JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

The Forty-Second Session of the Memphis Annual Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, met in Bolivar, Tenn., Wednesday morning, November 9th, 1891, Bishop Robt. Paine in the chair.

The Conference was opened with religious services conducted by the Bishop, who read I John, iii and gave out 272 hymn; after the singing, Rev. Thos. J. Neely, by request of the Bishop, led in prayer.

The Secretary of the last session called the roll of Clerical, and Lay Delegates as follows—all were present, except those marked with a *:

CLERICAL MEMBERS.

LAY MEMBERS.

Memphis District—L D Mullins, W H Kennedy, W T Wakefield, J W Wilson. Alternates, J R Pepper, __________


Dyersburg District—J M Jenkins, A T Fielder, B C Bergie, W W Spence.


The Rev. R. H. Mahon was elected Secretary, Rev. E. E. Hamilton, Ass’t Secretary, and Rev. Warner Moore, Statistical Secretary.

The presiding Elders were appointed a committee to nominate the usual Committees. Adopted as follows:


Missions.—W C Johnson, Pres, W T Harris Vice-Pres., Guilford Jones, Sec’y, R V Taylor, Treasurer.


A communication from Rev. T. O. Summers, D.D., book editor, calling attention to our books and periodicals was read.

A communication from Rev. A. W. Wilson, D.D., Secretary of the Board of Missions, was read and referred to the Conference Board.

Also from Rev. J. B McFerrin, D.D., book agent, which was read and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

Rev. R. A. Young, D.D., Secretary of the Board of Trust of Vanderbilt University, presented the annual report and catalogue of the university, which was referred to the Committee on Education.

Rev. T. L. Boswell, by request of the Bishop, took the chair.

The hours of meeting and adjournment were fixed at 9 o'clock A. M. and 12:30 P. M.

A communication from Mrs. D. H. McGavock, Corresponding Secretary of the Woman's Missionary Society, was read and referred to the Conference Board of Missions.

Dr. W. T. Harris was added to the Committee on Memoirs.

A communication from Rev. A. W. Jones, D.D., President of Memphis Conference Female Institute at Jackson, Tenn., was read and referred to the Committee on Education.

Bishop Paine resumed the chair.

Question 2—Who remain on trial?

Wm. B. Matthews, Charles D Hilliard, Dillard, M Evans, Josephus Edwards, Reginald B Swift, Wm. T. Locke, W. H. Armstrong and David L Hines having passed in examination of character, and having stood an approved examination before the committee were continued on trial.

L. D Mullins, lay delegate from the Memphis district took his seat.

Question 20—Are all the preachers blameless?

T. Boswell, R. V. Taylor, A. F. Hendrix and W. M. Leatherwood were examined and passed.

Question 19—What preachers have died during the year.

The name of W. D. T. Hafford was called, and his Presiding Elder announced that he died in great peace.

The Committee on Public Worship announced that Dr. Guilford Jones would preach at the Methodist church and Rev. T. P. Ramsey to the colored people at 6 o'clock P. M.

On motion of Guilford Jones, the Presiding Elders were appointed a committee to meet the day before the opening of the
next session of the Conference and prepare a list of committees to be submitted.

After announcements, the Conference adjourned, with the benediction by Dr. Boswell.

SECOND DAY.

TUESDAY MORNING, November 10.

Conference met according to adjournment; Rev. Guilford Jones in the chair, by request of the Bishop.

Religious service was conducted by Rev. J. M. Spence.

The roll of clerical and lay delegates was called and the following answered who were not present yesterday, to-wit:


LAY MEMBERS.

Memphis District—L. D. Mullins.
Somerville District—J. R. Wiggins.
Jackson District—W. I. McFarland and Jas. Blackmon.
Union City District—Dr. S. W. Godwin.
Paris District—Granville Goodloe.
Bolivar District—C. R. Scott and I. T. Bell.

The minutes of the previous session were read and approved. Conference resolved to dispense with the calling of the roll after to-day.

Communications from Rev. Jno. Williams, President of Wesleyan Female College at Brownsville, Tenn., the Trustees of McKenzie College, The Rev. L. R. Martin Principal of Milburn High School, and from the Trustees of Jackson District High School at Montezuma, Tenn., were read and referred to the Committee on Education.

A communication from Rev. W. M. Patterson, Superintendent of Mexican Missions, was read and referred to Board of Missions. The Conference appointed the Secretary to publish the minutes of the present session, and appointed J. D. Sullivan and O. B. Whitten to solicit subscriptions to defray the expense of publication.

Rev. J. W. Lowrance, of North-Mississippi Conference, Rev. McCutcheon, of the Cumberland Presbyterian church, this city, the Rev. David Leith, formerly of this Conference, but who has been absent for some years in Scotland, and Bishop Isaac Lane, of the colored Methodist Episcopal church in America, were introduced to the Conference by the Bishop.
Question 4—Who are admitted into full connection?
Otis B. Whitten, J. W. Grimes, H. J. Turner, George W. Evans, Ed. H. Stewart and Jno. W. Waters having passed in examination of character, and having stood an approved examination before the committee, appeared before the Conference, and having answered the disciplinary questions propounded by the Bishop, were admitted into full connection.

Question 8—What traveling preachers are elected deacons?
Otis B. Whitten and Ed. H. Stewart.

Rev. W. C. Johnson, D.D., presented the Annual Report of the "Western Methodist," which was read and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

Question 12—What traveling preachers are elected elders?
George T. Peeples, E. K. Bransford, Richard W. Newsom, A. N. Sears, J. B. Sears, W. H. Blalock having passed in examination of character, and having stood an approved examination before the committee, were elected elders.

J. J. Smith and John Williams, of this class, had been elected and ordained elders as local preachers, but having stood an approved examination before the committee, were passed.

Finly Bynum, by request of the Bishop, took the chair.
Committee on Public Worship announced that Rev. David Leith would preach at 3 P. M., and that Dr. J. B. McFerrin would lecture at night on the late Ecumenical Conference in London.

Bishop Paine resumed the chair.

Question 7—Who are the deacons of one year?
Wm. S. Malone, James A. Moody, John T. Wiggins, Job R. Bell, R. N. Freeman, J. R. Hardin, R. Y. Blackwell and W. F. Barrier deacons of one year, having stood the required examination, were passed to the class of the fourth year.

Question 20—Are all the preachers blameless, etc?
J. G. Clark and J. M. Spence, elders, examined and passed.

J. R. Pepper and J. A Hanna were added to the Committee on Sunday Schools.

J. A. Heard was made chairman of Committee on Books, etc., vice A. W. Jones, absent.

After announcements Conference adjourned, with the benediction by the Bishop.

THIRD DAY.
FRIDAY MORNING, Nov. 11th, 1881.

Conference met according to adjournment, Bishop Paine in the chair.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. James Perry.

Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.
J. A. Harma, reserve lay from the Bolivar District, took the place of Sion Tatum, absent.

I. W. Perkins, of Jackson District, W. T. Wakefield, Memphis District, and B. P. Moore, Union City District, lay delegates, took their seats.

B. Medlin, W. O. Lanier, J. G. Pirtle, R. S. Harris, clerical, reported present. Rev. J. W. Honnal and Rev. D. D. Moore, of the North Mississippi Conference, and the Rev. A. W. Wilson, D. D., Missionary Secretary, were introduced by the Bishop.

Communications from Trustees of Kerrville Academy, and also of the Union City District High School, Troy Tenn., were referred to Committee on Education. Also from the Editors of the Southern Youth, a paper at Morrilton, Ark., which was referred to Committee on Books, etc.

Question 5—Who are re-admitted?

David Leith having been examined and recommended, by the Quarterly Conference, of the Collierville Station, Memphis District, was re-admitted into the traveling connection.

Question 2—Who remain on trial?

W. A. Freeman, of this class, not having appeared before the committee, on account of his transfer to Denver Conference, was passed and continued.

Question 12—What traveling preachers are elected elders?

John S. Collins having passed in examination of character and stood an approved examination before the committee, was elected an elder.

Question 4—Who are admitted into full connection?

Lewis R. Martin having passed and stood an approved examination, and having been examined by the Bishop, in the presence of the Conference, on the usual disciplinary questions, was admitted into full connection.

Committee on Public Worship announced that Rev. J. W. Honnell would preach at 3 p.m., and Dr. W. T. Harris to the whites and Rich Hill to the colored people, at 7 o'clock p.m.

Question 20—Are all the preachers blameless?


Dr. Guilford Jones, by request of the Bishop, took the chair.

Question 20—Resumed.


Bishop Paine resumed the chair.

Question 19—What preachers have died during the year?

The name of S. B. Suratt was called, and it was announced that he had died in peace and triumph.

Dr. A. W. Wilson, by invitation of the Bishop, addressed the Conference on our Foreign Missionary work.

Dr. Guilford Jones again took the chair, by request of the Bishop when Dr. McFerrin addressed the Conference on the interests of Publishing House at Nashville, Tenn.

Leave of absence was granted to W. L. Duckworth after to-day.

Question 20—Are all blameless? &c.


Conference resolved to extend the session five minutes.

It was then moved by H M Sears to meet at 7 p. m., to elect delegates to the General Conference.

Pending the discussion, the hour of adjournment arrived, and after announcements Conference adjourned, with benediction by Guilford Jones.

