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HOWARD COLLEGE.

PRESIDENT'S OFFICE,
HOWARD COLLEGE,
June 8, 1886.

Mr. President, and gentlemen of the
Honorable Board of Trustees of How-
ard College:

In my last annual report, I discussed
the aims, means, results, and future
necessities of this college. These sub-
jects were all elaborated at such length
that but little need now be said on
these topics. It is gratifying to note
that this report was favorably received
in the South and in the North. The
views I therein set forth as to best
methods of teaching, methods of dis-
cipline, and the feasibility of saving
time to students, have been endorsed
by leading educators, scientists, and
publishers.

Superiority of Select Schools.

In the North, where general edu-
cation has advanced to a higher plane
than in the South, and where there
has been longer experience with free
public schools than in the South, our
claims for the superiority of select
schools, forced to rely on an intrinsic
merit for success, is cheerfully con-
ceded. The advantages of such
schools in superior moral training, se-
lect associates, greater personal atten-
tion, more rapid progress in studies,
and more thorough training, are well
attested by the high tuition which pa-
rents living in those free school com-
munities cheerfully pay.

True Science of Teaching.

The distinction which this college
makes between the many so-called
and much abused methods of teach-
ing and the true science of pedagogics
has been pronounced timely and just.

General Demand for Howard College.

During last Summer I spent much
time in the North and East, and saw
much of leading scientific men, pub-
lishing houses, book exchanges, and
some of the great educational institu-
tions there. I was greatly encour-
aged to find that a high premium is
offered there for what we have been
providing here for our patrons. In
every department of study publishers
say that the demand is for text books
that will save time and give more
thorough knowledge of the subjects.
This demand for methods that are
more simple and more thorough be-
cause more truly scientific is so great
that they are willing to pay a high
premium for any treatise which will
give to pupils greater knowledge and
in less time. I found that these pub-
lishers in considering their financial
interest were but echoing the demand,
coming from all parts of the country,
and led by the great scientists of the
age. The demand is for methods that
will save time, and give more thorough
and broader knowledge. Hence we
are assured at this college that if we
continue to supply for our State what
the whole country is asking and offer-
ing a high premium for, the public ap-
preciation of our work in our own
State will continue to increase. If
the thousands of dollars invested in the
publishing business are offered for
investment in books that will supplant
those existing, by making the subjects
more simple and more thorough, and
if philosophers are proclaiming that
the schools must progress in simplifying
and shortening, it surely cannot
now be said that our aims in these
directions have not been timely and
practical.

The Cheapest Education.

To assert that time cannot be saved
is to say that there is no such thing as
science. For what is all scientific
work but the labor to discover a sim-
ple principle that explains an entire
subject? As to whether this college
does save its students much time an
appeal to the facts is sufficient. In the
present graduating class of four-
teen members every one has attained a
most creditable degree of scholar-
ship, and has saved much time and
money. And in this class there are
particular individuals who have put
this question of relative economy of
time and money to the test of experi-
ence. Students who come here from
other places often find themselves be-
hind our corresponding classes, and
their minds undisciplined in study.
We take them, discipline their think-
ing faculties, bring them up in their
studies, and save them much time.
Hence give them a cheap and thor-
ough education. Young men in
straitened financial circumstances,
who make a thorough investigation
and compare what is given here and
the cost thereof with other institutions
of same standing, give preference to
the Howard. That the patrons of the
college appreciate this feature of the
institution is attested by the unusual
proportion of old students who re-
turned last fall, and by the large num-
ber who continue long enough to gradu-
ate. The present senior class is the
largest for twenty-five years, and the

catalogues show only one class larger
in the entire history of the college,
the class of 1861, and that only by
one member.

Causes of Success.

The real economy practiced by pa-
trons of this college, and the charac-
ter of the training procured for their
sons, have given to the institution its
present popularity and high standing,
and has enabled it to compete most
successfully with endowed institutions
for the past fifteen years, paying all
expenses, furnishing almost entirely
theological tuition of the State denomi-
nation, paying off much former in-
debtedness, and adding largely to its
real estate and personal property. And
all this has been done under cir-
cumstances much more unpropitious
than the future promises.

Permanency.

If it be said that this is the only de-
nomination college that has been
made more than self-sustaining and
therefore it is not reasonable to expect
an indefinite continuation, we reply
that the reason here is due to the
unique policy adopted by your Board
of Trustees, and as long as this policy
continues the same success may be
expected. But a condition of our
continued success is, that this college
shall have the same fair field for se-
curing public patronage as do similar
secular schools.

Right Tests.

With this object in view I recom-
mend that the work of the institution
be subjected to a rigid inspection at
the period of every final examination
by an impartial board of visitors, com-
posed of three experienced men, ex-
perts in education, science, and busi-
ness. Let the work and the results of
each year be subjected to the severest
scrutiny, and let the public have as-
surances that cannot be questioned.

Endowment.

We claim that the college can be
maintained unendowed, yet we shall
now plead for an endowment, for hav-
ing to carry so many free students and
patronage being confined almost en-
tirely to our denomination, we are cut
off from many of the sources for don-
ing making that colleges purely secu-
lar have. To equalize this difference
we need an endowment, and the time
has now come when the legal status is
such as to make an endowment safe.

How to Estimate a College.

But when the institution becomes
rich, let it not be forgotten that the
chief excellency of a college is due to
the character of the professors, and
the attention they give to the students.
Let the institution not be estimated
by the number of the professors with-
out regard to their skill and labors.
But let it be valued in proportion to
the genius displayed in the class room,
and the attention given to students.
Let the work continue here as it has
been. Let it be a college as it now is,
whose professors are in the rooms of
the students before early breakfast for
purposes of assistance and supervi-
sion—whose professors are five or six
hours in class rooms, hearing recita-
tions or making explanations, whose
professors visit dormitories during
night study hours and until bed time,
and whose students recite one very
subject every day. Where is there such
a system of discipline—so favoring
study and promoting good habits?
In what other college is it that a stu-
dent is not allowed to neglect with
impunity a single recitation? And is it
not reasonable to suppose, as the
scholarship and conduct of our stu-
dents show, that these labors, these
motives, and this discipline, have led
to the adoption, discovery, and ap-
plication of advantageous methods of
instruction? We reply:

The Work of the Present Session.

has progressed in the same line as
hitherto, aiming as we always do to
prepare ministers and laymen for their
life work, to train the hand and eye
to skillfulness, the character to nobil-
ity and Christ-likeness, the intellect to
acuteness and power. In this work
we have had the advantages of super-
ior buildings, sufficient apparatus, and
library. We have made every
possible use of professors and students.
Have adhered closely to the rational
curriculum, have continued the same
methods of teaching, and have main-
tained a kind but strict system of class
and police discipline. We close the
session with a superior moral tone
and with a grade of scholarship and
discipline that has not been surpassed
here, if anywhere.

