

APPOINTMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT.

A respectable correspondent from the State of Ohio uses partly the language of complaint and perhaps of advice, on the dispensation of the executive patronage. He remarks, that there is "no possible way to rally the democratic party and keep them together, except the friends of all the presidential candidates are fairly and equally dealt by according to their political standing, recommendations and merits." He further remarks, that "the President must attend to it in time, or there may be a serious division among the party in future struggles."

We lay these suggestions at once before the country, that we may answer them freely and frankly before the same tribunal. We speak advisedly, when we say that the President of the United States knows no cliques in the republic; that, in the dispensation of the public offices, he makes no discrimination among the friends of the late presidential candidates; that, in giving or refusing office, he does not ask himself, nor does he ask others, "whether this man was a friend of Mr. Van Buren," or "that a friend of Mr. Calhoun or Mr. Cass, or Mr. Buchanan." In filling up vacancies, he takes care to put in republicans who are amply qualified, according to the best lights which are presented to his mind, to discharge its duties—who "are honest, capable, and faithful to the constitution." We state further, and advisedly, that the President is unconscious of having acted upon a different principle, that he has made no such marked discrimination as our correspondent describes; nor will he make any such appointment, with any regard to the succession, which he is determined not to recognize in any form, as the rule of his conduct or the reason of his preference. He has enjoyed the same course of action upon the members of his cabinet, and will take care to see, as far as possible, that this rule will be faithfully carried out to the officers, whom he calls to cooperate with him in the public service. He has already declared, more than once, that he himself will not be a candidate for a second term of office. He has authorized us to declare it again in the Prospect which we have submitted to the nation, as the creed of our own faith, and the guide of our own course. He goes in for one term only; to serve his country to the best of his ability, and anxious to testify his gratitude to the people who have honored him by their confidence, by devoting himself to their service, and not to his own continuance in office. He does not, therefore, design to shape his administration to assist any aspirant, or to make his appointments to promote his own reelection; but to carry out faithfully the powers which the people have placed in his hands.

Acting upon this high and proper principle, the President will seek to do his duty to the country fearless of all consequences, and regardless of all misconstruction. And, acting in this spirit, he certainly has a right to expect the most liberal construction himself from those who are, or who profess to be, his friends. Errors he may commit in his appointments to office. Men may be occasionally recommended to him who are unworthy of his confidence. The overbearing partiality of some, or the wilful deception of others, or some involuntary mistake and ignorance of character, may cause men to be presented to his selection who ought never to be employed. But he is innocent of all such frauds, and no one could more deeply regret the errors into which he may sometimes be betrayed. Yet liberal men will always make due allowances for his position. They will be disposed to attribute any mistakes to error, and not to design. When they do not approve his appointments, they will take care to avoid impecunious censures. They will sometimes say: "Mr. Polk has been deceived." Or they may not have been ourselves mistaken. They may not have had reason for the course he has taken. Why should we suppose that he does not intend to deal fairly and equally by the friends of all the candidates?

Mr. Polk has already his hands full of business, and sometimes he might not free from anxious care. Those who see much of him can judge for themselves of the anxiety which he feels in conscientiously discharging his duties. Few men are capable of the labors which he encounters; and few in his place would devote themselves with the same assiduity to the public service. He works from ten to twelve hours in every twenty-four. He holds two cabinets a week. He sees visitors two hours every day when the cabinet is not employed. The labor of receiving so many persons is of itself sometimes sufficient to fatigue him. He is also in frequent communication with his secretaries. His correspondence is very heavy. His care in looking over every letter which he receives is far from being inconsiderable. Letters of recommendation are pouring in upon him in favor of applicants for office. We understand that the other day he had to appoint four officers in one of our principal towns. For one of them there were not less than thirteen candidates each of them backed by numerous friends. The President had to wade through the budgets of letters which each one presented to his consideration. He is attempting to keep the business of his office under as far as possible, and to make every movement as promptly as the public interests require. But for the business which he brought here to Washington, it would scarcely be possible for him to discharge his duties as carefully and as conscientiously as he is now doing, without serious injury to his constitution. In fact, we doubt very much whether, with the care upon his mind, and the labor on his body, he is not overworking himself. We did the Nashville Union portray the man, when it said of him, before he came to Washington—

