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TRUE REFORMERS.

DAMAGING ADMISSIONS BY THE OFFICIALS.

That Fifty Thousand Dollar Grab.

BOUGHT WHAT ALREADY BELONGED TO THEM.

Gave Away \$10,000.00

SURPRISING EXTRAVAGANCE--REV. BROWNE'S PLEADINGS.

No Record as to Time in the Official Specifications--The Seller May Take His Money Now or in Annual Installments--Mr. Banks Protested in Vain--Gag Law Invoked--The Minority Squelched--Vote Without Debate.

It has been contended by many that the plans bought from Rev. Browne were plans of the Grand Fountain, and accordingly the Order purchased what it already owned.

That the officials at the True Reformer's building should take this view of the matter is surprising, and yet they make this declaration in their official organ.

Here is the heading, copied word for word from page 6 of their publication. The first line of the same heading may be found too in the index of the same official document on page 4.

REV. W. W. BROWNE SELLS THE PLANS OF THE GRAND FOUNTAIN TO THE GRAND FOUNTAIN.

Which Prevents His Bringing Out in the Future a Rival Institution to the Grand Fountain; which prevents his heirs or relatives from claiming, at his death, any portion of the Property or Monies of the Grand Fountain, as has been said heretofore by people who were anxious about what would become of the Grand Fountain and the property at his death.

Price charged by Wm. W. Browne for Plans \$40,000; price voted and given by Grand Fountain, \$50,000, payable in 10 years without interest, in equal installments of \$5,000 to be paid from the General Fund; not from the Endowment, Death or Sick Fund; not from the Stock or Dividend Fund; not from the Property or Rent Fund.

Now the above glaring head lines were written and given out from the True Reformers' offices, and are official.

A POINTED QUESTION. How could Rev. Browne legally or honestly sell the plans of the Grand Fountain, which means the Grand Fountain's plans, to the Grand Fountain?

How can Jones sell the plans of Jim Smith to the same Jim Smith? Would not Jim Smith be regarded as a fool or an idiot to buy what already belonged to him? Yet this is what the official organ of the Grand Fountain says that the Grand Fountain did. Was there ever a more insane action?

A DISCREDITABLE REFLECTION. But this heading intimates that had Rev. Browne been embarrassed or unduly annoyed he would have brought out a rival institution to the Grand Fountain. So this then is the cause of the alarm, and the basis for the fear which has existed.

Well, may Rev. Browne exclaim, "Save me from my friends!" This action prevents his heirs or relatives from claiming any portion of the property or monies of Grand Fountain at his death.

THE PROPERTY AND MONIES INVOLVED. If the amount voted is not paid before he dies, it prevents no such thing as the contract is a valid one, he and his relatives can claim the property or the money to the full amount of the balance due. Any school-boy knows this, and it is surprising that a legal mind should have overlooked or purposely misstated a fact.

The contract has been made and Rev. Browne can claim the full amount so specified unless the validity of the same is tested and overturned in the courts.

GIVING AWAY TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS. The article in question admits that ten thousand dollars more than Rev. Browne charged was given him by the Grand Fountain. Again comes the question, what right had A and B to give away C's property when C objected to such a transaction?

In this same official statement is the declaration that this money is to be paid Reverend Browne out of the General Fund and "not from the endowment, death or sick fund, not from the stock or dividend fund, not from the property or rent fund."

WHAT IS THE GENERAL FUND? The next question is, what constitutes the general fund? It is the gross

income from all sources not including the True Reformer's Savings Bank

After saying that the money would not be taken from the funds cited Mr. W. P. Burrell over his own official signature says:

THE QUESTION ANSWERED. "The income from all departments of the Order, outside of the Bank is over \$200,000 a year."

From this amount we pay sick dues, assessments, rent and other authorized bills. From this amount will come \$5,000 EACH YEAR FOR MR. W. W. BROWNE.

After saying on page 6 that the money for Reverend Browne would not come out of the amount for sick dues, assessments, rent and other authorized bills, on page 9, Mr. W. P. Burrell admits that it will be taken from any or all of these same funds.

