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Proceedings of the Thirtieth Annual Session of the Arkansas Baptist State Convention

Arkansas Baptist State Convention

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

THIRTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ARKANSAS

BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION,

HELD WITH THE

BAPTIST CHURCH AT MONTICELLO, ARK.,

On the 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Days of August, 1878.

OFFICERS.

ELDER J. M. HART, PRESIDENT.

WM. F. MACK, SECRETARY AND TREASURER.

MEMPHIS, TENN.

ROGERS & CO. PRINTERS, 344 SECOND STREET,
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NOTICE.

The Secretary calls attention to the fact that sufficient means were not provided to enable him to carry out the entire wishes of the Convention; and he has been compelled to condense this record of proceedings as much as possible, and even advance in part the necessary funds to publish the same.

It is, therefore, hoped that any omissions or deficiencies in the record will be ascribed to the true cause, and not to any negligence on the part of the Secretary.

Special attention is called to "Amendments of Constitution," herein contained.

WM. F. MACK, Secretary Convention.

MINUTES.

MONTICELLO, ARKANSAS, }
Thursday, Aug. 8, 1878. }

The ARKANSAS BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION met pursuant to adjournment, at the Baptist Church of Monticello, at 10 A. M.

Convention was called to order by Vice-President Elder J. M. Hart, who introduced the devotional exercises of the occasion by reading the 123rd Psalm. Prayer by Elder U. H. Parker.

On call, the names of Delegates were enrolled as follows:

- ANTI-SH CHURCH—Eld. T. I. Pirtle
- CLEAR CREEK CHURCH—J. M. Ward, J. F. Searcy and J. L. Thomason.
- EL DORADO CHURCH—Eld. J. M. Hart.
- LAKE VILLAGE CHURCH—Eld. A. J. Fawcett and J. G. B. Simms.
- OAK RIDGE CHURCH—Eld. B. C. Hyatte, J. F. Steadman and H. Davis.
- EIGHTH STREET CHURCH OF LITTLE ROCK—Eld. W. A. Forbes.
- FLAT CREEK CHURCH—L. Rodgers and R. L. Denson.
- BETHLEHEM CHURCH—Eld. M. Y. Moran, J. C. Collins and R. F. Owen.
- POPLAR CLIFF CHURCH—J. M. P. Hawkins.
- BEECH CREEK CHURCH—W. J. Hogue.
- HELENA CHURCH—Eld. W. A. Clark.
- TRINITY CHURCH, AT WARREN—Eld. W. E. Paxton, Wm. F. Mack and A. C. Jones.
- MONTICELLO CHURCH—C. W. Millard, R. Clayton and Y. T. Wood.
- NEW EDINBURGH CHURCH—Eld. J. T. Craig, Eld. L. J. Griffin and B. W. Matlock.
- HICKORY GROVE CHURCH—J. S. Flah and G. F. Jenkins.
- BETHEDA CHURCH—Eld. E. H. Lindsey, J. G. Turner and B. T. Bledsoe.
- PLEASANT UNION CHURCH—A. F. Fryar, J. L. Myers and J. T. West.
- SELMA CHURCH—Eld. J. F. Griffin, T. R. Legette and Martin Jones.
- ENON CHURCH—J. R. Searcy and Benj. Davis.
- HAMBURG CHURCH—Eld. John S. Wood.
- BARTHOLOMEW ASSOCIATION—Eld. U. H. Parker, Eld. Sol. Gardner, L. T. W. Meek, C. U. Gannaway and N. C. Denson.
- RED RIVER ASSOCIATION—Eld. M. D. Early.
- COLUMBIA ASSOCIATION—W. J. Cross.
- FRIENDSHIP ASSOCIATION—Elders J. B. Searcy, J. F. Griffin and J. W. H. Wharton.
- JUSSON ASSOCIATION—Elders J. T. Craig and E. H. Lindsey.

At 11 A. M. Eld. M. D. Early occupied the pulpit and addressed the congregation from Math. 1:21, "And thou shalt call his name Jesus; for he shall save his people from their sins."

Prayer by Eld. E. H. Lindsey.

Recess until 2 P. M.

AFTERNOON, 2 P. M.

Convention re-assembled, and proceeded to organize by the election of officers.

