,
Wm. Deverett,
James H. Linsley,
Samuel W. Lynd,
Archibald Maclay,
Thomas Meredith,
Isaac Newton,
Robert E. Pattison,
John Peck,
Barnas Sears,
Adiel Sherwood,
Benjamin Smith,

Eli B. Smith,
Charles G. Sommers,
Baron Stow,
James B. Taylor,
Charles Train,
Joseph A. Warne,
John Wayland,
G. S. Webb,
Barthol. T. Welch,
Nath. W. Williams,
Wm. R. Williams,
John Withers.

Ex officio, { SPEFCER H. CONE, *President of the Convention,*
HOWARD MALCOLM.
RUFUS BABCOCK, JR., } *Secretaries* "

A discussion of much interest followed this election, touching the alarming state of our finances, and the need of increased services at the Missionary Rooms; at the close of which it was

Resolved, That an additional Secretary to the Board be now appointed.

The former tellers then collected the ballots, and reported that br. Howard Malcom was chosen.

Resolved, That the Board of Managers of the Convention be instructed hereafter to appoint the place of their next annual meeting, each year, and announce it with the annual report.

Resolved, That the Board be respectfully requested to hold their next annual meeting in Philadelphia.

Resolved, That the harmony and union which have so delightfully marked our present triennial session, and the manifest presence of the spirit of our God, in directing our discussions and decisions, call on us for the exercise of the warmest gratitude to the great Head of the Church, and a more entire consecration to the work of evangelizing the world.

cement was made of the death of our beloved brother Knowles, by small-pox, on the 9th of May, after an illness of five days.

Resolved, That the minutes and documents of the Convention be referred to the Board for publication.

Minutes of the Convention were read and approved.

Adjourned, after Prayer by the President.

HOWARD MALCOM, *Secretary*.

☞ The next annual Meeting of the Board will be held on the last Wednesday in April, 1839, in Philadelphia.

Br. J. B. Taylor, of Richmond, Va., is appointed to preach the annual sermon, and br. Thos. Meredith, of Raleigh, N. C., to be his alternate.

AMERICAN AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

A large number of brethren belonging to the American and Foreign Bible Society met on Tuesday morning in Oliver street Ch., N. Y., and spent a portion of the day in delightful and profitable conversation and prayer.

Thursday Morning, April 26.

The Society met in Oliver street, brother Cone in the Chair. A committee was appointed on the subject of the alteration of the Constitution, to whom was referred all communications as to the duty of the Society to engage in home distribution. A committee was also appointed to nominate a list of officers and managers for the ensuing year.

Their report was presented and the following were elected:

SPENCER H. CONE, *President*.

CHARLES G. SOMMERS, *Cor. Secretary*.

WILLIAM COLGATE, *Treasurer*.

JOHN WEST, *Rec. Secretary*.

With several Vice Presidents and a Board of Managers.

After some discussion it was on motion

Resolved, That the Annual Meeting of the Society shall be held on the day preceding the last Wednesday in April.

A resolution was offered by brother Babcock, recommending to the Board of Managers of the Society to make no appropriation of any part of its funds at present for home distribution, but what may be designated for that purpose by the donors.

The resolution embraced unquestionably the views and desire of a very large majority of the denomination, but still the passage of such a resolution involved, in the estimation

of many, so much of an implication of the wisdom and integrity of the Board of Managers, and so much of an apparent restriction on their movements, that its adoption was strenuously resisted; and after considerable discussion it was amended and laid on the table till the report of the committee on the subject should be made.

A resolution was adopted recognizing the kindred interests of the Society with those of the Triennial Convention.

After a short suspension of business for devotional exercises, the committee reported,

That having examined a great mass of documents, containing resolutions of Baptist State Conventions, Associations, Churches and Auxiliary Bible Societies, in every State of the Union, they are satisfied that it is the almost unanimous desire of the denomination, that the American and Foreign Bible Society should be unrestricted in the range of its operations.

Adjourned.

Friday Afternoon, April 27.

The subject pending at the adjournment of the Society on Thursday, was again resumed by a proposition from br. Hill of Troy, of a substitute for the resolution offered by Brother Babcock, which, after considerable discussion was laid on the table in order to take up the remaining part of the committee's report.