To make the case even plainer, we take Mr. Burrell's own figures and estimates for the year ending September, '96:

SURPRISING ESTIMATES. Dues payable..... \$155,178 Rents..... 15,000 Stocks and bonds..... 15,000 Joining fees..... 16,000 Regalia..... 3,000 Bank earnings, over all expenses and interest..... 1,000

Total receipts \$205,178 Two hundred and five thousand, one hundred and seventy-six dollars appear to be a nice income, and would deceive the uninitiated. Here is what he gives as expenses:

Endowments (paid on deaths) \$50,000 Sick dues..... 75,000 Rents and mortgages..... 15,000 Dividend..... 8,000 Salaries and commissions..... 25,000 Hack and replenishing fee..... 5,000 Expenses of Annual Session..... 2,000 On Plans, (Rev. W. W. Browne), 6,000 All other accounts..... 10,000

Total Expense \$195,000 THE FUND Dwindles. It will be seen that the amount cited as being received dwindles when one hundred and nine-five thousand dollars is taken from it annually.

But mark you, Mr. Burrell estimates these figures, and is careful not to publish those for the year ending September, 1895, which must have been much less than the amount quoted.

Now, then, we have the definition and the composition of the general fund out of which Mr. Browne is to receive his fifty thousand dollars in ten annual installments.

RACH MEMBER'S PROFIT. It would be well to note that if the "annual" profit was divided among the 30,000 members the amount coming to each one of them for one whole year would only be about thirty-four cents.

On page 11 of the official statement of the Grand Fountain an extract from the Richmond STATE appears in which the leading officers told the reporter that "this [Browne's] money is to come from the general fund, which now aggregates over \$200,000 annually. The sick benefit fund, and other similar funds will not be touched."

They did not say that the expenses of the general fund were nearly \$200,000, all of which came out of this same general fund.

Is there a person who can fall to see the misleading nature of the statements made, and the conflict in the declaration which have been set forth from the True Reformers' offices by those who claim to be in a position to know?

DAMAGING ADMISSIONS. Mr. Burrell over his official signature makes the following damaging admission:

"He [Rev. Browne] did not even have them [plans] copyrighted until 1887 when he had reason to believe that a plan was on foot to oust him and take from him the benefit of his life's work. Then he secured a copyright on such part of his plans as he had then put into operation."

This statement is of far-reaching importance. If the Grand Fountain United Order of True Reformers was incorporated prior to 1887, (and it was) and had been using the plans prior to that time, what right did Rev. W. W. Browne have to take those plans which he held by virtue of his being Grand Worthy Master and copyright them for his own personal benefit?

THE PROPERTY OF THE ORDER. The plans copyrighted had become the property of the Grand Fountain, had passed out of his individual possession and no copyright secured upon them for his personal benefit would stand the test of the departments or the courts.

Mr. Burrell estimated the receipts for the incoming year, let us estimate the amount of money which the Grand Fountain has given Rev. Browne since he has been the Grand Worthy Master.

WHAT REV. BROWNE HAS RECEIVED. If he had worked three years for nothing and received (\$1200) twelve hundred dollars per year for five years and (\$1800) eighteen hundred dollars per year for six years he has received twenty-four thousand dollars. Add to this the one thousand dollars for horses and carriages, and the three thousand dollars for the regalia department and he has received twenty-seven thousand dollars.

THE TERMS ON WHICH HIS DEAL WILL NOT BE LESSENERED. And again is said "Another thing, I expect to go to lessen my zeal and ardor for the work so long as we can agree in harmony and peace."

The presumption is that he will lessen his zeal and ardor when they cannot agree in harmony and peace.

We quote again from the official record: "Brother A. V. Norrell made a motion, as a starting bid, that the Grand Fountain give the G. W. Master (\$20,000) twenty thousand dollars for his plans, to be paid in such a way as will not hurt the Institution."

Here it was then that a stir took place, so that the delegates stated that it

handsome sum of twenty-eight thousand dollars.

A FURTHER ADDITION. Now to this, the Grand Fountain during its 15th annual session voted him (\$50,000) fifty thousand dollars more, making the grand total (\$78,000) seventy-eight thousand dollars, not including the life tenure to office with \$1800 per year and extras attached which the Grand Fountain gave him and which he may yet sell back to the organization for a sum variously estimated to be from twenty-five thousand to a hundred thousand dollars.

