

THE BAPTIST.

MONTGOMERY, ALA.

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 1853.

The Importance of Fostering a National Literature.

It remains that we consider the bearing of our subject upon religious institutions. And here a field of thought, more extended and varied than either of the foregoing, opens before us, which it would be both pleasing and profitable to traverse. But our limits for the present will not permit such indulgence.

As religion calls into exercise the most exalted traits of character, as well as attributes of man, so any restriction imposed upon that which comes under its legitimate jurisdiction, is of all forms of tyranny, the most odious. "Where the dominion of conscience begins, in matters of religion, the dominion of the secular power ends," is an undoubted axiom as ever enunciated by philosopher, statesman or divine. If religion be a personal consideration between each individual and his Maker, any authority that interposes under whatever pretext in that vast concern, arrogates the prerogatives of Jehovah, and becomes guilty of treason against the highest authority in the universe. All the religious establishments of the old world— we mean those forms of religion which are established by law—are obnoxious to this charge. The very authority which they arrogate to meddle with religion at all, is the principle which developed "the Man of Sin" in the person of the Pope of Rome; and permitted to work out its legitimate results, would place a Pope upon every throne in Europe. The hands of every one of these establishments are stained with the blood of martyrs. It is not surprising that the turbid streams which issue from such fountains, stained with the blood of the followers of the Lamb, should wither the tree of life upon its banks, and turn its fruits to ashes like the apples of Sodom. Or, to drop the figure, it is not surprising that the unadulterated word of God should, by such corrupt establishments, be made void by the commandments of men—that its authority should be superseded by the contents of what Milton very aptly calls "a huge drag net, containing all manner of fish, flesh and fowl, sea-weeds, shrubs and shells, an undigested, unpicked, unchosen heap and fry of authors," which they call "Fathers," and which they beg us to accept as a supplement to the Holy Scriptures—it is no matter of wonder that the clergy of such establishments, living upon fat salaries wrung from the hard earnings of an oppressed and suffering yeomanry—should give themselves up to inglorious ease and indolence in regard to the spiritual interests of their flocks, dreaming away their lives, "under an opium sky, that incessantly rains soporifics"—and that the piety of their membership should wither and die.

The government of the United States is the only one on earth in which the length and breadth of that which its illustrious champion, Roger Williams, the founder of Rhode Island, denominated "SOUL LIBERTY," is recognized. Here, and here only, freedom of worship God according to the dictates of his own conscience, is the birth-right of every citizen. In boasted and enlightened England, where the Dissenters from the Establishment are tolerated—mark the expression, tolerated—it has not been three years since a pious dissenting minister of the Baptist denomination was imprisoned because he could not, from sheer poverty, pay his tithes to the parish priest. And when we say that the Theological literature which emanates from these corrupt sources, particularly the polemical department of it, is unsuited to a totally different state of ecclesiastical relations, it seems to us, there should be but one response to the sentiment from every denomination of professed Christians in this country. And yet there are editors of professedly religious journals, and eminent divines, now in the United States, belonging to a sect that claims more than a million of members in the Union, who are absolutely defending the Tuscan government for incarcerating persons in the walls of a miserable dungeon, at this time, for the sole crime of reading and circulating the Holy Scriptures! Of course we can mean none other than the Roman Catholic Church. Moreover, the "Church," in European parlance, is but another name for an element of political power, upon which politicians as confidently rely for the success of their schemes, as any agency they pretend to wield. And this union of Church and State has so thoroughly intermixed the literature of each with the other, that the most searching analysis cannot separate them. And in this form it comes to us. That it is not likely to produce any immediate effect, is readily granted; but that it may be scattering the seeds, the bitter harvests of which may be reaped by our children, is not beyond the possibilities of the future. A Catholic priest boasted in a certain locality, a short time since, that there were persons now living who would live to hear that some honorable Senator would rise up in his place in Congress and move that all the vacated Protestant houses of worship in the United States be turned over to the use of the Catholic Church. At all events, it becomes us to guard well the sacred enclosure of our beloved Zion, from all human interference and molestation; and at the first intrusion into the holy place, to sound the note of alarm, and rebuke the sacrilegious intruder in the indignant language of Virgil's priest, who guarded Eleusium mysteries—

"Proci, O proci, este, profani, Conclamant vates, toteque assistite iuro!"

The conclusion, then, is made out pretty clearly, that our literature in this respect also, must be sui generis. It must conform to the genius, and minister to the necessities of our religious institutions. Of course we do not mean to say, that any doctrine of the Bible should ever be changed to suit any locality. We mean those systems of Theology gotten up to suit the caprices of every State which kindly undertakes to legislate for the King of Zion. An expurgated religious dialect is a desideratum for this country. Why should we be eternally bandying the epithets, "Calvinist," "Arminian," "Lutheran," &c. &c., when our Bibles command us to call no man

master! These phrases may suit very well for those who have never been permitted to think beyond the precincts of the creed drawn up by their Theological masters. But, for us, who profess to have escaped from the meshes of religious despotism—who regard the right of private judgment as sacred—who rejoice in the possession of the great original constitution of the Christian Church, drafted by Jesus Christ and his College of Apostles—for us to fall in with this servile spirit of man-worship, and adopt names which reach no farther back than the sixteenth century, when we are commanded to go back to the fountain head, it strikes us as not only absurd and humiliating, but absolutely wrong.