Eld. J. M. Hart was elected President, and Elders W. E. Paxton and B. C. Hyatte Vice-Presidents of the Convention. Wm. F. Mack was chosen Secretary and Treasurer of the Convention.

On motion, agreed that the Convention meet at 8:30 A. M. for Devotional Exercises; at 9 A. M. take up order of business; at 11 A. M. divine service; at 12 M. recess until 3 P. M., when Convention resumes business to adjourn at 5 P. M. And that the order of business during the present session be the same as that adopted at the last session.

Visiting brethren were invited to seats in the Convention.

On motion the chair proceeded (under suspension of rules) to appoint as

Committee on Devotional Exercises—Bros. Hyatte, Meek, Simms and the Delegates from Monticello Church

Committee on Documents—Bro. Lindsey, Millard and Hawkins.

Committee on Domestic Missions—Bro. Fawcett, Clark and Jones.

Committee on Education—Bros. Paxton, Early, Simms and Moran.

Committee on Sunday Schools—Bros. Forbes, Gardner, Craig and Fish.

Committee on Finance—Bros. Meek, Clayton and Turner.

Committee on Foreign Missions—Bros. Paxton, Hogue, Bussey and Searcy.

Committee on Publications—Bros. Forbes, Fish and Wood.

Committee on Objections—Bro. Hyatte, Wharton, Fawcett and Parker.

Committee on Nominations—Bros. Pirtle, Early, Clark and Fawcett.

Committee on Colored Brethren—Special—Bros. Forbes, Craig, Clark, Fawcett and Jones.

Committee on Constitutional Amendment—Bros. Fawcett, Clark, Forbes, Gardner, Paxton and Steadman.

On motion, the chair proceeded to appoint as Corresponding Messengers

To the Louisiana Baptist State Convention—Bros. Paxton, Searcy, Hart, Meek, Fawcett and Clark.

To the Southern Baptist Convention, to convene in May, 1879, at Atlanta, Ga—Bros. Forbes, Clark, Fawcett, Early and Espy.

To the Mississippi Baptist State Convention—Bros. Early, Fawcett and J. Shackelford.

At this juncture the Convention received a written invitation to occupy the M. E. Church house of worship if needed, which was accepted with thanks.

On motion, adjourned.

At 8 P. M. Thursday evening, Elder E. H. Lindsey addressed the people in an able discourse on the subject: "Am I a Disciple?"

SECOND DAY.—8:30 A. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional exercises conducted by Elder S. Gardner; prayer by Elder U. H. Parker.

At 9 A. M. the Convention resumed Order of Business.

Delegates enrolled.

Minutes of Thursday's proceedings were read, and after slight amendments, adopted as correct. Reports called for.

Bro. Fawcett, Chairman of Committee on Domestic Missions, offered the Report of his Committee which, after being read, was, on motion, laid on the table temporarily,—to admit Report of Executive Committee on Home Missions, which was read, discussed, and after various motions, appeals from decisions of the chair, etc., finally referred to a special committee, raised and composed of the members of Executive Committee and Committee on Domestic Missions,—to whom also the Report on Domestic Missions was referred, with instructions that the two reports be combined, condensed and reported at 10 A. M. to-morrow (Saturday) as the special order of the day.

At this juncture, invitation was received from the pastor of the Presbyterian Church to occupy their pulpit, which was thankfully accepted.

Bro. Paxton, Chairman of Committee on Education, offered Report, which was read and ably supported by Bros. Clark and Paxton, until 11 A. M., the hour for Divine service arrived, and further discussion was thereby suspended.

11 A. M. Eld. J. M. Hart preached an able and interesting discourse.

Recess.

AFTERNOON, 3 P. M.

Convention resumed business.

Discussion of report on Education resumed by Bros. Fawcett, Forbes, Hyatt and Gardner, all of whom manifested a lively interest in the subject. The report was adopted, and reads as follows:

EDUCATION.

The first great want of a people is primary education; but to stop with this, is to arrest the progress of civilization in its infancy. As well might the husbandman content himself with the primitive implements of husbandry, discarding all those wonderful inventions of modern times for saving labor and increasing productiveness. Higher education bears the same relation to the elementary, that the reaping and thrashing machines do to the ancient sickle and flail.