"He is not only a man of untiring labor, but he works with a degree of method in all its details which peculiarly qualifies him for an executive office. He is remarkable for his promptness and punctuality in all his engagements. It is an established rule with him never to postpone what ought to be done immediately; and that which can be done by himself he never shifts upon others. In the minute details of business, his perfect system in business, and his capacity for enduring intense labor, make him remarkable for his accuracy. Regular in his habits, temperate in all things, endowed with a rich treasure of common sense, ambitious to maintain the good opinion of his country, and honestly devoted to its best interests, he will rise in the estimation of the people throughout his whole term, and will leave the presidency with a popularity enjoyed by few of his predecessors."

Whilst Col. Polk is thus trying to do his duty under the influence of such motives, it would be well for his friends to spare him all unnecessary complaints. Why suspect him of undue partiality towards one clique, or of unfounded injustice towards another? Why raise any clamor, because any one may be disappointed in receiving office for himself, or seeing his friend disappointed, where there are so few offices, and so many competitors? If any of his friends suppose, however, that they have good grounds for complaint in any particular case, they have a right to lay their grievances before the President. The door of the White House will not be closed to the calls of justice. But it is to be hoped that every friend will be so far disposed to do him right, as not unnecessarily to suspect him of dealing ungenerously and unfairly by any portion of his supporters and friends. He has cares enough to encounter, without adding querulous rebukes and unfounded suspicions to the number. Justice is all he asks; and let justice be done to him.

The Black Tongue.—The Rev. B. Westlake of Peru district, and the Rev. Mr. Buckingham, of Loganport district, Indiana, died recently of erysipelas or black tongue. It is also said that the Rev. R. Hargrave died a few days since in a fit. During a few months past the deaths of the following ministers have been recorded in Indiana, to wit; Clappeworth, Patrick, Guthrie, Elder, Crouch, Gates, Ballingall, Westlake, Buckingham, and Hargrave, all belonging to the Methodist Church.

BAPTIST CONVENTION.

Constitution of the Southern Baptist Convention.

ART. I. This body shall be styled the Southern Baptist Convention.

2. It shall be the design of this Convention to promote Foreign and Domestic Missions and other important objects connected with the Redeemer's Kingdom, and to combine for this purpose such portions of the Baptist Denomination in the United States as may desire a general organization for Christian benevolence, that shall fully respect the independence and equal rights of the Churches.

3. A Triennial Convention shall consist of members who contribute funds or are delegated by religious bodies contributing funds; and the system of representation and terms of membership shall be as follows: An annual contribution of one hundred dollars for three years next preceding the meeting, or the contribution of three hundred dollars at any time within said three years, shall entitle the contributor to one representative; an annual contribution of two hundred dollars as aforesaid, shall entitle the contributor to two representatives; and so, for each additional hundred dollars, an additional representative shall be allowed. Provided, however, that when application shall be made for the first time by individuals to be admitted into the Convention, one delegate shall be allowed for each one hundred dollars. And provided, also, that in case of great collateral societies, composed of representatives receiving contributions from different parts of the country, the ratio shall be one delegate for every thousand dollars annually contributed for three years, as aforesaid; but the number of representatives shall never exceed five.

4. The officers of this Convention shall be a President, four Vice Presidents, a Treasurer, and two Secretaries, who shall be elected at each triennial meeting, and hold their offices until a new election; and the officers of the Convention shall be by virtue of their offices, members of the several boards.

5. The Convention shall elect, at each triennial meeting, as many Boards of Managers, as in its judgment will be necessary for carrying out the benevolent objects it may determine to promote, all which Boards shall continue in office until a new election. Each Board shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretaries, Treasurer, Auditor and fifteen other members, seven of whom, including one or more of the officers, shall form a quorum for the transaction of business. To each Board shall be committed, during the recess of the Convention, the entire management of all the affairs relating to the object with whose interests it shall be charged; all which management shall be in strict accordance with the constitutional provisions adopted by the Convention, and such other instructions as may be given from time to time. Each Board shall have power to make such compensation to its Secretaries and Treasurer, as it may think right; fill the vacancies occurring in its own body, enact its own bye-laws; have an annual meeting at any place it may appoint; and other meetings at such times and places as it may think best; keep a record of its proceedings, and present a report of them to the Convention at each triennial meeting.

