WOMAN'S NOBLE PART

WHAT SHE IS DOING TO ADVANCE B. Y. P. U. INTERESTS.

CONTRIBUTES IN MANY WAYS.

Her Tact and Christian Activity Shown Especially in Leading the Juniors—Some of the Women Prominent in the Work.

Woman's work in the great society of the Baptist Young People's Union Association, which welds together every State in the Union and the Canadian provinces, is important and indispensable. This organization is a distinctly educational one, and were women excluded from its membership the whole structure would fall to pieces. Even in secular work, the public schools for instance, woman forms the bulk of the teachers, and it is she who, by teaching the child, becomes the moulder of national life. Thus, in the Baptist Young People's Union Association woman, whose peculiar province it is to understand and teach children, makes her influence felt most strongly. In missionary work, too, she is especially strong, and her earnest and well-directed work bears good fruit. Although the great majority of the officers of the various State, city, and local unions are young men, a good many offices are held by women. They act as secretaries, superintendents of junior work, treasurers, junior leaders, vice-presidents, and on the executive committees.

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Mrs. F. L. Wilkins, now of Gloucester, Mass., whose husband was the first general secretary, must be more largely credited than any one else with the inauguration of the Junior Department of this work. For some time she conducted the Junior Department of the Baptist Union, the official organ. She prepared lessons-plans, and carried on systematic correspondence with junior workers in all parts of the field. To her energy and enthusiasm the junior work is indebted for

MISS MAY FIELD M'KEAN,
(Who Writes "Little Talks by Miss May.")

its initial impulse, and to her tactful management for a large measure of its success.

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Among the contributors to this work, who have most largely aided it, is Miss May Field McKean, of Philadelphia. For several years she has furnished an article weekly on the junior prayer-meeting topic, under the heading of "Little Talks by Miss May." Very many of the juniors know her only by the name of "Miss May." She is an invalid, confined to her room, able to sit up only a little while at a time. During these years of enforced retirement and physical weakness she has found the sunshine of her life in ministering with her pen to her large band of juniors all over the country.

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Miss Lou La Tourette, formerly of Fenton, Mich., now a member of the office staff of the Baptist Young People's Union Association, is another experienced and efficient junior worker. Miss La Tourette was at one time State junior leader for Michigan, and the efficiency of the work in that State is largely due to her intel-

MISS HATTIE HODGE,
(Second Vice-President, Michigan.)

lligent direction and inspiration. She is a graduate of Ann Arbor University, and brings to the work a trained mind, which, combined with a winsomeness of manner and a happy tactfulness in dealing with juniors, makes her influence unusually marked for good.

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Mrs. John H. Chapman, wife of the president of the Baptist Young People's Union Association, has been among the most enthusiastic advocates of the junior work, making contributions with her pen, delivering addresses in the interest of her work, enlisting others in it, and giving the results of her valuable experience in conferences in the several conventions.

* * *

Miss Lorilla E. Bushnell is another ardent and efficient worker of this organization. The department of the union which contains the Christian Culture Courses is under her direct supervision. She sees to it that the writers are duly notified; that the material is at hand in good season, and that it appears in correct form. The programmes for the con-

MRS. A. G. HISLOP,
(South Dakota.)

quest missionary meetings are prepared by her, with the "Hints and Helps" and references to missionary literature. Also, the missionary "Side-Lights." The work of tabulating and examining and recording the thousands of examination papers which come in at the close of the study period each year is under her direct supervision. In addition to this, she edits the Junior Baptist Union. No one is more thoroughly conversant with all the details of our work, or more intelligently and enthusiastically interested in it. Miss Bushnell's connection with the young people's work dates back some years previous to her connection with the Baptist Union office. Her home was in Denver Col., and when the Colorado State Christian Endeavor Society was organized (before the organization of the Baptist Young People's Union of America) she was its first secretary, serving for one year. Then the Colorado State Baptist Young People's Union was organized, in October, 1891 (a few months after the organization of the International Union), and she was appointed missionary secretary; also, served as acting president for the latter half of the year. She came into the Chicago headquarters in February, 1894, and has been connected with the secretarial and editorial part of the work since that time.