WHO HAS SEEN THE COPYRIGHT? Moreover, we have not as yet met a delegate who has seen the thing purchased or knows definitely what the Grand Fountain bought. Let each member ask himself what he has received out of the organization next then examine the amounts, Rev. Browne has received. Amount received and guaranteed to Rev. W. W. Browne, \$78,000.

The amount of property owned by the Order composed of thirty thousand people, after deducting the \$14,000 still due on it, \$64,000. If this amount after deducting \$50,000 were distributed among the True Reformers they would each receive only one dollar and twenty cents apiece.

Now as property hardly ever brings under the hammer the full amount previously paid for it by the owner, the public is left to judge how much the property referred to has depreciated since it was purchased.

Did the Grand Fountain make a mistake when it voted away fifty thousand dollars of the people's money? If it made a mistake, how was it brought about?

Let us review the official records of the Grand Fountain as given to the public by the True Reformer officials. This body met September 3rd to the 6th, 1895, inclusive.

SURPRISING EGOTISM. For egotism the following out-herods Herod:

"Grand Worthy Master spoke as follows: The nations East, West, North and South are anxious to hear from you or hear from me on the subject I am going to talk on now. If it were possible, every man and every woman in this city and adjacent cities would be here if they knew I was going to talk on this subject.

If there was a chance to hear me from one end of this country to the other, so far as the name of the True Reformers have been heard, they would be now listening to every word I don't feel much like talking, because I wrote in my report last year that you are the only man and I wish to present you would like to hear--that is, this; How do I stand on the amount of money that I desire for the plans?"

DID NOT WANT TO HEAR. And these assertions were made in the face of the fact that seats were vacant in the hall at all times during the four day session and when the Fifth St. Baptist Church was secured, in a great edifice that holds 1500 persons, only about fifty turned out and nearly all of these were delegates.

And again Rev. Browne is quoted as follows:

ALL OTHER FOLKS PAID--BRO. BURRELL, TOO. "You will never have to do that for anybody else; because everybody else you employ--you don't owe--and when you are through with that, you will have something rather than would relieve me of them, because it always leaves a shadow of doubt that the thing belongs to Browne, and if you are certain to get a good price, and should anything come up, we could part from each other, and you have nothing against me, and I have nothing against you."

The extract bears out our contention that Rev. Browne intimated that with the payment of fifty thousand dollars, he was willing to retire. We think should he leave "another thing" we have something against them--the remaining payments on that \$50,000.

Or does he intend to take notes for the whole amount, get them discounted and leave outsiders to enforce the same while he pockets the cash realized by the transaction?

WOULDN'T TAKE IT AT ONCE. Again we quote from the official record. Rev. Browne said: "Now, brethren and sisters, whatever you give me, I am not going to take it at once. I don't calculate to have you take on my business at once. I calculate to take it so much this year, so much another year, and so on, in any way that will not hurt you."

PERTINENT QUESTIONS. Did not Rev. Browne know that he could not take forty thousand dollars out of the True Reformer organization at once? Did he not know that when he said that he would not do so, that the logical conclusion was that that amount of money was there to take out?

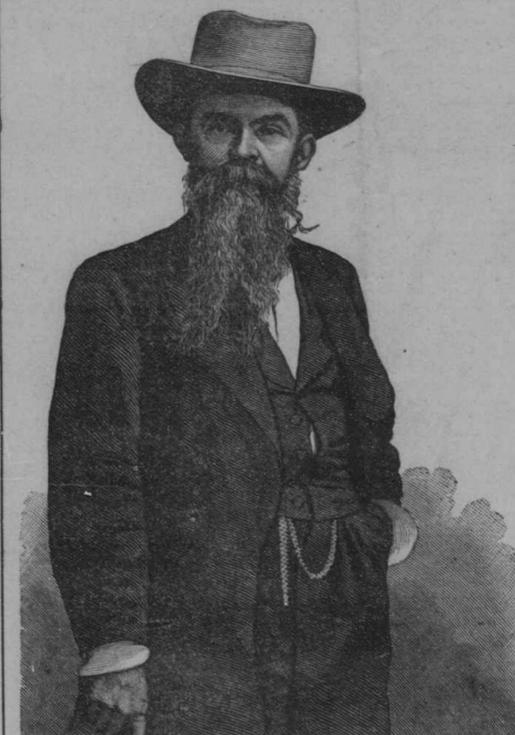
THE FACTS. In fact, the cashier had reported that there were only twenty-five thousand dollars in the Bank, and this included outside deposits. Why then did Rev. Browne make this statement, when he was about to ask for fifteen thousand dollars more than there were in the coffers of the organization?