The 2d Article of the Constitution was altered in accordance with the report of the committee, by the addition of the words "all lands," and now reads "The object of this Society shall be to aid in the translation, printing and circulation of the sacred Scriptures in all lands."

The following resolutions were finally adopted by an almost unanimous vote.

Resolved, That this Society will expect of their Board of Managers in carrying into effect the second Article of the Constitution, the most sedulous care in patronising such versions only of the sacred Scriptures into the languages of the heathen, as have been or may be faithfully made, and are approved by competent examiners.

Resolved, That in the distribution of the Scriptures in the English language, they will use the commonly received version, until otherwise directed by the Society.

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of the Society be held in Philadelphia, on the day before the last Wednesday in April, 1839, at 10 o'clock, A. M.
Adjourned.

Saturday Evening, April 28.

The Society again convened, according to adjournment, to hear the Annual Report. After reading the Scriptures and prayer, brother Cone delivered an interesting address, explaining the grand principle of the Society—*The Bible Translated*. Divine truth, he remarked, or parts of it, should not be sacrificed for union. The Baptists have made sacrifices for the truth, because they believed they were God's witnesses for the truth. He exhibited a copy of the Bengalee New Testament, by brother Yates, printed at Calcutta, 1837, with the imprint of the American and Foreign Bible Society on its title page: also, two copies of the Chinese New Testament, one of them by Gutzlaff, in which baptizo is translated by a term denoting the "washing ceremony." The absurdity of the translation was illustrated by quoting John's announcement of the miraculous work of the Messiah—"He shall perform the washing ceremony upon you with the holy Ghost and with fire." In view of such impious perversions, the speaker most appropriately exclaimed—"O Lord! is it not time for thee to work, when men thus make void thy law?"

The report of the Treasurer was next read by brother Colgate; from which it appeared, that the amount received during the year was more than \$33,000, making the whole sum, including the balance in the Treasury at the beginning of the year, \$38,714 66. Out of this sum \$10,500 have been appropriated to aid the Convention in its translations in Asia, and among the aborigines of our own country; and \$7,500 to aid in publishing the Bengalee Scriptures. Only about \$3,000 of the balance on hand can be called available at present without sacrifice.

The Annual Report was next read by brother Sommers, the Corresponding Secretary, which recognized the mercy of the Lord towards the Society, and the gratifying prosperity which attended it. The liberal donation of brother Munn of \$8,000 was suitably noticed. The labors of the Baptists in providing faithful translations of the Scriptures

were duly adverted to, and a stirring appeal was made in behalf of the millions of China.

The acceptance of the report was moved by brother Webb, who has recently returned to this country from Burmah. He adverted to the condition of the heathen—the labors of brother Judson in translating the Bible, and the degree of piety evinced by the converted Burmans and Karens. To the question, Do they show that they are really converted to God? the reply was, Yes, as fully as converts here.

Brother Malcom followed with some very interesting remarks respecting the Missionaries at Calcutta and Serampore, and the excellence of brother Yate's Bengalee New Testament.

Professor Knowles moved, that in the amount of funds placed at the disposal of the Board, the Society recognize the favor of the great Head of the Church. The principle of its popularity and success, he remarked, was allied to liberty of conscience, freedom of opinion, independence of churches, for which Baptists had always contended.

It was moved by brother Johnson, of South Carolina, and unanimously carried, that brother Cone be requested to furnish the substance of his address for publication with the Report.

We have occupied this paper, almost wholly, with the proceedings of the late meeting of the Triennial Convention of the Baptist denomination in the United States, and an account of the anniversary of the American and Foreign (Baptist) Bible Society. We were anxious to have inserted also a notice, somewhat extended, of the Tract, and American Baptist-Home-Mission-Society, but these we are obliged to defer for want of room to the next number. We should have been pleased to lay, also, before our readers, the reports of these societies, but their voluminousness forbids it. We have, on hand, a large number of communications, some of which are very interesting, from brethren in different parts of the country. We will attend to these next month. We need not bespeak the patience of our correspondents.

MILL CREEK CHURCH.

We beg leave to call the attention of our readers to the

following document of the Church at Mill Creek, with the accompanying remarks of Father Whitsitt.

