

Alabama Baptist.

SELMA, ALA., APR. 19, 1883.

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W. G. CLAYBANK, EDITOR.

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The following brethren have kindly consented to act as our agents in receiving and receiving for money due us—

Bro. M. G. Hudson, at Mobile.
Bro. W. S. Rodgers, at Midway.
Bro. W. A. Davis, at Eufaula.
Bro. A. H. Borders, at Clayton.
Bro. T. I. Jones, at Montgomery.
Bro. J. F. Fore, at Pine Apple.
Bro. E. D. Creath, at Greenville.

THIS MEANS BUSINESS.

We are sending bills to all who are indebted to the ALABAMA BAPTIST on any account. Brethren, we need the money now, and we need all that is due us. Our expenses are heavy and increasing. We must meet them at the end of every week. The amount due from any individual is not much, but what is due from many aggregates an amount sufficient to meet all demands upon us. We mean just what we say. We need all the money due us, and we need it now.

We have not appealed thus to our patrons before, and would not do so now, if our necessities did not demand it. Brethren, will you not respond within the next thirty days? We rely upon you. Do not disappoint us. It is impossible to conduct a first class paper without cash in hand. Let us hear from you before the first of May.

THE STATE MISSION WORK—THE COLORED PEOPLE.

For sometime an apparent indifference on the part of the colored people and a failure to meet the advances of our Board have prevented any co-operative work. More than a year has passed since anything has been done in this direction. At the last meeting of the Convention the report of the Board discouraged any renewed effort. Last fall three of our most discreet

to receive and consider any proposition coming from the colored people. Nothing has been heard from them until the last meeting of the Board, when brethren Owens, Brooks and White appeared, bearing a communication printed before. They were cordially received and the propositions submitted were carefully and earnestly considered.

We were glad to note a conciliatory, Christian, fraternal spirit in the colored brethren representing their Convention, and to learn from them that there is a widespread and growing desire among the colored people to co-operate with us in the attempt to evangelize their race. We were especially pleased with Bro. Owens, the Corresponding Secretary of the State Mission Board of the colored Convention. He is intelligent, earnest, respectful, inquisitive, a man of fine spirit. We have had a number of interesting interviews with him within the few weeks just past and take pleasure in commending him to the kindly consideration of all whom he may approach in the interest of his work.

We are happy in believing that the difficulties and obstacles preventing a hearty co-operation in the evangelization of the colored people are disappearing. As developments may direct us, we hope that ways and means may be devised by which we shall be able to render substantial assistance.

We are persuaded the Board represents the denomination when it assures the colored people through their representatives that we are more than willing, we earnestly desire to render every assistance possible in the good work begun. The Board has never been so hopeful of good to be accomplished in co-operative effort as among the colored people. We hope the communication received from them and the action of the Board, printed below, will receive the interested attention of all our readers. We hope to have something definite, tangible, practicable presented to the next meeting of the Convention.

WHEREAS, It is patent from what our white brethren have done for us during the last three years, that they are both willing and ready to aid us by their counsel, means, and personal efforts to carry the gospel of Christ to our people in the destitute and benighted regions of our lovely Alabama;

WHEREAS, There is a growing and widespread sentiment amongst our people favoring and inspiring their co-operation, because "the harvest truly is great and the laborers are few," and the more you are like God, the happier you will be; and God receives more joy from the worship of a human nature loves to see his people love it idolatrously, unless it is over the heart is kept broken by living in the Lord's presence;—[J. M. Pendleton, D. D.]

One forgives everything to him who forgives himself nothing.

State Mission Board to appoint a committee of three or five brethren to act in joint conference with our Executive Committee, in planning and directing the mission work of our Board, this joint committee to meet quarterly, or as often as may be deemed necessary.

2d. That we ask the Home Mission Society, of New York, the Baptist Publication Society, Philadelphia, and the Southern Baptist Convention to contribute to our State Mission work, through the white Board, to be represented in joint conference, as provided for above.

3d. That we ask the white Board to assume the support of the Corresponding Secretary of our State Mission Board.

4th. That we appoint a committee of three, with full power to act, to meet with the State Mission Board (white) in Selma, April 19th.

5th. That this committee be composed of Rev. A. F. Oren, Corresponding Secretary, Bro. G. J. Brooks and Rev. C. O. Booth.

Resolved, 1st. That a committee of five, consisting of the President, W. C. Cleveland, R. C. Keeble, Abner Williams, W. C. Ward and Jon. Haralson, be, and they are hereby appointed a committee from this Board to act in joint conference with the Executive Committee of the Colored Baptist Convention, in planning and directing the mission work of their Board, to meet and advise with them, as often as may be deemed necessary.