It is a happy element in our mental and moral constitution that we aspire to higher and better things. But for this principle, ignorance and barbarism would become crystallized and human progress would be arrested.

It is a hopeful sign that our people are waking up to higher appreciation of advanced education, and it is greatly to the credit of our denomination that we have won the distinction of being the leading educator of this land. As an evidence that the Baptists of Arkansas are not content to yield the palm to others in this work, we need only to point to our efforts in different parts of the State to build up academies and high schools. In the northern part of the State we can point with pride to the Buckner, Shiloh and Judsonia Schools, and the Forest City High School, and in the

south, to the younger and less pretentious, but not less promising schools at Warren and Arkadelphia. In these institutions we afford the very best facilities for academic training, thus laying the foundation for another advance. A central college is already being discussed by us, and upon which a separate committee will report to this convention. Such an institution is only a question of time. These academies and high schools will create a demand for higher and better facilities, and will be important feeders of such an institution when established. Indeed the life of higher education is the academies dispensed throughout the State; and the more of them, the better. The mind once aroused in the primary schools reaches upward for larger developments. When it has once tasted the springs of classical and mathematical learning it begets a thirst for higher culture. This will in time necessitate a common institution for the whole State. In the meantime it becomes us to foster the schools already established. Wherefore we commend to the patronage of the Baptists of the State, Buckner College, Rev. E. L. Compere, President; Shiloh College, Judsonia University, B. Thomas, D. D., President; Forest City High School, Rev. J. Shackleford, D. D., President; Arkadelphia High School, B. J. Dunn A. M.; Centennial Institute (Warren) Rev. W. E. Paxton, A. M., Pres.

W. E. PAXTON, Chairman.

Bro. Paxton, Chairman of Committee on Foreign Missions, offered report, which was read, and ably discussed pro and con by Bros. Paxton, Wharton, Clerk, Griffin and Forbes, who proposed to take collection then and there, for the benefit of Rome Chapel. Result \$13.50 cash. Prayer, proposed by Bro. Early—after which adjourned.

8 P. M. Eld. W. A. Clark addressed the Congregation from Rev. 20:12. His discourse was listened to with marked attention.

THIRD DAY.—8:30 P. M.

Convention met pursuant to order of adjournment.

Devotional exercises conducted by Elder J. F. Griffin; closed by Elder J. B. Searcy in prayer.

Minutes of second day's proceedings read and approved as correct.

Delegates enrolled.

Visiting brethren invited to seats in the Convention.

On suggestion that perhaps certain delegates had been admitted contrary to the requirements of the Constitution, the chair, on motion, appointed Bros. Meek, Simms, Searcy, Craig and Lindsey, a Special Committee on Credentials, to investigate the roll of delegates, and report at their earliest convenience.

On motion, the report on Missions by Special Committee (that being special order of the day for 10 A. M.) was taken up, read and discussed by Bros. Forbes, Clarke, Fawcett and Searcy, who offered resolutions as amendments to report.

Discussion suspended for Divine service at 11 A. M., at which hour Elder A. J. Fawcett occupied the pulpit and preached to the congregation from Romans 8:7.

Prayer. Recess.

'AFTERNOON—3 P. M.

Business resumed; President J. M. Hart in the chair.

Discussion of resolutions amendatory of report of Special Committee on Missions, was continued by Bro. Early, who took a collection, amounting to \$8.35.

Amendments agreed to. Report as amended was then adopted, and reads as follows:

HOME MISSIONS.

BRO. PRESIDENT—Your Special Committee, to whom was referred the reports of the Home Mission Board and Missionary, beg leave to report that at the last sitting of our Convention the destitution of our State was strongly urged, and active measures were then adopted to raise necessary funds and employ Elder W. A. Clark as Missionary, who entered upon the work as such, January 1, and as the result of his labors, reports as follow: "Engaged in the work 31 weeks; visited 42 churches; preached 216 sermons; delivered 13 addresses; attended 90 prayer-meetings; received members by baptism, 82; received by letter, 35; received by restoration 90; professors not baptized 53; professors baptized by others, 23; visited 230 families; distributed 500 tracts; traveled 4,166 miles; collected \$451.55."