Present Condition.

The present status of the college in-
ternally and externally is encouraging.
There is a very high "esprit de corps."
The institution is not only free from
the baneful influences of secret socie-
ties, but there is on the part of the
students a disapproval of every form
of cliqueism and partizanship; duty is
their watchword. Partizanship and
self-seeking constitute disqualifications

for office and trust. This freedom
from all forms of combinations is the
best evidence of the extraordinary
state of discipline and moral status of
the college, and makes the institution
the most desirable place for all those
who wish to enjoy the benefits of
the highest culture. The reliance for
success in life that our students are
now placing on their own literary, sci-
entific and moral character is shown
most conspicuously by the excellence
of the two literary societies.

The Philomatheic and the Franklin.

During the present session they have
done more than ever before in the
same length of time. They have pa-
pered, carpeted, painted, and decora-
ted their halls at private expense in a
most beautiful manner. And they
have elevated the character of their
literary work to a very high degree,
and have formed plans for still greater
improvement for the future. If these
societies continue to work as they
have been doing, the supplementary
training which they give to their mem-
bers will soon show itself in the aug-
mented reputation of our students and
graduates. These societies deserve
the respect, confidence and encour-
agement of your Board. The work
in the class rooms and in these halls
acts and reacts. Students having to
apply logical thoughts expressed in
forceful and chaste language in their
society work when on exhibition be-
fore their audiences, are disposed to
give more attention in class rooms to
mathematics, sciences, and languages,
with a view to gaining mental power,
to be used on the floors in debate and
oratory. They read more deeply and
broadly to acquire the information for
which they have such immediate and
pressing need.

Discipline.

Another most encouraging internal
feature of the college is the state and
power of the discipline. Those who
are without experience in matters of
this sort cannot fully appreciate the
absolute importance of this. I sup-
pose it may be said that most of the
failures in schools is due to inefficient
and unwise discipline. Each year's
experience here shows us that our
success is due (in a degree that is not
generally appreciated) to the charac-
ter and to the administration of our
discipline. And the popularity of our
graduates and their patrons largely
to their skill in this difficult subject. This
discipline gives us the power to de-
velop moral character, to command
labor of professors and students, and
to have performed that large amount
of work which makes the best schol-
arship in the time given.

Condition of the College Property.

is about as it was at close of last ses-
sion, adding the improvements on so-
ciety halls, which has been mentioned.
I think that the resources of the in-
stitution for another year will enable
us to make some additions to the ap-
paratus. Whatever may be the internal
condition as just outlined, yet

The External Condition.

of the college is, in many respects,
now such as should bring joy to the
hearts of the friends who have so
long contended against difficulties al-
most insurmountable. A brief out-
line of these embarrassments contin-
uing through nearly a quarter of a
century contrasted with the present
status, will show how much cause we
have for present congratulation, and
for future encouragement.

At close of the war, vested endow-
ment gone, heavy claims outstanding
against the college on old scholar-
ships, the State Committee took direct
charge of the college; employed Dr.
Curry, salary \$10,000 for three years.
He resigned at the end of the second
year with \$1,000 of salary unpaid.
Obligation was transferred to the Trus-
tees for payment. Debt at that time
on salaries to all parties was about \$14,000.
Dr. Freeman, employed as President,
salary not being paid, an ap-
peal to the Convention was made and his salary paid out of
special Convention fund. Support
gloom; college could not be outlooked;
an endowment could not be se-
cured; annual contributions for most
popular presidents could not be got;
property of college insufficient for
the needs of the institution, and
State colleges, with free tuition just
opening to public favor. Hope for aid
from external sources having fled,
your board resolved to rely upon in-
ternal power. The members of this
board gave their time, their money,
and their financial credit. A new sys-
tem of college organization was adopt-
ed; new features in discipline, in
methods of instruction, in moral cul-
ture, and special training for theo-
logues.

Results of Present Plans.

From this new and self-reliant or-
ganization have come results greater
than could have been reasonably ex-
pected—results probably unprecedent-

ed in the history of denominational
colleges. Foreign patronage has been
greater than ever before, both of se-
cular students and of young men pre-
paring for the ministry. Graduates
have gone out to introduce the How-
ard system of pedagogics to all parts
of the State, and into some others.
Their success has been so marked as
to create a demand greater than our
ability to supply. Other States called
for these men to take chairs in some
of the largest colleges and universi-
ties in America. Our own State be-
came rapidly filled with our young
preachers and other States approved
their ministry so highly that many
have been drawn away from Alabama.
The professions of medicine and law
are indebted to this college for some
of their most successful and accom-
plished scholars. Church and society
circles throughout the land are being
filled with choice specimens of man-
hood and Christian worth.

The college now freed from all lia-
bilities on account of old scholarships
in a condition to be placed where it
can never again be encumbered by
indebtedness; practically free from
debt, for first time since the war ready
for endowment—not ready before be-
cause money given for this purpose
would have resulted in nothing but
loss of the funds and the demoraliza-
tion of the denomination; the finan-
cial management of the Board of
Trustees so pure and so masterly for
so many years, and the scholarship
and moral character of students of
such a grade as to command public
respect, our people are thus provid-
entially prepared to endow the col-
lege, seeing that its management is
such that every dollar given will be
used economically, and that the work
which it is doing results in accom-
plishing so much good for society, for
the church, and for humanity.

My visit to the late Southern Baptist
Convention where I talked with
prominent men who are acquainted
with all the other Southern Baptist
colleges, set before me in a clearer
light the

Vantage Ground which Howard College Occupies.

One of the most successful agents
known in the South said he could
raise an endowment for Howard Col-
lege more easily than for any other he
knew, because it had shown its
ability to sustain itself, had thus
proven itself pre-eminently worthy of
endowment. I could learn of no
other college that had been self-sus-
taining. Those which had secured
an endowment since the war failed to
procure money till they gave assur-
ances that the funds would be safely
and permanently invested. Some of
them are kept open only by taking
annual collections to pay current ex-
penses; and these are not successfully
gathering endowments, because there
is no assurance of accumulation. In
every case the denomination of the
States recognize the duty of aiding by
money their colleges annually. How-
ard College presents the only case of
ability to sustain itself, and to be
mainly instrumental in paying off pre-
vious indebtedness.

From the history of all the South-
ern Baptist colleges, I think we may
draw the following conclusions:

1. That the great prerequisite for
securing an endowment is the giving
of a guarantee to the people that the
money donated will never be expend-
ed, only the interest used.

2. That the people must be im-
pressed with the value of the work
which the college is doing, and the
success with which this can be done
depends largely upon the number and
character of the men who were trained
at the College many years before the
appeal is made.