These thoughts could be extended much further, but for the present, we must conclude. On the whole, the Tree of Liberty, like the Tree of Life, must bear all manner of fruit, necessary to the wants of those who have taken shelter under its branches. Nor would it be inappropriate for some of its ripe clusters to be sent abroad occasionally for the healing of the nations. Even now, there are not wanting evidences of a brighter day. No longer does the snarling British critic ask "Who reads an American book?" If we are faithful to ourselves, it needs no prophet to decry in the future, the illustrious career we are destined to run. American genius and talent will yet construct a literary monument, which, like our happy form of government, will command the admiration of the world.

The Masadi family have recently been released, and expelled from the country. [Retire! hence hence, ye profane, and quit entirely the sacred grove!]

Baptist Churches in our State.

In paying so brief a visit to our Churches, we find it difficult to obtain as minute information respecting them as we desire, and have had to be contented with a few of the most prominent points in their history and present condition. The Church at Union-Town, in the south-west corner of Perry county, was constituted by Bro. E. Baptist, about 16 years ago. The white membership has never been very large, but the condition of the Church has generally been healthy and harmonious. The white number at present between 40 and 50, and the blacks about 200, as nearly as we could ascertain. This Church possesses some members who are remarkably active and diligent in their christian duties: one in particular, who lives some six miles from the Church and is confined all the week in the school-room, seldom fails to go to his Sabbath school and Church meetings, rain or shine. We mention this case, hoping that some of our city members may draw the contrast between such a noble example, and the conduct of those who, although living within a hundred or two yards of the church door, will neglect their prayer-meetings if the night is a little dark, or fail to get to preaching on Sabbath morning, should the dust be laid by a sprinkle of rain.

The Church at Union-Town, in connection with Hopewell, sustain Bro. Fox in preaching for them twice a month. They contribute, likewise, regularly to our benevolent operations. We are sorry to find the health of Bro. Fox so extremely delicate that he apprehends the necessity of suspending his pulpit labors almost entirely. Surely that is a mysterious Providence which sometimes deprives the churches of the services of our most useful ministers, either by sudden death or painful bodily ailments! The sufferings of Robert Hall throughout his useful life were so great, that when asked in what consists the happiness of heaven, his reply was, freedom from pain. But we earnestly trust that the health of our brother may be speedily restored, and that he may be able to devote himself again to his churches, with his accustomed energy and usefulness. And, during the weeks and months of his affliction, we pray that the light of heaven may cheer and comfort his soul.

There has been recently an interesting Church constituted by Bro. Baptist, at Dayton, in Marengo county. The Baptist interest at this place was small, and the Church commenced with about 10 or 12 members, without any house of worship. The membership has increased in a few months to something like thirty, and they have a neat house nearly completed. Bro. Baptist preaches to them regularly once a month, and occasionally twice; there is considerable wealth in the Church, and we hope they will establish regular preaching at least twice a month. We would take the liberty of remarking, in this connection, that Bro. Baptist has been very useful in this section of the State. He removed from Virginia, (where he was distinguished alike for his talent as a preacher and his acquirements as a theologian,) about 17 years ago, and settled in one of the most fertile sections of Marengo county, about 7 miles from Dayton. We spent a day or two very pleasantly in his kind family, and had the pleasure of hearing both him and his son preach on Sabbath at Spring Hill Church. It was a most rare and interesting scene, and one calculated to excite a train of profitable reflections, to see the father, now in the autumn of life, having spent his last days and strength in the service of his Master, ascend the pulpit accompanied by his son, long the object of his prayers and pious training, the one to lead and the other to follow, in proclaiming the riches of Christ to a large and attentive assembly. Truly, may the mantle of the father fall, and ever rest gracefully upon the shoulders of his promising son.

The Church at Spring Hill is one of the oldest in this part of the State, having been constituted 25 years ago. The membership of whites was formerly much larger than at present, but many have moved away, and the lands are now owned by comparatively few; consequently the colored part of the Church, numbering 147, is much larger than the whites, who number only 30 or 40. These brethren, however, as few as they are, have been trained to liberality and benevolence. Bro. Connelley preaches to them twice a month; they have a very neat house of worship, a flourishing Sabbath school, and contribute about three hundred dollars annually to benevolent objects. Perhaps only two churches in the State contribute more than they do to the objects of the Convention. It is true, that in common with all the churches which we have as yet visited, they are in rather a cold condition, unwarmed and undrained by any manifest tokens of re-

vival. But we humbly hope, that through the pious labors of their pastor, and the persevering, prayerful efforts of the members, the Lord may visit them in mercy, "grant them a gracious rain," and "revive His work in the midst of the years." One thing particularly we can record concerning them, that they know how to obey the Divine injunction, "Be careful to entertain strangers." We spent several days among them, and have reason to remember their kindness and hospitality; especially of the family with whom we passed most of our time. May the blessings of heaven hallow the altars, and cheer the fireside of that kind family.

The Members of the Baptist Church in this place will bear in mind, that at the next Church-meeting for business, which will be held on the 4th day of June next, at 8 o'clock, P. M., matters of interest to the Church will be considered. All the members are earnestly requested to attend.

The Southern Baptist Convention.

Editorial Correspondence of the S. W. Baptist. BALTIMORE, MAY 18, 1853.

