

dear, where he has since been teaching with great credit to himself and the institution. Professor Bledsoe has been awake to every opportunity of doing Christian work among the deaf pupils, being unable to get religious instructions, except through their literary teachers. Having a fondness for Christian work, especially among young people, it was natural that Mr. Bledsoe should lay hold of the first opportunity of aligning himself with the Young People's movement in the South. His first efforts were in his own city, Talladega, Ala., where he led in the organization of a union in 1894, and was its president for three years. The Talladega union is one of the best in the state. Professor Bledsoe was appointed state manager for Southern B. Y. P. U. in Alabama, at the last session of the Southern Baptist convention in Chattanooga, Tenn. There are few stronger young men in the South than Mr. Bledsoe, and a truer friend to the Young People's work would be hard to find. He is wise in counsel and active in service.



REV. H. C. ROSAMON.

Mr. Rosamon is pastor of the First Baptist church of Helena, Arkansas, and state manager for his state on the Board of Managers of the Southern B. Y. P. U. During the two years of his pastorate at Helena he has been very successful and has been called to other large fields. For about ten years he was pastor of various churches in Texas, where his labors were greatly blessed. Mr. Rosamon is one of the best pastors of the convention. He is also a strong, vigorous preacher—clear in expression and sound in his theology—a man of deep piety, extensive culture and much beloved. He is now in the full vigor of a splendid manhood.



REV. C. L. SEASHOLES.

Rev. C. L. Seasholes began his work as an ordained minister in the First Baptist church, Dallas, Texas, September 1, 1892. His success has been phenomenal considering the times and conditions. During his pastorate over \$40,000 have been raised, nearly 600 have been received into the church and harmony prevails. Mr. Seasholes has been offered the presidency of two different colleges but he prefers remaining in the ministry. During his ten years career as a student he was valedictorian of his class and of the Samson Talbot competitive prize-fund of the first honors in oratory. He is now first vice president of the B. Y. P. U. president of the state Sunday school convention of Texas and a member of the Board of Managers of the Southern B. Y. P. U.



REV. L. O. DAWSON, PRESIDENT.

Born in Chambers county, Ala., April 24, 1865. Father, Andrew Jackson Dawson of Puritan ancestry. Mother, Marie Antoinette Bailey, of Cavalier stock. Spent most of childhood and youth on farm in native county. Entered Howard college, Marion, Ala., January 29, 1884. Graduated with rank of senior captain June 9, 1886. Took full course. Entered Seminary, Louisville, Ky., October 1886. Graduated full course June 1889. Returned to Seminary and took post graduate course the next year making at the close a visit to European universities in 1890. While at Howard college founded and edited the Franklin Advocate, the organ of his literary society. At Seminary was one of the founders and for a long time editors of the Seminary Magazine. Supplied while a student at Howard college one summer at Hopewell, near Marion, Ala. While at Seminary one summer at Port Royal, Ky., and two summers at Mobile, Ala. Was pastor at Hopewell, Ky., while in Seminary. Also while in Seminary pastor at Vernon church, Woodford, Ky. The latter church at end of first years

pastorate, doubled salary and called for all his time. Served it four years, about doubling its membership. Went to Tuskaalosa from Mt. Vernon December 1892 and is now in 5th year. With only one protracted meeting during which they were baptized, the church has received nearly 400 additions in these five years. Frequent Sunday evening baptisms. Large congregations still come to hear the Gospel. Remarkably successful Young People's meeting.

Vice president foreign missions board for Alabama. President Y. P. U. at Atlanta and since. These Alabama Central Female college. His best and most arduous work has been to carry that school through the season of panic and hold its great property for Baptist people. At one time when the resignation of its president made chaos of all its affairs, he of session and put it on solid basis. The property worth more than \$50,000 was thus saved to our people. Of course, he still kept up his work as pastor.

Mr. Dawson is one of the most substantial young men of his denomination where his labors were greatly blessed. Mr. Dawson is one of the best pastors of the convention. He is also a strong, vigorous preacher—clear in expression and sound in his theology—a man of deep piety, extensive culture and much beloved. He is now in the full vigor of a splendid manhood.



WILLIAM WINSTON GAINES.