FOURTH DAY.
SATURDAY MORNING, November 12th.

Conference met according to adjournment. Bishop Paine in the chair.

Devotional exercises conducted by the Rev. C. J. Mauldin.

Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

A communication from Rev. D. D. Moore, Editor of "Memphis Christian Advocate," was referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

The hour of 10 o’clock A. M., was made the order of the day for the election of delegates to the ensuing General Conference.

On motion those members absent in the city on account of sickness were allowed to vote by proxy.

Question 5—Who are re-admitted into the traveling connection?

John H. Johnson, in elders orders, having been examined and recommended by the Quarterly Conference of McKenzie Station, Paris District, was re-admitted into the traveling connection.

A communication from Bolivar District High School at Purdy, Tenn., was referred to Committee on Education.

Question 20—Are all blameless? &c.

N. P. Ramsey, J. H. Roberts, J. G. Pirtle, C. D. Davis, J. A. Russell, J. V. Fly, M. D. Robinson, Simpson Weaver, J. T. C. Collins, were examined and passed.

Question 17—Who are supernumerary?

C. D. Davis, J. V. Fly, M. D. Robinson.

The order of the day having arrived, the Conference proceeded to elect delegates to the General Conference.
At the call of the Bishop, the Secretary announced that there were one hundred and sixty-eight (168) members, clerical and lay, which would allow four clerical and four lay, and one each additional for the fraction of two-thirds, thirty-six being the basis of representation.

T. G. Whitten and J. S. Renshaw were appointed tellers. On the first ballot there were one hundred and seven clerical votes cast. Of these

Guilford Jones received 77; R. H. Mahon, 77; W. T. Harris 71; A. R. Wilson, 60; T. L. Boswell, 59. They were accordingly declared elected.

Before the vote was announced the conference resolved that the next four receiving the highest number of votes, be the alternates.

W. C. Johnson received 34; N. P. Ramsey, 21; J. H. Evans 18; J. A. Heard, 18; and were accordingly declared to be the Alternates.

Of the lay delegates, voting separately, there were twenty-nine (29) votes on the first ballot.

L. D. Mullins received 21; A. D. Bright, 19; and were declared elected.

On the second ballot no election.

On the third ballot there were twenty-six votes cast.

A. G. Hawkins received 16; and Dr. J. T. Irion, local preacher, 16; and were accordingly declared elected.

On the fourth ballot there were twenty-seven votes cast.

W. A. Tanner, having received 14, was elected.

The body proceeded to elect four alternates, and resolved that the four receiving the highest number of votes, be elected.

S. W. Godwin received 18, which was the highest; Geo. Johnson, (L. P.), 13, next; I. T. Bell, 10; W. I. McFarland, 10; and were declared elected.

Question 20—What local preachers are elected deacons?

J. C. Wilson, recommended by the Quarterly Conference of the Dancyville circuit, Somerville District, R. W. Erwin, Troy circuit, Union City District, L. W. Travis and J. R. Bullington by Martin circuit, Union City District, W. D. Jenkins, Alamo and Bells stations, Dyersburg District; Edward B. Graham, Grand Junction circuit, Bolivar District, local preachers, were elected deacons.

J. H. Evans, by request of the Bishop, took the chair.

W. G. Haynes, formerly of the M. E. Church, having been received by the Quarterly Conference of the Woodville circuit, Dyersburg District, and duly recommended and having subscribed his belief in our doctrines and usage, was recognized as a deacon, without the re-imposition of hands.

Bishop Paine resumed the chair.
J. B. Currie, formerly of the Methodist Free Church, having been received by the Quarterly Conference of the Ripley Circuit, Dyersburg District, and having been duly recommended was recognized as an Elder without the re-imposition of hands, with the understanding that he take upon himself our ordination vows.

Conference resolved to meet at 2:30 p.m.

Committee on public worship announced the Missionary Anniversary for 7 p.m., to be addressed by Rev. A. W. Wilson, D.D.

Conference adjourned, benediction by the Bishop.

**AFTERNOON SESSION.**

**SATURDAY, NOV. 12TH, 2:30 P.M.**

The Conference met according to adjournment, Rev. Thos. L. Boswell in the chair, by request of the Bishop.

Religious services conducted by Rev. W. C. Johnson.

A communication from Bishop Isaac Lane, of the Col'd Methodist Episcopal Church, in America, was read and placed on file.

Question 20—Are all the preachers blameless?
R E Graves, Jesse Moss, Finly Bynum, W H Evans, examined and passed.

Bishop Pame took the chair.


Question 17—Who are Supernumerary?
Jeremiah Moss, Jno E Beck, A L Pritchett.

Question 18—Who are Supernumerated?
H B Covington.

On motion, Conference adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Monday.

Benediction by Rev. W C Johnson, D.D.

**FIFTH DAY.**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14—9 O'CLOCK A.M.**


A communication from Hon. A. R. Boone, late representative to the Ecumenical Conference, relating to his visit to that body, was presented and referred to the Committee on Books and Periodicals.

A resolution from W. I. McFarland and G. K. Brooks memorializing the next General Conference to make certain changes in the discipline respecting the basis of representation to the General Conference and the mode of electing delegates to the same was read
and referred to a special committee of five, to-wit: W. C. Johnson, A. W. Jones, W. L. Duckworth, W. I. McFarland and Jas. Blackmon.

Question 20—Are all blameless? etc.
Thos C Ellis, M M Taylor, B B Risenhoover, were examined and passed.

(Bishop Paine arrived and took the chair.)

J. H Evans took the chair by request of the Bishop.
B F Blackmon, A W Jones, W M Patterson, A R Wilson, J H Collins, O P Parker, R S Harris, R M King, G T Sullivan, B F Peeples, Guilford Jones, W T C Young, T J Simmons, G H Martin, passed.

(Bishop Paine resumed the chair.)
T G Whitten, J M Maxwell, J M Flatt, J R Sykes, Jas M Major, Thos J Neeley, Benj Peebles, J C Crews, Jno Randle, examined and passed.

Question 17—Who are supernumerary?

Question 18—Who are superannuated?

Question 2—Who remain on trial?
E B Chappel, of the class of the 2d year, not having appeared before the committee, was continued on trial.

Question 3—Who are discontinued?
Giles Leath at his own request.

Question 7—Who are the deacons of one year?
Z W Richards, of the 4th year’s class, not having appeared before the committee because of his transfer to another Conference, was continued among the deacons of one year.

Question 1—Who are admitted into the traveling connection?
Jacob F Carl, who was recommended by the Quarterly Conference of Germantown Mission, Memphis district. W D Jenkins, Alamo and Bell’s Station, Dyersburg district. Jas B Currie, Ripley circuit, Dyersburg district. Robt W Erwin, Troy circuit, Union City district. Edward B Graham, Grand Junction circuit, Bolivar district. Jesse S Burks, Hamburg circuit, Bolivar district, having been approved by the committee, were admitted on trial.

(Bishop Paine resumed the chair.)
A memorial to the General Conference from J H Evans and B A Hays relating to the examination of local preachers for deacons and Elders orders was referred to the special committee of five.

Question 30—Where shall the next session of the Conference be held?

Union City and Dyersburg were nominated, and Dyersburg, Tenn., was elected as the place.

Conference resolved to meet again at 2:30 P.M.

Adjourned, with benediction by Rev. J. M. Scott.

**Afternoon Session.**

_Monday, November 14._

Conference met at 2:30 P.M., the Rev. Guilford Jones in the chair, by appointment of the Bishop. Devotional exercises conducted by Rev. C. J. Mauldin:

The minutes of the morning session were read and approved.

Question 9—What traveling preachers are ordained deacons?

The Bishop ordained, after preaching in the Methodist church Sunday, morning, Otis B. Whitten and Edward H. Stewart.

Question 11—What local preachers are ordained deacons?


Question 13—What traveling preachers are ordained elders?

After sermon at 3 o'clock P.M. the Bishop ordained George T. Peeples, E. K. Bransford, R. W. Newsom, A. N. Sears, J. B. Sears, W. H. Blalock, Jno. S. Collins.

Question 15—What local preachers are ordained elders? H. G. Reaves.

The Committee on the Bible Cause submitted their report, which was adopted. (See report.)

The Committee on the Spiritual Interests of the Church submitted their report. Adopted. (See report.)

Question 27—What amount is necessary for the superannuated preachers, etc?

Answer—$2,500.

Question 28—What has been collected on the foregoing, etc?

Answer—$2,315 30; which was distributed to the claimants. (See report of Joint Board.)

Question 29—What has been contributed for Missions?

Answer—Domestic Missions, $965 29; for Foreign Missions, $4,079 70.

Question 21—What is the number of local preachers and members in the several circuits, stations and missions of the Conference?

Answer—Local preachers, 240; members, 34,412.

* See Report of Statistical Secretary.
Question 22—*How many infants have been baptized during the year.
Answer—970.

Question 23—*How many adults have been baptized during the year?
Answer—2,293.

Question 24—*What is the number of Sunday Schools?
Answer—377.

Question 25—*What is the number of Sunday School teachers?
Answer—2,549.

Question 26—*What is the number of Sunday School scholars?
Answer—19,803.

The report of the Committee on Sunday Schools was read and adopted.