From which report it will be seen that good work has been done, and our Missionary deserves the unqualified approbation of the Convention. On his return from the work we extend to him our thanks for his faithfulness, and recommend him to the confidence and affection of our people.

We find that thirty-one county towns are without Baptist organizations. So far as we know, there are in the counties of DeSha, Crittenden, Mississippi and Lafayette, no Baptist ministers. In Louisville, Camden, Pine Bluff, Hot Springs, Fort Smith, Clarksville, Batesville and DeWitt, the churches are languishing, and in many of them their church property is in debt.

From these facts we conclude the destitution is in our towns, and as these are centers of influence, we recommend that they be occupied; and the Home Mission Board be encouraged to continue the noble work in which they have been engaged during the past year, and that the brethren of this Convention pledge themselves to work for the accomplishment of the glorious undertakings contemplated in this report.

We would recommend the propriety of taking up collections in the congregations on the Sabbath for the noble work. Also, that the Mission Board be appointed more centrally located, rather than scattered over the State as formerly. The Board has labored under disadvantages on this account.

Our State is filling up. God is sending the people to us from all quarters, and it becomes us to bestir ourselves and attend to the Master's business. We call upon every pastor and every member to contribute something to this cause during the ensuing year.

Respectfully submitted,

W. A. FORBES,

Chairman Board of Trustees,

A. J. FAWCETT,

Chairman Domestic Missions.

By consent, Bro. Forbes was allowed, without motion, to address the Convention for the purpose of explaining certain matters connected with the Home Mission department, and preferred the request of Elder T. P. Boone, former Treasurer of this body

that the Convention appropriate to him a salary due for services rendered as Missionary, a certain balance of money (\$58.00, more or less) remaining in his hands as said Treasurer. The request was, on motion, referred to the Executive Committee for discretionary action in the premises.

Now, again comes up, in regular order of business, the report on Foreign Missions, which was, on motion, laid on the table temporarily, to admit the report of Elder J. B. Searcy, as Secretary of Foreign Missions. The said secretary's report was then read, approved and ordered printed in the minutes of this Convention.

REPORT OF SECRETARY OF FOREIGN MISSIONS.

BRO. PRESIDENT:—Your Secretary of Foreign Missions would respectfully report, that since July, 1877, our State has turned over to the F. M. Board, at Richmond Va., \$264.87 of which amount \$93.30 passed through the hands of your Secretary, who has received vouchers for the same from Dr. Tupper. More earnest effort should be made in this department of our work.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. Searcy, Sec'y.

Report on Foreign Missions was now, on motion, taken from the table, and being read by Bro. Paxton, chairman of the Committee, was further discussed by Bro. Searcy, who took up a collection for Rome Chapel, amounting to \$1.85, and moved that the Committee amend the report by asking for a mass meeting convention at the Baptist Church on Sunday night, in the interest of Rome Chapel. Amendment agreed to.

The report as amended was then adopted, and reads as follows:

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Foreign Mission work addresses itself to our denomination with especial interest. God has honored us by making us the founders of modern missions, and from the day that Mr. Cary began his labors to the present time. He has continued to honor us by blessing our labors and opening new fields as fast as we could occupy them. Indeed our church polity peculiarly adapts us to mission work.

It would be pleasant and profitable to review our mission work in all parts of the world, and show what we are accomplishing, but there is one part of the field occupied by the Southern Baptist Convention of special interest at the present time. We refer to the Italian Mission. It is a source of devout gratitude to God that He has so signally blest our labors in Italy. Entering Rome with the victorious arms of Victor Emanuel in 1870, our Missionary began his humble labors. In a few months a church was organized. To-day we have churches in all the principal cities of Italy, with native Italians for pastors, young men from the educated classes, converted under the labors of our Missionary. From the organization of the first church, our brethren in Rome have been put to a great inconvenience for a house of worship. The priests brought all their influence to bear upon landlords, and our little flock was driven from place to place. But recently Providence has opened up an opportunity to secure a permanent title to a property located in an eligible position in the city, with buildings which, with some changes and additions, will answer as a place of worship, for school purposes, and for the publication of the

Scavenger, a Baptist paper published in Italian. This property cost \$25,000. The Rome Chapel Fund was insufficient by several thousand dollars to pay this sum and secure the title. The Board of Foreign Missions supplemented the sum on hand by borrowing the residue from a bank in Richmond, Va. This action of the Board was warmly approved by the Convention held at Nashville, and the sum apportioned among the several States tributary to the Convention. The small sum of three hundred dollars was assigned to Arkansas.