THE TERMS ON WHICH HIS DEAL WILL NOT BE LESSENERED. He can take every cent out of the Bank--the treasury of the organization, if he so desires and continue to take the money as fast as it comes in to the detriment of the other departments of the Order or he can give them so many years in which to pay it. Mark you, this insane action was taken in the face of a motion to squelch the opposition by voting without debate. If this was not a grab, what was it?

The official records bear out the fact that Mr. John H. Smyth was down stairs and came up and was of the opinion that \$100,000 were not too much.

NOT FOR A WHITE WOMAN. And again: "The G. W. Master arose and stated:

(CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.



GENERAL WILLIAM MAHONE. Chairman of the Republican Party of Virginia. Now lying at the Point of Death at Hotel Chamberlin, Washington, D. C.

PERSONALS & BRIEFS.

Mr. C. A. Scott visited Boston and New York recently. Mrs. Sarah P. Clark visited the Eastern Shore during the summer.

Mrs. Fanny Murray spent the summer at Hampton. Mrs. K. T. Braxton of New York called on us.

Mr. S. G. Atkins, A. M., of Winston, N. C., called on us. Rev. Mrs. M. A. Harris of Urbana, Va., called on us.

Rev. P. H. Graves of Frederick's Hall, Va., called on us. Mrs. Julia Hall of Tappahannock, Va., called on us.

Mr. J. C. Robinson of Danville, Va., a member of the firm of Robinson & Kilgore called on us. Mrs. Sarah Johnson of Beaver Dam, Va., is visiting her daughter, Miss M. A. Johnson, No 13 W. Franklin St.

The regular monthly meeting of the Sunday Union will convene with the Sharon Baptist Sunday School Sunday at 3:30 P. M. Mrs. John Hill has returned home from Philadelphia, where she has been spending the past two years, and is looking well.

Mrs. Annie Britton of Washington, presented Mary Abernathy and Pokey Barnes with a new bedstead. She is stopping with Mrs. Joanna Thompson, on N. Third street.

Mrs. Maria Watkins and Miss Henrietta Watkins have returned to the city after spending several weeks with relatives and friends in Powhatan Co., Va. Dismond--Kersey--Marriage.

The Second Baptist Church was the center of attraction last Monday night. Notwithstanding the sudden change in the weather, young, middle-aged and old were seen hurrying down to that edifice. Master Samuel H. Dismond was to take little Miss Alice Kersey, as his wife, and as the fair one was to have such a large number of maids and attendants, every one was eager to see the affair.

At the appointed hour, carriages were heard at the church, and Miss Nellie Forester began playing the wedding march. The doors were opened and the bridal party entered.

Master Willie Aytes with his attendants bearing the book containing the order of ceremony, came in first. As he took his stand on the rostrum, the usher with lance came in with all the dignity possible.

The groomsmen were all handsomely attired in the black suits, swallow tail cut, and the maids in pink and blue tarleton décolleté costumes. When the bride entered, leaning on the arm of the groom one would have thought that 'twas a real marriage. She wore white dress, veil and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet which the groom gave.

He looked exceedingly groom-like, and proud of his bride. While gazing at the party of lads and lassies it seemed like a beautiful picture. Too much praise cannot be given Mrs. Bettie Robinson Smith for the management and training of those children. The tableaux and singing were good.

Recollect that this couple will marry again at an early date at the Fifth Street Baptist Church. Let all spend 10 cents to witness it, for the proceeds are for the Lunenburg prisoners. Go and help the good cause.

MARABLE'S PLEA.

HE TELLS THE STORY OF THE POLLARD MURDER.

A GRAPHIC RECITAL.