* * *

Among the gifted women who have rendered especial service in this work is Mrs. L. J. P. Bishop, of New York city, who has had wide experience in primary Sunday-school work. She has rare ability to present Bible truth in simple form.

MRS. JOHN H. CHAPMAN, OF CHICHGO.

and to enrich it with illustrations. She took a prominent part in the conference on junior work in the International Convention in Buffalo last year, and will present a paper at the convention here. She has had charge of the primary work at Calvary Baptist church, New York, which is one of the leading churches in the denomination.

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Mrs. N. B. Leslie, of Connersville, Ind., is another splendid worker in this great field of labor. She has been connected locally with the Baptist Young People's Union Association since its organization, and for three years was State junior leader for Indiana. She was also field secretary for senior and junior unions for a year, organizing unions and securing subscriptions for the union. She is continuing this work now travelling through the State, and working under the auspices of the Woman's State Mission Board, with charts explaining the object of the Baptist Young People's Union.

* * *

Miss Carrie O. Millspaugh, of Portland, Ore., has been deeply interested in the Baptist Young People's Union of America since the beginning of the movement. While busily engaged in teaching and writing for several years, she found time for considerable work in connection with the new society. For three years she was superintendent of the Junior Union, in Tecumseh, Mich. In 1895 Miss Millspaugh reported the Baltimore convention for the Christian Herald of Detroit. In 1896 she gave an address on junior work at the Milwaukee convention.

After having graduated at the Baptist Missionary Training School, in Chicago, in June, 1898, she was commissioned to serve as general missionary for Oregon of the Woman's Baptist Home Mission Society, the Woman's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of the State, and the State Baptist Young People's Union. She has already organized several new societies and has helped give new life and permanence to many more.

* * *

Mrs. A. G. Hislop has been associated with the Baptist Young People's Union ever since the organization of the movement, being an earnest worker in the local union, and for the past three years corresponding and recording secretary of the South Dakota Baptist Young People's Union. The work has been systematized and unions brought more closely together in sympathy. She is untiring in her efforts to advance the work in the Christian Culture Courses, and increase the circulation of the Union.

* * *

Miss Minnie J. Headley, State Treasurer for Iowa, has been in office for nearly two years, and her report this fall will be the best testimonial to her efficiency as local president. She did much to establish Baptist Young People's Union in the church at Muscatine.

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Other splendid workers of the Baptist Young People's Union are Miss Georgia S. Richards, president of the Colorado State Union; Miss Carrie Sheffield, of Topeka, secretary of the Kansas Union; Mrs. J. Spicer Leaming, Cape May City, N. J., local junior leader; Mrs. Willard Smith, Orange, N. J., local junior leader; Miss Mary E. Fausett, of Union City, Pa.; Miss Hattie Hodge, second vice-president of the Baptist Young People's Union. Association, of Michigan, and Miss Maud Pollard, corresponding secretary of the Virginia State Union. Miss Bertha Grimmell, of Cleveland, O., is very active in the work of the German Baptist Young People's Union, which is in fullest affiliation with the international organization.

Thus this young people's movement has opened another wide door of usefulness for the women of the land whose intention and deep religious sympathy and knowledge of child nature peculiarly fit them for this work. There is no one who is more deeply indebted to Christianity than woman, who has risen in the social scale and exulted to queenship over human life only where Christianity hold sway. Her Christian work is at once her response to the instinct of debtorship and to the love of her Master.

UNION OF OUR CITY.

An Army of Enthusiastic Young People in Richmond.

It was during the first years of this decade, when, like a silent and powerful influence, the young people's movement was spreading over the entire Continent, that Richmond responded, and a Baptist Young People's Union was organized.

Like so many enterprises that were destined to become great, the Baptist Young People's Union in this city had a very small beginning. There was even an outspoken opposition to it in some quarters, mainly because its purposes were not well understood. But the light was turned on and the doubts that it would conserve to great good fled before it. It would be difficult, indeed, to name all those who were the champions in this city of the innovation. But among them are Dr. W. E. Hatcher, of Grace-Street church; Dr. W. W. Landrum, then pastor of the Second Baptist church, and Dr. W. L. Wright, then pastor of the Leigh-Street church; Professor W. A. Harris, now Professor of Greek in Baylor University, Texas, and Mr. John Garland Pollard.