Secretary Southern B. Y. P. U. is a Kentuckian by birth, graduated at Georgetown college in that state in 1887. Studied law at Washington and Lee university in Virginia, where he took his LL.B. in 1891, leading in a large class. In the fall of the same year he began the practice of his profession in Atlanta, where he has since resided. In December 1896 he was married to Miss Zue Coleman of his native state. Mr. Gaines has been secretary of the Southern B. Y. P. U. since its organization, is transportation leader for Georgia to B. Y. P. U. convention and active and well known in the work throughout the country. Mr. Gaines is a young lawyer of great promise and an untiring B. Y. P. U. worker.



REV. E. J. FORRESTER, D. D.

Member of the Board of Managers of South Carolina. Born in Beaufort county, S. C., November 14, 1853. Converted and baptized during the summer of 1868. Graduated at Furman university in 1876 and at the S. B. T. Seminary in 1878, having completed four studies in the seminary during last college year. Ordained in 1877. Spent first five years as pastor in Alabama. Last thirteen years spent in two pastorate in South Carolina. Now located at Greenwood, S. C., in the sixteenth year of a most prosperous pastorate in one of the most united and vigorous churches in the state. Has done considerable writing for the religious press, and has published a book entitled "The Baptist Position," which has passed through two editions. Received the degree of "Doctor of Divinity" from his Alma Mater in 1893. Is one of the trustees of the S. B. T. Seminary. Suggested, in committee, the particular name which this Young People's Union received at its organization in Atlanta. Dr. Forrester is one of the very strongest men in his denomination.



REV. B. D. GRAY, D. D.

Chairman of the Executive Committee. Rev. B. D. Gray, D. D., pastor First Baptist church, Birmingham, Ala., is a native of Mississippi. His grandfather was a member of the first constitutional convention of Mississippi in 1817. Dr. Gray was educated at Mississippi college, from which institution he graduated with the master's degree, and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with the full graduate course. During the latter part of his theological course in Louisville he succeeded Dr. J. P. Greene, president of William Jewell college, as pastor of the East Baptist church of Louisville, Ky. During his pastorate the East church erected their handsome chapel and lecture rooms. Dr. Gray resigned that pastorate to pursue special studies in Europe, but was induced to return to his native state, where he served as pastor at Clinton, the home of his Alma Mater, and Hazlehurst, where he led in the erection of one of the finest houses of

worship in Mississippi. Dr. Gray was during his stay in Mississippi, a member of the convention board, a trustee for Mississippi college, vice president of the foreign mission board of the Southern Baptist convention, and several times declined the secretaryship of missions of the state—preferring to remain in the pastorate. On coming to Alabama he was made vice president of the Home Mission board of the Southern Baptist convention, a trustee of Howard college, both of which positions he now occupies. His most notable performance in denominational work in Alabama has been his joint leadership with Dr. P. T. Hale in reducing the bonded indebtedness on Howard college, from about \$40,000 bearing interest at 8 per cent. to \$20,000 with 5 per cent interest. He was for years president of the Alumni Association of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and declined a reelection at their meeting in Chattanooga last spring.

The doctorate was bestowed upon him by his Alma Mater seven years ago. His accomplished wife organized the "Sunbeam Work" among Mississippi Baptists and has been since coming to Alabama a member of the Woman's Central committee of that state.

Dr. Gray is just entering upon the fifth year of his pastorate with the First church of Birmingham. The church is in the best condition that it has been at any time since coming to Alabama, a member of the Woman's Central committee of that state.

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DEXTER G. WHITTINGHILL, TH. D.

State Manager for Louisiana. The subject of this sketch was born in Hopkins county, Ky., on April 7, 1862. Studied at Madisonville, Ky., normal school for three years. Taught school in Tennessee in 1885. Edited Madisonville Times in 1888. Entered Bethel college in 1888, and after two years graduated in all schools not completed elsewhere. He was a sharer in gold medal for scholarship. Entered Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1889 and after four years graduated with the doctor's degree (Th. D.), being a member of the first class receiving that title. Editor Seminary Magazine from 1892-94. Pastor Forks-Bilkhann church 1892-94, formerly served by John A. Broadus, F. H. Kertoff, J. R. Sampey. Pastor Coliseum First Baptist church, New Orleans, from 1894 till present time. Has doubled in membership and is the leading church in the state. He is one of the brightest and strongest scholars among the young men of the South.



