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BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY.

GOLDSBORO', N. C., October 16th, 1867.

The delegates assembled in the house of worship of the Baptist church in this place, at 3 o'clock, P. M.—Devotional exercises were conducted by the President, Elder Jas. McDaniel.

The names of the delegates were enrolled as follows:

Baptist Association, Elders F. M. Jordan, E. Dodson, G. W. Griffin and P. Oliver, and brethren Jas. Poteat, A. P. Stroud and Jas. Graham.

CENTRAL ASSOCIATION.

Church in Raleigh, Elder T. E. Skinner, and brethren C. W. Skinner, Sr. and W. W. Vass.

Church at Wake Forest, Elders W. M. Wingate, W. T. Walters, J. B. Boon, G. W. Sanderlin, W. B. Royal and brethren L. R. Mills and E. S. Moore.

Church at Forestville, brethren J. H. Dunn and J. L. Dunn.

Church at Wake Union, Elder J. S. Purefoy, and Dr. W. M. Crenshaw.

CEDAR CREEK ASSOCIATION.

Church in Fayetteville, Elder Jas. McDaniel.

Chowan Association, Elders John Mitchell and J. H. Phillips.

Church at Sawyer's Creek, Elder R. R. Overby.

Eastern Association, Elders W. M. Kennedy, J. L. Stewart and J. D. Hufham, and brethren A. Royall, J. C. Hines and Thomas Ashford.

Church in Wilmington, brethren C. W. Oldham, Alison Alderman and George R. French.

Church in Kinston, Elder L. Thorne.

Church in Newbern, Elders A. D. Cohen and W. A. Kingsbury, and brother C. O. Clark.

Youth's Missionary Society, Newbern, brother R. E. Hardwick.

Flat River Association, Elder W. H. Jordan and Col. E. Dalby.

Church in Oxford, Elder J. L. Carroll.

Church in Charlotte, W. Boyd.

Pamlico Association, Elder C. J. Nelson.

Church in Goldsboro', brethren C. H. Clark, Jas. H. Privett, A. H. Humphrey, Jas. T. Robinson, Wm. Hill and S. Lipscomb, and Elder J. B. Hardwick.

Youth's Missionary Society, Goldsboro', brethren John Taylor and Jas. C. Carter.

Church in Greenville, Elder S. S. Wallace and brother W. A. Cherry.

Church at Wilson, brother W. B. Harrell.

Tar River Association, brother G. W. Powell.

Church in Warrenton, Elder T. B. Kingsbury.

Church at Salem, Elder J. H. Freeman.

Church in Tarboro, Elder T. R. Owen.

Sandy Creek Association, brother A. Durham.

Liberty Association, Elder W. Turner.

It was ordered that the Convention elect a President. Elders E. Dodson and W. M. Kennedy were appointed tellers to superintend the election.

Elder J. B. Hardwick and brother Jas. Poteat were appointed a committee to nominate the other officers.

Elder Jas. McDaniel was re-elected President.

The committee to nominate the remaining officers reported as follows:

1st Vice President, Elder A. Paul Repton.

2nd Vice President, brother C. W. Skinner, Sr.

3rd Vice President, Elder W. M. Kennedy.

Recording Secretary, Elder J. D. Hufham.

Assistant Secretary, Elder G. W. Sanderlin.

Treasurer, Elder J. S. Purefoy.

The report was adopted.

The invitation to visiting brethren was accepted by Elder Thomas Henderson Pritchard, of the General Association of Virginia.

On motion of Elder C. J. Nelson a committee on the order of business was appointed as follows: Elders F. M. Jordan, W. T. Walters and W. Turner.

A committee on Finance was appointed as follows: brethren A. Royall, C. W. Oldham and W. B. Harrell.

On motion, the following order of exercises was adopted:

Meet at 9 o'clock, A. M., and adjourn at half past 12 o'clock, P. M.; meet again at half past 2 o'clock, P. M., and adjourn at 5 o'clock, P. M.

On motion of Elder W. M. Kennedy, a committee on devotional exercises was ordered; the committee to consist of the pastor and deacons of the church, with Elder C. J. Nelson and brother G. W. Powell.

On motion of Elder F. M. Jordan, it was agreed that a prayer meeting be held at sun-rise, each day, during the session of the Convention.

The committee on devotional exercises reported as follows:

To preach in this house at half past 11 o'clock, to-morrow, Elder W. M. Kennedy; at 7 o'clock, P. M., Elder J. L. Stewart.