"The Mill Creek Church in Conference, on the 16th day of June 1838.

Whereas we have been charged, by Ammon Coughran, Frances Coughran, James Corbit, Nancy Corbit, and Shadrach Allen, with a departure from our original constitution, or doctrinal ground; and, whereas, we have taken our constitution and practice under reconsideration, and, on a careful review, are unanimously of the opinion that we have not departed; and, whereas, they have drawn up and published the above, together with a declaration of nonfellowship with this Church, at the same time uniting themselves with another Church, therefore

1. Resolved, That their names be dropped from the list of the names of the members of this Church.
2. Resolved That the Editor of the Baptist be requested to publish our constitution, together with the above John Corbit, Ch. Cl. JAMES WHITSITT, Mod."

{ Please see the Constitution on the cover,—for want of room. }

REMARKS.

I now ask the reader the following grave questions. Does not this covenant or constitution, contain Baptist doctrine? Has this church ever deviated from it? How then is it, that she has left Baptist ground? Did she not covenant with herself forty one year ago, that she would not bind conscience? Has she ever done it? Did she not covenant and agree to "do whatsoever is agreeable to sound doctrine"? Does not the New Testament contain sound doctrine? Is she doing any thing contrary to it! Has she violated any article, of the constitution of the concord Association? Look at the preamble, and constitution of that body. If she had violated any article whatever, why did not the anti churches, bring a charge against her? But, instead of that they withdrew, and made an *ex post facto* law, to shut her out of their communion. { Is there any other principle, on which this church may have a standing among those churches which call themselves "the orthodox" than to bind conscience? When this church does that, will she not have departed from original principles? } This paragraph, neither binds nor is bound, every man is

as free to withhold, as he is to give, and although this missionary provision was adopted at the first, yet it has not been more than twenty one years since it began to be practiced, and perhaps there is not a congregation in the state of the same ability, that has done more for the spread of the gospel. Instead of charging this church with departing from, it would have been true, if, the anties had charged her with *going in*.

It seems that this Church, is reported to be in Babylon. Well, this must be borne, for it can answer no purpose to retort. The practice of the anties has been to blacken the efforts, and make them look like a den of thieves. Among other things Arminianism is thrown at them. According to them a man may as well be nothing, as an Arminian. Objection. "After all the missionary efforts, there will be no more saved than the elect". This we are free to grant, and "endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory" 2 Tim. 2. 10.

The Mill Creek members do not pretend to be without faults, I know I have mine, but this church has never broke covenant with any people, and that is more than the five withdrawn members can say, or the anti churches either. The old and new Testaments are the word of God, and the only rule of Faith and practice, and this rule will be carried out by the Baptist churches, when their pulpits are cleansed of mischievous men.

Our association, occasionally, sent out circulars to stir up the churches to sustain their ministers, but it availed nothing. Notice was given in the public papers, that a meeting would be held at Mill creek, to devise a plan, for more extensive preaching through the state, and, ministers and brethren were invited to it. I delivered the introductory, in view of a State Convention, in the very house where missionary operations began, sixteen years before. Members from the Nashville, and Mill creek churches went heartily into it.

Soon afterwards, Elder Gayle recieved an invitation from the "Home Mission Society of New York" to ride six months through the state, and exhort the churches, to more diligence in this good work. This he did, and his labour was not in vain. But when the convention found, that there was murmuring against their action, they sent out notice

that if a better plan could be devised and pursued by the churches, they would fall in with it. After this the churches of the Concord, were called together and consultation held, on which the whole work of the Convention was assumed by the churches. But they failed and if my memory serves me, Dr. Watson who is the leader of the faction, acknowledged in the association, that the churches had failed to carry out their agreement. If it be the duty of Baptists at all, to carry out and spread the gospel over the world, then it is by missionary operations or nothing, for the churches, the way they have gone on, will not more than keep the ground they have got, if that. What is the convention doing, that there should be such a fuss about it? Art. 5. "The convention shall devise and execute plans for disseminating the gospel in destitute sections of the state, and as far as practicable, supply such churches as solicit aid." Let any man bring a charge against this work, and support it by the scripture if he can. I now say to the opposing brethren once for all, bring your charge against this work, as stated in this Article, and support it by the new Testament. Then if the convention does not come down, go on as you now do, in splitting up the churches, and I will help you. But until you do that, I shall vote that all who cannot yield to your tyranny, in binding conscience, and whom you throw out on that account, be put into churches where they can exercise the rights of christ's free men.

