

EDITED BY T. MEREDITH.

# NEWBERN, N. C. WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 1835.

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BAPTIST STATE CON-VENTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, HELD AT CASHIE MEETING HOUSE, BERTIE COUNTY, NOVEMBER 1-5, 1834.

> (Continued.) REPORT OF THE BOARD. (CONCLUDED.)

But while our eyes lest upon these unpromising spots in our State, we are not discouraged; for we behold labourers, active and successful, sent out by the Convention, who will never cease in their toil, until the whole land is under happy cultivation, and the whole fruit be such as the great Head of the church will approve and accept.

The Board will close the report by adding, that, in the Convention is the hope of the denomination. It is collecting the pious, the intelligent, the active Baptists of the State, and combining their strength for the good of mankind, and the glory of God. JOHN ARMSTRONG, Cor. Sec.

## REPORT ON HOME MISSIONS.

Your Committee on the subject of Home Missions, beg leave to report as follows :---

Viewing calmly the highly favoured State which we inhabit, we are presented with a widely extended and interesting Society of our order, and also with thousands of our fellow creatures going down to ruin. We profess to have received the truth in the love of it, and to be animated with the sympathising and benevolent principle of Divine charity. The question naturally arises, what can be done-what ought we to do ?-In reviewing the Minutes and history of our denomination in our own State, we find that it has ever been a matter of solicitude with our brethren of the past generation, how they could best promote "Itinerant" preaching throughout their several Associations and Districts. It has been, and still is, a matter of anxious solicitude with ourselves, how we may best promote Itinerant or Missionary, preaching amongst us. We perceive that the harvest is great and the labourers are few; and that there is a great call for ministerial labour and exertion. We lament to find so much diversity of opinion amongst our brethren on this subject ;- but if we wait for unanimity of sentiment, we shall be called from our listless inactivity to account for our stewardship, and thousands of our fellow men pass into eternity unprepared, and nothing done.

Our churches are some of them destitute, others cold and declining, with the walls of discipline broken down, some pastors cold and backsliden. and the flocks scattered; error, with its many heads, introduced by false teachers, professing to be preachers of the everlasting Gospel, and too many, alas ! corrupted from the simplicity of the truth. And also, sinners perishing for the lack of knowledge. One of our Missionaries, who rode and preached in the West end of the State this year, reports that he met with a woman seventy years old, who had never heard a Baptist before, and a young woman who had never heard a prayer, and appeared abashed and shrunk away on the occasion : his soul was melted, he sat down and wept. With due deference and great earnestness we recommend, that the twelve sections laid out last year through the State and partly attended to, be occupied the succeeding year by the careful appointment of a Minister for each district, to travel and preach throughout the whole year, if practicable. That he be not strictly limited to his section, but left to his own option and discretion in such cases. That he should receive money when offered to him, and keep and return to the Board an account of the same, but in no case solicit a donation. That it is his business, and should be his constant practice to preach the glorious gospel in its purity-and wherever it is desired or required, affectionately, in a brotherly spirit, to explain the objects of this meeting, and with much patience and meekness, endeavour to soothe the minds and calm the fears of those opposing themselves, striving to bring and to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace; for we know that our sole object is the glory of God and the good of Zion. All of which is respectfully submitted.

# REPORT ON THE INSTITUTE.

The Committee on the Wake Forest Institute ask leave to report :--That since the meeting of the Convention in November, 1833, the Institution has gone into operation, and its success thus far has exceeded the hopes of its most sanguine friends. It commenced about the first of February last, with about twenty-five students, which number continued to increase until August, when the number had reached seventy ; at which time, for want of houses for the accommodation of the students, the Trustees found it necessary to give notice that no more could be admitted until the first of February next. An examination of the students of the Institution took place in August last. The report of the Examining Committee speaks in the highest terms of the proficiency of the students, growing out of the untiring zeal of its Principal, the Rev. Samuel Wait, as well as the active energies of the minds of the students, produced from the salutary effect of from one to two hours' labour each day, giving strength and health to their bodies, and vigor to their minds. The great proficiency of the students, in the various branches of studies, and the cheerfulness with which they all engage in the labour department of the school, leave it no longer problematical that there is great utility in uniting moderate labour with study. If but temporary buildings, which are now going up, can be made ready in time, your Committee are in possession of information to be relied on, that next session will commence with one hundred students: The publick are aware of the many and peculiar advantages of the Institution, and its friends have now every thing to hope, and nothing to fear. As the Institution is the legitimate offspring of the Convention, and had its management until setting up for itself under an act of incorporation, your Committee would still recommend it to the fostering care of the Convention. Your Committee cannot close this report without, referring to the blessed fact of the late revival among the students of the Institution. We say blessed, because few such incidents are to be found in the annals of history. That it should please God, in such an almost miraculous manner, to pour out his spirit upon so many, so young, by such feeble means, in so short a period, to the coversion, and we hope, final salvation of about forty souls; but such are the facts, and though to us they may appear wonderful, yet we rejoice in their result, and take courage in the belief that God, in his good providence, is already rewarding the labour of those who have toiled to put the Institution into operation, by thus early bringing to a knowledge of the truth, as it is in Jesus, those whose happy lot, it has been to be placed in the Wake Forest Institute. Respectfully submitted.

