

upon it from the beginning. Commencing without means, and under many disadvantages, its rapid, phenomenal success in all that was ever proposed, far surpasses the sanguine hopes of its most ardent advocates.

Its reports are before the denomination. They furnish, each time when made, occasion for gratification and thankfulness for the possession by the convention of so great and growing a power in the development and furtherance of its objects.

Let it go on, then, sustained by our prayers and patronage, in generous, Christian emulation and good will towards all other societies and agencies, which have for their object "America and the world for Christ."

A BRIEF HISTORICAL SKETCH. The publication of Kind Words began in January, 1864, at Greenville, S. C., amid the throes of the civil war. It was originally edited by Dr. E. H. Elford, assisted by Dr. Basil Manly, Sr., president, and Dr. John A. Broadus, corresponding secretary of the 1st Sunday school board of the Southern Baptist convention.

These 372 missionaries did work in states as follows: Alabama 3, Arkansas 20, Cuba 6, Cuban work in Florida 6, District of Columbia 4, Florida 35, Georgia 3, Indiana Territory 4, Kentucky 19, Louisiana 23, Maryland 4, Missouri 12, North Carolina 30, South Carolina 53, Tennessee 53, Texas 66, Virginia 5, Western Arkansas and Indian Territory 56, West Virginia 2.

CHURCH BUILDING. The board has paid during the year \$5,441.64 on houses of worship. The greater part of this was paid on contracts made previous to the beginning of the present financial year.

INDIAN CLAIM. The board is gratified to state that after long delay the Creek nation has appropriated \$3,000 to pay the remainder due on the Levering school.

THE MARYLAND BAPTIST MISSION ROOMS have been doing a work of great value to our board and the cause of missions. Their mission card presents monthly for study one of the mission fields of our convention, alternating between the two boards of home and foreign missions.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION, APRIL, 1896, TO APRIL, 1897. Rejoicing in the knowledge that the Woman's Missionary Union is a part of the great Baptist host striving to exert an influence for Christ in the land, its annual report, as desired, is presented to the home board.

STATISTICS. Letters written 9,309, Postals written 230, Leaflets, pamphlets, etc., distributed 124,962, Mission cards prayed for 4,082, Papers 3,040.

AMOUNTS CONTRIBUTED BY THE WOMAN'S MISSION SOCIETIES FOR HOME MISSIONS. Alabama \$2,098.35, Arkansas 970.69, District of Columbia 267.86, Florida 528.87, Georgia 3,594.32, Kentucky 2,865.59, Louisiana 1,009.65, Maryland 4,154.59, Mississippi 1,719.47, Missouri 1,352.34, North Carolina 1,709.07, South Carolina 1,818.94, Tennessee 2,655.32, Young South 3.00, Texas 1,284.50, Virginia 3,406.48, Western North Carolina 265.55.

Additional receipts: Connecticut 100.00, West Virginia 15.21, Grand total \$29,931.31.

and individuals to make their contributions during the first quarter of the financial year. The convention recognized the fact that such action involved the interest of the home board and state boards, and expressed its earnest desire that there might be no unfortunate collision with these interests.

WORK AMONG NEGROES. The work under the plan of co-operation in states convention, both white and colored, the Home Mission Society and the home mission board, is in operation in Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina and Virginia.

Summary of work for the past conventional year is as follows: Missionaries 372, Weeks of labor 11,075, Churches and stations 1,963, Sermons and addresses 48,508, Prayer meetings 11,257, Bible visits 62,175, Baptisms 4,709, Received by letter 4,746, Total additions 9,455, Churches constituted 139, Houses of worship built 57, Houses of worship improved 129, Sunday school organizations 313, Teachers and pupils 10,725, Bibles and Testaments 2,837, Tracts distributed (pages) 645,346, Amount expended on houses of worship \$52,040.

During the past year in the spirit of Him, "Whose we are and Whom we serve," we have continued to lend a helping hand to the colored people in our midst. We believe, quietly, but effectively, good is being done. In a locality where the colored Baptist church, God opened the way, and we now have one more industrial school, making a total of five schools. Ladies from the white churches have faithfully, willingly and gratuitously given time and labor. The expenses to the home board of the five schools have been but \$50.

WORK AMONG THE FOREIGN POPULATION needs to be greatly extended. There are tens of thousands of these people in Baltimore, Louisville, St. Louis and Kansas City, where we are now working. Missouri alone has about 800,000. The German population of Louisiana, the Germans of Colorado, and the Mexicans along the Rio Grande from El Paso to the Gulf, make at least as many more to whom we ought to send the word of life.