6. The Treasurer of each Board shall faithfully account for all moneys received by him; keep a regular entry of all receipts and disbursements, and make report of them to the Convention, whenever it shall be in session, and to his Board as often as required. He shall also, on entering upon the duties of his office, give competent security to the President of his Board, for all the stock and funds committed to his care. His books shall be open to all members, and to the inspection of any member of the Convention and of his Board. No moneys shall be paid out of the treasuries of the Boards, but by an order from that Board from whose treasury the moneys is to be drawn, which order shall be signed by its presiding officer.

7. The Corresponding Secretaries of the several Boards, shall maintain intercourse by letter, with such individuals or public bodies, as the interest of their respective bodies may require. Copies of all such communications, with their answers if any, shall be kept by them on file.

8. The Recording Secretaries of the several Boards shall keep a fair record of their proceedings, and such other documents as may be committed to them for the purpose.

9. All the Officers, Boards, Missionaries and Agents appointed by the Convention, or by any of its Boards, shall be members of some regular Church, in union with the Churches composing this Convention.

10. Missionaries appointed by any of the Boards of this Convention, must, previous to their appointment, furnish evidence of genuine piety, fervent zeal in their Master's cause, and talents which fit them for the service, for which they offer themselves.

11. The Bodies and Individuals composing this Convention, shall have the right to specify the object, or objects, to which their contributions shall be applied. But where no such specification is made, the Convention will make the appropriation at its own discretion.

12. The Convention shall hold its meetings triennially, but extra meetings may be called by the President, with the approbation of any of the Boards of Managers. A majority of the attending Delegates shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

13. Any alterations, which experience shall dictate, may be made in these Articles, by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at any triennial meeting of the Convention.

Officers elected for the provisional government of the Church, until the Triennial Board should meet in May next, at Richmond, Va.

- WM. B. JOHNSON, President.
WILSON LUMPKIN, Vice-President.
J. B. TAYLOR, do.
A. DOCKERY, do.
R. B. C. ROWELL, do.
J. HARTWELL, do.
J. C. CRANE, Secretaries.

* M. T. MENDENHALL, Treasurer.

Board of Foreign Missions, to be located at Richmond.

President—Jeremiah B. Jeter, of Virginia.
Vice-Presidents—E. Ball of Va., W. Crane of Md., H. Fuller of S. C., B. Sanders of Ga., J. T. Hinton of La., T. Merritt of N. C., H. Malcolm of Ky., C. W. Winston of Tenn., Thomas G. Blewit of Miss., W. H. Bayless of Ark., M. Manly of Ala., Jas. D. McDonald of Fla., Edward Kingsford of S. C., Rowland Hughes of Mo.

E. D. Mallory, Corresponding Secretary; M. T. Sumner, Recording do.; Archibald Thomas, Treasurer; Charles T. Wortham, Auditor.

Managers—A. B. Smith, R. Ryland, A. Snead, H. Keeling, James Thomas, jr., Dr. W. H. Gwaltney, Jesse Snead, E. L. Magoon, A. G. Wortham, W. A. Baynham, A. Fleet, W. H. Jordan, J. Tallman, sr., Thomas Hume, Thomas W. Sydney.

Board of Domestic Missions, to be located at Marion, Alabama.

President—Basil Manly, D. D., of Alabama.
Vice-Presidents—J. Hartwell of Ala., J. L. Bagg of Ga., G. F. Adams, of Md., W. C. Crane of Miss., O. B. Brown of D. C., J. B. Smith of La., T. Stringfellow of Va., H. S. Hinton of Fla., S. Wait of N. C., W. C. Lincoln of Mo., J. B. O'Neal of S. C., W. C. Bush of Ky., James Whitsett of Tenn.