The Rev. J. T. C. Collins was elected Sunday School Secretary.

The report of the Committee on Books and Periodicals was read and adopted. (See report,) the Secretary was granted the privilege to abridge the report on the Journal so that the sense be not affected.

The report of the Committee on Education was read and adopted. (See report.)

Conference adjourned to meet at 6:45 P. M.

Benediction by Dr. G. Jones.

NIGHT SESSION.

MONDAY, November 14.

Conference met at 6:45 P. M., according to adjournment. Dr. Boswell in the chair, by request of the Bishop. Religious service by the Rev. R. V. Taylor.

Minutes of the previous session were read and approved.

The committee on Temperance made their report—adopted. (See report.)

Bishop Paine took the chair.

Dr. W. C. Johnson submitted the report of the special committee as follows. (See report.)

The Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Joint Board of Finance, were appointed a committee to estimate the amount necessary to defray the expenses of delegates to the General Conference, and apportion the amount among the Districts for collection, giving each Presiding Elder notice of how much he is expected to raise—the money to be collected by the first of April.

Question 17—Who are supernumerary?
N. Futrell.

The vote making A. L. Pritchett a supernumerary, was reconsidered.

The committee on Memoirs read their report—adopted. (See Memoirs.

A vote of thanks was then given to the citizens of Bolivar for their hospitalities, and to the churches for the use of their houses of worship, and to the various railroads for courtesy shown to the members and visitors.

The following was unanimously adopted by rising vote, the Secretary putting the question:

Resolved, That we are devoutly thankful that God in his providence has spared our venerable and beloved Bishop, the Rev. R.

* See report of Statistical Secretary.
Paine, to visit us once more in our Conference session, and that he has been enabled to preside with so much ability and satisfaction, and we pray that the blessings of the great Head of the Church may strengthen and sustain him in his declining life and bring him in peace to his grave and in blessed triumph to heaven.

T. L. Boswell,
J. H. Evans,
J. D. Bush.

Question 31—Where are the preachers stationed this year?
The Bishop announced the following

### APPOINTMENTS

**MEMPHIS DISTRICT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Preacher</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Church</td>
<td>R. H. Mahon; W. M. McFerrin, Sup'y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Central Church</td>
<td>J. H. Evans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hernando street Church</td>
<td>Warner Moore</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saifaran street mission</td>
<td>J. P. Walker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Georgia street mission</td>
<td>J. A. Moody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springdale circuit</td>
<td>A. L. Pritchett</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bethlehem circuit</td>
<td>J. C. Hooks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collierville and Germantown</td>
<td>J. A. Heard; Thos. Joyner, Sup'y.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moscow circuit</td>
<td>J. E. Treadwell</td>
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<tr>
<td>LaGrange circuit</td>
<td>J. W. Knott</td>
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<td>Williston circuit</td>
<td>J. S. Renshaw</td>
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<td>Macon circuit</td>
<td>A. C. Smith</td>
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<td>Bartlett circuit</td>
<td>W. A. Cook</td>
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<td>Shelby mission</td>
<td>Jacob Carle</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bellevue Female College</td>
<td>J. A. Heard, President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chapel Hill and Forrest Hill</td>
<td>T. P. Holman</td>
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<tr>
<td>W. C. Johnson</td>
<td>Ed. Western Methodist</td>
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**SOMERVILL DISTRICT**

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<tr>
<td>Somerville station</td>
<td>E. K. Bransford</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Castle circuit</td>
<td>R. V. Taylor</td>
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<td>Whiteville circuit</td>
<td>J. A. Fife</td>
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<td>Dancyville circuit</td>
<td>W. L Duckworth</td>
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<td>Stanton circuit</td>
<td>W. R. Newsom</td>
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<td>Covington station</td>
<td>J. G. Clark</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covington circuit</td>
<td>W. M. Leatherwood</td>
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<td>Randolph</td>
<td>E. B. Plummer</td>
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<td>Mt. Zion station</td>
<td>H. J. Turner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Embury circuit</td>
<td>R. Y. Blackwell</td>
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<td>Gratitude circuit</td>
<td>S. B. Adams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Braden circuit</td>
<td>A. F. Hendrix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somerville District High School</td>
<td>H. J. Turner, Principal</td>
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<tr>
<td>J. W. Grimes</td>
<td>Missionary to Mexico</td>
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**JACKSON DISTRICT**

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<tr>
<td>First Church</td>
<td>David Leath</td>
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<tr>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Superintendent</td>
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<tr>
<td>East Jackson</td>
<td>G. W. Wilson</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Jackson</td>
<td>J. M. Major</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jackson circuit</td>
<td>R. A. Umpstead</td>
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<td>Humboldt station</td>
<td>G. K. Brooks, T L Beard</td>
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<td>Trenton circuit</td>
<td>James Perry</td>
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<td>Brownsville station</td>
<td>W. T. Harris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brownsville circuit</td>
<td>G. H. Martin</td>
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<td>Denmark circuit</td>
<td>W. F. Berrier</td>
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<td>Pinson circuit</td>
<td>T. F. Sanders, E, L. Fisher</td>
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<td>Montezuma</td>
<td>B. F. Blackmon</td>
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<td>Henderson station</td>
<td>J. H. Garrett</td>
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<td>Lavina circuit</td>
<td>Bryant Medlin</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring Creek</td>
<td>W. O. Lanier</td>
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<td>Memphis Conference Female Inst</td>
<td>A. W. Jones, President</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesleyan Female College</td>
<td>John Williams, President</td>
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<td>Jackson District High School</td>
<td>E. F. Blackmon, Prin</td>
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<td>Dyersburg District</td>
<td>E. E. Hamilton, P. E.</td>
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<td>Dyersburg station</td>
<td>J. H. Collins</td>
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<td>W. T. C. Young</td>
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<td>Newbern</td>
<td>S. B. Love</td>
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<td>Kenton</td>
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<td>N. P. RAMSEY, P. E.</td>
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<td>E. T. Hart, Prin</td>
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<td>R. W. Erwin, Principal</td>
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<td>PADUCAH DISTRICT</td>
<td>J. M. SPENCE, P. E.</td>
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<td>Paducah station</td>
<td>J. M. Scott</td>
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Paducah Circuit, .................................................. C. D. Hilliard.
Hinkleville circuit, ............................................. W. S. Malone.
Milburn circuit, .................................................. R. L. West.
Columbus station, ................................................ W. C. Sellars.
Clinton station, .................................................. E. H. Stewart.
Clinton circuit, .................................................. J. J. Smith.
Wingo circuit, .................................................... W. A. Frost.
Mayfield station, ................................................ W. G. Heffley.
Murray and Benton, .............................................. J. H. Hardin.
Benton circuit, ................................................... H. C. Gamble.
Birmingham circuit, ............................................. D. M. Evans.
Briensburg circuit, .............................................. G. W. Evans.
Wickliff mission, ................................................ supplied by J. L. Howle.
Paducah District High School, ................................ L. R. Martin, Principal.

PARIS DISTRICT .................................................. B. A. HAYES, P. E.
Paris Station, ..................................................... J. H. Roberts.
Huntingdon circuit, ............................................... T. J. McGill.
McKenzie station, ................................................. W. H. Armstrong.
Gleason circuit, .................................................. J. H. Witt.
Spring Hill circuit, .............................................. J. B. Sears.
Bradford circuit, ................................................ F. B. Davis.
Trezevant circuit, ................................................ A. N. Sears, T. C. Ellis, Sup'y.
Milan station, ..................................................... M. M. Taylor.
Milan mission ..................................................... Supplied by Jno. Jones.
Murray circuit, ................................................... W. H. Blalock.
Paris Landing ..................................................... To be supplied.
Big Sandy circuit, ................................................ J. R. Bell.
McKenzie College, ................................................. E. D. Chappel, Prin., H. M. Sears, Agt.

BOLIVAR DISTRICT ................................................. W. H. LEIGH, P. E.
Bolivar station, ................................................... R. N. Freeman.
Bolivar mission .................................................. D. A. Ross.
Grand Junction circuit, ........................................ R. Hill, D. C. Wells, Sup'y.
Pocahontas mission ............................................... E. B. Graham.
Hamburg circuit, .................................................. J. A. Russell.
Purdy circuit, ..................................................... J. D. Sullivan.
Adamsville, ......................................................... W. B. Matthews.
Saltillo circuit, ................................................... D. I. Hines.
Decaturville circuit, ............................................ T. P. Ramsey.
Scott Hill mission ................................................ J. G. Burkes.
Lexington station, ................................................ W. T. Lock.
Lexington circuit, ............................................... R. S. Swift.
Mifflin circuit, .................................................. G. T. Peeples.

Transferred—J. W. Poston to North Mississippi Conference, R. R. Melson and
Wm. Hay to North Texas Conference, W. A. Freeman to Denver Conference, J.
S. Collins to Tennessee Conference, Z. W. Richardson, to White River Confer-
ence.
SUPERNUMERATES.

The Conference adjourned with the doxology, and the benediction by Dr. Boswell.
R. H. MAHON, Secretary.

MEMOIRS.

We give below the Memoirs of deceased ministers, adopted by the Memphis Conference:

THE REV. W. D. F. HAFFORD.