3. That Howard College can show
a record of financial management by
its Trustees of a superior character.

4. That Howard College can show
that it is doing for the denomination
an educational work which is indis-
pensable, and such as no other col-
lege has done without greater means.

Claims on the Denomination.

These conclusions justify the belief
that the college has now arrived at a
point in its history when it can urge
greater claims on the denomination
than ever before, and should be able
to appeal for endowment with confi-
dence and success.

At the approaching meeting of the
Alabama Baptist Convention this re-
markable epoch in the history of the
college will doubtless be discussed,
and the question of endowment be
duly considered. If the Convention
confides to this Board of Trustees the
management of the entire matter,
your proven financial skill is a guar-
antee that a wise course will be fol-
lowed.

Revival of Religion.

In conclusion, I rejoice to state that
the college has been greatly blessed
by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit

during the session. A great revival
has pervaded the institution, and
Christians have been revived, and
sinners have been converted. Noth-
ing better illustrates the blessings of
religion than the change which has
taken place in the college since this
awakening of the Holy Spirit. The
students now return home with a re-
ligious impression which we pray will
never be removed or diminished.

Valuable Services of Faculty and Trustees.

To the Faculty I am indebted for
faithful work in their respective de-
partments. To these and to you,
gentlemen of the Board of Trustees, I
am indebted for well nigh all that has
been accomplished. Without your
wisdom to guide, the success we have
attained could not have been reached.
The college and the denomination
are greatly indebted to Rev. A. C.
Davidson for the valuable services he
has rendered during the past session,
meeting the theological class regular-
ly, teaching them systematically and
faithfully, and exerting over all the
students an influence most potential
for discipline, scholarship, and high-
toned piety.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. MURKEE,
Pres't. Howard College.

Good News! Good News!

Here is the quarterly report of our
Bro. Alberto J. Diaz, the missionary
of the Home Mission Board, in
Havana, Cuba, which ought to send
a thrill of joy through the hearts of
our entire Baptist brotherhood; weeks
of labor, 13 churches, 1 station, 5-
6; sermons 33; addresses 30-113;
prayer and other religious meetings,
102; baptized 50; received by letter, 2,
-5; total membership in Havana,
102; number of Sunday-schools, 2;
number of pupils, 250; number of
teachers, 17; number of pupils con-
verted during the quarter, 10; young
men preparing for the ministry, 4.

About six months ago Bro. Diaz
was ordained to the work of the
ministry, and the Gethsemane Baptist
church, of Havana, was constitu-
ted. It now numbers 102 members,
has five preaching stations in the city
of Havana, besides its regular place
of meeting, has two Sunday-schools
numbering 250 pupils and 17 teachers
and four young men preparing for
the ministry. The work is growing,
and we need the means to enable us
to follow up the opening lines of God's
gracious providence. If ever there
was a Christian work that could make
stronger claims upon us for our prayers
and our alms where was it? The
Christian heart that will not respond
to this appeal need be pined with no
other.

We have but another word to say to
our brethren. Help the Home Mis-
sion Board so that we may help Cuba,
and all other places that need help.

The marvellous work of God in
Cuba, is the outgrowth of our work
in Florida. Had there been no Flor-
ida Missions there would have been
no Cuban Missions. We sowed the
seed in Florida, and now Cuba is
white unto harvest. We sowed in
Texas and the breadth of God's Spirit
waited the living seed into Mexico.
We are sowing to-day in Louisiana,
in Arkansas, in the Indian Territory,
in Texas, "beside all waters," and
the growing harvest gives promise of
the bread of life for all the world.

Help us so that to the full measure
of the opportunity that God is giving
us we may give the means of eternal
life to those who are perishing.

Read Bro. Diaz's letter and then
make your grateful offering to the
Lord.

L. T. TUCKER.

My sister Minnie's school needs
to rent another house, she has 70
girls now and with 251 more every
month, she can get another hall larger
than she has. Our churches improve
every day, and several letters from
the interior since I am here, asking
for a pastor. I have baptized 100
since I was appointed by the Board
(January) in answer of prayers, my
father has been received for baptism.
My mother bought a good number of
Testaments and Bibles, and gave us
to distribute free. The weather is
very warm but nevertheless, last Sun-
day was in Gethsemane more than
350, and outside of the hall was
crowded, almost to suffocation. The
brethren here have not words how to
thank the "Southern Baptist Con-
vention." They are anxious to signify
their gratitude to the Secretary of the
Board; they will look for you next
winter. (Lord willing.)

On the interior of the island there
are two large cities that the pastor
of one of them pay the half of the
salary and the other one needs \$400,
to attend the mission so we can have
these our churches and several sta-
tions; (this is my plan to work for
900.) If the Board could take this
work I advise to try for a year and
they will pay their own pastor in the
future.

The Million Dollars--Where is It, and How is It?

We beg that every one whose sub-
scription to the Seminary has not been
paid will, as soon as soon as possible,
pay what is due. Southern Baptists
owe it to themselves as well as to the
Seminary to look after this matter.
And another thing, let every paper
which has published that the Seminary
has a million, do the fair thing and
copy from the *Religious Herald* the
following correspondence.—Ed.

To Dr. James P. Boyce.—My dear
Brother: I have noticed at least two
statements, recently, in the public
prints, that our Seminary in Louisville
is worth one million of dollars in
money, real estate, &c. Some of us
feel that it is an erroneous estimate.
But you know, I hope the mistake
is with us, and not the papers that
have published the statement in ques-
tion. We shall rejoice if it is true.
Will you tell us in the *Religious Her-
ald* how it is in fact?

R. W. SANDERS.

Chester, S. C.
R. W. Sanders, Chester, S. C.:—
Dear Brother:—In response to your
inquiry, I reply that the Seminary is
not worth one million of dollars, nor
anything like that sum. The real
estate, at a fair valuation, including
also the value of our lots for location
in Louisville, is not worth more than
one hundred thousand dollars. The
securities in the hands of the Finan-
cial Board, which constitute its invest-
ed endowment, amount at par value to
\$420,000, but their market value is
not quite so large. The Seminary has,
also, available for a building, a
recent subscription of \$60,000—
most of which is to be paid in as the
building progresses. This makes, in-
cluding the library and the furniture,
which together are worth about \$70,000,
the actual assets of the Seminary
about \$390,000, from which income is
derived only on the \$220,000 in the
hands of the Financial Board, and
amounts to about \$11,000 each year.
There has also been left the Seminary
the legacy of \$15,000, not yet paid in
but from which all the income will go
to the support of poor men studying
for the ministry.