J. L. Reynolds, Corresponding Secretary; M. P. Jewett, Recording do.; Thos. Chilton, Treasurer; W. N. Wyatt, Auditor.

Managers—E. D. King, E. Baptist, R. Hawthorn, S. S. Sherman, D. P. Bester, L. Y. Tarrant, J. H. Devotic, H. Tabbird, L. Goree, W. H. Hornbuckle, D. R. W. Melver, T. F. Curtis, A. Travis, J. B. Miller, L. C. Tatt.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Convention.

Unanimously Resolved, That the thanks of this Convention are due and are hereby tendered to the Citizens of Augusta, for the kind hospitalities, so generously extended to us during our meeting, and we earnestly supplicate that God's mercy may descend in rich effusions and more than repay in spiritual blessings the efforts of our friends to render our stay among them so agreeable.

Resolved, That a collection be taken in the Baptist Church to-morrow morning for Foreign missions, and in the evening for Domestic missions.

Resolved, That in accordance with the provisions of the 2d article of the Constitution, this Convention will cordially embrace and affiliate auxiliary societies upon its principles, and recommend to the brethren the formation of such societies.

Resolved, That the several State Conventions, and other bodies who may be in possession of funds, for Foreign or Domestic Missions, be requested to forward such funds to the Treasurer of the respective Boards, as promptly as convenient.

Resolved, That the aborigines of America have strong claims on American Christians for the Gospel, and as the Mission association has been organized with special reference to their special benefit, we recommend the Churches to sustain that body, with zeal and liberality.

Resolved, That the board of Domestic Missions be instructed to take all prudent measures for the religious instruction of our colored population.

Resolved, That the Foreign Mission board of this Convention be instructed to communicate with the acting board of the Baptist Triennial Convention in reference to any claim we may have upon the Convention, or any claim which that body may have, or think they have, upon us, and that the said Board report fully to this Convention at its next meeting.

Resolved, That our Foreign Mission board be authorized to enter into any equitable and prudent arrangement, with the acting board of the Baptist general Convention, to take a portion of its missions under the patronage of this Convention.

Resolved, That applications be made to the proper authorities of the State of Georgia for a charter of incorporation, and that Judge J. Hillier, Hon. W. Lumpkin, Judge T. Stokes, M. A. Cooper, Esq., and Rev. C. D. Mallory, be a Committee to present a petition for this object.

Resolved, That this Convention recommend the Domestic Mission board to direct their effective attention, to and the present effort to establish the Baptist cause in New Orleans.

Resolved, That with profoundest gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, this Convention do recognize the harmonious action to which it has arrived, and that we do regard the exhibition of the Christian Spirit which has governed its deliberation as a proof of the divine presence in the origin and prosecution of this organization.

And the Convention adjourned sine die.

From the Louisville Journal.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CONVENTION.

Dr. Winans submitted the following resolution, which he moved to refer to the committee on organization.

Resolved, That the committee on organization be instructed to inquire whether or not anything has transpired during the past year to render it possible to maintain the unity of the Methodist Episcopal Church under the same general Conference jurisdiction, without the ruin of Southern Methodism.

As this resolution involves some very important considerations, Dr. W said he wished to accompany the motion for its reference with some remarks. Necessity, he said, can only justify the meeting of this convention; expediency could not. He assumed that at the close of the late general conference this necessity did exist, nor did he deem it necessary for him to adduce any testimony to establish the fact. He said that slavery was so interwoven with the texture of Southern society that it was impossible for any one to disentangle it, nor can any religious society avoid, if it would connexion with this institution. It is also true, that public opinion rallies around this institution with great jealousy, and that he who comes to the South or lives in the slave holding States, and arrays himself against slavery, disqualifies himself from exercising any influence whatever. He who would oppose slavery, can have no influence in the South civilly, politically, or ecclesiastically.