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of culture and ability whose mode of living is not below that of the average of the people to whom they minister. How, with our scanty income, we are to meet the demands of this great work is an unsolved problem.

THE INDIANS. The Indians living on our frontier, whose lands are now narrowed to such meager confines, once owned from the Atlantic to the Mississippi.

MOUNTAIN REGION. We rejoice in the progress of the gospel in foreign lands—in every triumph of the truth of God in Japan or China or Hindoostan or among the benighted tribes that dwell in the jungles of Africa. We cannot forget the triumph of Christianity over the civilization, the enlightenment, the moral, the intellectual and material forces that are concentrated in this great nation that will constitute its highest earthly glory and insure the fulfillment of the Lord's command to give his Gospel to every creature.

ENLARGED BENEFICENCE. The experience of the last three years demonstrates the necessity of increasing the number of our people who contribute to missions and systematizing our work that our boards will receive a steady income through the entire year.

THE FOREIGN MISSION WORK OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION. When the convention organized in Augusta, Ga., in 1845 they immediately appointed a committee on Foreign Missions known as the Foreign Mission Board and instructed them to begin work as soon as possible.

THE BOARD'S AIMS AT SELF-SUPPORT. In the very beginning the converted heathen is taught to give to the Lord. He is not taught a weak dependence, but as rapidly as possible is developed to sustain his own church.

REV. JAMES B. TAYLOR, D. D. This faithful minister is now pastor of the Baptist church at Salem, Va. He was for many years the pastor of the First Baptist church in this city.

REV. A. J. BARTON, Assistant Corresponding Secretary, Foreign Mission Board.

FINANCES AND THEIR MANAGEMENT. The board pays the missionaries give all of their time to the work, and every thing they need more than they worked at secular business during the week and preached only on Sundays.

whole time to the affairs of the board, is its corresponding secretary. It is an interesting fact that during the fifty-two years of its existence the board has only had three secretaries, James B. Taylor, whose name is fragrant of goodly and heroic services in times that tried men's souls, gave twenty-six years to this office. H. A. Tupper, cultivated, wise, and in love with missions, gave over twenty-one of his best years to this work.

ITS MEETINGS. The board holds a regular monthly meeting the second Tuesday in the month and is subject to frequent call.

REV. R. J. WILLINGHAM, Corresponding Secretary, Foreign Mission Board.

meetings. The meetings require time, thought, earnest and painstaking work, and a position upon the board is not one of easy honor.

ITS ORGANIZATION AND WORK. The board is divided into eleven committees of three members each. These have in special charge different departments of the work.

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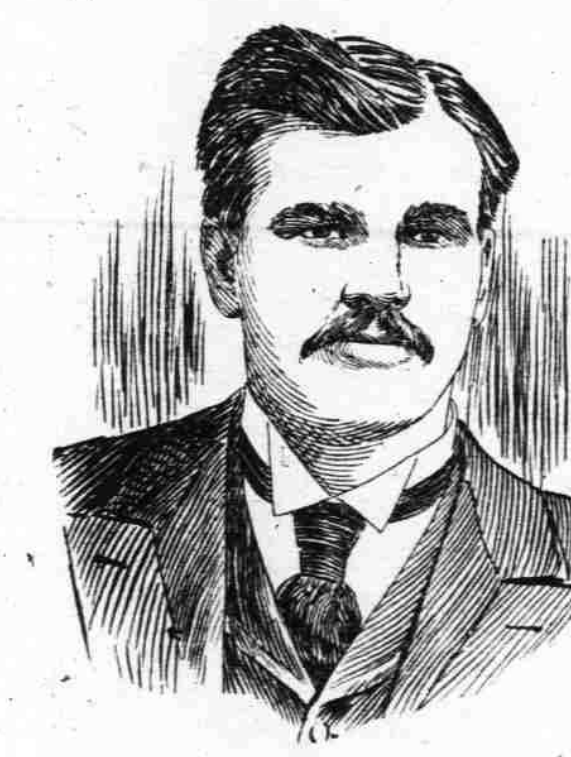
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PROF. CHAS. H. WINSTON, LL. D., President Foreign Mission Board.



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REV. J. B. GAMBRELL, D. D., The Great Pacificator.