THE FIRST UNION HERE.

The first union of the city and the third in Virginia was organized at the Grace-Street, in November, 1892. Professor W. A. Harris, son of Professor H. H. Harris, was elected president. The Second church followed almost at once, and Leigh-Street followed close behind. Starting out with but a few members in each church, now there is scarcely a church in Richmond or Manchester which has not a flourishing organization, embracing the large proportion of the young people of their congregations. The meetings held weekly are well attended, and a marvellous result has been accomplished. Before the appearance of these unions in Richmond but few young men in the city took part in the prayer meeting and other services of the church. Now, so wide is the reverse, that in nearly every church there are young men who, when occasion offers, are willing to speak or lead in prayer. If the spirituality among the young people had not been greatly deepened, the result stated above would lavishly compensate for what effort and sacrifice it has cost.

UNIONS AND OFFICERS.

Following is given a list of the unions in the city, their presidents and secretaries:

Richmond—

First Church—John A. Traylor, president; R. B. McCurdy, secretary.

Second Church—J. B. Montgomery, president; Frank T. Crump, secretary.

Grace-Street—Thomas V. McCaul, president; W. W. Gordon, secretary.

Calvary—John B. Gayle, president; Miss Lucy W. Duke, secretary.

MISS MINNIE J. HEADLEY,
(State Treasurer for Iowa.)

Grove-Avenue—M. F. Cox, president; Miss Arabella Pilcher, secretary.

West-View—John T. Stewart, president; A. Dickerson, secretary.

Randolph-Street—W. B. Figg, president; M. R. Pace, Jr., secretary.

Pine-Street—John T. Gulick, president; P. L. Booker, secretary.

Immanuel—S. B. Woodfin, president; H. J. Epps, secretary.

Howard's-Grove—I. J. England, president; Miss Lula Burton, secretary.

Venable-Street—E. Manly Goodwyn, president; W. M. Burly, Secretary.

Leigh-Street—James C. Harwood, president; Miss Helen Fleet, secretary.

Manchester—

Bainbridge-Street—J. G. Loving, president; R. S. Watkins, secretary.

Oak-Grove—Walter Mallory, president; Miss Grace Mallory, secretary.

CITY UNION AND OFFICERS.

The City Union, embracing the unions of Richmond and Manchester, was organized in January, 1894. Mr. John Garland Pollard was elected president. He has been succeeded by Mr. Ashby T. Ragland, Mr. H. W. Cottrell, and Mr. Hill Montague, the incumbent. The other officers of the City Union at present are: Vice-President, Mr. S. B. Woodfin; Secretary, Mr. R. B. McCurdy; Treasurer, Mr. M. R. Pace, Jr. The Board of Managers are Messrs. A. W. Patterson, A. A. Booth, J. Garland Pollard, W. D. Duke, M. F. Cox, J. T. Stewart, S. B. Woodfin, M. R. Pace, Jr., D. W. Sims, P. E. W. Goodwin, W. P. Tallaferro, W. E. Turner, T. J. England, and W. S. Reams.

Property Transfers.

Richmond: William W. Childs and wife, James Childs and wife, and George W. Childs to John A. Umlauf, 26 feet on north side Beverly street, between Pine and Belvidere, $1,400.

L. M. Omer and wife to B. G. Garner, 44 feet on north side Marshall between Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth streets, $1,300.

Flora Stuart to W. Benjamin Davis, 20 9-12 feet on east side Harvie street, 114 feet south of Floyd street, $3,500.

Henrico: H. E. Johnson and wife to Henry S. Wallerstein, 21 6-12 feet on west side Twenty-first street, 128 6-12 feet south of T street, $5.

At The Cohen Company's Store Free Exhibition of the World-Renowned Painting, "The Morning of The Crucifixion," by Astley Cooper. Gallery for its exhibit on Second Floor. Ask for pamphlet, giving history and description in detail.

RICHMOND BAPTISTS.

SKETCH OF THE DENOMINATION'S HISTORY IN THIS CITY.