Declares Them Innocent

Charges David Thompson With the Murder

ERRORS IN THE RECORD.

MR. WM. L. ROYAL DRAWS UP THIS REMARKABLE PETITION.

The Fourteenth Amendment and Its Guarantees--Judge Coleman Again Refuses a Writ of Error--To the Supreme Court of Appeals.

It has been known by those who were thoroughly acquainted with the facts that steps would be taken to secure for Solomon Marable a new trial, in order that the entire case may be gone over and justice done. It is conceded that none of the convicted people had a trial as contemplated by the statutes.

Mr. Wm. L. Royal, one of the most distinguished jurists in the country, having won distinction in the English bond-holders fight against the state of Virginia, has become much interested in the case of Mr. Joseph Bryant, a wealthy Virginian of a philanthropic nature, also determined to assist in the matter.

The object is to test certain features of the law. Mr. Royal drew up Marable's petition for a writ of error and supersedeas and on Tuesday, Oct. 1st presented it to Judge S. L. Coleman at Lynchburg, C. H. It was promptly refused and the petition will now go to the Supreme Court of Appeals. If a new trial is not secured there the matter will be taken to the Supreme Court of the United States. Here is the petition:

To the Honorable Samuel F. Coleman, Judge of the Third Judicial Circuit of Virginia: Your petitioner, William Henry Marable, sometimes called Solomon warable, respectfully shows that he is aggrieved by a judgement of the County Court of Lunenburg county, Va., pronounced against him on the 20th day of July, 1886, whereby your petitioner was sentenced to be hanged on the 20th day of September, 1886. The Governor of the state has granted your petitioner a reprieve of said sentence until the 20th day of October, 1886. Your petitioner attaches hereto a certified copy of the record of said judgement and some of the proceedings had prior to rendering of same and he prays that it may be read and read as a part of this petition.

Your petitioner is a citizen of the United States, a Negro man of the African race, and he can neither read nor write. His whole life has been that of a common farm laborer, and he is as ignorant as those of his class and kind usually are, and with no money.

Your petitioner shows to your Honor this case:

A HISTORY OF THE CRIME. On Friday, the 14th day of June, 1893 Mrs. Lucy Jane Pollard, wife of E. S. Pollard, a citizen of Lunenburg county, Va., was murdered at her home, in said county. Your petitioner witnessed the said murder, and was an unwilling and partial actor in it in the following way:

At the time of said murder, your petitioner was employed as a laborer at the saw-mill of Herbert Thompson, near by the residence of the said E. S. Pollard. He said that on the evening of the 14th day of June, he was going home from a place called Fort Mitchell, near by there, to said saw-mill, your petitioner came upon one David Thompson, a brother of said Herbert Thompson, and he said that he lives in the same neighborhood, in the public road. Thompson said good morning to which your petitioner replied "Good morning." He said, "Where are you going?" I said, "to the saw-mill."

He said, "No you ain't, you got to go with me, and he drew a pistol and said, 'come up beside me.'" He said, "Do you know anybody around Mr. Pollard's?" I said, "Yes, Aunt Mary Barnes has been working there." He said, "Is that all?" I said, "Aunt Mary Abernathy has been working on the place and Pokey Barnes lives on the line fence." He said, "That's all I want to know. Come and go with me now." (The three persons named are Negro women.)

The two went near to Pollard's house and stopped behind an old brick down house on the spring branch a little distance below the spring where Thompson said he had a quarrel with old Pollard and was going to kill him. After remaining there a short time your petitioner ordered your petitioner to look out and see what he could. Your petitioner did so and saw the Negro woman,

SHE CAME TO THE SPRING. Mary Barnes, coming down the hill from the house with a bucket, and he reported this to Thompson. Shortly after Mary Barnes returned to the house, your petitioner reported this to Thompson; that he heard some one up about the house hallooing at a horse. After remaining some twenty or thirty minutes where they were, Thompson said "Come on now with me, and he went up the hill towards the house. He said he was going to make a noise at the back door, and if any one came out your petitioner was to catch him or her and hold him or her. We went to the back door, and Thompson knocked on it.

Mrs. Pollard came to the door, and as she did so, Thompson moved towards the right hand side of the house as it is approached from the spring.