The Rev. W. D. F. Hafford, son of John Hafford, was born in Haywood county, Tenn., near the town of Brownsville. In the midst of that intelligent and religious community, he was reared and educated, and lived until he left his father's pleasant home for the ever-changing scenes that make up the life-history of a Methodist traveling preacher. Being trained by pious parents, he embraced religion in early life, and united at once with the Methodist Episcopal Church South. Soon after coming to the years of manhood, after much struggling with diffidence and modesty on the one hand, and a solemn sense of duty on the other, he consecrated himself and his life to the cause of Christ in the work of the ministry.

Brother Hafford was admitted on trial in the Memphis Conference in the fall of 1850, and in due course was graduated to deacon's orders, and received into full connection, and ordained an elder in 1854. We deem it unnecessary to give in detail all of the charges which he filled during the thirty years in which he went in and out among us. During these years he traveled on various circuits, some called hard; some more pleasant. He filled different stations, and the more responsible position of Presiding Elder. But whether on the circuit, in the station, or on the District; in the cottage of the humble poor, or in the homes of the wealthy, he commanded respect as a messenger of God, and was beloved by the people whom he served and among whom he mingled. The same may be said of the hold which he held on the hearts of his brethren in the Memphis Conference. Meek, modest, unassuming, yet always cheerful and sunny in social intercourse; generous and liberal in his feelings, yet always faithful to the calls of duty and religious principle. His brethren at Somerville have well said in their tribute to his memory: "His private cares and personal feelings were lost in this complete absorption in his 'loved employ.' His whole life, pure and spotless, was laid—"Like a white flower, on the Savior's breast."

While Brother Hafford was not a great orator, in the common acceptance of the term, he was a good preacher, and a workman that needed not to be ashamed of his work. He was sound in the doctrine, and a faithful expounder of the word of God. As a pastor, he was faithful, gentle, kind; full of sympathy for the sick, the poor, and the suffering, under any afflictions and trials; always
carrying a sweet influence into the chamber of the dying and the home of the bereaved, pointing the stricken ones to the Saviour, and to "the sweet rest in heaven." He had been in rather feeble health for some years, and seemed somewhat frail at our Conference last fall at Trenton, but we thought, and so did he, that he was still able to do efficient work in the Master's vineyard; and he was appointed to Somerville station, where he had labored much, and was much beloved. We little thought that in a few short weeks he would be called to exchange his armor for the crown in heaven. But such was the will of the Father.

On the 23rd of December, 1880, our brother, W. D. F. Hafford, died in perfect peace, full of faith and hope in the gospel he had preached so long and faithfully to others. Many kind and loving friends were about him, with their prayers and ministrations, in his last hours. They were anxious to have him remain longer with them, but God's messengers had come to take him home. His brethren in Somerville have put upon the records of their Church an affectionate testimonial of their esteem for his Christian character, and of their fervent love for him as a minister and pastor. Among other things, they say:

"When such was his life, we may know, without testimony, the nature of his death. The grace was given unto him all the journey through, kindled into a glory-flame as he reached the goal, the Being to whose service had been devoted his time and talents, did not leave him to meet alone the last enemy; but, feeling the everlasting arms about him, he was fearless and triumphant, for he knew him in whom he had trusted. To us the world was better and brighter that he lived; it is sadder, darker drearier now, that he is gone."

Our brother has finished his work; he did it well, and finished it gloriously. We miss him from our ranks, and a shade of sadness comes over us as we hear it announced that he has gone from our midst forever; but in the midst of our sorrow, we rejoice to know that he found the Lord graciously present, to cheer him in the last struggle, giving assurance that he was entering into rest forever.

GuILFORD JONES.

The Rev. Thomas C. Holmes, a native of Lauderdale county, Tenn., was the son of Thomas R. Holmes and his wife, substantial people, Christians, Methodists, noted for purity of character and uprightness of life. They taught their son the way of righteousness, and when but a boy he gave his heart to God, and became a Methodist. His parents conferred upon him, as far as they were able, the advantages of education. He made good progress in the schools not distant from home, particularly Mr. Byars' excellent school at Covington, and at length became a student at Emory and Henry College, Virginia, where he was well advanced in his studies, but was obliged, by the lack of means, to retire before graduation. Besides, he had felt that he was called to the ministry of Christ, and he longed to enter the itinerancy. In 1874 he was admitted on trial in the Memphis Conference, and appointed as junior preacher to Collierville Circuit. There he did zealous service, was useful and dearly beloved. But he felt deeply the need of thorough
training for the ministry. Kind friends, some at Collierville, and others at Memphis, offered to assist him. Vanderbilt University invited him, and he became a student in the Biblical department, in which he continued three years, and was graduated with distinction. His life at the University was marked by studious habits and by devotedness to the Master’s service; preaching often, and in many ways improving opportunities of doing good. He enjoyed the confidence, esteem and love of his instructors and of his fellow-students, who fondly hoped that his ministry would be successful in a high degree. In the summer and autumn of 1878 he supplied a pastoral vacancy at Augusta, Arkansas; and at that year’s session of the Memphis Conference he was again admitted on trial, and was appointed to Saffaran Street Church, Memphis, to which he was again appointed in 1879. This charge he filled most acceptably and with usefulness. In 1880 he was appointed to Alamo and Bells; but in a short time, having but just fairly entered upon his work, his frail frame was prostrated by disease, which rapidly brought him down to death. Thus with his armor well fitted, strong and bright, in the field of glorious war for the truth and the right, this young soldier of Christ was strangely called by his Captain, called to higher service, called to reward and enjoyment promised to conquerors through Christ. We know not, but God knows best, God does best; and so we bow to him, with hearts bleeding and eyes tearful, but with faith, and hope, and love triumphant in him who makes no mistakes, and assures us that we shall know hereafter. Modest, gentle, pure in heart; not brilliant, but clear, strong, well-balanced in intellect; scholarly, especially in Bible learning and in theology; conscientious, devout, zealous and faithful, our brother was an instructive preacher, and a true pastor; and though his ministry ended when he was only about thirty years old, when he had just passed his novitiate and been admitted into full connection with us, his life was not a failure, it was a splendid success. We mourn the departure of a beloved brother, a sweet-spirited Christian, a young preacher of unusual promise; and we deeply sympathize with his bereaved family, while we pray for God’s blessing upon the wife, so soon a widow, and upon the child who will never know a father’s love and kind care. Our brother died at Bells, Saturday night, January 8, 1881, and after a funeral sermon preached at the First Methodist Church, Memphis, on Monday morning, by the Rev. W. T. Harris, D.D., his body was buried at Elmwood, in the blessed hope of the resurrection of the dead.

We close with a sentence or two of a letter from the bereaved wife to the writer of this memoir: “Mr. Holmes left a loving farewell for you and all his brethren in the ministry. He died quite unexpectedly to us all; but, thanks be to God, he died triumphantly, trusting in Jesus.”

W. C. JOHNSON.

S. B. SURATT.

The Rev. Samuel B. Suratt was born in the State of Alabama, in the year 1832, and at the age of seven, with his parents moved to the State of Mississippi, and in that State he was brought up to manhood. In his eighteenth year he sought, and by faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, found the “pearl of great price.” On the sub-
ject of his conversion we have heard him speak on several oc-
casions, and always with feeling and confidence; his mind was
clear, free from doubt. The day of his espousal to God was a
bright and beautiful day; on its horizon no clouds appeared; no
hurting gloom obscured its light; no fears disturbed its holy peace.
And when he spoke of it—as he often did—his heart warmed, his
eye brightened, and his tongue gave forth no uncertain sound. As
a man, S. B. Suratt was true and trustworthy on all the ground.
His heart was generous and sympathizing, and went out to all who
needed it. His views gave the largest scope to love and good works,
and made his life blessed. He was peculiar in his mental construc-
tion, in his whole mental make-up, just like himself, and unlike
everybody else. Original in his modes of thought and expression
and manner. As a friend, confiding, constant and true, ever ready
to right a wrong, correct an error, and forgive a fault in others, and
confess it in himself; warm-hearted with strongest attachments.
As a minister of the gospel, his individuality was marked. Unlike
everybody, he stood apart from the whole race of preachers;
quaint, unique, sui generis. In thought, manner, gesture, he was
himself; unaping and inimitable. S. B. Suratt was a genius, a bold
thinker, a good preacher, a good builder and an excellent pastor.
He did the work of a Methodist preacher, and did it well.
Wherever he went as pastor, he commanded large congregations;
the people loved to hear him preach, loved him in the social circle.
And especially was he a favorite among the young people. But he
has finished his work on earth; gone home to rest. God gave him
to the Church and world, and guided him through both. Let the
soldier, honorably discharged from the Church militant, the battle-
field below, enjoy his palm; let the victor shout. We are glad
there is one star more, one sceptre more, one crown more, shining
in the heaven of heavens!

The Rev. S. B. Surratt was one of a class, numbering twenty-
five, who joined the Memphis Conference in the year 1852. And
in the Conference he labored about four years; then transferred
to the Louisiana Conference, and there remained, filling important
appointments, about twelve years; then returned to the Memphis
Conference, and served with great acceptibility and usefulness the
following charges: Paris, Paducah, Jackson, Bolivar, and in the
city of Memphis, First church and Central. The last mentioned
was his last appointment on earth, his last work for the Master and
the Church he loved. On the 8th of July, 1881, at the home of his
young manhood, near Corinth, Miss., he quit the field and went
on high to rest. In his last hours, when he had come to the mar-
gin of the river, and waiting to cross over, he said to his tearful,
stricken wife, “Sing the song I love.” She sang, “Waiting and
watching—will anyone be at the beautiful gate?” He replied,
“Yes, I will be there.”