When it is remembered we have as
yet no buildings, and that we have
still to provide for lecture rooms and
library building, and hope soon, after
our expected dormitory for students
is erected, to need another equally
capacious for an influx of students,
for which we hope that we should
also have still more ground in our
present location; that we need at least
two additional professors, and more
adequately to pay those now teaching
here; that our library is at yet small
and inadequate, and should be great-
ly enlarged, and be provided with a
permanent fund for the salary of a
suitable librarian, and the annual pur-
chase of the books we need; and that
those who have been managing this
institution for years are striving to do
these things for it, so far as they can
prudently be attempted, and painfully
striving after ends so earnestly desired,
but so difficult of attainment, it
will appear how cruel are the thought-
less persons who originate any such
blatant statements as the one to
which you refer, and how blame-
worthy are Baptist editors who, with-
out inquiry, snatch up such improba-
ble items from some exchange, and
give to them by republishing them
the sanction of Baptist newspapers.

It is true, that in addition to the
property referred to above, the Semi-
nary has a large amount of individual
bonds, which had they been paid
when they fell due, or even were they
now paid, would go far towards sup-
plying all its needs. Of these some
not yet due, and a portion of those
that have lately fallen due, will prob-
ably be paid. But of the others,
though given by Baptist men, and
even by Baptist women, the most of
whom are fully able to pay them—at
least, with some small sacrifices—
more than three-fourths will never be
paid until sued for before the courts.
The donors have been urged to make
payment, both publicly and privately;
but the spirit of procrastination, far
more than covetousness or dishonesty,
causes them to neglect to pay. The
proof of this is, that, as I can at present
recollect, we have always had every
subscription or bond paid when a
faithful pastor has actually worked
to collect them in his church, or
where there was an active, efficient
Baptist cashier of the bank to which
they have been sent for collection.
I believe that three-fourths would be
paid, instead of lost could we get such
personal access to the donors. But
they will not answer letters. Not
long since, Dr. Tucker, editor of the
Index, looked over the unpaid Geor-
gia bonds, of which we have nearly
thirty thousand dollars, out of about

forty thousand dollars given,—and
said that they were almost all upon
men well able to pay—that eighty-
five per cent of them is of this kind.
And the same is about equally true of
the other States. With some one
would tell me how to collect them
without suing for them. I would
send around collectors, but paid agen-
cies of that kind cost almost as much
as they collect. I have been urged
to sue the bonds, but the expenses of
suit will be very heavy. Yet I fear I
shall have to risk them. Is there any
brother or sister who will relieve my
trouble in his or her case by sending
me the money due to the owes? If
any one is led to feel like doing this,
upon reading what I say, I beg that
the money be sent at once, within the
hour, if possible. If it be postponed,
the money will not come. Procrastina-
tion is not only the thief of time,
but of good intentions. It is the
thief that has stolen away from us
thousands of dollars, especially in
small sums, whose annual payment
has not exceeded save to twenty dol-
lars each time.

JAMES P. BOYCE.

Louisville, Ky.

Judson Institute.

Report of President Frazer.

To the Board of Trustees.

Gentlemen:—During the session of
1885-1886, the Judson has enrolled
178 pupils. There are 120 boarders,
of whom 707 are in the Judson, and
13 in families near by. Fifteen
teachers have been employed.

The work of the session in all de-
partments, and without individual
exception, has been carried on
with commendable industry and faith-
fulness, by both teachers and pupils,
and gratifying results have ensued.
In no year of the present administra-
tion have the pupils, as a whole,
seemed to make such genuine progress.
In the way of application, and in the
power of systematic and independent
thought they have shown marked im-
provement.

With a senior class of nineteen
members, there are only seven gradu-
ates, five in the Scientific course, and
two in Full course. This disproportion
is unusual, but it is believed that
the character of the graduates will
quite make up for their fewness.

Good order has prevailed through-
out the session. The discipline has
been easy and excellent, and the
pupils have appeared to be singularly
contented and happy in their school
life.

Some changes in the curriculum have
been devised, looking to simplifica-
tion and increased educational power.
The system of half hour recitations
which seems to have prevailed in the
school for years, has grave objections
growing out of the loss of time inci-
dent to frequent moving from place
to place, and the evil tendency of
many subjects claiming the attention
in rapid succession. A remedy is
sought in diminishing the number of
recitations, and extending their time,
in the collegiate department, to one
hour.

Much has been done to increase
the scope and thoroughness of the
work in music. The Director has
taken pains to classify the department
with nice discrimination; so that, for
the future, a better adjustment of
grade and cost may be attainable.

The experience of another session
only adds to my estimate of the value
of Bible study in the school. Such is
my sense of its importance that I
should contemplate the discontinu-
ance of any other department of our
work with less sorrow and apprehen-
sion. Put the Bible out of American
schools and the last hope of the Amer-
ican people goes out with it.

The school has been blessed with
excellent health. There has been
one death among the teachers. Mrs.
Courtney, who came in the fall, in
apparently good health, but with the
hold of a fatal disease already upon
her frame, died in February. The
school thus lost the faithful work of a
gifted teacher, and the sweet influence
of a devout Christian. With this ex-
ception there has been little serious
sickness. We have had another year
of the right hand of the Most High.
The rich blessings of his providence,
and the richer mercies of His grace,
have abounded to us. The spiritual
revival which we have lately enjoyed,
leaves among our boarding pupils only
three without hope in Christ. Of the
day pupils, likewise, nearly all, with-
in the age of accountability, are Chris-
tians.

The whole course of the year has
been radiant with the soft, sweet light
of blessing. With thankful hearts,
we recognize God's gracious hand in
all these mercies, and offer Him the
tribute of our most grateful praise.

There are already unusual indica-
tions that all our room will soon be

engaged for next session. The num-
ber of applications for admission is
largely in excess of former years.

Brethren of the Board, God is lay-
ing larger and larger responsibilities
upon the Faculty you have placed in
the Judson. We cannot bear them
without Divine help. Pray, there-
fore, I beg you, that our strength
may grow with the growth of the
charge, and that the trend of all our
work, and the whole force of our ex-
ample, may be for the highest good
of the children who come under our
care, and for the glory of the Master's
name.

Very respectfully submitted,

ROBERT FRAZER.

Marion, June 11th.

Letter from Mont Eagle.

Alabama Baptist.

MONTGOMERY, ALA., JULY 8, 1886.
J. A. HARRIS, Editors and Proprietors.
W. A. DAVIS, Editor.
S. HENDERSON, D. D., Associate Editor.

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The secretary has issued a sufficient number of certificates of guarantee to a large convention. If all the delegates will be there on time and remain throughout, what a grand meeting it will be! Brethren arrange to give five full days to the Master's work.

We hope that in every church some delegate, either pastor or layman, will volunteer to receive subscriptions for the paper, new or renewal, and bring the money to Birmingham. Both editors expect to attend the Convention.