We transmit to our readers the proceedings of the Convention, from the second day to its close, which we clip from the "True Union" and the "Sta." We will only observe that the Convention adjourned last evening, after one of the most harmonious and interesting sessions which has yet been held. The Convention resolved unanimously to hold its next session in the city of Montgomery, Ala.

SATURDAY MORNING.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Berg of Baltimore.

On motion by Rev. Dr. Jeter, the resolution appointing a committee to nominate three preachers for the next Convention, was re-considered and amended by instructing the Committee to nominate but one preacher who shall preach the Convention sermon.

Rev. Mr. De Votie presented resolutions from the Alabama Convention, recommending California to the notice of the Board, and the appointment of Rev. J. L. Shuck as a missionary thereto. Also requesting the next Convention to be held in Alabama. They were referred to appropriate Committees.

The report of the Foreign Mission Board was read by Rev. J. B. Taylor, Cor. Secretary.

The receipts from all sources for the past year were \$21,438 45, the Disbursements \$21,429 25, leaving in the Treasury together with the previous balance on hand \$11,694 11. The largest contribution made by any one State, was by Georgia, viz: \$6,545 93, the next by Virginia, \$8,911 74. Maryland had contributed but \$959 83.

Appropriate allusion was made by the report to the death of Dr. Mendellhall, late Treasurer.

The circulation of the Home and Foreign Journal is more extensive than both the former periodicals combined, being about 12,000 monthly, but this is much less than it ought to be. At least 30,000 copies should be circulated. At present there is a serious deficit in the amount of receipts from this source; about \$100 annually. The number of missionaries has been increased. The stations are at Canton, Shanghai and Africa.

It further appears by a review of the work, that there are connected with the Missions in China, two stations and one station, eight male and six female missionaries, and two assistants, and one boarding and five day schools and chapels. Identified with the African Missions in Liberia, there are thirteen stations, nineteen missionaries and teachers, and eleven day schools with about 400 scholars. Three stations are proposed in Central Africa to be occupied by six missionaries, four of whom are already secured. Total stations and out stations, nineteen; missionaries and assistants, thirty-nine; schools, seventeen; scholars, four hundred and eighty; churches fourteen; with a membership of six hundred and forty-four.

The Board have seen no reason to change their decision in dismissing Rev. I. J. Roberts from their service. Rev. J. L. Shuck and Dr. Burton have returned to this country, though the latter will shortly sail again for his field of labor.

California was earnestly commended to the Convention, and Africa was represented as a very important and inviting field, both on account of the constantly increasing emigration from the United States and the facilities enjoyed there for evangelizing the heathen tribes. The advantages of Central Africa for missionary labor were dwelt on at length. Several new fields were alluded to, and especially Italy, Central and South America, now groaning under the superstitions of Romanism, and barred by many obstacles against the introduction of the pure Gospel.

On motion by Rev. Dr. Jeter, the subjects embraced in the report were referred to various Committees for consideration. Interesting addresses on this motion were made by Dr. Jeter, Mr. Brantly of Ga., Dr. Binney of Ga., Bro. Keen and others.

Mr. Brantly stated that the contributors to the American Board of Commissioners, numbering about 150,000, gave to the cause of Foreign Missions last year \$300,000, while the 400,000 Baptists of the South contributed but \$21,000—a most humiliating comparison!

Mr. Binney expressed his fears that a great deal of the labor expended was lost on account of not prosecuting the work with vigor and perseverance. The results are not permanently secured. He spoke of the means of supplying this defect, and especially of the responsibility of personal duty in reference to missions, and in urging their members to contribute with liberality. Rev. J. R. Graves, Editor of the Tennessee Baptist, rose to correct a wrong impression which might have been made by the statement of Bro. Brantly. The amount of \$21,000 contributed to the cause of missions, was but a very small part of the contribu-

tions of Southern Baptists to the cause of Christ.

Rev. T. Haynes, of Maryland, stated that he had made a careful collation of the amounts respectively contributed by Baptists and others to religious and educational purposes, and the result established the fact that the Baptists had given more in proportion to their membership than any other people, Catholic or Protestant.

Rev. John Berg, submitted the following:

Resolved, That as Divine Providence is evidently pointing to Central America as an interesting and promising field of missionary effort, it is the opinion of this Convention that British Honduras be occupied by them at an early period, and that Rev. J. Kingdon, of Baltimore, has labored in that field for several years and translated several books of the Sacred Scriptures into the Maya language, which is spoken there by a population of a million, that he be requested by this Convention to labor in that field.

The propriety of occupying Burmah, and British Honduras, was referred to the Committee on new fields of labor.

The chair announced the following Committees:

On Missions to the Blacks—Cumberland George, J. H. DeVotie, J. O. B. Dargan, J. Kingdon, J. L. Apperson.

On Missions to California—Samuel Baker, James Fife, B. C. Pressley, J. Berg, William Crane.

On Missions to New Orleans—J. G. Binney, J. H. Low, F. Wilson, J. C. Crane, J. R. Graves.

On Building Fund—T. G. Keen, H. H. Tucker, A. D. Kelly, J. R. Kendrick, J. H. Lowe.

On the Importance and Desirability of some Plan of General Co-operation in Domestic Missions—N. M. Crawford, S. Herndon, R. H. Bagby, A. D. Sears, J. H. Lacy.