QUARTER OF A CENTURY GROWTH.

The Oldest Pastor Here in Point of Service Here Reviews the Progress of the Denominations and Points Out Some of the Causes.

By Rev. J. B. Hutson.

Despise not the day of small things. The First Baptist church of Richmond was constituted in a private residence on Union Hill in 1780, with only fourteen members, who had been dismissed for the purpose from Boar-Swamp church, now known as Antioch church, Henrico county. There was then only one church building—St. John's—in the town, and in this services were held regularly but three times yearly. This first church of the Baptists was born in "troublous times." The war of the Revolution, with its attendant devastations and horrors, was still raging, and the momentous struggle for religious liberty, in which Baptists were most deeply concerned, was not yet ended. But the little church, undaunted, went forward to the building of a suitable frame house on the northeast corner of Cary and Third streets, which long ago disappeared. From this location they removed, some years after, to the corner of Broad and College streets, and continued to grow in strength and increase in numbers until at one time, including the colored members, they numbered 2,095. This house was twice enlarged, as the one now occupied also has been. When this church was first organized what is now the beautiful Capitol Square, with its imposing buildings and ennobling statuary, was but a forest of pines. The house of worship now in use was erected in 1841 under the pastorate of Dr. J. B. Jeter. The old house was given to the colored members, numbering 1,670, and they were organized as "The First

MRS. EDGAR F. BAILEY,
(Recording Secretary New Jersey.)

African Baptist Church of Richmond." Rev. Dr. Robert Ryland, president of Richmond College, who recently died at the remarkable age of 94, was their first pastor, and ministered to them in wisdom and faithfulness for more than twenty years.

The Second Baptist church was organized in 1820, with only seventeen members, who came from the First church, and the Grace-Street Baptist church began in 1843 with only thirty-three members. And thus the three churches which first came into existence with such small beginnings have grown and become mighty, and the denomination has increased and multiplied until now there are seventeen white churches and eighteen colored. In all this the hand of the Lord has been manifest, and humble acknowledgment is made to the Giver of All Good.

QUARTER OF CENTURY GROWTH.

God gave Mount Seir to Esau, the city of Ar to the children of Lot, and the land of Canaan to Israel; and it would seem that he who hath determined the bounds of the habitation of the nations of the earth hath given Richmond to the Baptists. And in this goodly inheritance there is a double consolation; for, according to the divine aphorism, "Whosoever hath, to him shall be given, and he shall have abundance," and the saying is verified in this instance, for twenty-five years ago we possessed only one city or town in the State, and now we are grateful for nine. But while we have grown stronger in the State, the apprehension has been expressed that we are weakening in the metropolis. A brief review of the last quarter of a century will quickly dissipate this groundless fear, and, if Bolingbroke is correct in saying that "History is philosophy teaching by example," it may not be unprofitable to take a glance, though it be as shadowy as the stereopticon, at the last two and a half decades of Baptist progress in the city.

In 1872 the white Baptists of Richmond had 7 churches and a total membership of 2,674. In 1898 they had 16 churches and 8,779 members. In this period the city had grown in population from 60,000 to 92,500, making an increase of 54 1-10 per cent. The white Baptists made in the same time a net gain of 6,105, which is 228 3-10 per cent. In 1872 there were, of all denominations, 49 church buildings; now there are 89—a gain of 81 3-5 per cent. The white Baptists in the same years added 9 churches—a gain of 128 4-7 per cent.

Let us look at another period of twenty-one years, from 1875 to 1896—the only statistics accessible. In 1875 the total membership of all the churches was 24,828; in 1896 it was 42,934—a net gain of 72 9-10 per cent. The white Baptists gained in the same interim 5,161 members, or 149 2-10 per cent.

The total number of Baptists, white and colored, now in the city is about 22,000, or nearly one-fourth of the entire population; so that, on the average, leaving out little children and infants, about every third person one meets in Richmond is a Baptist.

BAPTISTS LOVE THE TRUTH.