DR. P. T. HALE.

Pastor South Side Church, Birmingham, Ala., and Member of Ex. Com. and Board of Managers. Phillip T. Hale, son of Dr. P. P. and Mrs. C. S. Hale, was born in New Market, Ala., August 18, 1837. As in the case of so many Southern men, the war swept away the property of his father, and the subject of this sketch was early thrown upon his own resources. At the age of sixteen he began to teach school; teaching awhile and attending school as he was able until prepared for college. In the year 1857 he entered Howard college, taking the full course in two and a half years, and graduating with the degree of A. B., delivering the salutatorian oration. Entering the S. B. Theological seminary in the fall of 1859 he took the full course and several extra studies, and graduating in 1863. Before finishing his course he was called to the church of Danville, in the beautiful blue grass regions of Kentucky. Here he remained nearly six years, the church increasing from a membership of less than two hundred to over four hundred.

Upon the death of their distinguished pastor, Dr. J. D. Renfro, the South Side church, of Birmingham, Ala., called him as their pastor in July, 1888; so that he has been in his present pastorate nearly nine years. During this time the Lord has graciously blessed the church; the membership having in-

creased from 189 to nearly 600, and having erected a large and handsome new church edifice that is an ornament to the entire city. In the membership are many of the most distinguished and eminent professional and business men of the city. Nine finer men than those constituting the board of deacons it would be hard to find anywhere. Mr. Hale received the degree of D. D., from Howard college in 1891. In the summer of '87 he made an extended tour of Europe, some account of his travels appearing in a series of letters published in the columns of the Western Recorder. Desiring further the advantages which come from extended travel in the year of 1895 he again went abroad, visiting not only Europe, but the Orient, including Syria, Palestine, Turkey, Egypt, etc., riding on horse back entirely through the Holy Land. At the last meeting of the Baptist Congress of the United States and Canada he was one of the speakers. He has occasionally done the work of an evangelist, aiding the pastors in revival services. He has held meetings in the First church of Atlanta, the First church of Galveston, the Green Street church of Augusta, the Central church, of Memphis, the McFerran Memorial of Louisville, St. Francis Street church, Mobile, First church, Richmond, Va. His pastorate work, however, is now so heavy he has little time to hold revivals.

Last June he was elected president of the board of trustees of Howard college, and has given some time to the financial affairs of that institution, so important to the future of the Baptists of his native state. At the General Association of Kentucky in June 1885 he met Miss Lena L. Bolinger, daughter of Mr. J. T. and Mrs. M. E. Bolinger, to whom he was married in the following December. The union has been blessed with five sons, all of whom are living.

Dr. Hale is a man of marvellous resources—so true is this that one often hears the remark as a common exclamation about him. He is one of the safest and best revivalists in the South. His work at South Side Baptist church will abide as a monument to his patient energy and ability. What makes his work wonderful is the fact that he began his work just as Birmingham began to feel the effects of the declining boom. Through all the financial depression he has stood the storm and rallied his people as only the true leader can. His work was never more prosperous than now, nor was the brilliant pastor ever more beloved by his people. Dr. Hale is not only a very fine preacher, pastor and business man, but he has some lectures on his travels which rank among the master pieces of the day. A man of marvellous resources.



REV. WM. A. HOBSON.

William A. Hobson, East Lake, Ala., was born near Tuskaalosa, Alabama, in 1862. His father is a Baptist minister of more than ordinary ability, being now pastor of a county church to which he was called when but twenty-one years of age. Although young Hobson had only such opportunities of early education as were afforded in the country, his hours' training was unusually good. When 19 years of age he entered the academy, and after spending one session at the state university he finished his course at Howard college, East Lake, Ala., with the degree of A. B. While at college Mr. Hobson had a delightful country pastorate, and on graduation he entered the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary at Louisville, Ky., where he spent two years.