To preach in the Presbyterian church, at 7 o'clock, P. M., to-morrow, Elder Thomas Henderson Pritchard.

The Convention adjourned. Prayer by Elder Elias Dodson.

NIGHT.

At night, Elder J. L. Carroll preached the introductory sermon from Acts, 20: 26, Ps. 51: 14.

After congratulating the members of the Convention, that they had been permitted to meet together to deliberate concerning the interests of the Redeemer's kingdom, he said he joined with them in their thanksgiving for what had been accomplished, and rejoiced with them over the triumphs of the Gospel which they had been permitted to witness. It was appropriate to rejoice and give thanks at such a time. But it was also important for them to consider whether they had done their whole duty—whether they could appeal to all those with whom they had mingled, and holding up their hands before God, say, "I am pure from the blood of all men." He then announced as his theme, Blood-guiltiness; and proceeded to consider.

I. *The fact.* May we so act as to be instrumental in destroying the souls of men, and so, in the eyes of God our Judge, have their blood upon us? That we may, is apparent from the words of the text. Otherwise, it would have been folly for the Apostle to assert that he was pure from the blood of all men, and useless for the Psalmist to pray that he might be delivered from blood-guiltiness.

II. *Some of the ways in which the sin is committed.* It is sometimes done designedly. The murderer is one who wilfully and maliciously takes the life of his fellow-man. So he who intentionally leads men away from Christ, and into the paths of sin and vice is a soul-murderer. The preacher said he hoped there were none such in his audience.

When there is no malicious intent, the sin may be committed by a useless disregard of consequences, as in the following case: A young man, who had felt the danger of using intoxicating liquors, was invited to spend an evening at a place where wine was to be used, declined because he did not wish to put himself in the way of temptation. But he attended a gathering of professing Christians. Wine was offered him, he drank and died a drunkard. Some one was solemnly responsible for this young man's shameful career and sad death. Are we sure that we are pure from the blood of all men in this particular?

We may commit the sin by failing to do all we can for the salvation of men. God has placed within our reach several efficient instrumentalities for turning men to righteousness. Prayer is one of them; the living voice is another. Have we faithfully used them? Where we cannot go or work ourselves, we may aid others. If we cannot preach to the heathen we may aid in sending others to preach to them. Are we confident that the blood of the heathen is not on us because of our unfaithfulness in giving?

We commit the sin if our lives are not so positive as to discommence vice. We ought to be a standing protest against sin. Have we not sometimes connived at or encouraged it?

III. *The enormity of the sin.* Murder is a heinous crime in the eye of the human law, as appears from the precautions which are used to prevent it, and the dreadful penalty denounced against it. If it is such an offence in the estimation of sinful men, here, much more so must it be to God. If simple murder be such a sin, here, much greater must be soul-murder. The earthly life, which is suddenly quenched in death by the hand of guilt, would soon expire of itself; but the soul is immortal—it can never die. It is of great value. It keeps two worlds at strife.

"Hell moves beneath to work its death; Heaven stoops to give it life."

God, to redeem it did not spare His well beloved Son; nor Jesus to save it, desired to bear The sins of all in one."

SECOND DAY.

MORNING SESSION.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Elder F. M. Jordan.

The proceedings of yesterday were read.

The invitation to visiting brethren was accepted by Elder R. Webb, agent of the Domestic Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention for North and South Carolina.

The committee on order of business reported as follows:

1. Appointment of committees.
2. Unfinished Business.
3. Reports of Boards.
4. Appoint time for next Session.
5. Appoint place for next Session.
6. Miscellaneous Business.
7. Motions and Resolutions.

The report was adopted.

On motion of Elder J. D. Hufham, a committee to revise and correct the list of ministers in the State was appointed as follows: brethren A. P. Stroud, J. C. Hines and A. Durham, and Elders J. L. Carroll, J. L. Stewart, J. H. Freeman, T. B. Kingsbury, W. Turner and John Mitchell.

The following committees were announced:

On periodicals, Elders T. E. Skinner, A. D. Cohen and L. Thorn.

On time for holding next session, Elders J. L. Carroll, J. B. Hardwick, W. M. Wingate, F. M. Jordan and R. R. Overby, and brother Jas. Poteat.

On obituaries, Elders J. L. Stewart, J. H. Phillips and G. W. Griffin.

Elder T. H. Pritchard, in behalf of the General Association of Virginia, tendered the fraternal salutations of that body.

Elder J. H. Phillips offered the following:

Resolved, That the agents of the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention be requested to take up a subscription, and collection in behalf of the objects of that Board, at some time during our session.