THE HORRIBLE MURDER. Mrs. Pollard saw his shadow and backed out of the door and towards the back door. Thompson caught her by her hands from behind. Thompson then came up to her and asked her, "Do you know me?" She said, "You are a white man." Then he asked her how long Mr. Pollard had been back. He then said, "I came here to kill him but I can't get a chance at him, and I will kill you." and he struck her on the head with an axe handle, holding the blade of the axe in his hand. As he was about to strike her, petitioner let her go and started off. Thompson said, "Where in the hell are you going," and I said, "Nowhere." Thompson struck Mrs. Pollard three times with the helve, and she fell to the ground, and Thompson then struck her with the axe and killed her.

ROBBED THE HOUSE. He then made your petitioner go with him into the house and he opened some things and took money out of one of the places which he put into his pocket. He then made your petitioner go away with him, and when they had reached the forks of the road he gave the petitioner two pieces of paper money, telling him not to spend any of it about there, but to go to Chase City, and write a letter to Rev. Bee Finneywood, near where they were, telling him to register it, signing it by the name of your petitioner's brother, Oliver Marable, in which some of the money was to be put, and deliver it to the post-office at Bee Finneywood, near where they were, and that place he was the postmaster.

He then told your petitioner if he was asked about the murder to say that Mary Abernathy, Mary Barnes and Pokey Barnes did it, and if he did not that he would shoot your petitioner as soon as he could catch him. The two then separated. The next morning your petitioner went to Chase City, which was about five miles away, he bought a breakfast from a colored woman, who sent her daughter out with one of the pieces of money given petitioner by Thompson to get it changed, the same being a twenty dollar note.

THAT TELL TALK LETTER. Your petitioner then got a Mr. Clark to register the same, and it was received through the mail at Finneywood and was in evidence. On Saturday evening your petitioner returned to his home and was told by his wife that she had been badly scared by a number of white men with pistols, had been there during the day and had said they wanted your petitioner for a witness about Mrs. Pollard's murder.

THAT THREATENED LYNCHING. Later he heard they were going to "white cap" all the colored people around until they made some confess who had murdered Mrs. Pollard. His wife said she was going to her uncle's not far away, and your petitioner went with her, and he stayed there next morning (Sunday) your petitioner and his wife determined that they would go to their former home, in North Carolina, and they started off by way of Chase City. Going through the eventing of the morning, your petitioner and his wife stopped to buy something to eat, while his wife walked on down the railroad. When he started to overtake her he heard shouting behind him, and he turned back to see several white men coming towards him and calling out, "stop that man!" They frightened your petitioner very much and he commenced to run. The men pursued him back to the house, and thereby greatly increased his alarm. Your petitioner ran to the woods and thereby escaped his pursuers.

WHERE HE WAS ARRESTED. Your petitioner being now frightened almost to death, remained in the woods, and at the houses of different Negroes, until Tuesday morning, when a party of white men, armed with guns and pistols, came up with him and arrested him. Soon after they arrested him they were joined by Mr. Herbert Pettus, a half brother of Dave Thompson. The men who had arrested your petitioner told him that he had better make a confession or he would be hung before they got to Mr. Pollard's house, and your petitioner, thinking that Lucius Pettus knew about it and would have your petitioner killed if he did not say what Dave Thompson had told him to say, made a confession that Mary Abernathy and Pokey Barnes killed Mrs. Pollard, while he held her and that Mary Barnes had been a party to the conspiracy to kill her.

THE WOMEN ARRESTED. Your petitioner was carried to Mrs. Pollard's house and the three Negro women were arrested and brought there when the coroner was holding an inquest. Quite a number of persons collected there, perhaps four or five hundred, and your petitioner heard that all of the prisoners were going to be lynched. In the evening Mr. Clements, the constable, who had the prisoners in charge, smuggled them out of the back door in charge of four or five boys, and they were got to the woods through the brush by ways remaining to put the crowd off with one excuse and another until the prisoners could be lodged in the jail.