Your Committee recommend that a special effort be made to raise this sum, and thus aid in securing a home for primitive Christianity in the Eternal City, and for this purpose would suggest a mass-meeting Convention on Sunday night, at the Baptist church, to be addressed by speakers appointed for the occasion.

W. E. FAXTON, Chairman.

Committee on Publications, Bro. Forbes, Chairman, offered a report, as follows:

PUBLICATIONS.

Your Committee on Publications beg leave to report as follows:

Next to the living ministry, the press is the most potent agency in the dissemination of religious knowledge. The important part of our work, therefore, consists in the diffusion of a sound denominational literature. Every church should have a small fund devoted to the supply of books and tracts, and every minister should be a colporteur to furnish books to the people among whom he labors.

But books alone will not fully meet this necessity. Current denominational intelligence can only be diffused through the newspaper. It comes as a weekly visitor, with its budget of news, informing us of the state of the work in the various parts of our Zion, and freighted with the freshest thoughts of our wisest and best brethren—thoughts that flash out in the ardor of conflict, and which, like living coals, kindle anew the zeal of our hearts. To be able to work efficiently, we must know what has been done and what is proposed to be done, as well as the means by which the end is to be accomplished. To enlist our people in the work of evangelization, they have only to be shown what is to be done, and how it is to be done. We will both work and give if we can see whereunto it tends, and have a reasonable assurance of success.

To this end we need a live State paper that is chock full of Arkansas, whose whole sympathies are with us and our State enterprises. Your Committee would not say a word against that grand old standard-bearer, *The Baptist*. It is *usurivale*—a defender of the faith, but for Arkansas work we need a paper published in our midst and devoted to our special field. The successful farmer keeps his own implement and does not depend upon borrowing from his neighbor.

We are glad to know that we have a paper—*The Western Baptist*—published at Little Rock, owned by Baptists, and devoted to our State interests, and we heartily commend it to the support of our brethren. It may not be all we could wish it to be. Like a child deserted and neglected by a heartless mother, it is not strange that it should show the marks of the cruel abandonment. But if we will take hold of it, we can make it all we desire, and all we need as a State organ. We can continue to starve it to death, or, by yielding it a hearty support, enable the publishers to make it worthy of the Baptists of this great State. With suitable patronage they have the facilities for making it one of the best papers in the South.

We therefore recommend that the pastors be urged to present the *Western Baptist* to their churches, and endeavor to put it at least into every Baptist family in the State, and that those of our brethren who write for the press, be urged to write short, spicy articles, and furnish the editors with items of interest, and thus contribute to the unification of the Baptists of the State.

Respectfully submitted, W. A. FOXNA, Chairman.

Which was adopted after a lengthy and interesting discussion (under suspension of rules) by Bros. Forbes, Cross, Clark, Gardner, Early, Searoy, Griffin and Craig.

On motion adjourned to meet in mass convention at 8 P. M. Sunday evening. Prayer.

SUNDAY.

11 A. M. Elder M. D. Early addressed the congregation at the Baptist Church from Matt. 7:29: "For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes."

At the Methodist Church, Elder Forbes addressed the congregation from Mark 10, 46-52; subject: "Blind Bartimeus Healed."

At the Presbyterian Church, Elder Paxton preached, 1 Tim. 4:8: "Goodliness is profitable unto all things, having promise of the life that now is, and of that which is to come."

At the Associate Reform Church, Elder Clark, from Genesis 16:14.

3 P. M. Sunday-school Convention at Baptist Church. Rainy weather prevented full attendance. Exercises conducted by Elders Early, Forbes and Hart.

8 P. M. At M. E. Church, Elder A. J. Fawcett preached from Pl. il. 3:7.

Mass Meeting Convention failed to meet at Baptist Church on account of rainy weather, and therefore the small congregation was addressed from the pulpit by Elder J. M. Hurt, who preached a short but interesting discourse.

FIFTH DAY.

8:30 A. M., Monday. The Convention met as per regular order; the President in the chair.