Let us now inquire what principles and agencies have contributed to the growth and prosperity of this great Baptist host. And, first of all, it must be said that the Baptists love the truth, and in saying this, who can tell how much is said? In

MISS LORILLA E. BUSHNELL,
(Of Chicago Headquarters.)

the language of Carlyle, "What quite infinite worth lies in truth!" We have no thought of unkindness toward our brethren of other creeds in emphasizing the progress of our own, but rejoice in all the good they accomplish. So potent is truth, so lovely, and so richly laden with superlative blessing, the wonder is that all do not seek her with painstaking toil, with gladsome zeal, and with the cheerful sacrifice of every prejudice, every preconceived opinion, and all traditional environment. Baptists love the truth, and the wonder is that their progress has not been even greater. But we must remember, the more truth, the more opposition; and the sect which has the most will be the sect "everywhere spoken against."

Baptists humbly believe they have the truth, and, alas, that there should be any truth in the appendage, "And they have nothing else"! If the Baptists were as full of zeal, consecration, liberality, and holiness as they are sound in doctrine, their progress would be with ever-increasing momentum, triumphal achievement would mark their course, the millennium would hasten to dawn, and the slain of the Lord would lay

"Thick as autumnal leaves that strow
the brooks
In Vallambrosa."

CHURCHES WELL LOCATED.

Another secret of the success of Richmond Baptists is the location of their churches. Scarcely more important to an army are strategic points than to a denomination are suitable locations for churches. All things being equal, an elevated site is much to be preferred. If it has no other advantage, it makes the house conspicuous. The temple was built upon Mount Moriah, and the people said: "Come, let us go up to the house of the Lord." The Jewish canons decreed that even synagogues, built wherever ten Jews lived, should be erected upon the most elevated ground in the neighborhood, and no house be allowed to overtop them. Failing of a commanding site, a tall pole rose from the roof to advertise it. But the most elegant and commodious house, with graceful steeple that tickles the stars, if badly located, may become as powerless and mournful as the Cristobal Colon. With few exceptions, our churches have occupied eligible positions. Twenty-five years ago the seven churches of Richmond, like "the seven churches of Asia," seemed to command the whole field. The old First held the Shockoe territory northward, and overlooked the valley eastward beneath. The Second commanded the south side and Gamble's Hill plateau. Grace-Street, centrally and admirably situated in the upper half of the city, reached in all directions. Leigh-Street, in the east, watched over the broad field of Church Hill, Libby Hill, and Chimborazo. Pine-Street stood in a growing section, half way betwixt Monroe Park and James river, and half way betwixt the penitentiary grounds and Hollywood Cemetery, as if to keep the people out of one and prepare them for the other. Fulton, in the little town down in the southeast, and Sidney, in the southwest, hold the outposts and extreme limits of the city. Thus every section was given church privileges, and every community brought into easy reach of the house of the Lord. Baptists are not combative, and find no delight in the glamour of war; but never was an army better stationed than these seven churches for the defence of the truth and for the propagation of the Word of Life.

THE TWO BAPTIST COLLEGES.

Richmond College has been a massive bulwark of strength to the Baptists of the city. But for her solid front, our ranks might be surprisingly weaker and thinner than they are to-day. In various ways and by many means she has given safety and prowess to the denomination. Her faculty has been composed of men of mark, who could not live in a community without exerting an elevating influence. She has drawn to her walls, of the pride and chivalry of the land, an army of color-bearers, who delight to honor the metropolis of their Alma Mater. She has singled out, armed, and stationed upon the walls of our own city men of might, not one whit behind the chiefest. She has exerted a quickening and uplifting influence among all classes, from the lowest walks of unkempt squalor to the highest circles of velvety culture and refinement. She has been to us an illuminated fortress, shedding light from her lamps upon dark waters, and commanding with her guns the deep channels of public thought, and warning off piratical or infectious craft.

The Woman's College, the modest little sister, who in recent years has outgrown her short dresses and stands up almost as tall as her stalwart brother, must not be overlooked. How beautifully she has adorned the doctrines we prize, sent sunshine and song into many homes, and lent aromatic sweetness to the toil of mental acquisition! How much has she done to make our homes happy, our

MISS CARRIE O. MILLSPAUGH,
(General Missionary for Oregon.)

churches attractive, and our people capable, active, and progressive! And what have both our colleges done, "That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth, that our daughters may be as corner-stones, polished after the similitude of a palace"!