Do not forget to take with you to Birmingham a good list of renewals and new subscriptions for your own ALABAMA BAPTIST. As a means of communication regarding denominational affairs, we think the paper has been a success. Your support will make it better.

COMMENCEMENT week of our State University, now in progress as we write, has drawn a large number of visitors to the city. We shall give an account of the occasion in our next issue, only remarking now that the institution has never enjoyed a more prosperous collegiate year than the one now closing. A President is to be elected this week. S. H.

We make a modest request of our brethren who propose attending the Convention at Birmingham. Please, brethren, each of you, try and get one new subscriber for the ALABAMA BAPTIST, and such renewals as you can in your several localities. It is claiming nothing more than any candid man will concede, that the religious press of this country is the most potent agency now employed for all the great enterprises in charge of the Conventions of the States as well as the general Convention, and that it is the right arm of every intelligent pastor's success. So that in increasing the circulation of our paper you are infusing fresh life into every noble work. S. H.

Here is an extract from the *Religious Herald*. How many are just like this good woman, living in known disobedience? And how many do worse than this by denying and fighting against their own convictions? "Ye are my friends if ye do whatsoever I command you." "I expect to die in a state of disobedience. If I know immersion is baptism, but I were to go to the Baptists, I would bring into my family an amount of trouble which I do not care to take upon myself. I have deliberately concluded to let my husband and children have their way about it, and will remain where I am, although I admit that my convictions are with the Baptists." That is just what a Pedobaptist lady said.

A communication elsewhere signed "Regular" reminds us that if the Birmingham convention is like former ones there will be two classes of attendants, regulars and stragglers. The regulars, having been sent by their churches as delegates (mark the word) will arrive in time for the organization and remain till final adjournment. The stragglers will arrive a day late and start home about Monday morning. A regular will not go home till all the work is done unless compelled to leave. The straggler cannot be persuaded to remain over but after "seeing the town" will pack his satchel and be gone. The Ministers' Meeting will commence at 10 a.m., Thursday, July 15th. The Convention will be called to order at 9 a.m., Friday, July 16th, and unless a change is made will adjourn on Tuesday, July 20th, at 1 p.m. If you forget dates easily, paste this in your hat.

"CHILDREN'S DAY"

Our Northport Baptist church did not observe "Children's Day" until the fourth Lord's day in June, for sundry good and sufficient reasons. But its observance on the fourth Sunday was a most enjoyable occasion. A large crowd assembled in the meeting house at five o'clock in the evening, and the children all acquitted themselves most creditably, and the collection was gratifying.

Our Sunday-school at Sylacauga church observed it on the second Sabbath, in the presence of a large assemblage, and everything passed off satisfactorily. The school there is doing well. Their collection, too, was creditable. S. H.

PRAYER FOR THE CONVENTION.

With the Lord's blessing, brethren, we shall have the finest convention in Birmingham which Alabama Baptists have ever held; without it, we shall fail. Then let special prayer be offered in every church next Sabbath that the blessing of the Lord may rest upon the meeting. We believe that the work of the denomination is in better condition than it has ever been, the organization nearer, perfect, the workers better equipped and more zealous. But our plans can be pushed with more energy, our field can be enlarged. Alabama for Christ should be our motto; nothing short of a Baptist church and a Baptist Sunday-school in every neighborhood should satisfy us.

As we work to accomplish this end in our own State, just in that degree will Alabama send up money for the Home and Foreign Boards and for our Theological Seminary. Those who work and give for local work are most alive to other fields.

We look for a glorious Convention, one fruitful of results. Let us be earnest in prayer.

IS IT CONSCIOUS WEAKNESS?

We recently heard a sermon, in which the preacher undertook to show that baptism was not worth discussing; that "any one of three ways would do," that it is "not necessary to salvation," a thing that nobody doubts but some pedo-baptists; that if the time spent in "wringing about it," as he called it, were spent in preaching Christ, it would be infinitely better, nay, that there were "multitudes of sinners now in hell that would have been saved, if the time thus spent had been devoted to preaching Christ;" and then closed by putting it in the same category with politics, and all such questions of temporary interest, thus degrading an ordinance solemnly enjoined by Jesus Christ to the status of the merest temporal questions, and closed by warning the people against concerning themselves with Christian baptism. The speaker belonged to a denomination whose ministers are often hurried to the dying beds of sick people to baptize (sprinkle) them before they die. Now all this style of preaching is nothing more than a confession of weakness—a simple consciousness that the agitation of that subject is not to the interest of pedo-baptism. Whether a minister of Christ can safely thus degrade a solemn ordinance of the New Testament is a question worthy of consideration. Perhaps ten books and sermons have been printed and preached in defence of pedo-baptism to one of believers' baptism. And yet we must hold our tongues "for the sake of peace." Much of this kind of twaddle we have been hearing for a third of a century, but within the last few years it is becoming quite furious, we suppose for the reason that the best scholarship of the age, both in Europe and America, has settled the controversy, so far at least as fact and logic can settle anything. It will require a new school of logic, however, to meet and foil the old argumental obstructions. (beg pardon, reader, for coining a name for a species of logic not laid down in any of the books,) since the plainer you make the converse the more obstinate and vexed the party becomes. When they can do nothing more, they attempt to degrade the subject in hand, and sink it beneath the dignity of discussion. Well, that may take in some quarters, but the mischief is it does not erase the subject from the word of God. There it stands, calmly confronting us just as it came from the Holy Spirit, bearing on its forehead the stamp of the Trine God, and there it will stand after criticism shall have done its worst in throwing it upon the rack to extort a favorite answer. It is a bootless task to get out of a thing that God never put into it. S. H.

OBLIGATIONS OF CHURCH MEMBERS IN THE SABBATH-SCHOOL.

A brother whom we have long known and loved writes to know whether a member of one Baptist church can absent himself from the Sabbath-school of his own church, and give his time and energies to a Sabbath-school in another Baptist church consistently with his obligation to his own church. Our response is found in a principle that we have always thought ought to govern the conduct of church members. It is this—wherever it is wise and prudent to keep up a church and Sabbath-school,

OUR FOREIGN MISSION BOARD.

Such church and school is entitled to all the members that fairly fall within its jurisdiction as to location and convenience. Certainly every church is entitled to all the working power of all its membership. Their church covenant binds to this, to say nothing of their sense of moral obligation. The brother aforesaid writes us that his church is struggling to keep up a Sabbath-school, and some of the members are connected with the school of another church.

With rare exceptions this is wrong. Wherever a Christian worships there he ought to work for the cause. He is as much bound to do this as he is to work his own farm in preference to that of his neighbors. It is only in this way that churches and Sabbath-schools can be kept up at all. We hope these brethren will see their duty in this respect. S. H.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE WORD.