Devotional exercises conducted by Elder Forbes. Reminiscences of early settlement and the work of Baptists in the State by Elder Parker and Craig, followed by appropriate and interesting remarks by Bros. Forbes and Clark.

9 A. M. Convention resumed business. Minutes of third and fourth days read, and after amendment, approved as correct.

A letter from Elder R. M. Thresher, inclosing \$5.00 as the product of his "Missionary Apple Tree," was read, and on motion referred to Finance Committee.

Committee on Sunday-schools, Elder Forbes, Chairman, offered report, which was read, and after amendment, offered by Brother Cross, adopted. It read as follows:

REPORT ON SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

We feel this is an important work. But we are afraid many do not see the great results to Christianity and our denomination. Comparatively,

few of our older brothers and sisters do not work in this way. This is the school of religion; and if we give the education of our children to others, what may we expect of them? Why then let others educate our children in religion? Let us then give our children religious education, and that we may do that most effectually, let every brother and sister take part in this work. If you cannot teach, allow yourself to be taught.

We recommend to you the International Kind Words, published by the S. B. Convention at Marion, Ala.

B. GARDNER,
J. S. FINN,
J. T. CRAIG,
W. A. FORBES.

Committee on Obituaries, Elder Hyatte, chairman, offered report, which was read, and on motion, recommitted; and Bro. Early added to committee. This report was afterward received and adopted as prior read.

OBITUARIES.

BRO. PRESIDENT:—Your Committee beg leave to report that we have great cause for thankfulness and gratitude to Almighty God, for his wonderful providential care of our ministering brethren during the year past, since only two, so far as we can learn, have passed away, and gone to their reward.

Our beloved Bro. Samuel Stevenson, who departed this life at Little Rock, Ark., March, 1878, on Sunday, whilst preaching was in progress, at his church, was born in Philadelphia, A. D. 1815, and removed to Arkansas about the year 1852. He was ordained to the ministry by the church at Arkadelphia, and labored earnestly in the Master's cause about thirty-five years, doing noble work, both in the pulpit and Sunday-school. He died at the age of 63 years, a member of Eighth Street Baptist Church, Little Rock.

Respectfully submitted,

B. C. HYATTE, Chairman.

Committee on Nominations, Elder Pirtle, Chairman, offered a report, which was read and adopted. It reads as follows:

NOMINATIONS.

BRO. PRESIDENT:—Your Committee beg leave to report that only two places—Hope and Helena—have asked for the next sitting of the Convention, and after considering the claims of each place, we recommend that it convene with the Baptist Church at Hope. We suggest that Elder H. M. Bossey be appointed to preach the conventional sermon on that occasion.—Elder W. E. Paxton, alternate.

As Board of Trustees for the ensuing year, we recommend the appointment of Elders W. A. Forbes, J. B. Searcy, W. A. Clark, T. B. Espy, M. D. Early, H. M. Russel, J. P. Eagle, A. J. Fawcett, J. M. Hart, G. W. Reeves, and Revs. B. H. Blackwood, W. J. Cross and — Howard.

As Secretary of Foreign Missions, we recommend the re-appointment of Elder J. B. Searcy.

As secretary of Sunday-schools, we recommend the appointment of Elder W. A. Clark.

M. D. EARLY, Chairman.

NOTE.—It is proper to state that Bro. Early's name was inserted in this report by amendment in Convention.

Committee on Constitutional Amendments, Elder Fawcett, Chairman, offered report, which was read, and provoked considerable discussion by many of the delegates present.

At 11 A. M. time was, on motion, suspended and order that the Convention remain in session until completion of business. After various motions and substitutes had been offered, discussed, and adopted or voted down, the committee's report was virtually substituted, adopted, and reads as follows:

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS.

BRO. PRESIDENT.—Your Committee recommend that the Convention adopt "alterations and additions" to the Constitution, to-wit:

That Article II. be amended to read as follows:

"The Baptist State Convention shall be composed of delegates or messengers from Baptist Churches and Associations on presentation of proper credentials or vouchers of their appointment, and the payment to the Treasurer of Convention for conventional purposes, the sum of two dollars or more, for each delegate or messenger sent.

III. That any Baptist, not delegated, shall be entitled to a seat and vote in convention on the payment of \$2.50 into the treasury.