OTHER AGENCIES OF INFLUENCE.

We reckon among the powerful agencies of this city in behalf of the Baptists the Religious Herald. Ably edited, sound and conservative, spiritual and progressive, this paper has exerted an influence silent as the leaven, but scarcely less pervasive. How much are we indebted to it for the unity, soundness in the faith, religious intelligence, and progressiveness which characterize our people!

Two other important agencies in this blessed work deserve special mention. The Sunday-School Association has for many years been active as a Church extension society. It has planted and fostered new Sunday schools. In some instances it has undertaken to provide new houses of worship for young churches, and in other cases it has made liberal appropriations out of its treasury in aid of like enterprises. The Pastors' Conference, where, through all these years a spirit of unbroken fellowship has reigned, has been a source of strength and joy to all our people.

The Baptists here have made progress because of their conservatism. This is no place for innovations and new-fangled notions. The pastor that comes here with "some new thing" to tell, or some wind of doctrine to blow, sits down quickly on his seat to find that he has been electrocuted. We are content to walk in the old paths. We do not want the soft-shell of open inconsistency, neither the hard-shell that marks the land with sacerdotalism. There is a kind of dogmatic orthdoxy, a plausible consistency, a boastful want of complaisance in pressing to the extreme limit; but we would adhere to the less conspicuous, more difficult, and scriptural narrow way that lies in the middle.

WORK OF NOBLE MEN.

But now, after all that has been said, our prosperity is due, above all, to the God-given men who have toiled in the field; for, as Goethe says, "It is always the individual, not the age, that stands up for the truth." Since 1872, fifty-one white Baptist pastors, including those now in charge, have labored in Richmond. All these, with possibly one or two exceptions, whose terms of service were very short, did good and lasting work, and strengthened the stakes of Zion. "There were great men before Agamemnon," but none greater among us than some who have labored in the period in which we are writing. "There were giants in those days," among whom we may mention Dr. J. L. Burrows. As a pulpit orator he was the peer of Henry Ward Beecher, whom he strikingly resembled in physique, and his clarion voice was superior. No man of his day was better informed as to denominational work. He was a dynamo of energy, and knew how to bring things to pass. He was frank and open as the sun, and so able in debate and gifted in repartee that none would willingly provoke his trenchant blade. He loved Richmond, he loved the Baptists, he loved the Master, and he was a power for good in the city.

Professor Herbert H. Harris was a factor in the progress of our denomination. He answered to Carlyle's definition: "Genius is an immense capacity for taking pains." Modest and unassertive, not often eloquent, but a profound scholar, a clear-sighted theologian, a born teacher,

MISS CARRIE E. SHEFFIELD,
(Secretary of Kansas Union.)

he was a tower of strength among us. Honored and beloved by all, there is an untold pathos in his untimely death.

Hon. H. K. Ellyson, who for forty-six years watched with eager eye the marshalled forces of the State, did much to build the waste places in Zion. He was a man of dauntless courage, soft as velvet in the suavity of his manners, but firm as steel in principles for which he lived and wrought. His self-denying labors and unceasing devotion to Baptist interests were an inspiration to many, and infused a spirit of zeal and activity all along the lines.

Time would fail me to speak of the able and eloquent N. W. Wilson, who wrought so well at Grace-Street church, and who died later of yellow-fever at his post, in New Orleans; of the godly and scholarly Theodore Whitfield, who is affectionately remembered, not only by the Fulton people, whom he served with singleness of heart, but by a host of friends in this city and throughout the land; of Rev. W. T. Jolly, for years the self-forgetting and devoted pastor of Randolph-Street. These all died in faith and have entered upon the enjoyment of their rich reward.

Many others might be mentioned—men and women of renown, who, with consecrated talents and persevering application contributed largely to the common weal—and Dr. J. B. Jeter, a chain-box of equilibrium—whose broad erudition, great practical wisdom, unwavering fidelity, and deep piety characterized him as the Nestor of them all.

