

# NORTH CAROLINA Baptist Missionary Worker.

Jesus said: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Motto: "The World for Jesus Christ."

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## STATE MISSIONS.

Our readers have heard the expression, "State Missions lie at the foundation of all our beneficent enterprises," so often that I fear they may not fully appreciate its truth and force. But the facts in the case more than substantiate the assertion. The first State Mission work done in N. C. was of a voluntary character in one sense, but compulsory in another. In 1653, William Berkeley, governor of Virginia, drove all the Baptists and Quakers out of his colony, and they found refuge in the Albemarle region of our State. Paul Palmer, some years later organized old Shiloh Church, which still exists in Camden County. He also ordained Joseph Parker, who, two years later, 1729, organized Meherrin Church, which is still to be found near Murfreesboro. Twenty-one years later, Sandy Run, in Bertie County, was born from Meherrin, and thus the work spread all over eastern Carolina.

In 1742 Elder William Sojourner brought a colony from Berkeley County, Va., and settled in Halifax County. Ten years later this handful had grown into sixteen churches.

The most prosperous colony by far, was that which Shubal Stearns brought from the same county, and settled on Sandy Creek in what is now Randolph County. This church at first composed of 16 members, within seventeen years had organized 42 churches, ordained 115 ministers and gathered a membership of 600 souls.

This work went on growing and multiplying in this most wonderful way until the days of Josiah Crudup, Robert T. Daniel, Samuel Wait, Thomas Mederith and other such men, who, seeing the necessity of organized effort, began to plan for the same. The Baptist State Convention which came into existence in 1830 was the result. At this time, there were, including Anti-Missionary and Free-Will Baptists, only 14 Associations, 272 churches and 15,360 members.

As soon as organization was effected, efforts were put forth to give the gospel to the whole State. In 1831 four missionaries were sent out with North Carolina as their field of labor. From the seacoast to the Blue Ridge, and from the Blue Ridge on to the Tennessee line and even beyond, the glad news of salvation was carried. And every county and neighborhood in our commonwealth was, sooner or later, visited by these men and their successors, from that day to this.

Space forbids that I should give in detail the sacrifices, sufferings and hardships endured, and the successes and glorious achievements accomplished by these messengers of Zion. In a few words let me give you the growth: In 1770 there were but two churches in the State. In 1784 there were 42 churches, 47 ministers, 3,776 members. In 1812 there were 204 churches, 117 ministers and 12,567 members. In 1832 there were 332 churches, 211 ministers and 18,918 members. In 1851 there were 599 churches, 374 ministers and 41,674 members. In 1860 there were 692 churches, 374 ministers and 59,778 members. In 1876 there were 1442 churches, 793 minis-

ters and 137,000 members. In 1880 there were 77 Associations, 1,905 churches and 172,951 members. And in 1886 there were 84 Associations, 2,286 churches and 238,009 members.

## TO PASTORS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENTS.

I send a number of copies of the BAPTIST MISSIONARY WORKER to the pastors and Sunday School Superintendents this week. Dear brethren, please distribute them as judiciously as you can among your churches and Sunday Schools. Read parts of the paper to them and ask them to give something to help us in our State Mission Work. Our board is in great need.

## OUR NEEDS.

The State Mission Work needs *three thousand dollars*, to pay the Missionaries what has been due them for months. Will not all our churches and Sunday Schools help us now? Many of the missionaries are suffering for the plain necessities of life. Remember we want help for State Missions.

## TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

This week many of the Baptist Sunday Schools in the State will receive copies of the BAPTIST MISSIONARY WORKER. This little paper is sent to you, dear friends, to tell you about our great mission work. I hope God will put it into your hearts to give something to help send the gospel to those poor people who do not know Jesus Christ. There are thousands of them in our State, and I beg you to take up a collection just as soon as possible and send to me, or to brother F. H. Briggs, Treasurer of the Baptist State Convention, for State Missions. The Board has 81 missionaries preaching in different parts of the State and we greatly need money to pay them. Be sure to send a contribution for State Missions.

## THE SUCCESS OF THIS YEAR.

For some reason, only about fifty of our eighty-one missionaries have sent us in any reports this year. This prevents us from giving full statements of what God has done for us, which is to be regretted. However, they will all be in before the end of the year, and if present indications are to be relied upon, the results will be most gratifying.

The figures which we have, are as follows: Days of labor 3,893, sermons 1824, churches and preaching stations occupied 125, prayer meetings held 708, religious visits made 2,583, additions to the churches 432, protracted meetings held 28, professed conversion 216, churches building 30 or more, churches finished 5, churches organized 4, Sunday schools organized 32. This is a most pleasing exhibit of the work done. And if the results of the labors of only about half the missionaries have been so great, what must be those of the

whole number! And this, too, has been the most trying part of the year. During the winter months the weather prevented the missionaries from meeting many of their appointments. And when they reached the fields, frequently they met but few, because of the inclemency of the weather.

And then the epidemics which have prevailed in many portions of the State this spring, have militated against the success of the work. And yet from every direction the most cheering news comes to us, and the prospects are brightening almost every day.

## A SUGGESTION.

DEAR BRO. RAY:

How we poor overlaid Secretaries of Mission Boards can sympathize with each other. I have just read your article in *Recorder*. Last winter when laid upon my back, I looked first upon a Treasury overdrawn thousands of dollars, and then into the faces of 250 men working for the Lord under our Board, who represented 1,000 women and children dependant upon them, my heart would bleed. I could do nothing but cry unto the Lord in my agony of soul. In His kindly providence he helped me so that the end of the financial year was one in which we all rejoiced.

But these things ought not so to be. We ought not to be put under the wine-press in this way. Well what is the matter? How can we remedy this sore evil? I have pondered this question and have come to the settled, unalterable conviction that we must have system in our collections for missions. If 50,000 Baptists of N. C. would give for all Mission Work, including Ministerial Education, Colportage, &c. but two and one-half cents per week, paying it monthly or even quarterly, how easy it would be to run our Mission Work. 50,000 x 2½ = \$1,250 per week, or \$5,000 per month of four weeks, or \$65,000 for fifty-two weeks.

That would give you \$25,000 for State Missions, \$15,000 for Foreign Missions, \$10,000 for Home Missions and \$15,000 for other purposes. Now don't say "this is visionary." Don't say like Bro. Chas. Taylor did, "Yes when you get that the millennium will have come." Dear Brother, this is practical. It can be done in old North Carolina. Not in a day, not in a year, but by the Lord's blessing in a few years it can be accomplished.

What is needed is, 1st: to get all the representatives of our Board to co-operate in it, aided by your paper, your women's societies and all the pastors you can influence. In such a work you, John E. Ray, must lead. The others can do nothing without you: you must engineer the movement in N. C.; on you, in your present position, rests the responsibility of this whole matter. Now think of it, pray over it. I believe this is the open door to success. With the acceptance of such a plan by half of our people our troubles will end.

I shall be glad to hear from you on this or any other matter that may interest you.

Your Bro.,  
I. T. TICHENOR.