He reverted to the fact, that to this day, the ill-judged course of Bishop Coke, on the subject is felt most disadvantageously to the interests of Southern Methodism. The interests put in peril were not merely those connected with the preachers. They could have borne the outrages upon their rights which the action of the majority had perpetrated. It was not personal feeling—not the wounded *esprit du corps* on the part of the Southern delegates, which demanded satisfaction. It was a conviction that those outrages would disqualify them for their great and sole work, the preaching of God's word throughout the Southern country. This conviction had led to their solemn declaration near the close of the General Conference—Have they not been borne out in the judgment then made? Ask the voice which has come up from every part of the Southern country, whether it is so. The answer is, that if the delegates were at fault, it was that they bore so long and so patiently. And who is to be judged in this case? Are the Northern papers competent to judge, whose conductors view the matter through the medium of passion, prejudice and commitment?

We cannot hesitate to proceed to a separate organization. Has anything transpired to change the aspect of things since the last general conference? He knows of none. Has the South evinced any disposition to draw back? Yes. In New Orleans there is one member of the whole church opposed to division. In the Natchez district there is one. In the whole Mississippi conference three. And twelve out of the fifteen conferences represented here present about the same state of things.

THE PROPERTY QUESTION.—The cry has been raised, that by separation we would forfeit our claims to the Church property. He would not impugn the motives of those who had started the question, yet he apprehended not the slightest danger; but supposing there is danger—should this operate on our minds? Suppose we lose every college, church, parsonage—all our titles—should that deter us from carrying out our purposes? These considerations should have no weight whatever. There is equity in our courts of justice in these United States, and they will be open to hear us upon this subject. If we for a good cause separate—as it will be—we will hold the property of the church. He entertained no doubt of the validity of our rights; and the man who would swerve from his duty from

property considerations, would prove recreant to the interest of his trust, and deserves to be branded with infamy.

Propositions for reconciliation. Whence do they come? From the North? If so, what are the terms? Submit to mother church! The North is made up of far-seeing Yankees. They have made no propositions, or if they have, they have been very sparing in those propositions. They have condemned Bishop Andrew's connection with slavery, and to this we must submit. And what do they offer as the remuneration for the injury inflicted on the South? That no Abolitionist should be made a Bishop! Great concession!! He had no objection to an abolition Bishop, if he be a prudent abolitionist. He may come to the South with his abolitionism flaming in his heart, 'till his bones ache, yet if he be discreet, keeping his sentiments to himself—and he will consult his prudence when in the South, he will do us no harm. But who is an abolitionist? You may place your magnifying glass upon him, but you cannot take his dimensions—he is like the French fashions, always changing.

Another term of compromise. It has been proposed that the Methodist Episcopal Church should not meddle with the subject of slavery. This has caused the shout of "glory." Yet, this proposition is not from the North. The North will give no such pledge. Dr. Winans, said that he knew that they would never rest until slavery was driven from the Church, if the Union be preserved or maintained. But we are admonished to pause. He would ask for what? He could see no prospect of a retraction upon the part of the North. He would be willing to wait twenty years—to lie down in his grave, if he could believe that, finally, the difficulty could be amicably settled. He had, however, not seen any indications of a better state of things.

The last document in the Western Christian Advocate shows more determined opposition than ever. It has been suggested that we should wait for another general conference and conciliate the majority, or recruit our numbers and whip them by vote. To whip them by numbers was impossible. They understood how to secure numbers. They can manufacture a full four weeks' circuit out of two little appointments. No sir, we can not speak them, but they will always be able to out vote us. We cannot conciliate them. They will not repeat. Postpone action until another general conference, and they will take it for granted that we have yielded the question; will take heart, and look confidently to our submission in all things.

Let your committee investigate the matter, and if they can see a speck as large as a man's hand in the religious horizon, we will shout "glory," and like Elijah, we will wait for the rain. We would wait if we could see the least prospect of repentance in our Northern brethren. Could the connectional union be preserved, and the South be saved at the same time, nothing on earth would give him such exalted pleasure, such heart felt happiness. But the case was absolutely hopeless. Dr. Winans concluded with an able view of the political bearing of the question. He declared his conviction that the division of the Methodist Episcopal Church would not have any injurious influence upon the Union of the States. On the contrary he maintained that we should preserve the Union of the States by dividing the church. It would put a stop to the agitation of the slavery question on religious grounds. The Northern portion of the Church would be rid of their "connection with slavery," and no room would be left for those agitators who plead conscience. Their strongest weapon would thus be wrested from them.