W. T. Harris.

SPIRITUAL STATE OF THE CHURCH.

Your committee to whom was referred the Spiritual State of the
Church, present the following report.

It is with profound gratitude to Almighty God, that we are en-
abled to report decided progress in most respects throughout our
bounds. The present has been a prosperous year with the Church. An extensive revival influence has prevailed in nearly all parts of our Conference, bringing many precious souls under the influence of our holy Christianity. The total number of conversions will approximate 5000, while the number of accessions may be fairly stated at 4000. Prayer-meetings exist to a considerable extent throughout our bounds, and from them the Church has reaped largely. In quite a number of instances conversions are reported in connection with these meetings, and the spiritual life of the membership has been quickened into greater zeal and efficiency.

One great obstacle to the success of these meetings is found in the fact, that in some charges, persons that will lead in prayer are wanting. Hence the necessity of urging upon members the duty of praying in public when called upon to do so.

We are glad to note a decided improvement in class-meetings. From reports received, we are led to believe, that there is a marked advance in this respect. And we would most earnestly urge upon our preachers, the importance of renewed exertions, looking to the permanent re-establishment of this once greatly honored and useful means of grace. We believe as before stated, that there is decided progress in this respect, but, in order that this improvement be permanent and general, much will depend upon the individual efforts of each minister. The preacher must not only recommend, but must himself put into practical operations this important arm of our Methodist economy. He should make appointments for, and hold class-meetings as often as is compatible with other duties devolving upon him as a minister.

It is with great pleasure that we note an increase in the number of infants baptized. Upon a thorough examination, we believe it will appear that this increase is marked in each of the several districts composing the Conference. We believe that the future prosperity of the Church depends largely upon the manner in which the children are instructed and reared and believing with Bishop Marvin, that “infant baptism constitutes the first step in religious instruction,” we most earnestly recommend, that our ministers preach upon the subject, and endeavor as far as practicable, to have members of the Church dedicate their children to God in holy baptism.

We fear the “pastoral instruction of children” is not receiving that attention that its importance demands. The judicious and conscientious pastor, may to a considerable extent, mold the character of the children with whom he comes in contact in his pastoral visitations, and we hesitate not to say, that in nearly every instance where the respect and affection of the children are gained, the love and support of the parents are sure to follow. Indeed the only means through which many parents can be reached, is by gaining the confidence and love of their children. Every effort looking to the speedy conversion of the world will prove abortive, unless those efforts have special reference to the instruction and conversion of the young.

Family worship we are sorry to find is sadly neglected. This important duty, once quite universal among us—the happy effects of which were so apparent in Methodist families, we regret to say, has to a considerable extent fallen into disuse, and in many places, it is the exception, rather than the rule, to find families in which
worship is regularly had. While this is true, we are glad to know, that in some communities, this duty is generally observed by our people, and its salutary effects are still manifest. We would most earnestly insist, that pastors give especial attention to this important matter, bringing the subject prominently before the people, not only in their preaching, but in their pastoral visits, thus impressing upon the minds of the heads of families this most sacred Christian duty.

In consequence of a large influx of foreign elements, brought into our midst upon the wave of emigration, the sacred institution of the Sabbath is, we believe, in danger of being depreciated. This is especially observable in our larger towns and cities. Amid such influences, it will be well if we guard closely the Church, lest the insidious spirit creep unawares into the midst of our communion. Let the pulpit give no uncertain sound, but let its voice be raised in defence of this sacred institution.

In conclusion, we are deeply impressed with the fact that an ungodly world can be converted by a godly Church. As the Church loses interest in the doctrine of sanctification—the being made perfect in love in this life—in like ratio do we lose in our influence over the ungodly, to whom we offer the terms of salvation. This doctrine, held and taught by the Wesleys and their associates; preached and enjoyed by our fathers, we are glad to believe, is receiving more attention at the hands both of preacher and people. Let us, as ministers, raise high the standard of Christian Holiness, striving to attain to this blessed estate ourselves, and exhorting our people, one and all, to holiness of heart and life. Thus living and preaching, we shall, by the grace of God, serve our day and generation, and dying, leave a rich inheritance to the Church and the world.

Respectfully submitted,

W. S. MALONE, Ch’m’n,
J. S. RENSHAW,
J. P. WALKER,
R. S. SWIFT,
W. C. SELLERS,
R. E. GRAVES,
A. L. PRITCHETT,
G. T. SULLIVAN, Sec’y.

EDUCATION.

Your Committee on Education beg leave to submit the following report:

We regard the moral and intellectual training of the young a matter of first importance; a work that should engage the hands and elicit the prayerful co-operation of every lover of his kind; a work second only to, and intimately connected with, the Christian religion; and to foster and encourage this noble cause, we are proud to know that our Church has taken a prominent position in the erection and the sustaining of Universities and other institutions of learning, that are second to none in our country, standing as so many monuments of mental progress and devotion to the cause of our beloved Methodism. Yet it is to be regretted that, notwithstanding these ample means and superior facilities for obtaining a first-class education, there are those of our own people who select for the training of their children schools not very favorable to the religion of our fathers.
Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, the joint property of this and six other Conferences, continues to receive that liberal and increasing patronage which a large and influential denomination justly owes to its rare merits. The most unparalleled success which has marked the career of our young University, in the opinion of your Committee, reflects very creditably upon our efforts as a Church, and is due in no small degree to the very efficient management of its honored head, Bishop McTyeire. It is needless for us to refer to to the distinguished Faculty of its six Departments, its beautiful grounds, its magnificent buildings; all these charm and attract its numerous visitors.

The Memphis Conference Female Institute, located at Jackson, Tennessee, under the presidency of that time-honored educator, the Rev. Amos W. Jones, D. D., has for thirty-seven years enjoyed the well merited approval and patronage of our Conference. Its venerable and faithful President has rendered his name a household word around hundreds of firesides in our sunny South, and many homes have been lighted up and made cheerful and happy by the early impressions received under the fostering care of this noble man of God. The merits of this Institution have been known too long to need repetition; a reference to its well selected Faculty should be sufficient.

McKenzie College, at McKenzie, Tennessee, under its joint principals, Rev. E. B. Chapell, B. A., and Granville Goodloe, M. A., has been reported by the Joint Board of Curators. They tender your Committee the gratifying intelligence that this young and rising school is in the enjoyment of unparalleled prosperity. The Trustees have nearly completed a very commodious $10,000 brick College building. The principals are cordially endorsed by our venerable Senior Superintendent, Bishop Paine, the Faculty of their Alma Mater Vanderbilt University, and many others, whose literary opinions command our respect. We indulge the hope of a bright future for McKenzie College.

The Wesleyan Female College, Brownsville, Tennessee, under the presidency of Rev. John Williams, merits the careful consideration of parents seeking a thorough course of instructions for their daughters. Its healthy and pleasant location, its efficient Faculty, with its numerous other advantages, ought to insure its permanent success. We bespeak for Brother Williams a liberal patronage.

The system of District High Schools is meeting with much favor in our bounds; and they are becoming admirable stepping stones to our higher institutions of learning. The following have reported to your Committee:


We are highly gratified to learn, through their several reports, that all the above-named High Schools are in a prosperous condition, with good and commodious buildings, with prompt and effi-
cient teachers, looking faithfully to the moral and religious training of the children, as well as to their mental culture; and we doubt not that under the fostering care of the Church a bright and successful future awaits these several institutions of learning. And while we would make no invidious distinctions in these several schools, we must refer to the fact that the Jackson District High School, at Montezuma, is not only in a strictly Methodist community, but we learn there is not a drinking saloon in the village, nor in the county, and we pray God that the day is not far in the future when the baneful influences that lurk around the dramshop may be far removed from all our schools.


Your committee would further state that we have had under consideration the petition from the Trustees of Kerrville Academy, asking the appointment of the Rev. N. Futrell as its President; but owing to its being wholly a private enterprise, and not under the control of this Conference, and located in six miles of our Mt. Zion School, we deem it unwise to recommend the appointment of Brother Futrell to this school.

Respectfully submitted,
WM. A. TANNER, Ch'm'n

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

Your Committee on Sunday-schools submit the following report:

They appreciate the importance of the work submitted for their consideration. The Sunday-school when properly organized, conducted and furnished, exercises a moral and religious influence that cannot be so effectively and certainly brought to bear through any other agency.

In the opinion of your Committee there are no graduates in the study of the Bible, hence the Sunday-school is not for children alone, but for adults as well.

At the last meeting of this Conference, there were within its bounds under its jurisdiction, 364 Sunday-schools; 2,490 officers and teachers; 18,610 scholars; 18,648 volumes in library; 1,169 Visitors; 960 Magazines, and 10,404 Quarterlies and Little People taken, and $4,155.97 expended in our Sunday-school work during that Conference year.