2d. That, while in advance of the meeting of our Convention, we find it impracticable, from the lack of funds contributed for that purpose, to make money contributions from this Board to support the State Mission Board of our colored brethren, we hereby endorse their proceeding to organize an efficient colored State mission work, and in their efforts, in this direction, we pledge them our counsel and sympathies.

3d. That the propositions of our colored brethren, as contained in the resolutions submitted to this meeting of the Board, for co-operation with this work, when submitted by the Board to our next Convention for its action.

The last meeting of the State Mission Board was the most interesting we have attended for a long time. From beginning to end the brethren gave themselves to the work before them without relaxation of interest, and considered earnestly every matter brought before them. We have never seen brethren more devoted to trusts committed to them. As the middle of the night was approaching they were glad to finish the work of another quarter and devoutly thanked God for the work accomplished. One of the evangelists failed to report—failure on the part of the mails was given as the reason. The twenty-four reporting, made a good showing—three or four fine exhibits—and received the expressed commendation of the Board.

We have entered upon the last quarter of the year and will need one thousand dollars a month until the Convention to meet the demands of the work. Press your collections, brethren, and forward your contributions as rapidly as possible. Let us have at least three thousand dollars between now and the middle of July.

We have just learned that an effort is being made in and around Greenville to form a new Association to be composed of the churches within twenty miles of the city. A similar effort is being made in and around Selma. Last summer the churches in and around Montgomery organized the Montgomery Association. Feeling assured that these new organizations are being arranged for aggressive work, we hail them as indications of increased activity.

We suggest that it will be necessary for the churches intending to associate themselves in new relations, to take some action before the fall, in order that they may be ready for orderly action. Relations now existing must be formally and respectfully severed before new relations are made.

Bro. E. T. SMYTH has done a noble work for the denomination in Aniston. He has worked faithfully and diligently. A beautiful house of worship, most fortunately located, is approaching completion, and soon he expects to organize a church there. Quietly, assiduously he pursues his work, and makes all his plans with unusual good common sense and foresight. The needs of the church will soon be made known and in their behalf we ask for a prompt, generous support. Col. Tyler, with noble Christian liberality, has made a most valuable donation, increasing very much the value of the church lot.

PROF. ALLAN CURR, about whom so much has been said and written, is visiting Selma. Monday night he entertained an intelligent, appreciative audience with his lecture on "The Mission Passion." He bears high testimonials and makes his visits agreeable and profitable. His wife by her beautiful recitations added much to the interest of the occasion. Prof. Curr goes from here to Marion, and thence to the cities northward.

Bro. J. P. MONTGOMERY, son of Rev. P. S. Montgomery, at Asheville, has gone to Texas. He is recommended by a number of good men in high positions, as a young Christian lawyer of a high order of talent and integrity of character. We commend him as a worthy young man, deserving the confidence and esteem of the good people of Texas.

The withered leaf is not dead and lost. There are forces in it and around it, though working in inverse order, that will bring forth new life.

WHEREAS, There is a growing and widespread sentiment amongst our people favoring and inspiring their co-operation, because "the harvest truly is great and the laborers are few," and the more you are like God, the happier you will be; and God receives more joy from the worship of a human nature loves to see his people love it idolatrously, unless it is over the heart is kept broken by living in the Lord's presence;—[J. M. Pendleton, D. D.]

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Men talk of the stone age and the bronze age, but the iron age, after all, outranks them both. Of the two metals, gold or iron, give us the last. This is an iron age and an age of iron. Iron grides the globe, it is the lever which lifts empires and republics, and that which is greatly needed among men. Wanted, men of iron resolutions, men of iron integrity, men who are ductile under the hammers of truth, men who are rigid under the strain and tension of error. It is significant that iron floats in our blood; it should not be wanting in speech and act.—"Journal and Messenger."

"God's house is not the place to makeaching heads; it is the place to healaching hearts."—"T. L. Cuyler."

"It is a solemn fact, that, of every three persons walking on this vast globe, two have never heard of the Spirit, have never seen a Bible, know nothing of the Christian religion."

"The Galveston church is prospering well under the pastorate of Dr. Spaulding. We learn from a card mailed April 3d, that five were baptized Sunday, April 1st. The Sunday-school was a little larger than it has been before; the congregations are good."

"Texas Baptist Herald."—"Rev. Dr. A. Goodwin, recently of Danville, Va., but formerly pastor of the Union Springs Baptist church, has accepted a call to the First Baptist church of Baltimore, Md."

"Exchange."—"One of the old English worthies said that a great many sermons were like carefully written letters dropped into the post-office without any written address upon them. They were not intended for any one in particular, and were never reached anybody."