Dr. Capers had no objection to instructing the committee as to the matter proposed, though he did not doubt it would come under consideration in committee without the instruction. He suggested a change in the wording of the motion to instruct, which Dr. Winans accepted. And he proceeded to remark, on the general subject, to the effect that there always had been troubles in the church by contentions in the general conference—that the history of these contentions proved how important it was to curb the action of bare majorities in that body. He first took part in a general conference, after the compromise law of 1816 had settled the conflict on slavery. But he found a conflict scarcely less exciting on the Episcopacy. This grew warmer, and absorbed the slavery question in the general conferences of 1824 and 1828. That controversy about the Episcopacy gave rest, for the time, to the Southern churches on the subject of slavery, and parties were formed in the general conferences solely on the ground of the Episcopacy question, or, as it was commonly called "the presiding elder question."

This question had produced at least one other good effect. It had united the South and West as one man—Ohio and Carolina standing side by side for an efficient superintendency as necessary to an effective itinerancy. This union of the West and South enabled them to put down the revolutionizing scheme at those times, and preserve the Episcopacy from being controlled in the exercise of its functions by annual conferences. Since then abolitionism has sprung up and extended itself widely in the church from the East to the West. And it was a proof of its extent, and of its power where it extended, that the West in the free States had been severed from the South and Southwest so violently, as not only to join with New England to undo the South and Southwest on account of slavery, but for the sake of this crusade on Southern Methodist rights, as settled by the Discipline, to give up the Episcopacy also, and degrade it to a mere office like that of an editor or book agent, created and to be dispensed with at the will of a general conference.

This union of the West and North and East, gave a majority against the South and Southwest, which made it hopeless for them to remain under the same general conference jurisdiction. Both for our rights as Christian citizens of slaveholding States, and for the preservation of an efficient itinerancy and the principles of our Church government, as the South, Southwest and West have all along maintained them till the last general conference, and the South and Southwest, at least, must ever maintain them. He saw no shadow of hope but in a separate organization, on the basis provided in the justice and brotherly love which lingered in the final action of the general conference; in their adoption of the report of their Committee of nine. During the time of the discussions of the general conference every thing was put to hazard at the South. In Charleston the matter got into the papers in the shape of a criminal matter, if not denunciation of the Southern delegates for remaining, as members of a body in such a discussion; and had not the declaration of the Southern delegates, and the provisional measures for separation come when they did, our missions in the low country would have been broken up at once.

Mr. Crowder approved heartily of the resolution, and concurred in the views presented by the preceding speakers.

The resolution was then adopted unanimously.

Resolved, That the Committee on organization be and are hereby instructed to inquire into the propriety of reporting resolutions, in case a division should take place, leaving the way open for reunion in terms which shall not compromise the interest of

the Southern, and which shall meet, as far as many be, the views of the Northern portions of the Church.

This resolution led to an animated discussion, in which Messrs. Drake, McFerrin, Early, Lungstreet, and Stringfield took part, and after having been changed from the form in which it was originally presented by the mover into that stated above, was adopted.

Dr. W. A. Smith, offered the following resolution which he begged to have laid on the table until to-morrow:

Resolved by the Delegates of the several Annual Conferences in the South and Southwestern States, in General Conference assembled, That we cannot sanction the action of the late General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, on the subject of slavery, by remaining under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of this body, without deep and lasting injury to the interests of the church and country; we, therefore, hereby instruct the committee on organization that if, upon a careful examination of the whole subject, they find that there is no reasonable ground to hope that the Northern majority will recede from their position and give some safe guaranty for the future security of our civil and ecclesiastical rights, that they report in favor of a separation from the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the said General Conference.

Tuesday, May 6, 1845. The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, Bishop Andrew in the chair. Religious services by the Rev. G. W. D. Harris of the Memphis Conference.

[A large portion of the session was occupied in explanations relative to the system of reporting the proceedings, which had given dissatisfaction to some of the speakers.]

Dr. Smith, of Virginia, rose in his place late in the day and called up the resolution which he, in conjunction with Dr. Pierce, yesterday offered, instructing the committee on organization to bring in a report in favor of separation. Dr. Smith spoke for over two hours in a very plain, but eloquent style, in support of the resolution which had been offered. When he had closed the Convention adjourned.