This year we have reported, 377 Sunday-schools; 2,549 officers and teachers; 19,803 scholars; 18,121 volumes in library; 1,216 Visitors; 1,050 Magazines, 10,932 Quarterlies, and “Little People” taken, and $3,469.48 expended in the prosecution of our Sunday-school work. There is an increase of 1,193 scholars, and officers and teachers 59.
Your Committee are pleased to note that from a comparison of the statistics for the two years, it will be seen that there is a decided improvement in our Sunday-school work. Our people are waking up to the importance of this Auxiliary of the Church. They are appreciating from year to year, the importance of discharging more faithfully and efficiently their Christian duty in this particular. There are within the bounds of this Conference more devoted Christian men and women engaged in this work than ever before. Let us catch this holy zeal, and when we go to our people, arouse them to action, enlist them in this grand enterprise until nowhere in the bounds of the Memphis Conference can a place be found where on Sabbath morning the children alike of the rich and poor are not brought under the sweet and sanctifying influence of the Methodist Sabbath-school.

Your Committee are of the opinion that this work can be greatly facilitated by the holding of District Sunday-school Conventions.

They are pleased to bear testimony to the excellent character of the Sunday-school literature of our Church; and in their opinion with a simplification of the lessons intended for the infant class, our Sunday-school lesson literature will meet fully in this departments the demands of this great work.

They would suggest (if it should be found practicable) the issuance of a “Sunday-school paper,” especially devoted to the work of instructing officers and teachers as to their duties and responsibilities, etc., and as to the best modes of conducting Sunday-schools; also the issuance of graded Sunday-school reading papers, adapted to the capacities of children. All our Sabbath-schools should be supplied with literature prepared and issued by our own Church.

Resolved 1st, That we as pastors and laymen, will exert ourselves more diligently in behalf of the Sunday-school cause than heretofore.

2. That we will industriously endeavor to see to it, that all our Sunday-schools are supplied with our own literature.

3. That we recommend the holding of Sunday-School District Conventions in each District during the ensuing year, under the supervision of the Presiding Elder, in connection with the District Conference, or otherwise as may be deemed best.

4. That we hereby urge upon the adult members of our Church, that it is a part of their Christian duty to enter heartily and earnestly into the Sunday-school work, and by precept and example, teach the rising generation that there is a living reality in the religion we possess.

J. T. C. Collins, Ch’m’n.
J. A. Hanna,
J. R. Pepper,
A. C. Smith,
J. M. Jenkins,
Richard Hill,
J. J. Smith, Committee.
A. G. Hawkins, Sec’y.

TEMPERANCE.

The Committee on Temperance report:

The lapse of time confirms, and all human experience proves that truthfulness and wisdom of every utterance made by the Method-
ist Church against the use of intoxicants as a beverage, and the traffic in alcoholic stimulants. We but voice the sentiment of the Church, and the view of all sensible, thoughtful men, when we say, in all earnestness, that dram-drinking is the most hurtful and the most gigantic evil that afflicts the world.

It never has and never can result in any real good to any living being.

It always has and always will work injury to all its votaries.

It does more harm, in more ways, and more effectually than anything else.

It bloats the physical man, poisons the blood, opens wide the door to all fatal diseases, and finally kills its enslaved victims.

It invades the mind, heaven's greatest gift to man, the power, immeasurable, by which alone he is elevated to the supreme command over all other things and beings, and destroys its mighty energies, scepters the animal passions and instincts as monarch over the intellect.

It penetrates to the soul, that will live forever in hell or heaven, and crushes all high and noble and Christian impulses, and fits it for the destiny pronounced in the Scriptures.

Thus the body and mind and soul are victimized and made subservient to the appetite for strong drink. We protest against the existence of such an evil, and urge the use of moral suasion, and of legislation, and every other appliance that is honest and peaceful, to secure its utter overthrow and abolition entire and forever from the Church and the country.

The liquor traffic is of monster proportions. Its emmissaries and employes and victims are to be found everywhere. They are organized and vigilant. They work and plan and act while the Churches are closed, and while the men and women of temperate habits are in the silence and oblivion of sleep.

The traffic is a huge monstrosity, and a dangerous foe to individuals, Churches and governments.

It is legalized moral assassination, and ought and must and will be put down. We are glad to announce that progress has been made in this direction. The law in this State now forbids the sale of ardent spirits on Sunday and on election days, and to minors without written permission from parent or guardian, and within four miles of chartered institutions of learning.

And in order that greater advance may be made, the Committee recommend the following resolution:

Resolved, 1 That we, the members (clerical and lay) of the Memphis Conference, pledge ourselves to do all in our power, by voice and vote and influence, to drive the use of alcoholic beverages from the Methodist Church and from the country, and to secure the election to office of sound Temperance men, and to obtain such legislation as may be necessary to exterminate the whole traffic.

2. That it is the sense of this Conference that the use of wine or any other strong drink, in any way, except as a medicine, is wrong and unchristian.

3. That we recommend to all the people the Prohibition Advocate, published at Memphis, Tenn., and edited by Rev. N. Futrell, as a Temperance paper worthy of patronage.

Respectfully submitted,

W. J. McFarland, Chm'n
BIBLE CAUSE.

The Committee on the Bible Cause beg leave to report, that as the Bible is the recognized word of God, and has come down to us over the centuries gone, it needs no words of commendation from us, but now as ever, speaks for itself in infallible utterances of divine authority, and challenges the millions of earth, and affords comfort and peace to those who rely on its blessed teachings.

As it is the best gift of Heaven to man, it should be put into the hands of all people, of every tongue. Hence, as members of this body, we should continue to co-operate as hitherto, with the instituted agencies whose object is to give this word of life to the destitute throughout our entire bounds.

We are gratified to report that much has been done to effect this object, but at the same time we must not forget that much remains to be done, to bring our entire population under the influence of its sacred teachings. Therefore,

Resolved, That we increase our efforts to give God's Word the widest circulation possible, among those we serve, and that we encourage and exhort our people to the daily habit of diligently studying these sacred Scriptures as the best means of promoting piety and securing a good foundation against the time to come.

J. M. Scott, Ch'm'n.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

Your Committee on Books and Periodicals, would beg leave to report as follows:

The Publishing House. The Annual Report of the Book Agent shows increased success in the management of the Concern. The large increase in business and the reduction of the original debt nearly one third in three years, are facts which indicate a wise and successful management, and give not only a sense of relief from embarrassments, but the promise of future prosperity. For this we are profoundly grateful, and would hereby express our highest appreciation of the valuable services of the Rev. J. B. McFerrin, Agent, the Book Committee, and L. D. Palmer, Business Manager.

We are aware that this important enterprise cannot be advanced without the individual support and co-operation of both ministers and laymen. If we create business through the sale of books, the increased subscription to our connectional papers and periodicals, and other means, we have the guarantee that those who are entrusted with this important interest, will perform the work assigned them with wisdom and fidelity.

Believing that a higher moral elevation, and a deeper spiritual development are the legitimate results of a wholesome Christian literature, we should be stimulated to a greater effort, in sustaining our Publishing House, that it may continue to be a service of inestimable blessing to the Church, our country, and the world at large.

The Christian Advocate—our weekly and welcome visitor—so ably edited by the Rev. O. P. Fitzgerald, D. D., regard as a family blessing. Its variety of reading matter furnished by the editor and his many and able correspondents, with the mass of current news, connected with the various departments of Church and State, adapts it to all classes of readers within the household. It has through its many acknowledged excellencies reached such a degree of popularity as a religious journal, as to be sought after by
many in the Church, not awaiting the tardy movement of agents to secure or renew subscriptions. With nearly 17,000 subscribers, and an increasing demand, we confidently expect that its circulation will reach many thousands more within the next year. We must not, however, on this account imagine that with its own momentum, it can drive through to a great success without our individual and collective aid as a Conference. Let us, therefore, increase our efforts and zeal in its behalf.

The Quarterly Review, has not been brought before us by formal communication. Our only information as to its success, has been received through the remarks of Dr. Young upon the Conference floor.

Having assured us of its continued publication, we hereby recommend a more extensive circulation among the members of this Conference, believing it to be worthy of our most cordial support.

Our Sunday-School Literature, under the editorial management of the Rev. Dr. Cunnyingham, is giving general satisfaction. With the Magazine, Quarterly Lessons, Little People and Visitor, we think our Sunday-schools are well supplied with suitable material, from which to build the noble enterprise, now engaging so generally the hearts and the hands of the Church. Indeed we cannot conceive of a Sunday-school, however wisely officered or thoroughly organized, to be prepared for the work assigned it without the help afforded them by these periodical publications. We, therefore, heartily recommend their introduction and continuance in all the Sunday-schools of our Church.

The Western Methodist has nearly reached the close of its fourth quadrennial term, under the faithful and able management of the Rev. W. C. Johnson, D.D. Of Dr. Johnson allow us to say, that as one of us, and personally known to us all, we consider him the embodiment of such elements of character, as make up the Christian gentleman, the sound and faithful minister of the word of life, and the laborious and acceptable editor of our religious Journal. We can, therefore, speak of him only in terms of high commendation, and congratulate him upon his success in the various fields of labor to which he has been assigned.

As to the future of the “Western Methodist,” we are assured of its continued existence as a paper serving the interests of the Church. In this view we rejoice, and recommend that such patronage be extended as is just and proper, and even generous, according as it maintains and promotes the moral and religious interest of the Church and of the country.

