

THE BAPTIST.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.: FRIDAY, MAY 20, 1853.

The Law of Newspapers. Subscribers who do not give express notice to the contrary...

We hope our subscribers will particularly read the items we publish at the head of this column, on the Law of Newspapers.

The Importance of Fostering a National Literature. No. 2. II. Nor less striking is the effect of current literature upon political organizations.

Now, this very servility of intellect to the powers that be, tinges the whole current of trans-Atlantic literature.

What, then, is needed to counteract the influence of this trans-Atlantic literature, and inspire a correct appreciation of our own political structure?

At the recent Unitarian Convention, held at St. Louis, the following preamble and resolution was referred to a select committee...

These fiery hotspurs who, Vandal-like, would engulf all our hallowed institutions in one common ruin. And, moreover, we yet possess as a part of that rich legacy bequeathed to us by our fathers...

What we need at present is, vigorous hearts, clear heads, and strong arms, to keep "truth in the field."

Baptist Churches in our State.

The quiet village of Gainesville, in Sumter county, is situated on the west side of the Bigby river, and contains about 800 inhabitants.

The Church at Gainesville are enjoying the services of Bro Howard, who lives among them, and makes them an able and efficient pastor.

The Church at Jones' Creek, 10 miles south, was constituted by Bro. Ross, in 1836 or '38, with a membership of six.

Measures have been taken in Philadelphia, for the establishment of an American Baptist Historical Society.

The Southern Baptist Convention.

Editorial Correspondence of the S. W. Baptist. BALTIMORE, MAY 14, 1853. We arrived here in due time, by the Bay line...

First Day.—This religious body, composed of clerical and lay delegates from the various Baptist churches of the Southern and Western States, yesterday morning assembled in the Seventh Baptist church...

On motion, the convention then proceeded to the election of officers, which resulted as follows: Rev. R. B. C. Howell, D. D., President; Rev. Richard Fuller, D. D., of Md., Rev. J. B. Jeter, of Va., Rev. W. C. Buck, of Tenn., and Judge T. Stocks, of Ga., Vice Presidents;

The following States are represented in the body: Maryland, North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Louisiana, Virginia, South Carolina, Alabama, Tennessee, and the District of Columbia.

On motion, it was resolved to have the Home Mission Sermon preached this (Saturday) evening, in the First Baptist Church.

When the President announced the names and quarters of the chairmen of the general committees, it was found that one was stopping at the Eutaw House, who stated that the illness of his daughter induced him to stop there.

Afternoon Session.—The convention re-assembled at 3 o'clock, and being called to order by the President, and singing a hymn, joined in prayer with Rev. S. Baker, of Tennessee.

On motion, the report was received and unanimously adopted; and on motion of Rev. Mr. Crawford, of Georgia, ordered to be printed on the minutes.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Crane, one of the Secretaries, so much of the report as related to such departments, was referred as follows: to Colportage, the Distribu-

tion of the Bible in Foreign Lands, the Distribution of the Bible in this country, and on the Plan of Future Operations—the committee of each to consist of five members.

The President, during the session, announced the following in accordance with the resolution: Committee on the Distribution of the Bible in Foreign Lands—E. Ball, P. H. Lundy, B. Grimsley, J. W. M. Williams, and J. J. James.

The seventh annual report of the Board of Domestic Missions was then read by the Recording Secretary, Rev. F. F. Curtis. It appears from this paper that the amount of funds on hand on the 1st of April, 1852, was \$3,512 82; amount received during the past year up to the 1st of April, 1853, \$13,074 47—making a total of \$16,587 29.

Of the amount received, were contributed by the State of Alabama \$3,732 62; Georgia, 2,964 63; Virginia, 2,445 85; North Carolina, 1,625 51; Tennessee, 714 39; Arkansas, 650; Mississippi, 552 17; Maryland, 125; Louisiana, 100; Kentucky, 73 40; Missouri, 48 40; Florida, 30; Texas, 12—\$13,074 47. This makes the total of \$16,587 29.

Upon the reading of the report, Hon. Judge Stocks, of Ga., moved that in order to the more effectual investigation of the subjects presented in the paper, which he considered as of a very important character, that it be referred to a committee of one delegate from each State represented in the convention.

After remarks from Hon. Judge Stocks, Rev. Mr. Teasdale, of Washington City, Rev. Dr. Fuller, Rev. W. M. Broadhead, of Va., Rev. Reuben Jones, of Norfolk, Rev. Mr. Crawford and Rev. P. H. Mell of Georgia, Rev. Mr. Winston, of Tenn., Rev. J. H. DeVotie, of Ala., and Rev. R. Furman, of S. C., it was finally decided, on the motion of Mr. DeVotie, to refer to the following committees so much as related thereto: Committees on the Mission of the Blacks; on the Mission of New Orleans; on the Mission of California; on the importance and general desirableness of co-operation of Domestic Missions, &c.

The committee on religious services, through the chairman, Rev. J. W. M. Williams, reported that a missionary meeting would be held in the First Baptist Church, corner of Sharp and Lombard streets, at 3 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, which would be addressed by distinguished friends of the cause.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ORANGE HILL, FLA., April, 1853. Heretofore we considered the reason why our young brethren prefer law and medicine to the ministry, and ascribed it to the want of practical godliness—of heart-filling and soul-changing religion.

1. Habitual and liberal giving kindles our love. The objects upon which our munificence is expended are kept distinctly before us.

2. It nourishes faith. To give habitually and boundedly to the cause of Christ, amidst our multiplied and urgent secular cares, and the carnal and selfish solicitations of our earthly natures, is indeed a work of faith.

3. It is more blessed to give than to receive. Without the intervention of any miracle, the Lord often appears in a manner most gracious and opportune "to minister bread for his food, and multiply his seed sown."

4. That I have needlessly caused to feel dissatisfied with my prayers. 5. That I have not entirely devoted my work as a minister. 6. That I have given my consolation to utter just complaints respecting my sermons.

It can now be perceived where lies the forbiddingness of the pastoral office; and having shown it, we turn to the consideration of the means by which it can be made productive of greater success.

It is an important means for helping us forward in the divine life. We are ready to acknowledge that it is our duty to give liberally; but it is to be apprehended that but few Christians esteem themselves to look upon liberality as a prominent means of promoting their soul-prosperity.

Soul-Prosperity—No. XIII. MEANS FOR PROMOTING IT.

Give liberally of your substance that you may prosper in piety.

The regular and liberal appropriation of our substance to benevolent purposes is an important means for helping us forward in the divine life.

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SIX MORE FEARS.—I. I fear that some have entered the ministry to being called. 2. That some who have been have not entered it.

object endears it to the heart. We feel a peculiar interest even in an old broken spoke in our vehicle upon which we have expended labor and care in mending and bracing.

4. Liberal giving helps to nurture the sentiment of pious gratitude. This it does in various ways. In relieving the distressed, their afflictions are distinctly before us; and will not this excite gratitude to God that in any respect we are in a happier condition than multitudes of our fellow-creatures?

5. Beautiful giving is a very happy and successful mode of warfare against our natural covetousness. Covetousness is idolatry. Covetousness is one of the greatest hindrances to growth in grace, and to the progress of the Redeemer's kingdom.

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