On New Fields of Domestic Missions—J. H. Cutbert, Samuel Henderson, J. O. B. Dargan, Wm. Crane, J. K. Meudellhall.

To Nominate New Boards—T. G. Keen, C. K. Winston, P. H. Mell, W. C. Crane, R. T. Anderson, J. H. Lowe, R. Farman, Isaac Cole, J. J. James, and A. Thomas.

On Organ of Publications—W. T. Brantly, W. C. Buck, R. C. Pressley, T. Hume, T. F. Curtis and J. B. Taylor.

On China Missions—R. Fuller, C. K. Winston, J. C. Crane, S. Henderson, and J. R. Kendrick.

On African Missions—Thos. Stocks, Wm. Crane, R. Jones, P. H. Lundy, and M. E. Bacon.

On New Foreign Fields—J. G. Binney, J. A. Broadus, J. L. Shuck, W. C. Buck, and V. R. Thorout.

The Report of the Treasurer was read by Rev. J. B. Taylor.

Two Resolutions were offered by Rev. W. C. Crane, expressing gratification that the memoir of Dr. Judson was so near its completion, and recommending its extensive circulation at the South. During the discussion upon these resolutions the Convention adjourned. Prayer by Rev. W. Q. Beattie.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Prayer by Rev. Mr. Tucker of Geo.

The first resolution offered by Rev. W. C. Crane in regard to the memoir of Dr. Judson was adopted, the second withdrawn.

The report of the Committee on credentials reported through the chairman, Rev. T. F. Curtis. It was re-committed to the Committee to be perfected.

Various Committees were then announced by the Chair.

Adjourned with prayer by Dr. Jeter, to give place to the meeting of the Southern Baptist Publication Society.

MEETING OF PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

Dr. Howell, one of the Vice Presidents, took the chair, Rev. T. Hume was appointed Secretary. The Annual Report was read by the Corresponding Secretary, Rev. E. T. Winkler. It referred to the lamented death of Dr. Mendellhall, and paid a just tribute to his worth.

Permanent Fund, \$6,613 00 Unpaid Subscriptions, \$9,575 50 The Friends of the Society are earnestly increasing. The importance of a sound and earnest denominational literature was advocated, and Southern Baptists appealed to, to aid liberally this agency for diffusing the Gospel.

The annual sales of the Depository in Charleston have amounted to \$21,000. 6000 copies of the Baptist Psalmody, 1000 copies of the Evils of Infant Baptism, and 100 of the Way of Salvation, by Dr. Howell, have been issued. New Publications. Duties of Churches to Pastors, by Rev. F. Wilson, 4000 copies. Duties of Pastors to Churches, by Rev. T. G. Jones, Baptism in its mode and subjects, by P. H. Mell, 2000 copies each. Arrangements have been made for a series of doctrinal tracts by able Southern writers—two of which are in press. Two tracts on missions are also in course of preparation, and some books for Sabbath Schools. Total number of books issued, 23,000, containing 7,759,000 pages.

Rev. Samuel Baker, President of the Bible Board of Nashville, Tennessee, submitted the following resolution, which he supported in an address of great energy. Resolved, That the importance of the work of colportage, a work peculiarly within the province of this society, and yet of considerable expense in its prosecution, summons the friends of this enterprise greatly to enlarge their liberality for its institution and furtherance.

It was adopted. Rev. S. Henderson, of Alabama, offered the following:

Resolved, That the Southern Baptist Publication Society is a most important agency in fostering a national religious literature.

After remarks from him, it was seconded by B. C. Pressley, Esq., of Charleston, S. C., who likewise commended it in an address, when it was unanimously adopted.

The Society shortly afterwards adjourned.

HOME MISSION SERMON.

On Saturday evening at 8 o'clock, Bro. Samuel Baker of Tennessee preached at the First Baptist church, from Luke iv: 43. "I must preach the kingdom of God to other cities also, for therefore am I sent."

He discussed three points. 1. That Christ was sent to "preach the kingdom of God." 2. That Christ was a Home Missionary. 3. That Christians should labor to evangelize the cities and large towns especially, in imitation of their

Lord. After the sermon, Bro. Stephen W. Price was ordained to labor as a Home Missionary in Western Maryland. Rev. J. W. M. Williams offered the ordaining prayer. Dr. Fuller gave the charge and Rev. F. Wilson the right hand of fellowship. It is an interesting fact that Bro. Price is the son of a former missionary and of a converted Burman, that his earliest years were spent with Boardman and Judson; he is probably the first person born in Burmah who has ever entered upon the ministry in the U. States.

On Sunday many of the pulpits of different denominations throughout the city, were occupied by members of the Convention. On Sunday afternoon a mass missionary meeting was held in the First Baptist church. We have seldom attended a more deeply interesting service. The spacious house was literally crowded. After prayer by Rev. Dr. Sharp of Boston, Rev. Dr. Binney, formerly of Burmah, made an address, in which after speaking of the sublimity and vastness of the missionary enterprise, he dwelt on the trifling nature of the efforts which Christians were making, compared with the extent of the destitution and the importance of the work. Boston has spent half a million in introducing water for the use of her citizens; what are we doing to give the water of life to dying nations? Millions are expended by the government of the United States on her army and navy. What are 50, or 100,000 dollars, to be expended by Christians in sending the Gospel to the world? He also spoke of the encouragements to this work, as illustrated in Burmah. Already there are 10,000 converted heathen, beside multitudes who have died in faith; their churches are distinguished by their careful examination of candidates for membership, by the purity and strictness of their discipline, by their intelligent acquaintance with the Bible, and by the care with which they train their children in the "nature of the Lord." Nearly all the children of these converts become christians at a very early age; if not, the parents are greatly distressed. The speaker presented many striking facts illustrative of these assertions, and closed with a fervent appeal to Christians to practice more self-denial, and more entire consecration to the great work of saving the world.