"The Southern Baptist Convention, ought to provide a better way of announcing the number of delegates to which each State is entitled in that body. The Home and Foreign Mission Boards make their announcements separately, and this gives rise to some confusion. Why not consolidate the reports, and any announcement is made, and why not make the basis of representation upon the amounts contributed by the respective States during the calendar year preceding the annual meeting?"

"Baptist Courier." A good suggestion. "And now we are called upon to believe that the Anglo-Saxon people are the descendants of the 'Lost Tribes of Israel.' We don't know, and don't mean to let anybody tell us, the argument upon which such a conclusion rests. There are some notions that are too wild for examination. On the subject of the 'Lost Tribes,' we verily believe that imperturbable ignorance is the only healthy state of mind."

"Religious Herald."—"The Temperance Convention of Indiana adopted, at its late meeting, the following resolution: 'Resolved, That such of us as are voters will hereafter abstain from the use of any intoxicating liquors, and will use every effort to be in favor of prohibition.' The proposition to keep the temperance question out of politics can contemplate nothing short of absolute surrender to the Liquor League of all claims to further legislation upon this subject, and consent that the present law shall become a dead letter, and that the Sabbath shall be abandoned to the pleasure of the Legislature."

"The Southern Baptist Convention, we are giving us just the paper we need, filled with just such food as Christians need daily to build them up in Christian life."—"P. S. Montgomery."

"We enjoyed a visit from Rev. J. A. McGaha, now in the Seminary at Louisville, Ky., who was called to the pastorate of our church in Cairo, Ill. He declined the call, for the reason that he wishes to spend another session in the Seminary. The church called him for the summer, and no doubt he will accept. I shall be mistaken if we do not hear a good report from his work in Cairo before the end of summer."

Bro. F. E. Jones, also in the Seminary, has accepted the pastorate in the city of Louisville for the year. It is a good arrangement, and indicates that Bro. Jones has made his usual good impression on the brethren in that city. We shall also hear from him. Still it is unfortunate for us that these young brethren have no paying work at home for the vacation. But "the field is the world," and they have the perfect right to go where the Lord orders their way.

The Examiner has been taking rather a new view of the ministry in the matter of secular pay as compared with other callings, insisting that it offers as encouraging prospects to the young man as any other profession or calling, provided the young man entering the ministry is prepared in heart and mind to do his work. Remember that Dr. Fuller said something of the same kind on the subject of the Southern Baptist Convention at Macon, Ga. It is doubtful whether a young lawyer, or young physician, or teacher, or farmer, or any common calling, enters on his life-work with as good pay at the beginning, as a general rule, as does the average college-bred young preacher. But if he be sober, diligent, competent, and persevering, the secular reward will advance; for the competent young minister does nearly as well in the matter of salary at the start or very soon thereafter as he ever does, with few exceptions; whereas the secular man's business becomes constantly more remunerative, after it gets to paying, provided he is diligent, and presses it, as the faithful minister does his work to the end. To be sure, this is a sordid view to take of the ministry, but business is business, and the minister is forced to take an occasional look at the business as he goes along. An inordinate love of money does not become the minister, nor any other Christian for that matter, but doubtless too many ministers have cut themselves loose from security to the end of their lives.

The Baptist colleges of the country have 6,000 students; the Methodist, 2,800; the Presbyterian, 1,400. I do not know where the Religious Herald gets its statistics. I recently saw in some of the papers the statement that the college property in buildings and the like, of the Baptists is largely more valuable than that of any other denomination in the United States; but that we are very much behind others in endowments. It excites the expectation of a grand future for the people to see them leading in the cause of education. I believe it can be made to appear that the endowments for the work, the Baptists are at the front, and especially so in the South.

J. J. D. R.

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For the Alabama Baptist. Missionary Meetings, and Some Missionary Other Things.

The last session of the Coosa River Baptist Association appointed committees in all four of its districts, to arrange a missionary institute or mass-meeting at a suitable time and place in each of these districts. The committee of the first district have arranged for their meeting at Oxford, embracing the fifth Sabbath in this month, when and where they expect an occasion of great interest. I suppose the committees in the other districts will prepare for similar meetings in their respective sections, at some time within the present spring or coming summer.

This affords a proper opportunity to raise the inquiry whether it would not be a very promising service to have such meetings, at an early day, in all parts of our State? In that way we could have a hundred very good "congresses." In this cause, as in all other good enterprises, agitation is essential; agitation based upon quietude, brings information and leads to action. Very many of our churches and pastors have gone into the quiet of the dead-house as regards the subject of Christian Missions. A well-arranged general meeting in every district, or at least in every association in the State, to consider the various phases of the work of missions, would certainly result in great practical benefit, in arousing the evangelist's consciousness, in his quietude, brings information and leads to action. Very many of our churches and pastors have gone into the quiet of the dead-house as regards the subject of Christian Missions. 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