From the Savannah Republican 5th Inst.

DIFFICULTIES IN THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Southern Institutions.—Though always acting on the principle that the secular press should have as little to do as possible with sectarian controversies, we are inclined to think that the case above named should form a marked exception to the general rule. It is intimately connected with our Southern Institutions, and perhaps may have a remote bearing on the ultimate political relations of the Northern and Southern portions of the Union. We will endeavor to give a brief statement of the case. The Board of Foreign Missions of the Baptist Church of the United States, located at Boston, has for some years pursued a course, on the subject of slavery, which produced dissatisfaction in the Southern portions of the Church, and caused the Conventions in some of the States to withhold their portion of the fund intended for the support of the Missionaries abroad. At a meeting of the Alabama Convention, some months since, a preamble and resolutions were adopted, calling upon the Board to make a distinct avowal of its sentiments and policy on that subject. In his answer the President of the Board, Daniel Sharp, says:

"If any one should offer himself as a Missionary, having slaves, and should persist in retaining them, as his property, we could not appoint him—One thing is certain, we can never be a party to any arrangement that would imply approbation of slavery."

This extraordinary language has very properly aroused the Southern sections of the Church. The determination of the Board is regarded by many as entirely unconstitutional—a stretch of power warranted neither by the terms of association, nor by common Christian courtesy. Connected with this is a letter from one Francis Mason, a Missionary under the Baptist Board of Tavoy, to Lewis Tappan. Mr. Mason had received a contribution of some clothing for the use of the Mission from some of the Southern Churches. After speaking in very disrespectful terms of the Churches, he thus concludes:

"I have, therefore, the pleasure to enclose an order for ten dollars on our Treasury, which I will thank you to pay over to the Committee in New York, to assist in the escape of runaway slaves—The money is not sent you out of my abundance, because there seems to be no ground for neutrality now, and I wish to show decidedly, that I have no sympathy with slavery, no compromise to make with it whatever. My motto in this work is, 'Delenda est Carthago.'"

Such language as this, coming from one who is supported and sustained by the Board, has very properly aroused the indignation of every Southern man in the Church. The consequence is that a Convention composed of delegates from the several Baptist Conventions in the Southern States has been called to assemble at Augusta on next Thursday, the 8th inst. What action will be taken by that body remains to be seen. We can scarcely anticipate anything short of an entire separation from the Northern portion of the Church, and of a formal declaration of the views and feelings of the delegates there assembled upon the questions in controversy.

We do not wish to excite undue feelings in regard to these improper attacks upon our institutions; but the time has come when it becomes our duty to take a bold and decisive stand in regard to them. There are evidently now making general and concerted efforts to destroy the position of Southern men and Southern Churches. Sacrifice after sacrifice, for the sake of peace has been made, until the adversary has grown so bold as almost to brand as in our own homes. We need not allude to the number of attempts to abduct slaves, during the last twelve months, in every section of the South. The case of Walker, Torrey, and Miss Webster, are fresh in the minds of our people. Even during the past week a case occurred in our city which deserves to be mentioned. It was that of a Captain of a Foreign vessel, who, when requested by the City Marshal to send to jail in terms of the law, some negro sailors that had been brought into port in the vessel, treated that officer with great rudeness, and indulged in boisterous and improper complaints against a law which required him as he said, to imprison his sailors because they happened to be black! Such impudence and outrage ought not to be submitted to by our people for a moment. If such come into our ports, they must expect to submit to our laws; and, in cases like the present, where such department might be followed by serious results, the forbearance of the community is more commendable than safe. Too great caution and watchfulness on the part of our police cannot exist under the circumstances. Indeed, upon this point we have generally in the South become too careless. It is time that we look to our interests and prepare to guard them with firmness and decision. The course of the Baptist Convention will be regarded with deep solicitude by all who feel an interest in our institutions. The letter of Mr. Mason, from which we extract above, discloses the astounding fact that in New York there is a "Committee to assist in the escape of runaway slaves." The announcement needs no comment.