Rev. T. J. Bowen, missionary to Central Africa, then made an address which could not fail to kindle in every heart thrilling emotions. After a rapid sketch of the religious condition of the Western coast of Africa, which he described as containing from 75 to 100 churches, with about 10,000 members, he proceeded to speak of Yoruba, in the interior. He described the country as apparently healthy, moderately fertile, with a delightful climate; the people as far above savages, polite in their manners, quite intelligent, dwelling in walled cities, some of them covering an area as large as New York. They are prepared by their religion to appreciate the value of the great sacrifice and mediator Jesus, are willing and anxious to hear the Gospel, and some of them, during his short stay of eight weeks, gave evidence of a change of heart and faith in Jesus Christ. He was the first white man who had ever visited some parts of that country, and his narrative was at once surprising and encouraging. He will soon return to plant the standard of the Cross. At the close of his remarks a collection was taken up amounting to \$120.

MONDAY MORNING.

Prayer by Rev. Dr. Winston. On motion of Rev. Dr. Jeter a committee of one from each State was appointed to report on the location of the several Boards. The Report on Finance was read by the chairman, J. C. Crane. It states that while the receipts have increased, they bear a very small proportion to the ability of the denomination, and the claims of the cause. What we need is system. Very few comparatively give one cent a week. The committee submitted a resolution recommending the pastors to urge their churches to adopt measures for systematic contributions.

The Report on African Missions was read by Judge Stocks. The visits of Bros. Ball and Bowen to Africa were referred to in terms of warm approval. Three brethren have been appointed to return with Bro. Bowen. Resolutions were offered, expressing gratitude to God for his protection to Bro. Bowen, and admitting our obligations to more earnest labor and prayer for this mission.

The Report on the desirability of some plan of general operations for Domestic Missions was read by Rev. N. M. Crawford. It admits the incompetency of the Committee to propose an efficient plan, on account of the voluntary nature of our organizations—the vast extent of country to be cultivated, and the various conditions of the Associations—and concludes with resolutions urging the Committee to consider the field before them, to pray and give their hearts and hands to the work, and recommending the State Associations to use the best means in their power to secure the most complete co-operation.

Quite an animated discussion arose in regard to the propriety of holding annual instead of triennial meetings—which was participated in by Brethren Manly, T. G. Jones, Bagby, Keen, J. A. Broadus, Stocks—and finally decided by a vote to make no change in the frequency of the meetings.

By request of the Convention, Rev. T. J. Bowen then made many interesting statements in regard to Central Africa. He thought that the light of revelation must have been in former ages shed upon the Africans. Many practice circumcision, and many coincidences in customs, arts, &c., with those of ancient Egypt, show that the civilization of Central Africa must have been derived from Egypt. He regarded it as pointed out by God as a peculiar field, promising the richest harvest. They are not savages, but a people who could if converted, support independent, self-sustaining churches. He had seen a market two miles long. The staples are corn and yams. The

currency is the cowrie or little shells. The sheep have no wool. They have only palm wine, and an ale made from Indian corn. On motion Rev. Dr. Jeter was requested to lead the Convention in returning thanks to God on behalf of the encouraging tokens of His favor given to the African Mission.

The Report of the Committee on New Orleans was read by Rev. J. R. Graves. It presented in glowing terms the importance of the Valley of the Mississippi as the grand field for missionary work in the U. S. New Orleans is the commercial emporium of that valley, and exerts a vast influence over it. It is moreover a moral maelstrom, and thousands of young men from all parts of the land are there ruined. To prevent this mightily loss, we must attempt great things to establish a permanent Baptist interest there. It recommended the raising of \$25,000 to be added to 15,000 now in the hands of the executors of Mr. Paulding, as a building fund. To accomplish this, it closed with a recommendation to all the pastors throughout the South to take a collection for this fund on the Sabbath in—, also suggesting Dr. Fuller of Baltimore, as a suitable person to undertake the enterprise of establishing a Baptist Church in New Orleans. Laid on the table until 4 o'clock. Prayer by Rev. Geo. W. Samson. Adjourned.

MONDAY AFTERNOON.

Prayer by Rev. T. Hume, of Va.

On motion by Rev. G. F. Adams, a committee was appointed to consider the expediency of memorializing the treaty making power of the United States, to endeavor to secure the same religious freedom in foreign lands for American citizens, which is here granted to all.

The Committee on Distribution of the Bible in Foreign Lands, reported through Rev. E. Ball, chairman. It stated that about 150 to 200,000,000 human beings have no Bible in their native language, and although many societies are engaged in supplying the Scriptures, great destitution yet exists; all Papal countries are closed against Bible distribution. Mahomedan countries reject God's Word—China, Japan, and other countries are to a great extent without the Bible. The Bible cause is therefore co-extensive in its claims with the missionary enterprise. Adopted.