Solitude, May 29, 1838.

JAMES WHITSITT.

NASHVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH.

An adjourned meeting of the Nashville Baptist Church was held, at their place of worship, on monday afternoon the 18th June 1838, a large number of the members, and visiting brethren present, when the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously passed.

Whereas David Read, Harriet A. Read, Gilford Read, Elizabeth Read, George T. Stuhl, Benjamin R. B. Wallace, Samuel M. Allen, Thomas T. Harrison, and Susanna M. Paul, without having previously given us any intimation of their dissatisfaction with us, our faith, or proceedings, asking for letters of dismission, or taking any other Gospel steps, have, in a disorderly and unscriptural manner, withdrawn from this Church, and formed themselves, under the persuasions and guidance of a Mr. Washington Lowe, into another Church, and have drawn up and published a decla-

ration of nonfellowship with the Baptist Church in this city, individually, and collectively, therefore

1. Resolved, That their names be erased from the list of members of this Church.
2. Resolved, That this Church still adheres to, and has never departed, in faith or practice, from, the declaration of principles upon which she was constituted.
3. Resolved, That these proceedings be published in The Baptist.

A copy—Test

T. L. BUDD, Clerk.

It is proper for us to add to the record of these acts of the Churches, at Mill Creek and Nashville, a few remarks by way of explanation.

It will, doubtless, be asked why the Churches have adopted the unusual plan of publishing their proceedings in these particular cases. We answer, because these persons published their accusations, and it was believed by the Churches that it was necessary to disabuse the public ear. That it may be seen what has been charged against these Churches, we will transcribe a part of their manifesto, to which they set their "hand and seal."

"Whereas the undersigned, heretofore and up to the present time members of the Baptist Church in Nashville, and at Mill Creek, in the vicinity of Nashville, respectively, against whom no charge for disorder or immorality exists(?) have ever held the doctrine and opinions generally entertained by the old order of Regular or Predestinarian Baptists; and have ever, heretofore, and still do, at the present time, claim to be of, and to belong to, no other than such; and whereas we believed the Churches aforesaid to be such when we joined them; and whereas we find the said Churches no longer maintain the doctrine of the Old Baptists aforesaid (!) but have made great and manifest departures therefrom, in that the said Churches (or the leaders and influential members thereof) are now merged in the Baptist State Convention, and engaged in the various other money missionary or human institutions of the day, for the purpose of having the Gospel preached to every creature, or individual, the ministry improved by Theological Schools, and the whole world regenerated by means of money, or human exertions based on money, and its corrupting influence; and whereas we cannot believe in the divine efficacy of such things, nor fellowship

those who are engaged therein, believing such course and principles to be unwarranted from the word of God; and whereas from the aforesaid causes and reasons, after long forbearance"—and so on, continues the preamble. Therefore Resolved, that we do hereby separate and withdraw ourselves, our membership, and fellowship, from the aforesaid Churches &c. &c.—and several other resolutions.

There is nothing in this *rigmarole* against which these Churches wish to defend themselves, but the imputation that they "no longer maintain the doctrine of the Old Baptists." That we believe "in the divine efficacy" of money to convert sinners, no one will credit for a moment, who has common sense. This, and a great deal more slang of a like kind is mere ill natured gabble.

The reason of the publication of the Constitution of the Church at Mill Creek, and which is the same, word and letter, upon which the Church in Nashville was established, was that these nine members have declared in the above document, against one hundred seventy, in this city, and five, against upwards of three hundred at Mill Creek, that "the said Churches no longer maintain the doctrine of the Old Baptists" &c. If they mean by "Old Baptists," the obscene doctrine of Daniel Parker, who is the Father and Patriarch of anti-effortism in Tennessee, and which is not twenty years old, these Churches plead guilty to the charge; or even the doctrine of their beloved brethren Greatrake, Osborn &c., who have been so lately preaching here and writing books, which they have published for the edification of the faithful, we have nothing to say. But if they mean the doctrine which has been maintained by the Baptist denomination time immemorable, the statement is not true, and to make this appear is the object of the Churches. How stand the facts. The Constitution adopted by the Mill Creek Church forty years ago, yet remains untouched. She still strenuously maintains it, and we do the same thing.