It is a common saying that matter is inert and that words are but wind, mere sound. But we all know that all nature is instinct with life, and that words have something more in them than mere syllables. In creation God impregnated all nature with the principle of life; and all that is required to bring out this principle of life is to place these objects of nature in proper relations to each other. Thus a grain of corn appears to be a dead substance, and it is so "if it abideth alone," but place it in good soil, and it will produce in its kind an hundred fold. Put in other combinations, as in fire, on a rock, by the way side, and it would be dead—the conditions of vegetation and growth would be wanting. These adaptations run through the whole kingdom of nature. That subtle something in the load stone would never manifest itself by placing it in contact with wood, rock, and the like, but place it in proper relations with iron, and you will see its latent principle developed at once. So of words in our dictionaries; they are mere sounds, but put in certain combinations with each other, and they stir the human heart, to its deepest depths. They become the vehicle of something that transmits itself from the speaker to the hearer that may either inflame the latter with anger or inspire the most pleasing emotions. Put in certain combinations, they can touch every chord in the whole gamut of the human soul.

Now is it not somewhat in this way, but vastly more impressively, that the Holy Spirit is in the word? Is it not this that makes this divine word "quick and powerful, sharper than a two-edged sword?" Did not our Lord mean this when he said, "My words are spirit and they are life?" When the Holy Spirit indited these words, or when Christ spoke them, a fulness of meaning and power were given to them which make them today as potent as when they were first written or spoken. They are as much "the power of God unto salvation" now as they were eighteen centuries ago. The word of God is the vehicle through which the Holy Spirit operates to effect all the purposes of redemption.

But then must be brought in certain relations with the word and Spirit of God before we can conciliate their influence. Has the Spirit anything to do with this? We answer, yes, much to do—so much that unless he shall sweetly influence us to "receive with meekness the engrafted word," no saving power will ever come to our hearts. As the farmer must prepare the soil before he sows the seed, so this divine Agent must "break up the fallow ground of our hearts" before he can make any permanent lodgment of gospel truth in these hearts. The truth is, sin entailed upon our fallen race a double moral incapacity—it brought both darkness and blindness. This darkness is removed by Jesus "the light of the world." This blindness must be removed by the "anointing of the eyes of our understanding" by the Holy Spirit. These two influences combining create the very conditions under which we are made partakers of salvation. For no matter how brilliantly the light may shine, if the god of this world blind our eyes, we will never see it, or be benefited by it.

This view of our subject furnishes the highest encouragement to preach the gospel as a divine guarantee that the "word shall not return to him void, but that it shall accomplish the thing whereto it is sent." The Spirit lives in the word as the sun lives in the flowers and plants of nature, giving them life, vigor, and beauty. The Spirit is enshrined in every doctrine, every precept, every prophecy, every promise, every threatening, every sentence of his divine dictation. We know what the promise of Jesus was in the days of his incarnation. What Jesus was in the words he uttered, the Spirit is in the "wonderful words of life." For he declared to his disciples before he left them, that the divine Comforter would more than supply his place, since he declared that "greater works" should mark his presence among them than he wrought himself. So that it was "expedient" for them that he should go away, "What else can he mean by promising them, when he sent them forth to 'all the world and every creature' to preach his gospel, that he would be 'with them always even to the end of the world.'" S. H.

REV. M. M. WAMBOLDT.

We clip the following deserved compliment of Rev. M. M. Wamboldt from the *Montgomery Advertiser*. As will be observed, Bro. Wamboldt delivered the literary address before the societies of the A. & M. College at Auburn, at their recent commencement. From information gathered from other sources, besides the article below, we are assured that the address was full of solid thought, rich in diction, well delivered, and enthusiastically received by the large and intelligent audience. Bro. Wamboldt is now pastor of the First Baptist church, Chattanooga, Tenn., where he is preaching to a crowded house at every service. The *Advertiser's* correspondent says of the address:

The boldest and most venturesome reporter will shrink from attempting a synopsis of such an address as that delivered by Rev. M. M. Wamboldt last night. Your reporter was present, with sharpened pencil, and ready note book, but his courage and his presence of mind forsook him when he had written the words, "Wamboldt's subject." "This life is what we make it." Pencil and note book fell from his grasp; his body insensibly inclined forward, and his lower jaw fell. By the same electric shock the entire audience felt willing subjects to irresistible eloquence, and sat agape with eager attention, rapt, transported out of themselves, scarcely daring to applaud, lest one word should fall unheeded. The distinguished orator's fame had preceded him, and his reputation was on tip-toe, but he failed to catch so much as a glimpse of the lofty heights to which his eloquence soared. Old Georgians who remembered Toombs in his palmiest days, thought he had come again; some said it was Booth; but ere the oration was done it was decided that it was neither of these illustrious men. It was Wamboldt, without peer among contemporaneous orators.

The address was adorned with the most charming imagery, the most brilliant conceptions of wit, the profoundest thought. Its diction was of the purest, its flow without pause or hesitation, like that of a rippling stream barred by no obstruction, but leaping over them all. All Auburn was carried into willing captivity.

We cordially thank our dear brother for his candor in calling our attention to this matter, and giving us the opportunity of saying just what we meant. For, let us say, in passing, that we wrote in great haste, and under a pressure for "short articles," so that we did not have either the time or the space to place the subject just where it would have passed current.

And first, let us say, that the Boards of the Southern Baptist Convention are the creatures of the Convention, and therefore subject to its control and direction. Indeed, they are the Convention in miniature in the interim between the meetings of the body. So that in saying what we did we simply meant to say that we would cordially co-operate with the Southern Baptist Convention as to its work and methods. These Boards were selected, both as to location and men, from the eligibility of the location, and the piety, wisdom, and efficiency of the members who compose them. We have opinions of our own, and when our opinions differ from those of these Boards, we shall ingeniously meet them before the only competent tribunal to try them—the Southern Baptist Convention; and the decision of that body shall be law to us. In few words, we are a Baptist, and hence on all questions of mere policy—questions where no vital principle is involved—we shall go with our brethren. On no other principle can co-operation be maintained.

In the next place, in the interim between the meetings of the Convention, questions will arise as to which there is no opportunity to consult the denomination, and on such questions a margin of discretion must be given to these Boards, home as well as foreign, to exercise their own best judgment, reporting the whole matter to the next meeting for approval or disapproval. On this principle all Boards are created and run. It is not assuming too much to say they have the facts, and are therefore better qualified to decide upon the corresponding line of duty than we can be. And we are willing to trust them, at least until they betray some folly that will justify their removal. Hence the application of our illustration of "captain" and "engineer" on a vessel.