The Committee on California reported through Rev. S. Baker. California contains 190,000 square miles, three times as large as Virginia, &c. It will one day contain 29,000 inhabitants, its wealth and prospective influence render it a most important field. It will form two grand centres of influence on China, Japan and other heathen countries—"a great missionary nursery." Thousands have gone from our midst. Southern Baptists and citizens are therein large numbers. Rome is at work there. Idolatry is there with all its vices. There is a fearful disproportion between the demand and supply. It is the duty of the Home Mission Board of Southern Baptists to aid in giving the Gospel to California. Adopted.

The Report of the Committee on the future operations of the Board, was read by Rev. G. F. Adams. It suggested the employment of colporteurs to distribute Bibles and religious books, and for this purpose that the Bible Board unite with the Publication Society in engaging suitable men.

It was advocated by Rev. W. C. Buck. He urged the importance of circulating a distinctive Baptist literature, and stated that the terms on which Bibles can be purchased and sold, will enable the colporteur to secure a comfortable living without expense to the Board. The value of the Bible to our own country, and to all lands, was forcibly exhibited, and the importance of combination and energy in carrying forward this work was earnestly enforced. Adopted.

The Committee on time and place of next meeting, reported the second Friday in May 1855, at Montgomery, Ala., Convention sermon by Rev. Wm. Hooper, of N. C. Alternate, A. D. Sears, Ky. Adopted.

Rev. J. R. Kendrick read the report on new fields for Foreign Missions. It recommended the occupation of Burmah, British Honduras and the cities of South America, especially Panama. Remarks were made by Bros. Brantly, Mell and Adams. On motion of Rev. Mr. Brantly, Burmah was stricken out of the Report.

The Committee on the instruction of the colored population reported by Rev. Mr. Kingdon, approving the plans of the Board on this subject and recommending more vigorous efforts on behalf of this class, especially in the cities of Washington and Baltimore, and on the coast of Georgia. Adopted.

The Committee on New Fields for Domestic Missions reported through Rev. J. H. Cutbert, alluding to New Orleans and California as important fields, suggesting also New Mexico, but not urging its immediate occupation. The cities of the South were presented as the great points at which to aim, for while in the country we are comparatively successful, we are too feeble in the cities. Favorable opportunities are now offered, and cities abound with those who are depraved and destitute. This report also commended Florida to the attention and care of the Board. Adopted.

Adjourned, prayer by Bro. Anderson, of Kentucky.

TUESDAY MORNING.

The Southern Baptist Convention re-assembled this morning at the usual hour, and was opened by singing, and joining in prayer by Rev. B. Manly, of Va. The proceedings of the preceding session were then read and approved.

Rev. W. T. Brantly, chairman of the committee to whom was referred the subject of the "Organ of Publications," submitted their report, which was laid on the table.

Rev. T. G. Keene, of Ala., chairman of the committee to whom was referred the appointment of "Boards," submitted the following as the result of their deliberation, viz:

Bible Board.—President—Samuel Baker, Vice Presidents—A. D. Kelly, Md.; Samuel

Wait, N. C.; B. Manly, Ala.; Dan'l Boone, W. H. Courtney, Ark.; A. D. Sears, Va.; Manly, Jr., Va.; J. S. Brooks, S. C.; J. L. Tamm, J. B. Walker, Ga.; E. George, La.; Land Hughes, Md.; B. Taylor, Tex.; Corresponding Secretary—W. C. Buck, Secretary—W. P. Jones, Treasurer—J. Fuller, Managers—C. K. Winston, J. T. Anderson, J. W. Winston, R. W. Eaton, R. W. L. Nelson, J. O. Wright, H. G. Sevier, Scott, John McIntosh, sr., J. J. Tom, Rutland.

Board of Domestic Missions.—President—H. DeVotie, Vice Presidents—Wm. Crane, Md.; James Fife, Va.; Wm. Hooper, Ky.; H. D. Duncan, S. C.; B. M. Sanders, Ga.; Everett, Fla.; H. Talbird, Ala.; T. G. Keen, Miss.; W. H. Bayless, La.; Thos. Chiles, S. Halciburton, Ark.; Jas. E. Welch, N. C.; S. Pendleton, Ky.; Jos. H. James, N. C.; Wm. Samson, Dist. Col. Cor. Secretary—J. Curtis, Rec. Secretary—L. C. Tuttle, Jr., Wm. Horubuckie, Auditor—Wyatt, Board of Managers—E. Thomas Barron, L. B. Laue, E. A. Brock, C. C. R. Holman, I. T. Tiebner, A. Bliss, L. Y. Tarrant, A. A. Connelley, Goodhue, M. P. Jewett, Wm. P. Clifton, Foxwicks, A. G. McCraw.