On motion, the resolution was adopted.

On motion of Elder F. M. Jordan, a committee on church-extension was appointed as follows: brother Jas. A. Graham, and Elders A. Paul Repton and John Mitchell.

On motion, adjourned to hear a sermon by Elder W. M. Kennedy. Prayer by Elder R. Webb.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The Convention was called to order by the President, Prayer by Elder J. L. Stewart.

The President announced the committee on the place for holding the next session of the Convention as follows:

Elders R. R. Overby, F. M. Jordan and P. Oliver.

On motion of Elder J. L. Carroll, Elders Wingate and Brooks were added to the committee on obituaries.

Elder A. E. Dickinson, from the General Association of Virginia, reported, and was welcomed by the President.

The report of the Board of State Missions was read by Rev. Dr. Skinner. Remarks were made by Elders F. M. Jordan, G. W. Griffin, C. J. Nelson, F. M. Jordan, T. E. Skinner, W. T. Walters, T. B. Kingsbury, J. H. Phillips and R. R. Overby.

REPORT OF BOARD OF STATE MISSIONS, N. C. BAPTIST STATE CONVENTION.

In presenting this our report of operations since your meeting in May last, we have cause for gratitude to God that there has been no serious interruption of our work, on account of death or sickness among our appointees.

Our field of operations is steadily enlarging, and we are now reaching points of destitution in parts of the State far remote from us.

The feasibility of the plan of co-operation with District Associations, which we have presented, has been cordially embraced by the great majority of the Associations of the State, and the North Carolina is more nearly allied in the work of home evangelization than

at any period of our past history. Heretofore we have been much trammelled in our operations, not for the want of interest in this great work, but for the want of hearty co-operation in the plan presented, and hence we were unable to unite our efforts in such a way as to reach effectually the point desired by us all, viz: the spread of the gospel among our own people.

In the plan upon which we now act, we do not desire the disorganization of Associational committees, but urge their appointment in all of the District Associations. These committees look out and report upon the destitution within their own bounds and recommend such appointments as they deem advisable.

They farther aid us materially in devising plans for reaching the liberality of the churches in the support of the missionaries, and have a constant eye to the adaptation of the appointee to the position he is filling. In this way we reach a much larger field of destitution, call a much larger number of men in the work, and at the same time throw around our Board such safe guards in the expenditure of funds committed to our charge as effectually to prevent the wasting of money upon fields not needing help, and also upon men not adapted to the work to which they may be assigned. A single Association cannot reach remote points. A combination of effort on the part of all the Associations upon the plan proposed, reaches not only the destitution of each Association, but sends the gospel to the dark nooks and corners of the State unoccupied by the Baptists.

We regret our inability to make a full report of our operations since the last session of the Convention. This session of the Convention coming as it does in the midst of the Associations we have found it impossible to gather in and complete our reports, and the short space of time intervening between the present and previous session of the Convention, being not quite five months, of course finds us, with much incomplete work upon our hands.

We may mention that all the appointments, with a very few exceptions, mentioned in the last report have been continued, and that several additional appointments have been made.

We have now laboring under the directions of the Board, twenty-four Missionaries from most of whom we have received very encouraging reports. The following is a list of appointments:

Radiant Association—Rev. E. N. Gwynn.

Holyoke—Rev. Thos. Babcock.

Pamlico Association—Rev. C. J. Nelson.

Pamlico Association—Rev. J. H. Freeman.

Washington, Pamlico Association—Rev. S. S. Wallace.

North Hampton—Rev. J. B. Boone.

Raleigh Association—Rev. T. M. Young.

Bethel Association—Rev. E. Dodson.

Edenton—Rev. J. H. Phillips.

Currituck—Rev. Evan Forrester.

Flat River Association—Rev. W. H. Jordan.

Middle Section Bethel Association—Rev. R. N. Lee.

Bethel Association—Rev. F. H. Jones.

Bethel Association—Rev. Robert Moore.

Wentworth and Beaver Island—Rev. G. W. Griffin.

Western Section of Bethel Association—Rev. F. Oliver.

Gurneysville C. H.—Rev. R. R. Overby.

Woolsey—Rev. W. L. Pritchard.

Bethel Association—Rev. J. H. Claude.

Pittsboro—Rev. R. H. Marsh.

Sandy Creek Association—Rev. R. R. Moore.

Smithville—Rev. W. M. Young.

Bethel Union—Rev. J. M. C. Luke.

Hillboro and Company Shore.