DAVID THOMSON, CHAIRMAN.

# REPORT ON THE PERIODICAL.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of a Periodical, has had the same under consideration, and submit the following report:-

It will be recollected by the Convention, that at our session, held at Reaves' Chapel, we agreed to extend our patronage to a monthly periodical, then published in Edenton, by brother T. Meredith, to be called the Baptist Interpreter : That at our last session held at Carthledges Creek, upon a careful inspection of the numbers published, we gave it as our opinion, that the confidence of the Convention was not misplaced, that the paper had met with universal approbation, and we then unhesitatingly recommended it to the patronage of the Convention, and that renewed efforts be made to procure for it a still wider circulation. Since that it has been more extensively circulated, and your committee believe it has produced much good in removing the unfounded prejudices of our well meaning but misguided brethren, and diffusing correct information. But experience proves that a monthly paper, however well conducted, is insufficient for our purpose; and as we fear a monthly and a weekly paper cannot be sustained by us, we recommend that a weekly paper be published by our brother T. Meredith, and as many of our brethren in S. C. have patronized bro. Meredith's paper, we recommend that it be published in some central position of our State, and more convenient to our brethren in South Carolina than its present location, as soon as circumstances will justify such a course

# KAREN TRADITIONS.

# [Concluded.]

Honor to Parents. "O children and grandchildren 1 respect and reverence your mother and father; for, when you were small, they did not suffer so much as a musquetoe to bite you. To sin against your pa-rents, is a heinous crime."

Love to others.

"O children and grandchildren! love each other, and be merciful to each other as brethren. Quarrel not; for you are all friends and relatives, descended from the same race. Let there be no III. TRADITIONS CONCERNING THEMSELVES AS envying or divisions among you; for you are of one stream and one country ; therefore, let all enmity be done away from among you."

with each other. God from heaven observes us, and we are manifest to him. If we do not love each other, God will not love us; but, if we love this is exactly the belief of the Karens concernone another, God will look down upon us with Joy."

## Against Murder.

"O children and grandchildren! do not take the life of man. If you kill, you must bear your sin. In the next world you will be killed in return."

#### Against Robbery.

"O children and grandchildren ! do not forcibly take the property of another Observe my children, that robbers quickly become slaves .-Should you even be a slave, good remains ; but there is no calling on God in hell."

Against Theft.

"O children and grandchildren! do not steal the goods of another; for the owner worked for them until he sweat. Thieves will have to repay,"

Against Adultery and Fornication. "O children and grandchildren1 do not commit adultery or fornication with the child or wife of another, female or male; for the righteous one looks down from above, and these things are exposed to him. Those that do thus, will go to hell."

## Against Polygamy.

"O children and grandchildren! if you have one wife, lust not after another female or male; The great men of ancient times were great men truly for God, at the beginning, created only two."

# VOL 1, NO. 3.

# Rewards and Punishments.

"The righteous persons, the righteous Arrive at heaven; Good persons, the good, Go to heaven; Above all that, that is happiness here, Far greater happiness remains."

"Unrighteous persons, the unrighteous, At death go to hell; Lascivious persons, the lascivious, The king of death takes note of them; Wicked persons, the wicked, Go to hell."

# A NATION.

## A Nation of Wandcrers.

No proof need be brought that the Jews were "O children and grandchildren ! live in peace the chosen people of God, but were cursed for ing themselves.