Board of Foreign Missions.—President—J. Jeter, Vice Presidents—Franklin Wilson, Wm. Gwatney, Va.; J. J. James, N. C.; Furman, S. C.; P. H. Mell, Ga.; L. B. Duncan, Wm. L. Balfour, Miss.; Wm. C. Dargan, R. C. Burleson, Texas; Jesse Hutton, N. C.; Neph Flood, Mo.; D. R. Campbell, Jr., Hillman, Tenn.; J. S. Bacon, Dist. Col. E. Broome, Fla. Cor. Secretary—J. Taylor, Treasurer—Arch'd Thomas, Jr., Secretary—Wm. H. Gwatney, Auditor—Charles T. Wortham, Managers—J. Jeter, J. J. James, S. H. Starnard, James Thomas, J. B. Wood, A. G. Worthington, A. S. Talbot, Jos. S. Walshaw, Francis J. Wm. Suits, Wm. Crane, Thos. Hume, J. Curtis, named as Corresponding Secy. of Domestic Missions, declined to accept a committee was appointed by the Board to re-nominate a member for that office.

The report of the committee who "Mission of New Orleans" was read on motion of Rev. Dr. Fuller, with back with the addition of three members, viz: Messrs. Samson, Keen and Dargan, which they report without recommending any particular person to labor in that post.

Rev. Dr. Fuller, chairman of the committee on the "China Mission," submitted their report, which was adopted. The report of the committee on the Organ of Publications having been over, was called up, and after debate over, so this matter remains as previously to the action of the committee. Mr. Pressley, of South Carolina, the committee to whom was referred the subject of colportage, submitted their report. The report was adopted, and on motion of Rev. Dr. Fuller, a resolution of thanks to several missionaries and steamboat companies for kind contributions, which was passed.

The report of the committee on building fund was adopted. It is that in view of existing circumstances, no special suggestion is necessary—adjourned.

POBTRY.

MISANTHROPY HOURS.

I sometimes feel as I could blot All traces of mankind from earth— As if 'twere wrong to blast them not.

I've seen the sun go down and light Floods of glory on the sky— When every tree and flower was bright.

Oh, what is woman—what her smile— Her lip of love—her eyes of light—

A Troublesome Helper.

Some months ago, a certain Irishman, by the name of Thomas Francis Meagher, arrived in this country, as an escaped convict from Australia.

Mr. Meagher would not be kept within the bounds prescribed by the priests and bishops; he even was audacious enough to regard the Papists as only one sect in the United States.

threats, from dealing with public questions as he thinks fit, and pursuing an independent career. This determination may incur the reprobation of some men, who would hamper and cripple that power.

This is very plain language to apply to the dogmatists of a church which claims to dictate, through its priests, every man's opinion and course of action.

Mr. Meagher was invited to lecture before the Young Catholic's Friend Society of this city, as respectable an Association as there is in America.

Our neighbor, the 'Shepherd of the Valley,' talks in the following strain: 'Mr. Meagher despises the Catholic feeling of the country. He has made a great mistake. The Irish feeling is the Catholic feeling, and he will find out that. Every true Irishman is a Catholic, and the writer of these lines, whose very name proclaims his origin beyond dispute, and who has not one drop of Irish blood in his veins, nor an Irish connection in the world, is more closely bound to Irishmen in America, at this moment,

by the tie of a common faith, than is Mr. Meagher by all the blood of O'Meagher's which he threatens to disgrace.'

Early History of the Cotton Plant. Before the birth of Christ the cultivation of the plant and the use of cotton for clothing was probably confined to India.

The growth of cotton, and its use, seem to have become diffused shortly after the birth of Christ. Strabo (in the first century of our era) speaks of cotton being cultivated and manufactured in Susiana, on the Persian Gulf.

THE N. Y. COLBY & CO., AT THE OLD BAPTIST, 122 NASSAU ST. CONTINUE to keep on hand a large assortment of Theological, Religious, Miscellaneous and School Books, which they offer on the most reasonable terms.

THE State of Alabama—Montgomery Co. Special Court of Probate—May 24th, 1853. THIS DAY came Samuel Lucy, guardian of Ann S. McKinney, a minor, and filed his account and vouchers for the annual settlement of said ward's estate.

THE State of Alabama—Montgomery Co. Special Court of Probate—May 24th, 1853. THIS DAY came ROBERT J. WALKER, executor of Albert G. Abernethy, deceased, in obedience to a citation from this Court, and filed his account and vouchers for the annual settlement of said estate, which were examined and ordered to be filed for the inspection of all concerned.

LETTERS of Executorship on the estate of Abel Hagerly, deceased, having been granted to the undersigned by the Hon. Hugh W. Watson, Judge of Probate of Montgomery county, on the 4th day of May, 1853, those indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same will present them within the time prescribed by law, or they will be barred.

Late Publications.

MRS. JUDSON'S POEMS, L. E. A. & C. NEW EDITIONS. LEWIS COLBY & CO., 122 Nassau-st., New-York.

MRS. JUDSON'S POEMS, (ANNY FORBES) 235 pages, 12mo. beautifully printed on paper, in various styles of binding.

A little too modest, and faintly suggestive of the many beauties and excellencies of a choice volume of poetry—'Literary World.'

A Pure Religion the World's only Hope. By Rev. R. W. Cushman, 18 mo. (cloth.) 35 cts.

Life of Bunyan. By Rev. Ira H. Chase. 18mo. (cloth.) 35 cts.

Domestic Slavery considered as a Scriptural Institution. in a Correspondence between the Rev. Richard Fuller, of Beaufort, S. C. and the Rev. Francis Wayland, of Providence, R. I.