V. That there be added to section 6 the words, "and to gather denominational statistics."

VII. That the Convention shall convene on Thursday before the 1st Sabbath in November, each year.

FAWCETT,
PAXTON,
FORBES,
CLARK, } Committee.

Committee on Colleges, Elder Forbes, Chairman, stated that his committee had never held any meeting, and therefore no proper report could be made at this time. Committee continued.

Committee on Colored Brethren offered a report which was read by Elder Forbes, discussed by Bro. Forbes, Paxton and Clark. Adopted as follows:

COLORED RACE.

Your Committee on the Colored Race beg permission to report as follows:

The colored people deserve our attention, and should be helped by us in establishing churches and instructing their preachers. They are quite zealous, but uninformed, and, as a general thing, welcome information from us.

We are too apt to let our prejudice lead us from duty, but we should look to what these people are to be, and not what they have been.

They are building up in the towns strong congregations, and where they have informed and converted men to lead them, they are doing well. We recommend to every preacher to visit, when convenient, their churches, and instruct and preach for them, and that our State Missionary make this a part of his duty. They are naturally inclined to the Baptists; we should, therefore, give them every chance to be intelligent Baptists. Let us who raised them, nursed them in sickness, and to whom we are naturally attached, not leave them to wander down to death without an effort on our part to save them. They turn to us, their former owners, and now their warmest friends, for that Gospel which makes us free indeed. Let them not call on us in vain.

Respectfully,
W. A. FORBES, Chairman.

Bro. Simms and Millard were on motion added to the Finance Committee, which afterwards reported as follows:

FINANCE REPORT.

Bro. PRESIDENT:—Your Committee beg leave to report:

On hand, T. P. Boone, former Treasurer, per H. M.....	\$ 68 00
Received from churches for minutes.....	19 80
" " Eighth Street church, Little Rock, H. M.....	7 36
" " R. M. Thrasher, H. M.....	8 00
" " Public collection, H. M.....	26 00
" " Public collection, F. M.....	15 75

Total amount.....\$131 40

Respectfully submitted, J. G. B. SIMMS, per Com.

Report adopted.

Committee on Credentials, Bro. Simms, Chairman, offered report, which was read and adopted as follows:

REPORT ON CREDENTIALS.

Bro. PRESIDENT:—Your special Committee on Credentials beg leave to report that on investigation we find the roll of delegates correct—no delegate having been enrolled who was not, directly or indirectly, authorized by his church or Association. Respectfully submitted,

SIMMS, }
SEARCY, } Com.
CRAIG, }

Resolutions were adopted as follows:

Resolved, That the Secretary of Convention be instructed to obtain from the reliable sources of information, and append to the minutes a complete tabular statement of statistics of the Church within the bounds of each association in the State.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due, and are hereby tendered the brethren and friends of Monticello and vicinity for their generous hospitality; and the *Monticellonian* be requested to give publicity to this resolution.

Resolved, That the Secretary be instructed to have 500 copies of minutes of Convention printed for distribution; and that he be allowed \$25.00 for his services as Secretary.

Secretary stated that with the meagre fund in his hands, as Treasurer, he would be unable to comply with the 3d resolution, and requested that some plan might be devised to raise the necessary funds. A small amount was then added by voluntary contribution—leaving in the hands of the Treasurer, after paying Mission funds, only \$24.05.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Wm. F. Mack, Sec'y and Treas., in account with Baptist State Convention

DR.

Aug. 13, 1878, for amount reported by Financial Committee	\$111 00
" individual contributions.....	7 10
Total amount.....	\$118 10

CR.

By amount in hand, T. B. Doone, former Treasurer.....	750 00
" Rome Chapel, paid J. B. Searcy.....	15 75
" Home Missions, paid W. A. Forbes.....	21 00
" Rome Chapel, paid W. A. Forbes.....	7 30
" allowed Secretary.....	20 00
" paid for minutes.....	20 00
Total.....	\$152 05

Balance over paid and due Treasurer, \$113 00.

2 P. M. After prayer by Elder Paxton, the parting hand was taken, and the Convention adjourned to meet with the Church at Hope, on Thursday, before the first Sabbath in November, 1879.

J. M. HART, President.

W. F. MACK, Secretary.