"O children and grandchildren ! formerly God loved the Karen nation above all others, but they transgressed his commands, and in consequence of their transgressions we suffer as at present. Because God cursed us, we are in our present afflicted state, and have no books .--But God will again have mercy on us, and again he will love us above others. God will yet save us again; it is on account of our listening to the language of Satan, that we thus suffer."

- "The Karens were created by God.
- And God gave them commands ;
- The Karens were cursed by God,
- And they have no happiness to the present time ;
- When God went away he gave commands, But not an individual obeyed them."

Tskay, mentioned in the following fragment, was one of the virtuous ancients, but nothing further than his name is known.

"In ancient times men ate from the branch of heaven ; They ate in ancient times plucking from the branch of heaven

- They ate of the branch of heaven, they ate of the branch of heaven:
- Now we have no great men ;-

The great men of ancient times, were great men indeed;

The children must eat, but they cannot eat like Tskay The men of ancient times had perverse ears, And thereby we have to suffer ; The men of ancient times had ears of barbarians, And we have suffering thereby.

WM. P. BIDDLE, Chairman.

#### REPORT ON FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Committee on Foreign Missions beg leave to present the following Report :--

The aspect of our various missions, in this department, has never been more favourable than it is at present. The recent completion of the translation of the Scriptures into the Burman language; the intrepid and successful operations of brethren Kincaid and Cutter at Ava; the liberal distribution of fracts in many of the most populous parts of the empire; and the earnest and unprecedented spirit of inquiry recently excited among the Burman people; added to the judicious and persevering efforts of the brethren at Rangoon, Maulmein, and other places; and the late accessions made to the missionary forces in that country by recent appointments ;altogether present a seene of interest and encouragement never before withessed in the Burman Empire. And, as an intimation that results of the utmost moment will follow, it may be mentioned that several flourishing and effective churches have been constituted, in connexion with which upwards' of five hundred persons have been baptized, in this dark, idolatrous land.

The mission recently established at Bankok, in Siam, through which, it is believed, the gospel may shortly be introduced in the vast empire of China, has commenced under highly auspicious circumstances, and promises a field of extensive and successful labour.

The mission in France, though severely chastened by the death of our late highly esteemed brother Rostan, is still progressing auspiciously under the superintendance of his successor.

Within a year a Baptist church has been constituted in Hamburg, in Germany, and a Mr. Onken, a minister of the Gospel lately belonging to another denomination, has been baptized and ordained, and installed as their pastor.

The above is a condensed and imperfect outline of the state of our Foreign Missions, down to the latest accounts. We should be pleased to go more into detail, but our limits forbid.

All which is respectfully submitted.

#### T. MEREDITH, Chairman.

#### REPORT ON EDUCATION.

The committee on education ask leave to report, That they have given the subject submitted to their consideration a careful investigation. They are fully aware of its importance, and believe that it will be the lever by which, with divine aid, our denomination will be raised from their inactivity to a stand of exalted usefulness.

The education fund is now ample. For particulars on this subject reference may be had to the report of the Board. Objects for the disposition of this fund are now needed. There are many young men who have engaged in the ministry, belonging to our Church, who need and desire an education; but, owing to a lack of encouragement, they have not taken active steps to avail themselves of the advantages of a regular course of study. There are many brethren who have been engaged for years in the ministry, whose usefulness is, in a great measure, curtailed by the want of an education. The Committee are personally acquainted with instances of this kind. Some are detained at home by dependent families; and we would recommend the churches to which such brethren may belong; that they should take steps for the support of the families of these brethren. while they may be pursuing their studies. Should the Church to which a brother may belong feel unable to aid his family, then let the Union Meeting to which the Church may belong, lend their aid. Independent of the reasons which might be urged against this support coming from the Board, such as the inconvenience of families residing at the Institute, there are considerations which render the complance of the suggestion here made desirable. It would prove a more certain means of securing the labours of those brethren who may be aided, and it would attach them more to the church or churches that may assist them. The Wake Forest Institute continues to progress, fulfilling the most sanguine expectations of its friends, and we doubt not, will soon give us plain proof of its increasing usefulness. A little time since a most cheering revival of religion broke out among the students, and its glorious fruits, we trust, are destined greatly to aid in the accomplishment of the objects con-templated by the Convention. Already has the signal of divine approba-tion had the effect of dispelling the doubt of many who stood aloof from us and enterplated by the Convention. us, and secured their good wishes and cordial co-operation. S. J. WHEELER, CHAIRMAN.