STATIONERY—Every article of French, English and American Stationery and Fancy Stationery—a very fine stock.

WALLER & TERRELL have received a large portion of their Spring Goods, and by the 20th of March will have their stock complete.

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Family Groceries.

SPRING TRADE. THE great attraction of this market, and the largely increased sales in the WHOLESALE.

GILMER, TAYLOR & CO., IN returning their thanks for the patronage heretofore extended to them, beg leave to introduce with the new year, a new element in the GROCERY TRADE of this city—namely—

E. HALFMANN, SUCCESSOR TO MR. E. J. DONNELL, AT THE OLD STORE, BACK OF THE COURT HOUSE, MONTGOMERY.

SPRING STOCKS. FASHIONABLE CLOTHING STORE, CORNER MARKET & COURT STS., MONTGOMERY, ALA.

POMROY & GREGORY have just received from Philadelphia, New-York, Boston, Albany and New-Orleans a large stock of SPRING & SUMMER READY-MADE CLOTHING.

WALLER & TERRELL have received a large portion of their Spring Goods, and by the 20th of March will have their stock complete.

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Business Cards.

New Lumber Yard in Montgomery. THE subscriber having established a Lumber Yard in the City of Montgomery, respectfully solicits a reasonable share of patronage from the citizens and surrounding community.

J. H. DICKERSON'S CABINET WARE-HOUSE, SELMA, ALA. TAKES this method of informing the public that he has opened a large Cabinet Warehouse in Selma.

AMAND P. PFISTER, CORNER EXCHANGE HOTEL, MONTGOMERY, ALA. OFFERS for sale an extensive assortment of Books, Stationery and Music.

BARNEY BROTHERS, No. 45, 47, Commerce and Front-streets, MOBILE, ALA. IMPORTERS and dealers in Foreign and Domestic Hardware.

BARRY & BUCK, Commission Merchants, No. 34 Commerce & Front Streets, April 8, 1853—1y. MOBILE, ALA.

W. M. HUDSON, A. P. BUSH, J. H. HUNTER, Commission Merchants, April 8, 1853—6m. MOBILE, ALA.

REESE & JOHNSTON, DENTISTS, Office in the Masonic Building, Main Street, MONTGOMERY, ALA.

HOOPER & MARQUIS, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, Macon County, Alabama, Will practice in co-partnership in the various courts of Macon, Montgomery, Pike, Russell, and Tallapoosa counties.

GUNN & HENDERSON, ATTORNEYS AT LAW, AND SOLICITORS IN CHANCERY, Will practice in the Courts of Macon, Montgomery, Russell, Pike, Tallapoosa, and Tallapoosa in the Supreme Court of the State and in the U. S. District Court at Montgomery.

HODNETT & HOWARD, Physicians & Surgeons, TUSKEGEE, ALA. January 2, 1853. 3y

H. G. R. McNEILL, DENTISTRY, (ONE DOOR EAST OF JOHN CAMPBELL'S JEWELRY STORE, 37 ST. JAMES.) MONTGOMERY, ALA.

W. W. WALLER, JOHN D. TERRELL, WALLER & TERRELL, Corner of Market and Perry Sts., MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA. DEALERS in Fancy and Staple Dry-Goods, and Clothing, Hats, Boots and Shoes.

GEO. P. KELLY, Commission Merchant, MOBILE. PROMPT and personal attention given to all business entrusted to my care. My 13, 1853. 3-ly

Miscellaneous.

WAREHOUSE NOTICE. GILMER & CO. Warehouse & Commission Merchants. Brick Cotton Sheds and Closets.

THE undersigned beg leave to inform the public generally, for their friends and neighbors, by prompt attention to their patrons, to give full satisfaction.

ALL consignments of Cotton received free of charge for sale, at the price they offer for day, at the following prices: 1000 pieces best Kentucky...

AUBURN WATER CURY. THIS establishment is now open for the reception of patients. The location and healthy being on the great Eastern Alabama, is about 20 miles from the depot, immediately on the Railroad.

WATSON, Jewellery & Silversmith. My watch, from my long experience in this business, and this favorable attention I will be able to sell on as good as can be bought elsewhere.

NEW PUBLICATIONS OF THE Southern Baptist Publication Society. AT CHARLESTON, S. C. 'DUTIES of Churches to their Pastors'...

Way of Salvation, by Dr. Howell. Evids of Infant Baptism, by Dr. Howell. Falls on Baptism and Communion, and Duties of Masters to Servants, (3 Parts.)

Advantages of Sabbath-school Instruction. Dr. Malley's. New Issues from other Publishing Houses of Faith, by John Angel James, Young Woman's Friend, or Female Patriot, by John Angel James.

Excellent Woman's Boardman, by Excellent Woman's Boardman, (new ed.) Knowledge of Jesus: Carson, Unions of Jesus: Carson, Hackett and Jones, by Mrs. Judson, Blessed Pages for Young People, or Bible Home Education and Entertainment, Vine's Pastoral Theology, Aris's Cyclopedia of Anecdotes in Art and Literature.

John J. Jewell, James G. Jewell, Factors and Commission Merchants, MOBILE, ALABAMA. Respectfully solicit patronage of friends.

JOHN J. JEWELL, JAMES G. JEWELL, Factors and Commission Merchants, MOBILE, ALABAMA. Respectfully solicit patronage of friends.

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