Once more: The administration of the work committed to the foreign Board may be modified as occasion demands, as time and circumstances may dictate. For it is claiming nothing more for the Board than any candid man will concede, that the brethren who compose it are men of piety, of prayer, of sound judgment and practical sense; and that they are as likely to perceive the "more excellent way" whenever presented from any quarter as any of us. Thirty-one years ago they had to grapple with the most perplexing question they have ever had before them, and although it created quite a sensation, and some decided differences in opinion, every succeeding year has vindicated the wisdom of their final action. The Convention itself endorsed it with flattering unanimity. It is not to be presumed that sensible, good men, are indifferent to the lessons of wisdom and experience.

Finally, we must either co-operate with the Foreign Board in its work or practically do nothing. A story is told of that great and good man, Jesse Mercer, of Georgia, to this effect: When the Georgia Convention resolved to move Mercer University from Washington, Ga., where he lived, to Penfield, he opposed it with all his might, and he had done more for it up to that time than all others. But when the vote was taken he found himself in a hopeless minority. He meekly rose and said, "Brethren, I must go with you. I cannot stay by myself." This is the true spirit.

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S. H.

FIELD NOTES.

Rev. Geo. W. McQueen baptized two recently at Steep Creek church, Alabama Association.

Read the programme for the grand excursion to Mexico. Dr. Powell has arranged for a grand time.

Rev. J. J. Porter has recently closed a meeting at Decatur and we learn he is now resting at Doyle station, Tenn.

Do not forget to hand your renewal to some brother who will go to Birmingham. Both editors expect to attend the Convention.

The new Baptist church at Pratt Mines is being painted and the bell is expected every day. We hope to have it finished and furnished by winter. —Age.

Dr. J. B. Hawthorne lectured Monday night in First church, Birmingham, on "Southern Heroes and Statesmen," and on Tuesday noon on "Prohibition in the Court-house."

As soon as a person joins a church the pastor should see that he subscribes for the State organ of the denomination. Are any of your members without the ALABAMA BAPTIST?

The District Meeting of fifth district of Carey Association will be held with Hatcher Creek church on Friday, before first Sunday in August and not in July as minutes of association erroneously stated.

The Roanoke Baptist church converts in the *News* for its absent members to report themselves or their names will be stricken from the roll. What to do with trunk Baptists is an unsolved problem.

present. The church was filled with citizens of our town and surrounding country. The exercises consisted of devotional exercises, songs, responsive reading of scripture, recitations, confined principally to the smaller children, and an address by the superintendent.—*Springville Mail*.

Rev. I. P. Trotter, a graduate of Mississippi College, and of our Seminary (1886) will fill our pulpit during his absence. He made a fine record in both College and Seminary, and did excellent work in the pastorate during his last two years in the Seminary. He comes upon the recommendation of Dr. Broadus and others. Our churches will both keep open and have services during the entire heated term.—*G. B. Eager, Mobile*.

The sermon Sunday by Rev. Geo. E. Brewer, was a fine one in many respects. He is a man of striking appearance in the pulpit and carries much weight with his discourse. His sermon was appropriate and eloquent, simple yet grand, chaste in sentiment, in diction pure, and pleased the very large congregation. Mr. Brewer preached again Sunday night, to a congregation largely composed of young people, and at the close several responded to the call for seekers of religion.—*Bibb Blade*.

In response to the call of Elm church, Clarke county, Ala., I met with my pastor, Eld. J. H. Fendley, and E. J. Hudson as a presbytery to set apart one of our members, W. T. Jarvis, to the deacon's office. Bro. Fendley led in the examination of the brother on his Christian experience, and the writer in reference to his soundness in our faith. This being satisfactory, prayer was offered by the writer, and the church extended the right hand, and thus closed the services.—*C. A. Miles, Chairman, Nicholville*.

I have just attended the commencement exercises of the Six Mile Male and Female Academy, of Bibb county. R. H. Pratt is doing a good work there. I was surprised to find such a large school, with as many boarders from a distance, and even other States, there, but would not be surprised to see many more if the merits of the school were generally known, although located off the railroad. Bro. Pratt is strongly loved, and is teaching now the children of his pupils of former years. Many of them who live at a distance board their children, because of their knowledge of his merits as an instructor.—*George E. Brewer*.

I have just returned from Escatawpa, Ala., where I spent the past week in a series of meetings with Bro. DeWitt. These meetings, when the size of the town and the length of time are considered, surpassed anything I ever witnessed. The town is only a little village, and the meetings lasted just a week. We had thirty-nine accessions, and nearly all of them by baptism. Your State Mission Board have displayed great wisdom in the appointment of Bro. DeWitt, the missionary pastor, to his present work. He has all the important elements of character necessary to a strong ministerial manhood. His piety, his zeal, and pleasant social qualities make him strong in the confidence and affections of the people. He is so much needed where he is, I do hope the Board will sustain him well and keep him there.—*L. E. Hall*.

We had very interesting services on third Sunday at Springville church. Attentive and appreciative congregations added much to the interest of the services. Religious interest is increasing in that community. When Bro. Crumpton was with them he whispered in the ear of some of the young brethren that they should have a young men's prayer meeting. Acting upon the advice they organized one. They are carrying on the meeting every week, with much interest, the effect of which may be easily observed. Some of the older brethren seem to be afraid the younger brethren will get ahead of them, and hence to keep watch put in an appearance at the prayer meeting. The Christians of the community also have a prayer meeting every Sunday evening that is very interesting. That church would be glad to have Bro. Crumpton visit them again.—*J. A. Glenn, Ashville*.

A Suggestion on the Programme.

In the concluding portion of Dr. Mell's address on Parliamentary Law, delivered to the Southern Baptist Convention, he speaks of programmes prescribing the order of business, and appointing speakers, etc. His remarks upon this subject reveal not only familiarity with the workings of conventions, but also a knowledge of men. For the reason that what he says may be so easily applied to our State Convention, I copy the following paragraph:

"The persons selected to carry out the programme would be few in number, because only the best men would be wanted. At the longest, the programmes for two, perhaps three years, would exhaust all the best material; and to secure the best presentation of topics, the same men—some or all of them—must appear every two or three years. The great body of the brethren, then, would be enticed together in

crowds at our annual meetings, and listen in grateful silence to the instruction and the entertainment. It would not be surprising if, before long, somebody would use that ugly word, 'ring!'"

I do not remember to have heard the ugly word "ring" used by any one with reference to the programmes of our State Convention, though some brethren may have had such a thought; but the difficulty alluded to—the exhaustion of the "best material"—has been experienced by the committees entrusted with the preparation of our programmes. For our next meeting one brother is named twice—once as alternate, and once as principal. The committee may not be chargeable with all this, and yet it would appear from the existence of the fact that they felt a little circumscribed as to the material from which to draw.

But if it were the best thing to do, I see no reason why the same men should not be brought out every two or three years. We ought always to do what is best, but at the same time it would be well to have a broad view of what is best.