When the Church in Nashville was constituted this same Mill Creek declaration was adopted by her. Recently the Church purchased a lot upon which she is now building a meeting house. To be secure in the possession of the property our legal advisers thought it necessary to insert our declaration in the deed, and they believed it essential that we should be a little more specific. We accordingly drew up and adopted, for this purpose, an instrument containing

the same doctrine, precisely, but a little more extended, and particular, which is embodied in the deed of conveyance. But let it be remembered that in doing this we did not cancel the old constitution. That remains exactly as on the day the Church was constituted by Elders Whitsitt, Vardeman &c., and is still in full force. Well, then, what is the testimony by which they prove that we "no longer maintain the doctrine of the Old Baptists? It is, forsooth, in their own language?—"That the said Churches (or the leaders, and influential members thereof) are now merged in the Baptist State Convention, and engaged in the various other money missionary or human institutions of the day, for the purpose of having the Gospel preached to every creature, or individual &c." In other words these Churches have committed the crime of being active friends of missionary effort, and the spread of Bible knowledge generally; they have, as have Baptist Churches in all ages, thought it their duty to show their faith by their works. For this offence they say—"We do hereby separate and withdraw ourselves, our membership, and fellowship, from the aforesaid Churches." To all which we say, Amen.

The expulsion of the authors of this publication was, as every one will see, a matter of course. We wish it, however, to be distinctly understood that we did not expel these persons because they differed from us in opinion, in doctrine or practice, which, by the way, if they do, is a very late thing with them, some of them but a few months since, almost outstipping any of us in missionary zeal, and others having been baptized but a short time, although they say in their published charges:—"After long forbearance, hoping a change for the better might take place, we find ourselves unwilling longer to endure and live under such a state of things as we have long laboured under."—Neither did we exclude them for joining another Church, or any thing else of a similar nature. All this, in an orderly manner, they had a right to do, without incurring censure from us. If they had condescended to ask for letters of dismission to join any other Baptist Church, or to have formed themselves into one, they would have been granted to all, so far as Nashville was concerned, with one exception, most cheerfully. The specific reasons of their excommunication are stated in the proceedings published above—the publication of false

statements, the violence and disorder of their departure, declarations of nonfellowship &c. &c. If we are asked why the Churches published the *names* of these offending members, we answer that they are all subscribed to their own *published* documents, and we suppose there can be nothing discourteous or repulsive to them in our following, in this matter, their own example.

After all, we must say, in conclusion, our commiseration is very much excited in favour of these people, notwithstanding their billigerant attitude, and the unnatural assault they have made upon us. That the Churches as well as ourself pitied much more than they blamed them, was a general declaration of the members, at the time, and is apparent from the fact that, in all their proceedings, they used the softest language they could command.

They did not write the denunciations against us that they subscribed, and permitted to be published. A great majority of them cannot justly be charged with the crime of trying, to any extent, to form letters with a pen, and could not, therefore, be expected to comprehend the import of what they, by the incessant dunning of designing men, under the garb of *Old School preachers*, were finally induced to sanction with the signature of their names &c. Greatrake, Lowe, Osborn, Watson, and about a dozen others, of the same stripe, have, after protracted labours, led them into the dilemma in which they now find themselves. These gulled and deluded men and women excite, therefore, in the minds of those who know the circumstances of their case, not indignation, but sincere compassion. Let us be perfectly understood. That they are obscure, and without cultivation, or worldly influence, is no objection to them as christians. Many of the most devoted and worthy christians are of this class, and whose attainments is spirituality we can never hope to reach. Had they been persons possessed of a knowledge of men and things, they would, perhaps, have excited other feelings, for "where much is given, much is required," but unfortunately they as all here know are simple credulous people and consequently, so much the more liable to be deceived, and led astray; whatever of indignation, therefore, our bosoms may feel, should terminate not upon them, but the misguided demagogues who have made them the instruments of their mischievous purposes. Ed.