LYNCHING THREATENED. In a short time the public mind became violently excited in the county of Lunenburg, and threats were freely made that the prisoners would be taken from the jail by force and hung. This excitement became so violent and so general that the sheriff of Lunenburg county, in whose custody the prisoners were, felt compelled to take them stealthily in the night-time from

BEREAN VALLEY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

COVINGTON, VA., SEPT. 28, 1895. To the Editor of the Richmond PLANTER Dear Sir:--

I take great pleasure in forwarding to you a synopsis of the work done at the Berean Valley Baptist Association at its last meeting.

The association met with the Mount Olivet Baptist Church, Low Moor, Va., on Sept. 19th.

REV. SIMMS PREACHES. After the appointment of various committees by request of Rev. D. C. Hunter, Rev. A. J. Simms of Zion Baptist Church, North Garden, Albemarle Co., Va., preached the introductory sermon from Psalm, Psalm, 1st verse, Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity. I am unable to describe the soul-searching power of the sermon, but as we move to tears--tears from the depth of the soul. The sobbing of some indicated this.

Several, then, both sisters and brethren were introduced and invited to send a bouquet to this benediction was pronounced by our old father in associational works, Rev. Wiley Simpson, and the morning session of the first day passed.

At the session, the moderator, Rev. K. Perkins prosiding, the committee on permanent organization reported.

OFFICERS ELECTED. Several present officers declined to accept renomination and many elections were held. The following were elected: Revs. M. L. Minter and O. H. Holloway served as tellers. Two of the old officers, namely Rev. D. C. Dean and J. D. Oliver were elected by vote. The church members responded to the letter of welcome. Other committees were appointed. Rev. Sam'l Cyrus uttered a blessing and the afternoon session of the first day was done.

THE ANNUAL SESSION. The most significant thing of the evening session was the annual sermon by Rev. J. D. Oliver from the subject: "The duties of a church to its members." His text was 2nd chapter of Ephesians, 1st verse, How low therefore ye are many strangers and foreigners, but fellow-citizens with the saints, and of the household of God."

Rev. W. H. Bailey was introduced and made appropriate remarks concerning the "Southern Forge," a newspaper published at Lynchburg, Va.

Rev. D. C. Dean highly recommended the Bible and newspaper reading as an impetus to the advancement, elevation and edification of the people. At this juncture more committees were appointed. Rev. J. D. Oliver offered prayer and the evening session ended.

THE APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES. Friday morning the delegation assembled at 9 o'clock, Rev. H. W. Williams, the moderator, reading the usual opening service and the adoption of the first day's minutes, the appointment of committees began again.

You would imagine, Mr. Editor, that the whole work of the association was done through committees, but not so, the delegates discussed the reports as they were made, and when the committee on grievances reported it was foreseen that there would be a warm discussion.

The report was made Saturday night and on Sunday morning, the delegates sang, and the Spirit of God was present, and fervent prayers did not save us from three hours dispute when that report was taken from the table. The delegates were happy in the moderator refusing to allow longer discussion. Our hearts were sore over that report all the day. The delegates not all being present at the opening session, the moderators were read as they were brought in.

PRAYING WITH THE OBSTREPEROUS. Thirty minutes prayer meeting was held for the imploring of blessings upon the members of the association, who lay sick at his home in Staunton.

From the 6th chapter, 2nd Kings, 12th, 13th and 14th verses, Rev. Wiley Simpson preached a doctrinal sermon on "The three rivers, Abana, Sharpar and the Jordan," and emphasized his sermon by the seasonable quotation, "Go wash and be clean." Naaman dipped himself in the Jordan, and he was saying, "The three rivers, Abana, Sharpar and the Jordan," "God said it," "God says it," "Will you obey God, or man?"

At the expiration of two days the delegates were ready to depart. Some left without a word of adieu. When the committee on Education reported, Miss Mildred Perkins of Clifton Forge, Va., read a splendid poem entitled "Past and Present."

Having consumed much of the Saturday morning session in almost wrangling over the report on grievances, we had to rush other reports without much discussion in order to get through with our business.

Most of the time of the afternoon session was taken to preach the funeral sermon to the members of the church in which the convention met.

THE CLOSING ADDRESS. Rev. S. F. Chapman was present at the evening session, and by request of the moderator, read the association. Nearly the whole of Saturday was employed in hearing, discussing and adopting reports.

It would take too much time and space to include the reports in this writing, but we hope you