All which is respectfully submitted.

#### J. CULPEPER, CHAIRMAN.

## REPORT ON THE AGENCY.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the subject of the Agency, beg leave to report :---

That in the opinion of your Committee, the history of the Baptist Convention of North Carolina, most manifestly shows, that its success is to be resolved into the efforts of the Agents under the blessing of God.

The difficulties which met the Convention at its commencement, have not yet all been removed ; the same arguments, therefore, that urged the appointment of an Agent, at an early period of the existence of the body, may now, with equal propriety, be adduced in favor of a reappointment.

Much ignorance in relation to the objects, much prejudice in relation to the measures, and much listlessness in relation to the efforts of the Convention, must be removed. It is true, much has been effected in correcting errors and in promoting the interests of truth; but much still remains to be done. Your Committee, indeed, believe that the interests of the Convention, depend largely upon the exertions of the Agency, and therefore most earnestly recommend that it be continued.

All which is most respectfully submitted.

## JOS. B. OUTLAW, CHAIRMAN.

#### REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

You; Committee feel deeply sensible of the negligence that has hitherto prevailed in our churches, on the important subject of Sabbath Schools. While we believe that Sabbath Schools have been greatly blessed of the Lord, and that many of their pupils have been made the subjects of divine grace, and useful and efficient members of our churches, we therefore think that we can not too highly recommend immediate attention to the subject, and that our active and intelligent brethren use suitable means to procure proper books, with such other facilities as may be in their power for the promotion and prosperity of a work, which we believe to be so intimately connected with the prosperity of Zion.

Which we respectfully submit.

#### JOHN PEELE, CHAIRMAN.

#### REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of Temperance, deem the Temperance Society as one of great importance, and find the subject was, by the Convention at its last session, recommended to the patronage of all religious and philanthropic individuals. Since that period, many new Societies have been formed in our churches for the promotion of this all important object, and large accessions have been made to the Societies formerly in existence in our churches, and the amount of good effected by these Societies, and the exertions of the members, and friends of the temperance reform, has been very great. Your Committee, therefore, recommend that renewed, increasing, and united efforts be made by all the friends of humanity in our Churches and Societies, to increase the number and extend the influence of the Temperance Societies.

All which is respectfully submitted.

# REUBEN LAWRENCE, CHAIRMAN.

Against Lying and Deception.

"O children and grandchildren ! do not speak falsehood. What you do not know, do not speak. Liars shall have their tongues cut out."

"O children and grandchildren! do not use deceitful language, but speak the words of truth only. The righteous one in heaven knows every thing that is said."

#### Against Swearing.

"O children and grandchildren ! do not curse, or use imprecations, and do not scold. If you curse, or use imprecations, they will return on vourselves."

#### On giving Alms.

"O children and grandchildren! give food and drink to the poor; and, by so doing, you will obtain mercy yourselves."

Doing good to all Men.

"O children and grandchildren ! according to your ability, relieve the distresses of all men. If you do good to others, you will not go unrewarded; for others will make like returns to you."

Against Idleness. "O children and grandchildren ! while in this state here on earth, labor diligently, that you may not become slaves; and, when persons visit you, have food and drink to give them."

Against Covelousness.

"O children and grandchildren! do not covet the things of others, nor desire to accumulate property; but work according to your ability, and covet not."

Against Intemperance. "O children and grandchildren! do not be guilty of excess in eating and drinking. Be not intemperate, but take that which is proper only."

Obedience to Kings: "O children and grandchildren ! obey the orders of kings; for kings, in former times, obeyed the commands of God. If we do not obey them, they will kill us."

Against Earthly-mindedness.

"O children and grandchildren! do not covet the good things of this world; for when you die, you cannot carry away the things that are on earth."

"Ochildren and grandchildren! do not desire to be great men, and possess authority .-Great men sin exceedingly, and when they die. go to hell."

Against Anger.

"O children and grandchildren ! never get angry. If we are angry with others, God is angry with us. The righteous One looks down from heaven upon us. The person who looks on the great and small, the vile and the wicked, children and youth, without anger, and gives them food and drink, he shall be established up changeably."

On Forbearance and Humility.