On account of various causes we are satisfied, and such is the judgement of the editor, that it is impracticable at present to unite the preachers and people in the support of any paper as the official organ of our body; and, therefore, nearly, if not all, agree that for a time it is advisable, after the close of the present quadrumion, to have no official organ, but to wait until experience and change of circumstances unite us upon this question. Meanwhile with assurances that the “Western Methodist,” will be conducted either by the present editor or some other qualified man, we commit our interest in the paper to Dr. Johnson; and as long as it preserves its character and spirit, we shall cherish it as an old, faithful and valuable auxiliary of our Church, and as opportunity presents, recommend and aid in its circulation.
We shall rejoice as heretofore in the success of the "Western Methodist and sincerely desire that its future be one of permanence and prosperity, even as its past has been marked by fidelity to its trust, and great usefulness in its appointed field of operation.

A communication from the editor with an accompanying number of the "Southern Youth," published simultaneously in Morrilton, Ark., and Verona, Miss, and edited by the Rev. J. W. Boswell of the Arkansas Conference and Rev. R. G. Porter of North Mississippi Conference, has been presented for our consideration. To supply an acknowledged demand in that particular department of our literature especially devoted to the youth of our country, outside our Sunday-school publications, this enterprise has been introduced. As a Committee, we know nothing of this paper except the promises it gives us through its editors, and hoping that they may be successful in disseminating valuable lessons in morals and religion among the class for which it is designed, we therefore recommend an impartial consideration of its merits by all the lovers of truth and moral reform.

The *Memphis Christian Advocate*, edited by the Rev. D. D. Moore, of the North Mississippi Conference, has been brought before us. As an individual enterprise, it asks nothing at our hands in the way of official negotiation, but lays its claims before a reading public, in common with other religious journals, and seeks for patronage only upon its merits. We would extend all Christian courtesy and kindness to its highly esteemed editor, with our best wishes for success in building up the Church of Christ.

A communication from the Hon. A. R. Boon, our delegate to the late Ecumenical Conference in the city of London, has been laid before us. We regret that our worthy brother could not be present to lay before us in his usual happy style, the great lines of thought and action as marked out for our common Methodism, his opinion upon the questions of doctrine and Christian policy presented to that body, and of men and things as seen and heard by him, as bearing upon the welfare and prosperity of the Church. We are thankful to a kind Providence that has watched over him while on his mission, and brought him back in safety, so full of the spirit of his divine Master, as expressed in his communication to us, which as a body we highly appreciate.

JAS. A. HEARD, Ch'm'n.
A. W. JONES,
A. T. FIELDER,
J. A. MOODY.

**FINANCE.**

The amount assessed by this Board for the support of the widows and orphans of deceased preachers, and the superannuated preachers, was $2,500. The various Districts for this fund were assessed, have paid, and are deficient, as follows:

- Memphis District assessed $400, paid $372.05, deficiency $27.95.
- Somerville District assessed $350, paid $238.05, deficiency $111.95.
- Jackson district assessed $400, paid $365.20, deficiency $34.80.
- Dyersburg District assessed $390, paid $397.25, excess $7.25.
- Union City District assessed $300, paid $268.50, deficiency $31.50.
- Paris District assessed $250, paid $195.65, deficiency $54.35.
- Paducah District assessed $250, paid $189.80, deficiency $60.20.
- Bolivar District assessed $150, paid $89.50, deficiency $60.50.

Total amount
received from the several Districts, $2,015.70; add to this amount of $237.90, received from A. W. Jones, interest on note, also amount of $52.80, received from W. C. Johnson, interest on note, also balance on hand last year of 90 cents, making total amount received from all sources, $2,317.30, which amount has been disbursed by us as follows:

To Sister John Moss, $50; Sister Scruggs, $25; Sister T. P. Davidson, $85; Brother W. T. Plummer's children, $30; Sister Mary C. Crouch, $65; Sister D. J. Allen, $80; Sister J. G. Action, $25; Sister Mathis, $25; Brother J. D. Slaughter's children, $50; Sister Hubbard, $40.45; Brother J. R. Sykes, $160; Sister Seward, $100; Sister F. M. Morris, $135; Sister Sullivan, $115; Brother J. C. Crews, $60; Sister B. H. Bishop, $25; Sister D. C. McCutchen, $50; Brother Benj. Peebles, $70; Sister Sallie Warren, $60; Sister Martha Cole, $20; Sister Mary O. Moore, $70; Sister Corbett, $187.50; Brother J. M. Flatt, $100; Sister Glasgow, $225; Sister M. A. Gillipsie, $10; Sister Mary Burns, $190; Brother Jno. Randle, $105.35; Sister S. B. Suratt, $25; Sister T. C. Holmes, $115.

We have paid Warner Moore, expense incurred for blanks $2. Balance on hand to meet expenses for distributing fund and for stationery, $2; of Conference fund, $4 was received from Camden circuit, Paris District, collected last year, but paid this year.

We have assessed for the Conference fund for the ensuing year the sum of $2,500, which has been appropriated to the several Districts as follows: Memphis District, $400; Somerville District, $330; Jackson District, $400; Dyersburg District, $390; Union City District, $330; Paducah District, $250; Paris District, $250; Bolivar District, $150.

We have received the following amounts for the support of the Bishops as reported from the several Districts, viz: Memphis District assessed $200, paid $200; Somerville District assessed $175, paid $184.45, excess $8.55; Jackson District assessed $185, paid $180; Dyersburg District assessed $190, paid $195, excess $5; Union City District assessed $140, paid $140; Paris District assessed $130, paid $130, deficit $10; Paducah District assessed $125, paid $125.50, excess 50 cents; Bolivar District assessed $70, paid $70. Total amount assessed, $1,210; paid, $1,184.95; deficit, $25.05.

We hold Bishop H. N. McTyeire's receipt for $100, and Bishop R. Paine's receipt for $190, the balance of $894.95 we have paid Bishop R. Paine during Conference, for which we hold his receipt.

We have assessed for the Bishop's fund, for the ensuing Conference year, the sum of $1,210, and have apportioned the same among the several Districts as follows:

- Memphis District, $200; Somerville District, $157.50; Jackson District, $180, Dyersburg district, $190; Union City District, $157.50; Paducah District, $125; Paris District, $130; Bolivar District, $70.

The amount assessed by the several charges for the support of the ministry during the year as reported is $58,702.33; amount paid, $47,680.08; deficit, $11,062.25; decrease this year over last year, $2,074.93. There has been an increase this year in the Conference fund of $101. The deficit this year on the Bishop's fund is $25.05. The great financial distress throughout the land, occasioned by the drought, is said to be the cause of the decrease in the support of
the ministry. We know that the Methodists are the most liberal people in the world, and when the line of duty is clearly marked out, and the cause properly presented, our people always respond liberally and generously. We think much trouble in supporting the ministry could be avoided if there was more care and judgment exercised in the selection of stewards, and a strict performance of duty by the stewards and pastor. Let the people know that the salary of the preachers is a debt on the whole church, one that should be met, not repudiated. It is not a charity but a demand that should be met willingly and readily. When this is done Methodism will be rid of one of its greatest hindrances in spreading scriptural holiness over these lands.

We regret exceedingly the deficit in the Bishops' fund. Only one District has fallen behind in the collection of this fund, all the rest paid up in full, several of them paid more than the amount assessed against them. We hope that District will do better another year.

We note with pleasure the increase in the Conference fund. This is a sacred fund, one that appeals to all, and should be met. The people meet this demand upon them without murmur or complaint. Upon the whole, the financial outlook is not so discouraging as it might be. With more faith, prayer and zeal, and implicit trust in God, we hope for much better results another year.

A. D. Bright, Chmn.
A. E. Scott, Treas.

MISSIONS.

The Board of Missions of the Memphis Conference present their report as follows:

We have had under prayerful consideration all the matters which have been committed to us as a Board; and, were it needed, we would like to say many things in the way of urging upon the brethren a proper appreciation of the importance of the cause of Missions. But so far as you, as a Conference, are concerned, the Secretary of the present Board, Rev. A. W. Wilson, D. D., has fully presented, in his address before us, the importance of a more thorough waking up of the Church in that direction. Broad fields are opening up before us, where perishing millions are crying for the word of life, and awaiting our coming. Our people should be made to hear their cry; we therefore recommend the passage of the following:

Resolved 1st, That the Presiding Elders of the several Districts be required to hold Missionary mass meetings at all of the District Conferences, and cause others to be held at central points in their bounds.

2. That all our preachers should encourage the circulation of the "Advocate of Missions."

3. That all the preachers aid and encourage the noble work of the "Women's Missionary Society."

We would also urge the brethren to consider seriously the claims of our Domestic Missions. There are various sections of country in our bounds where the people need the gospel and Church privileges; and yet they are poor and not able to support the preacher that may be sent to them. Those people must be cared for. Some
of those fields, with proper cultivation, may, in a few years develop into self-supporting circuits. Of that work we report as follows:

1. Georgia Street Mission, Memphis District, has been served by J. W. Knott. He reports 32 members; one Sunday-school; 13 officers and teachers; 40 scholars; 350 books in library; $47.50 for Sunday-school purposes; one church; 400 sittings; value $2500; paid Bishop's fund, $3.50; Presiding Elder, $8; pastor, $133.75; Conference collection, $6.50; Missions, $3.