While at the seminary he was pastor of the Baptist church at Leitchfield, Ky., one of the best village churches in the state. It was Mr. Hobson's determined purpose to take the full course at the seminary, but on account of his health failing he was forced to take a rest. At this time an urgent call was extended him from the church at Woodlawn, Ala., and on his recovery this call was accepted. After a successful pastorate of two years at Woodlawn he was called to the church at East Lake, where Howard college is located. This is one of the strong churches and responsible pastorates of the state. He has taken hold of this work in such a way as to inspire confidence and cooperation in the members of the church and the church has never known such an era of work and prosperity. As a polished gentleman, brilliant sermonizer and eloquent speaker he has few equals among the young ministry of his denomination.

In addition to his large pastorate Mr. Hobson has charge of the chair of Bible study in Howard college, has been president of the Alumni association since his graduation and is chairman of the Board of Ministerial Education for Alabama. He is a member of the executive committee and board of managers of the Southern B. Y. P. U. and edits the B. Y. P. U. department in the Alabama Baptist. He is frequently called the Chrysostom of the Alabama pulpit.

J. CALVIN MOSS, Member of Board of Managers for Virginia.

J. Calvin Moss, born September 22nd, 1864, in Lynchburg, Va., under the shadow of the famed Peaks of Otter. A graduate of the Lynchburg High School in 1880, is engaged in life insurance, having a large general agency for a number of years at Detroit, Mich. At twelve he was converted and became a member of the First Baptist church, Lynchburg. Selected as Sunday school superintendent for 1884 and 1885, and is one of this church's deacons. Having attended the International B. Y. P. U. convention at Detroit and Indianapolis he earnestly desired Virginia's full enrollment in the Y. P. U. movement, thus identified from first in state B. Y. P. U. work—as vice president, then president. Is Virginia's member of Board of Managers of B. Y. P. U. a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of the

Union has. He is a capable and consecrated Christian gentleman.

REV. J. Q. ADAMS.

Pastor of Wadesboro Baptist Church and State Manager for North Carolina of the B. Y. P. U. Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention.

Rev. J. Q. Adams, born in Edgefield county, South Carolina; baptized by Dr. M. B. Wharton into the fellowship of the Green Street Baptist church, Augusta, Ga.; educated at Furman university, Greenville, S. C., and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, Ky.; ordained to the Christian ministry at Greenville, S. C., by Dr. J. C. Furman, Dr. Charles Manly and William Henry Strickland; pastor at Ebenezer, S. C., four years, Rock Hill, S. C., five years, Asheville (French Broad Baptist church) N. C., three years, and now in the fourth year of his pastorate at Wadesboro, N. C.

Mr. Adams is a man of splendid ability and as his success has proven and is much beloved by all who know him.

BAPTISTS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

A Sketch of the Organization and Progress of the Church in This State—Baptists Among the First Settlers of the State—The First Church Organized in Camden County in 1727. (By Rev. J. D. Hufham, D. D.)

There were Baptists among the earlier settlers in North Carolina. They came from different quarters drawn partly by the spirit of adventure, but more by the offer of religious liberty.

They were to be found at an early day scattered in groups throughout the colony. From the year 1690 to the present time their foot prints may be found in every part of the state. But they did not begin to organize churches after the elaborate fashion of our day until the year 1727. In that year Paul Palmer organized what is now the church at Shiloh, in Camden county. From that day it had a vigorous existence, and with one exception no other church in the state has been so prolific a parent of churches. Within the counties of Gates, Chowan, Perquimans, Pasquotank, Camden and Currituck there are more than sixty churches which have sprung from this parent stock and these churches have a white membership of nearly 7,000. The colored are almost as numerous with almost as large a membership. In Virginia also there are many churches which have sprung from the old body at Shiloh. The founder, Mr. Palmer, was a native of Maryland; a man of abounding energy, a natural talent for organizing and leading men, a courage never quailed in the presence of danger or opposition and that indescribable thing called magnetism which draws men. From the year 1727 until his death extending his labors in Virginia in one direction or another through Craven and Onslow counties to the borders of South Carolina in another.

In 1729 the second church was organized at Leherrin, near Murfreesboro. In 1742 another was formed at Kehukee in Halifax county. From this, in 1750, came the church at Sandy Run, Bertie county, which was the parent of a numerous ecclesiastical progeny in Northampton, Bertie and Hertford counties. In the same church at Kehukee came the church at Falls of Tar River in 1745. Into the fellowship of this church Elisha Battle, perhaps the most eminent private citizen of North Carolina in his day, was baptized. He was a member of a family of dissenters that fled from persecution to Ireland and thence to Nansemond county, Virginia. He filled many high stations under the government in North Carolina, and he was president of the various assemblies of which he was an honored member. Several of his descendants have been eminent Baptist ministers in this state and others of them among whom are Dr. Kemp P. Battle, of the city of North Carolina, Richard H. Battle, of Raleigh, and his father, Hon. William H. Battle, have held high places under state government.