Is it necessary, in order to meet the requirement of doing the best, to bring out our ablest and most prominent men every time, and on every subject? May it not be better, looking to the future as well as the present, to call out brethren of less prominence and less known ability, at least some of them, at every meeting of the Convention? There are brethren of fair education and ability who have never been heard in our Convention, in a set speech or any other, but who would, if invited to speak, do credit to themselves, to the denomination, and to the topic discussed. They might not meet the expectation of the multitude of hearing, "one of the big guns," but they would do better than that and more than that, viz.: they would show to us what material there is among the "lesser lights" of which we could justly feel proud. Moreover, they would be encouraging and developed personally, their churches and their kinsfolk and friends would feel more interest in the Convention, and what is important, they would be raised in the esteem of their people and of the communities in which they preach, and their influence for good increased. When the Convention honors a man, the good effect is felt at his home, especially if he has yet to make a name. And it is just to our less known and more timid brethren to continually pass them by? Some have doubtless felt neglected—those whose timidity, or ideas of propriety, have constrained them to remain silent because not invited to speak. They may be in error in not speaking at all, but we may not disregard their sensibilities. (I may say, in parenthesis, that I am not talking of those thoroughly dignified and thoroughly intolerant brethren who demand to be called before they will let us hear from them—I would rather see them wait and criticize their brethren.)

So I would suggest to future committees on programme to enlarge the circle from which Convention speakers and preachers are chosen. It may be well enough to stop in a "big one" here and there in the programme to do the thundering, but it will be a pleasant surprise to some very particular brethren to see how well those of whom I speak will acquit themselves, and how much good will be done, in more than one direction, by calling them out.

An Earnest Appeal From Little Rock, Arkansas.

Dear Brethren: I come to you with an urgent and pressing case. Two years ago the Executive Board of the Baptist State Convention organized a new church in this city, with the hope of uniting all Baptist influences and building up a strong church. A few earnest brethren united in the effort, and a congregation was soon gathered that was too large for their house. Starting with only 25 members, they now have upwards of 150. A new and larger house is an absolute necessity; and by an earnest effort \$6,000 has been raised for this object, and work on the much needed house is progressing quite rapidly; but it will take \$5,000 more to complete the house free of debt.

Through the careful attention of the Building Committee a house will be built for \$9,000 that would ordinarily cost \$15,000. So I feel fully justified in appealing to the denomination for help. A small contribution from the brethren generally would amply supply our lack. Now, will not the friends of the cause help? I have been actively engaged in the work of the ministry for twenty-five years; but I have never appealed to the denomination for help before. I left my work in a large and growing city, where I had been for seven years, to take hold of this new interest, and help put our cause here on a better footing. The work has progressed most satisfactorily, surpassing the expectations of the most sanguine; but a point is now reached where help is absolutely needed, and I make this appeal to our brethren, hoping and believing they will respond favorably.

Friends will please send their contributions to Hon. A. G. Files, Little Rock, Ark. And may I not hope that all who see this appeal will send something? Yours sincerely, A. B. Miles, Pastor, June 28, 1886.

The Baptist State Convention.

The delegates with their wives, sisters and daughters, who are coming to help and be helped by attending the Convention, will be entertained by the committee, but some ladies who have attended many religious meetings make the following suggestions.

First, that it is not pleasant to entertain ladies who come, not to the Convention, but to run around and look at the sights, simply because they get reduced railroad fare and free entertainment. And, second, that those coming should not forget to bring such articles as they will need and can be carried in their trunks, viz.: combs, brushes, powder, pins, needles, scissors, trimmings, &c., &c.

We want the earnest working women, as well as the earnest working men, of our churches to come and attend the Convention, for their good and for the good of the work in the State. But we hope they will come praying and ready to do or bear anything in order to carry forward our great denominational enterprises.

The committee will not feel under any obligations to entertain any gentlemen who are not delegates, or any ladies who are not wives, sisters or daughters of delegates in attendance. G. G. Miles, Chairman of Com.

A Letter from Auburn.

We have just passed through commencement here. The exercises were of more than usual interest. The young men have done good work, and acquitted themselves in the public exercises with credit. They will reflect honor on the institution, and do good service to the country. We are especially proud of the prospect for Christian usefulness of those connected with our church here, about twenty in number. They have conducted themselves with propriety, and some of them are active and proficient church workers to a remarkable degree, and will be heard from in the future, because of their usefulness as Christian men, and as true representatives of our denomination. It is sad to part with them, for they have been faithful fellow helpers of the truth.

Prof. Frazer, our valuable Sunday-school superintendent, retires from the place filled by him in the college for several years with general acceptance, and will give himself to the practice of medicine, a calling to which he has inclined for a time. His loss will be a severe one to our church.

The only representative the Baptists now have in the faculty is Prof. Mell. This fact provokes thought, and raises in our mind some inquiry. What numerical relation do we sustain to this institution? This is a question of some pertinency. I answer, the Baptists are the largest body of Christians in the State, and therefore have the largest share in this common property. They furnish about one-third of the students attending this college, nearly one-half the members of the board of trustees, and exactly one-tenth of the faculty. Thus it would seem that to be a Baptist is to belong to the descending scale—is to be connected with a people who in certain very important interests move, in influence, from the maximum to the minimum.

Why is this so? I answer that it is not so necessarily. That it does not result from the severest and broadest application of the principle of equity, but that it comes from our unfaithfulness to ourselves, and the cause we represent.

To talk about divorcing religion and education in this country, or any other, so far as that is concerned, is the merest twaddle. We might as well undertake to separate cause and effect. If our education then is to be administered under the auspices of religion, what should be the character of that religion? Shall it be in harmony with the convictions of those who fill our college halls, or shall it be in conflict with them? These, to my mind, are pertinent questions, and should claim the attention of our people. Alas, for a denomination who will not endow their own schools, and who will not assert their rights to a fair representation in those institutions in which they have a common interest.

For holding views in hearty accord with the people known as Baptists I have no apology to make. Other things being equal, they are first with me, everywhere and all the time, but with the utmost cheerfulness, and strictest exactness, I am ever ready to accord to others that which is fairly their own. When will our people learn wisdom? Who, or what can properly impress upon them the lessons of the past? It seems necessary that we should think practically, and speak earnestly on this subject. W. E. L.

MARRIED.

At the residence of Capt. C. C. McCall, near Desotoville, Chocoma county, Ala., by Rev. J. D. Cook, Mr. John B. Phillips to Miss Mary Elizabeth McCall.

"Till Hymen brought his love-delighted hour,
There dwelt no joy in Eden's rose-bow
The world was sad, and the garden was a wilderness,
And man, the hermit, sigh'd—'t