God be thanked for these great men, and for many others in his sight perhaps as great—men and women scarcely seen and never sung, who watched and wept, and prayed and ploughed, and sowed the seed which is ripening into the bounteous harvest.

Plan to Colonize Negroes in Cuba.

(Philadelphia Press.)

A scheme to colonize American negroes in Cuba, providing a sufficient number of indorsements can be secured on a petition to the next United States Congress, has been suggested to a number of prominent colored men and women in this city, asking their support and influence.

The enterprise, which has just been started by John H. Waller, of Kansas, ex-United States Consul to Tamatave, Madagascar, wants the government of the United States to appropriate $20,000,000 to locate the American negro in Cuba.

The wisdom of this scheme, Waller claims, is in the fact that Cuba to-day is the new Mecca of the southern negroes, and, in fact, of all negroes, who feel forcibly the press of circumstances, by reason of its climate, opportunities, and advantages.

He argues that there is no future in America for the negro under the present conditions, which are destined to ever remain similar in character. Amalgamation, he says, is both impossible and undesirable, and unless emigration is the negro's salvation, annihilation like that of the American Indian will be the ultimate outcome.

By numbers of leading negro representatives it is thought that the proposed scheme is more than likely to meet with approval, for it appears more feasible and practical than any of the emigration schemes yet offered.

DECORATED HALL.

THE AUDITORIUM NEVER PRESENTED SUCH A BRAVE SHOW.

OLD GLORY WAVES EVERYWHERE.

It Flies from the Towers and is Seen on Every Hand in the Interior—Arrangements Are Well-Nigh Perfect.

With the Stars and Stripes flying from its towers, with bunting of every conceivable color arranged in every conceivable design, ornamenting the interior, the Auditorium, in which the great Baptist Young People's Union of America will convene this morning, presents a spectacle at once beautiful and inspiring to a degree.

One cannot approach the building without having one's mind drawn back to the scene which the great hall presented a little over a year ago, when Virginia was rushing her troops to Richmond in response to the country's call for defenders against a common foe.

There is a similarity between the two scenes. Then there was eager coming and going, as now. There were busy scenes within the building and without, as there was yesterday and will be to-day. Then the Stars and Stripes floated from the towers and from dozens of other points as they float to-day.

MANY POINTS OF DIFFERENCE.

But there is a great difference. The display of Old Glory then meant a nation united for war against a threatened invader. To-day it means a great denomination of the greatest country on the globe united in a struggle for the advancement of good and of the teachings of a common Master. The great hall echoed then to the measured tread of arriving companies, the sharp word of command, the rattle of arms and accoutrements. To-day the sound will be of prayers, of pleas for righteousness, of a mighty chorus singing the praises of the Prince of Peace. On the very spot where but little more than a year ago was stacked a great mass of rifles and cartridge belts, there is to-day an immense collection of Bibles and religious works displayed. Then there was enthusiastic patriotism and eagerness to serve a beloved country; to-day there is an enthusiasm only in the cause of righteousness, and a desire to serve in the world-old battle against evil.

BEAUTIFUL AND ARTISTIC.

It is scarcely possible to imagine a great hall more beautifully, more appropriately, and more artistically decorated than is the Auditorium. Flags, varicolored bunting, bannerettes, streamers, shields, have been made to do all that such devices will do in forming combinations inspiring and beautiful. Bunting hangs on the wall, it is twined about the many columns that support the galleries and the lofty ceiling. It hangs in fans and festoons from the gallery rails, it drapes the whole front of the great stage, it forms a brilliant background for the great chorus which will be massed in the tiers of seats at the rear of the stage. Bannerettes of quaint device, streamers, pennants, and the beautiful shield of the Baptist Young People's Union of America appear everywhere.

In short, Mitteldorfer & Son, the decorators, have added another triumph to a long list. They are proud of their work, and every one who sees it will admit they have every right to be.

SPLENDID ARRANGEMENTS.

The arrangements of the hall are such as will enable the business of the convention to be dispatched with comfort, rapidity, and ease. At the left of the door as one enters is a post-office and telegraph office. An attache of the Richmond post-office will be sent out to take charge of the mail for the Baptist Young People's Union of America, and delegates can get their letters without delay. The Western Union will have an operator on hand all the time.