In Georgia, to which state one branch of the family removed in 1761, another of the members filled stations of honor in the ministry and other professions. By the year 1753 Baptist churches were to be found as far west as Granville, and in the other counties toward the coast line as far as the border of South Carolina.

In 1755 a colony of Baptists came from New England through Virginia into Randolph county, and settled on Sandy creek, where they organized a Baptist church. Churches multiplied rapidly in the surrounding counties and the movement spread into Tennessee, South Carolina and Georgia. In 1758 the church at Sandy Creek with the neighboring churches and some in Virginia and South Carolina organized the Sandy Creek Association. This was the first effort to organize the Baptist churches in North Carolina for united and aggressive work.

The Kehukee Association was formed in 1768. This body included a number of churches in the border counties of Virginia, and all of those in the eastern counties of this state. About the year 1790 the Virginia churches withdrew and formed the Portsmouth Association.

Thenceforthward the growth of the Baptists was steady and rapid until the troubles of the revolution which culminated in the battle of Alamance. The battle was fought not far from the church at Sandy Creek, and the rigorous measures of Governor Tryon after the battle bore heavily upon the Baptists. They fled from that region. Within a short time more than 1,500 families removed to the territories south and west of us. In the agitations which led to the war of the revolution and in that struggle the Baptists were unanimous and active. Elisha Battle, Lemuel Burkitt, Henry Abbot, Wm. Lancaster, Francis Oliver, Gideon Lamb and others were prominent figures in the conventions which adopted the state constitution and ratified the federal constitution. For twelve years the revolution the Baptists had small growth. But in 1801 and 1802 a wave of revival swept over the state and in the Kehukee Association alone more than 1,500 were baptized. In 1803 the movement began which, twenty-seven years later, resulted in the union of all the Baptists in the state under one organization for the prosecution of the work of education and missions. In 1830, at Greenville, the Baptist State Convention was organized and the board of missions appointed.

In 1834 The Biblical Recorder was founded by Thomas Meridith. It was published in Edenton and Raleigh, and about the year 1845 it was removed to Raleigh, which has since been its place of publication. The Recorder has been a favorite institution among the Baptists of North Carolina, and into it they have put their ablest men. Thus, Meridith, the founder, was a native of Pennsylvania and a graduate of the

university of that state. He came to North Carolina and settled in Edenton in 1817 and from that time until his death he was one of the most prominent figures in the denomination. His fine reasoning powers, thorough training and skill in the use of the pen fitted him admirably for the work of journalism, to which his life was mainly devoted. It was a day of controversy, and as a theological swordsman he had few equals among the men of his day. He was succeeded by J. J. James, a man of great force of character, rugged common sense, excellent education, and a ready writer. For seven years J. H. Mills, a singularly versatile man, filled the editorial chair and gave to The Recorder a new position and influence among the Baptist journals of the south. C. T. Bailey, a man of pre-eminent gifts, was editor for twenty years and he gave to the paper the largest circulation and the greatest influence that it had held. Of late years the present editor, it is enough to say, has bids fair to go beyond the success of his father.

In 1832 the first steps were taken toward establishing Wake Forest college and in February, 1834, it was opened as Wake Forest Institute. Dr. Samuel Wait presided over the institution for eleven years. He was succeeded by Dr. William Hooper and he by Dr. Jno. B. White. The latter was succeeded by Dr. Wm. Winstate, a native of South Carolina, who held the office for twenty-five years and won for himself an extensive and enduring reputation as teacher, preacher and administrator. On his death Dr. Thos. H. Pritchard was called to the presidency of the institution and he was succeeded by the present incumbent, Dr. Chas. E. Taylor, who is a native of Virginia and an alumnus of Richmond college and of the University of Virginia. His administration has been singularly successful. The endowment has been increased to \$200,000; new schools have been added and the patronage increased. Within the last two years schools of the Bible and of law have been established and it is likely that a school of medicine will be added during the present year. The enrollment of students for the year is 275. President Taylor is still in the prime of life and his administration gives promise of even larger success in the years to come.