Saffaran street Mission, Memphis, has been served by J. P. Walker. He reports 90 members; one Sunday-school; 13 officers and teachers; 55 scholars; 50 books in library; raised for Sunday-school purposes, $39.65; for Presiding Elder, $25; pastor, $435; Foreign Missions, $84; Domestic Missions, $6; Conference collections, $5; one church, sittings, 250; value, $2500.

Germantown Mission, Memphis District, has been served by T. P. Holman. He reports, appointments; 57 members; two Sunday-schools; 10 officers and teachers; 64 scholars; books in library; paid Presiding Elder, $17; pastor, $107; Foreign Missions, $3.20; Domestic Missions, $6.70; Bishop's fund, $3.30; one church, sittings, 200; value, $2000.

Hale's Point Mission, Dyersburg District, has been served by W. A. Yancy. He reports 3 appointments; 61 white and two colored members; baptized, three adults and one infant; one Sunday-school; five officers and teachers; 35 scholars; one church, value $2500; Bishops' fund, $6; Conference collection $5; Presiding Elder, $9; pastor, $90.

West Jackson Mission, Jackson District, has been served by J. M. Major. He reports 49 members; one Sunday-school; 12 officers and teachers; 42 scholars; 50 books in library; expended for Sunday-school purposes, $15.45; paid Bishops' fund, $2.75; Presiding Elder, $20; pastor $294.50; one church, value, $3000; sittings, 300.

Pine Bluff Mission, Paducah District, has been served by J. R. Dycus. He reports two organized societies; 35 members; 4 conversions; 4 added to the Church; two adults baptized; one church, 200 sittings, value $100; paid preacher, $5. He recommends that the work be placed on adjoining circuits. No appropriation was made to this Mission.

Wickliffe Mission, Paducah District, has been served by D. M. Evans. He reports 7 appointments; five organized societies; 121 members; 45 conversions; 48 additions to the Church; one church, sittings 150; value, $40; paid Foreign Missions, $2; Domestic Missions, $1; preacher, $75.

Pisgah Mission, Union City District, has been served by J. C. Poiner. He reports 152 members; 102 conversions; accessions 92; baptized, 66 adults and five infants; one Sunday-school, four officers and teachers; 30 scholars; three churches, 1000 sittings, value, $1100; money for building, $75; for the poor, $15; Conference collection, $2; the poor, $15; Foreign Missions, $3.50; Domestic Missions, $3.50; paid preachers, $112.50.

Scott's Hill Mission, Bolivar District, has been served by B. F. Wallace. He reports 1 local preacher, 209 members. Had 8 conversions, 8 accessions; 6 adults baptized and 4 infants; 2 Sunday Schools, 17 officers and teachers, 88 scholars; received $10 15 for Sunday Schools; 8 churches, 2,700 sittings, value, $1,500; paid
Bishop's Fund, $4; Domestic Missions, $3; Presiding Elder, $10 60; Pastor, $52 90.

Bolivar Mission has been served by W. F. Barrier. He reports 214 members, 1 appointments, 7 Sunday School, 7 officers and teachers, 75 scholars, 7 churches, sitting 1,500; value, $2,400; Bishop's Fund, 3; Presiding Elder, $15 58; Pastor, $60 12; Foreign Missions, $5; Domestic Missions, $3 50; Conference collections, $2 10.

Pocahontas Mission, Bolivar District, has been served by Giles Leath. He reports 9 appointments, 8 churches; value $3,080, sittings, 1,600; 6 Sabbath-schools, 16 officers and teachers, 130 scholars; paid Bishops' Fund, $3 60; Presiding Elder, $10 60; pastor, $53 35; Conference collections, $5 35; Foreign Missions, $2; Domestic Missions, $4 10.

The Milan Mission, Paris District, was ordered by the Paris District Conference last July, and B. A. Hays, P. E. put J. W. Jones in charge of the Mission. He reports 4 preaching places, and proposes adding 2 more. Number of members 105. Sunday schools 2, conversions 84; paid preacher, $75.

The Board propose the following mission work in the bounds of the Conference for the ensuing year, and have made appropriations as follows, for support of the same:

- Memphis District, Saffron-street Mission, $200; Georgia-street Mission, $200; Shelby Mission, $50.
- Jackson District, West Jackson, $75.
- Dyersburg District, Hale's Point, $50.
- Union City District, Pisgah Mission, $100.
- Paducah District, Wickliff Mission, $50.
- Paris District, Milan Mission, $75.
- Bolivar District, Bolivar Mission, $166 66 2-3; Scott's Hill Mission, $166 66 2-3; Pocahontas Mission, $166 66 2-3. Of these three 200 is for the Presiding Elder.

The Board propose to raise $1500 for the support of the Missions named as above, and assess the same to the several Districts as follows: Memphis District, $225; Somerville District, $220; Jackson District, $200; Dyersburg District, $225; Union City District, $190; Paducah District, 165; Paris District, 160; Bolivar District, 135.

The Parent Board has assessed our Conference $10,300 for Foreign Missions. This we divide to the several Districts as follows: Memphis District, $1,450; Somerville District, $1,300; Jackson District, $1,490; Dyersburg District, $1,500; Union City District, $1,340; Paducah District, 1,160; Paris District, $1,100; Bolivar District, $800.

There has been raised for Domestic Missions, from the various charges in the Conference and other sources, $965.29.

Raised from all sources for Foreign Missions, $4,979.70.

The amount reported for Domestic Missions, $965.29—has been paid pro rata to the claimants on the same. That paid for Foreign Missions has been forwarded to the Treasurer at Nashville.

W. C. Johnson, Pres.

Guilford Jones, Sec'y.
COMMITTEE OF FIVE.

The Special Committee on Memorials to the General Conference beg leave to report:

1. In reference to the report signed by W. I. McFarland and G. K. Brooks, contemplating changes in the ratio of representation in the General Conference, in the election of delegates to the Conferences Annual and General, so that clerical and lay members shall vote together for all the delegates, and in the participation by lay members in all the business of an Annual Conference, we conclude

That it is inexpedient to memorialize the General Conference in favor of these changes, preferring to leave the whole subject to the judgment of the members of that body.

2. In reference to the memorial signed by J. H. Evans and Benj. A. Hayes, in favor of so changing the discipline as to provide a committee consisting of three traveling preachers, including the Presiding Elder of the district, to examine and approve local preachers in the course of study prescribed by the Bishops as a condition precedent to their election to orders, we conclude

That as above it is inexpedient to memorialize the General Conference in favor of this change, preferring to leave this matter to the judgment of the members of that body.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. JOHNSON, Ch'm'n.

Resolved, That the Presiding Elder be and are hereby appointed a Standing Committee, to nominate the usual regular Committees and that for this purpose they meet the day before the opening of the annual session.

B. A. HAYES.

G. JONES.
JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE.


VISITING COMMITTEES.

Bellvue Female College.—J. W. Knott, J. S. Renshaw.

Somerville District High School.—S. B. Adams, W. M. Leatherwood.

Memphis Conference Female Institute.—David Leith, G. W. Wilson

Wesleyan Female College.—W. T. Harris, W. L. Duckworth.

Jackson District High School.—T. F. Sanders, J. H. Garrett.

Union City District High School.—G. T. Sullivan, B. B. Risenhoover.

Paducah District High School.—R. L. West, W. C. Sellers.

McKenzie College.—W. T. Harris, Guilford Jones.

Bolivar District High School.—W. H. Leigh, R. N. Freeman.

EXAMINING COMMITTEES.

Admission on Trial.—W. L. Duckworth, T. F. Sanders, W. C. Sellers.

First Year.—Guilford Jones, T. G. Whitten, J. H. Roberts.

Second Year.—T. L. Boswell, Warner Moore, N. P. Ramsey.

Third Year.—A. W. Jones, W. T. Harris, J. M. Spence.

Fourth Year.—J. A. Heard, J. T. C. Collins, J. M. Scott.

Rev. J. T. C. Collins Sunday School Secretary.

COURSE OF STUDY FOR LOCAL PREACHERS.

The following is prescribed by the College of Bishops, to take effect in 1881:

For Deacon’s Orders. The Bible—History and Biography; the Discipline; Binney’s Theological Compend; Wesley’s Sermons on Justification, and on the Witness of the Spirit. Recommended for Reference; Preachers’s Text book; Watson’s Biblical and Theological Dictionary; Watson’s Institutes; Ruter’s Gregory’s Church History; Catechism on Church Government.

For Elder’s Orders. The Bible—Doctrines; the Discipline; Manual of Discipline; Watson’s Institutes; Wesley’s Sermon’s Smith’s Elements of Divinity. Recommended for Reference; Paine’s Life of McKendree; Prelatical Succession Examined; Watson’s Life of Wesley; Watson’s Sermons; Clarke’s Commentary; Summers on Gospels and Acts; Whedon’s Commentary.

The above mentioned books, or any others of our publication, may be had of the Rev. J. B. McFerrin, Book Agent, at Nashville, Tenn., or of Wills & Wildberger, Booksellers. 317 Main Street, Memphis, Tenn.
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SOMERVILLE DISTRICT.

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JACKSON DISTRICT.

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DYERSBURG DISTRICT.

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Memphis Conference

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