"O children and grandchildren ' thoug' person persecute you with deceit, anger, and revenge, though he strike you, thump you, beat you, do not return him evil. If you return evil, you derive no advantage thereby. Then with the heart forbear, and speak to him respectful

In the first and third lines of the following couplets, the degraded state of the Karens is intended to be represented, and in the second and fourth, the salvation which God shall procure for them.

"The worm eats the branch of the Pyen tree, The great Sun descending will buy (us); The worm lives in the branch of the Pyen tree, The great Sun descending will entreat (us)."

## Jehorah.

There can scarcely be a rational doubt that the Yu-wah of the Karens is the Jehovah of the Hebrews.

It is conceded that the true pronunciation of the name of Jehovah in Hebrew is unknown; but that it varied widely from the manner in which it is read at present, is manifest from the manner in which the name is represented by Greek writers, who wrote the word 1AO. With the present Masoretic pointing, the word is read Ye-ho-wah, and dropping the middle syllable, as Bishops Hare and Lowth both do, we have Yu-wah at once.

If the identity of the names needs further confirmation, we have it in the corresponding custom of the Jews and the Karens, in not pronouncing the name. It is well known that the Jews hadasuperstitious notion that it was sinful to pronounce the proper name of Jehovah, which corresponds precisely with Karen ideas in relation to calling God Yu-wah.

"O my children and grandchildren ! call not God Yu-wah; by calling him Yu-wah he will never return to us."

"God created us in ancient time

And has a perfect knowledge of all things; Call him not Yu-wah, but call him great ancestor . When persons call his name, he hears."

#### No King.

It is said of the dispersed Israelites, in Hosea, chapter 10. v. 3d. "they shall say, We have no king, because we feared not the Lord." And strikingly in accordance with this prophecy, the Karens say,

"O children and grandchildren ! because the Karens transgressed the commands of God they have no king."

They are expecting to be restored to a Glorious City, in correspondence with the

belief of the Jews.

"O children and grandchildren! the Karen will yet'dwell in the city with the golden palace. If we do well, the existence of other kings is at an end. The Karen king will yet appear, and when he arrives there will be happiness."

"Good persons, the good, Shall go to the silver town, the silver city; Righteous persons, the righteous, Shall go to the new town, the new city; Persons that believe their father and mother Shall enjoy the golden palace."

The Karens believe that when they obtain a words; by doing thus, you will not go unre- king, he will be the sole monarch of the world, warded." and that every one will be happy. Rich and

REPORT ON TRACTS.

The Committee on Tracts, beg leave to report :---

That they have had the subject under consideration, and from the evidence furnished by the Baptist General Tract Society, of the great moral influence produced by its publications in Canada, Germany, and among the Gentiles of the East, as well as in our own land of disenthraldom, and believing that those silent preachers, (as they have been significantly styled) are calculated to remove the film of prejudice from the mental eye of many opposed to the cause of Zion, and the peculiar tenets of our own Church-we, your Committee, would therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following.resolution :

Resolved, That we recommend to the different Churches of our denomination throughout this State, the propriety of forming Societies auxiliary to the Baptist General Tract Society, and that the members of this Convention be requested to exert their influence, in their respective neighbourhoods, to carry into operation the first clause of this resolution. All of which is respectfully submitted.

JNO. A. POUNCEY, CHAIRMAN. [To be continued.]

"The man who without anger endures all poor will not exist, much in accordance with the with humility, shall be established unchangeably, scriptural representation of the return of the for by doing thus the advantages of meritorious Jews.

qualities are his."

#### On Love to Enemies.

"Ochildren and grandchildren! if a person iujures you, let him do what he wishes, and bear all the sufferings he brings upon you with humility. If an enemy persecute you, love him with the heart. On account of our having sinned against God from the beginning, we ought to suffer."

How to act when one cheek is struck. "O children and grandchildren! if a person strike you on the face, he does not strike you on the face; he only strikes on the floor. Therefore, if a person strike you on the cheek, give him the other to strike."

"When the Karen king arrives, There will be only one monarch; When the Karen king comes, There will be neither rich nor poor; When the Karen king shall come, Rich and poor will not exist."

They believe when the Karen king comes, the beasts will be at peace, and cease to hite and deyour one another, in accordance with the scripture view of the Millennium.

"When the Karen king arrives, When the Karen king arrives, Every thing will be happy; When the Karen king arrives, The beasts will be happy; When Karens have a king, Lions and leopards will lose their savageness. [To be continued.]