The Baptists have two female seminaries. One of them is at Murfreesboro, which was founded in 1848. The other is at Oxford. The buildings for the Baptist Female University at Raleigh are in process of erection. It is probable that the first of them will be completed during the present year.

While the Baptists have been pushing the work of education in various branches and have been sustaining The Recorder, their chief strength has been expended in the work of missions at home and abroad. The prosecution of this work is entrusted to a board located in Raleigh. The chief executive officer is also corresponding secretary of the convention. It is perhaps the most important office within the gift of the denomination. It has been filled by men whose names are held in high esteem among their brethren. Of them we may mention Jas. S. Purefoy, B. F. Marable, A. J. Emerson, J. B. Richardson, Jno. E. Ray and C. Durham. Of them all the last named was the most eminent. He was cut down at the very zenith of his power and influence. The present incumbent, Rev. Jno. E. White, now in the second year of his administration, is a young man of brilliant intellect, trained and consecrated, and the success which he has already achieved justifies the expectation of great things from him.

The orphanage at Thomasville is the newest and probably the most successful of all the enterprises which have been projected by the Baptists of North Carolina.

It is situated within a mile of Thomasville, in Davidson county. It includes a farm of about 400 acres with buildings and accommodations for 140 children, which number will soon be increased to 200. J. H. Mills, the founder and for several years superintendent of the Oxford Orphan Asylum, was also on his retirement from that institution the organizer and general manager of the Baptist orphanage. Two years ago he was succeeded by J. B. Boone, who is admirably fitted for the high position.

Since 1845 the Baptists west of the Blue Ridge have had a convention of their own. It includes ten associations, 231 churches and about 23,000 members. They also have a newspaper of their own which is published at Waynesville and some of the churches hold a college with adequate equipment or endowment.

The colored Baptists have a state convention and manage their own work in their own way. They have 10,000 members. There are in the two conventions of whites 1,500 churches, with a membership of 150,000. The three largest churches are the Tabernacle and the First church at Raleigh, and the First church at Asheville.

Among the ministers who hold important pastorates, though born in other states are Drs. Carter and Simms of Raleigh, Mundy of Reidsville, Adams of Wadesboro, Barron of Charlotte, Tredway of Shelby, Fox of Asheville, Horton of Wanesville, Blackwell of Elizabeth City, Saunders of Murfreesboro, Cramer of Wilson, Hardaway of Oxford, Tyree of Durham, and Thomas of Fayetteville.

Among North Carolinians holding important pastorates are the following: Watson of Edenton, Vann of Scotland Neck, Kendrick of Weldon, Savage of Tarboro, Powell of Rocky Mount, Long of Goldsboro, Oliver of Wilmington, Booth of Lumberton, Blacklock of Rockingham, Moore of Monroe, Justice of Rutherfordton, Johnson of Greensboro, Dowell and Horton of Durham, Brown of Winston, Kesler of High Point, Paysour of Concord, Church of Statesville, Cashwell of Hickory, Patton of Morganton, Finch of Williamston, Pullen of Raleigh, Morton of Roxboro, Pruitt and Hankins of Charlotte, and Lambeth of Lexington.

The Baptists of North Carolina have had rapid growth for the last thirty years and their prosperity is greater now than at any other period of their history. J. D. HUFHAM.

Sketch of Rev. J. D. Hufham. Dr. J. D. Hufham, the writer of the paper on "The Baptists in North Carolina," is pastor of the Baptist church at Henderson, and the most interesting figure in any association or convention of his denomination in the state. He was born in Duplin county in May, 1824, baptized by Rev. Dr. W. T. Brooks in 1856, graduated at Wake Forest college in 1856 and ordained to the ministry in 1857. After a pastorate of four years at Bear swamp, Duplin county he became, in 1861, the owner and editor of The Biblical Recorder. In every relation he has borne a conspicuous part in the history of his denomination and of the state for nearly forty years. There have been various efforts to analyze his character and strength, and to point out his strong qualities. To do this is a task. Others, witnessing his mastery of assemblies, in raising large collections for