At the right of the door is the convention headquarters of the Dispatch. Mr. Mitteldorfer exhausted his abilities in decoration of the front of this stand, and it is one of the prettiest spots in the hall. The telephone of the Southern Bell Company has been placed in the Dispatch stand for the use of the reporters, and for the delegates who may have occasion to use it. The Dispatch will be on sale at this office, and orders for subscriptions will be taken. Mr. H. B. Linney, the veteran Dispatch solicitor, and son, will have charge of the office.

Immediately in rear of the Dispatch headquarters is the space in which has been installed the splendid exhibit of the publications of the American Baptist Publication Society. This is in charge of Mr. M. Strien, of Philadelphia, the business manager of the society, assisted by Mr. Paxton, who is the representative of the society in Atlanta.

On the other side of the main aisle and in rear of the post-office is the space reserved for the exhibit of the Baptist Union, the national organ. All of the committees needing headquarters at the convention hall have large and well-arranged rooms.

RESTAURANT AND HOSPITAL.

In the rear of the stage and to the right facing it is the dairy lunch-room. Cold lunches, fruits, ices, and coffee will be served.

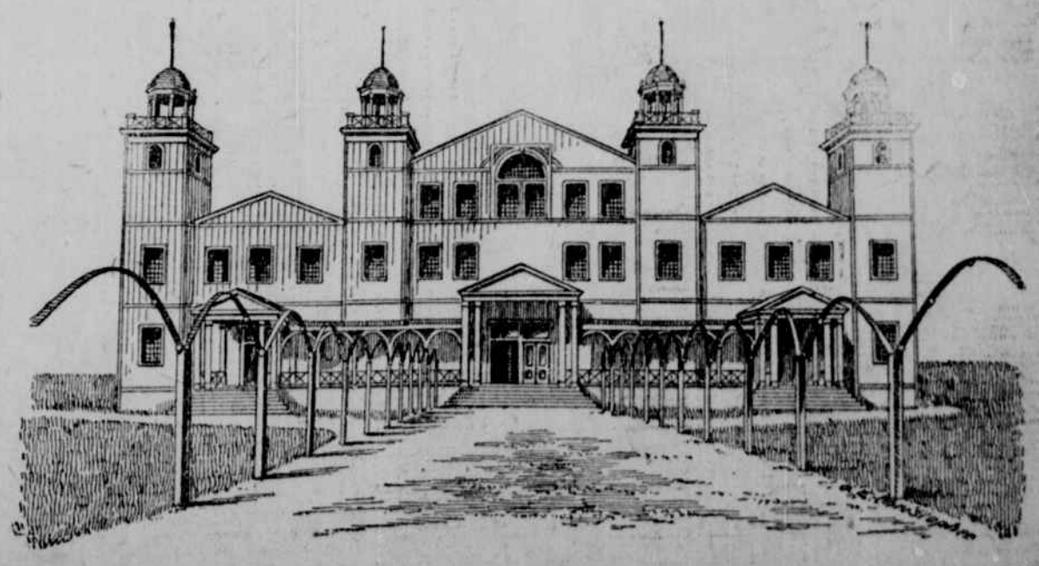
To the left and rear of the stage are the hospital, which has been supplied with cots and other necessary furniture, and the ladies' reception-room, furnished with easy chairs and sofas.

Several arc lights and a great number of incandescent lights have been placed in the hall, so that its lighting may be sufficient.

Mr. C. R. Winston, the chairman of the Hall Committee, has been indefatigable in his efforts to make everything as nearly perfect as possible. He has succeeded well.

FINE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SEATING

The arrangements for seating the delegates seem absolutely perfect. Mr. Winston has divided the floor into sections, which are numbered. He has arranged an electric wire and bell device, which runs from the stage to the office of the head usher, back at the post-office. A man will be stationed at the bell on the stage with the map of the floor before him. He will keep a keen eye on the audience, and the moment any confusion in the search for seats is noticed he will touch the button to signal the head usher to send a man to straighten out the tangle. This device is unique, and is expected to prove valuable.



THE AUDITORIUM IN WHICH THE CONVENTION MEETS.