

ORDER OF EXERCISES
OF THE
ORGANIZATION
OF THE
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSO-
CIATIONS CONVENTION,
MARION, ALA.,
THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 16TH, 1874.
CORONATION HYMN.

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown him Lord of all.

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace,
And crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go spread your trophies at his feet,
And crown him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To him all majesty ascribe,
And crown him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at his feet may fall;
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown him Lord of all.

PRAYER BY
REV. H. R. RAYMOND.

DISCOURSE ON CHRISTIAN UNION,
BY REV. E. T. WINKLER, D. D.

WORDS OF WELCOME,
BY CAPT. C. W. LOVELACE.

WELCOME HYMN.
Ye Christian sons from distant parts,
Met 'neath the cross to-day,
We give to you our hearts, our hands,
And join in joyful lays.

CHORUS:
Dear Christian friends in holy joy,
A welcome we extend;
May Jesus grant that all our hearts,
In mutual love may blend.

Come, Christian hearts, speak forth the love
That beams in every eye;
In sacred song each voice employ,
To raise the welcome high.

CHORUS—Dear Christian friends,
In Christian love swell forth the song,
That thrills in every breast,
This happy greeting loud prolong,
A welcome to each guest.

CHORUS—Dear Christian friends,
Responses by
R. C. MORSE, of Washington City,
G. A. HALL, of New York, and others.

ORGANIZATION OF CONVENTION.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Young Men's Christian Associations
Convention.

LARGE CONCOURSE OF CITIZENS.

BEST FEELING PREVAILS.

BAPTIST CHURCH,
MARION, ALA., May 14th, 1874.
The delegates were taken charge of by
our citizens, and the hospitality of the
city tendered to them, during their stay
among us.

After the singing of the old familiar
and soul-stirring hymn, Coronation—
PRAYER,
BY REV. H. R. RAYMOND.

DISCOURSE ON CHRISTIAN UNION,
BY REV. E. T. WINKLER, D. D.
Founded on the 133d Psalm,
"Behold how good and how pleasant
it is for brethren to dwell together in
unity";
And was delivered in that earnest and
forcible manner that is so characteristic
of this able divine.

WORDS OF WELCOME,
BY CAPT. C. W. LOVELACE.

WELCOME HYMN.
Responses to the Discourse of Rev. Dr.
Winkler, and Words of Welcome, by
Capt. Lovelace, were made by J. M. Cald-
well, L. H. Bowles, G. A. Hall, and R. C.
Morse, in an able manner and suited to
the occasion.

The Convention was called to order by
C. W. Lovelace, Chairman.

A. M. Fowlkes, was elected temporary
Secretary.

Moved and adopted that T. S. Huston,
W. H. Raymond, E. C. Silsby, be appointed
a temporary Committee on business, to
act until the permanent organization of
the Convention.

Moved and adopted that the Committee
on permanent organization consist of one
delegate from each Association. Said
Committee to consist of the following
gentlemen: J. H. Franklin, J. L. Fergu-
son, J. W. Morrison, J. M. Caldwell, L. H.

Bowles, S. B. Brewer, J. D. Fay, and Wal-
ter Howell.

The temporary Committee on business
asked leave to retire.

G. A. Hall and R. C. Morse were added
to the Committee on permanent organiza-
tion.

The temporary committee on business
reported that a devotional meeting would
be held to-morrow morning from 9 to 10
o'clock, to be conducted by S. B. Brewer.

The temporary committee on business
also reported that the business meetings
of the Convention would be held at 10
o'clock a. m., 8:30 o'clock p. m., and 8
o'clock p. m.

The temporary committee on business
made an additional report:

That the first topic for discussion be,
"The Great Object to be Accomplished
by the Young Men's Christian Associa-
tions,"—and that the discussion take
place to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Moved that the temporary committee
on business receive and report upon the
credentials of the members at 10 o'clock
to-morrow morning. Adopted.

Moved and adopted that the Conven-
tion adjourn until 10 o'clock to-morrow
morning.

A. M. FOWLKES,
Temporary Secretary.

MARION, ALA., May 15, 1874.
Convention assembled at 9 o'clock a.
m., May 15th.

Devotional services conducted for one
hour by S. B. Brewer of Montgomery.

At 10 o'clock C. W. Lovelace took the
chair.

The minutes of last night's meeting
were read, corrected and approved.

W. H. Raymond, chairman temporary
committee on business, reported the cre-
dentials of the following delegates in for-
mal:

R. C. Morse, International Committee.
Geo. A. Hall, " "
H. L. McKee, State Executive Com.

R. C. Keeble, " "
D. P. Goodhue, " "
J. M. Caldwell, " Jacksonville.

J. D. Fay, " Talladega.
Alonso E. Skaggs, " "
Ben. B. Davis, " Montgomery.

S. B. Brewer, " "
L. H. Bowles, " Troy.
E. C. Silsby, " Selma.

J. N. Prestridge, " "
J. P. Word, " "
J. S. Fithier, " "

Jas. H. Robinson, " "
Thos. A. Huston, " Columbiana.
J. L. Ferguson, " Columbiana.

I. B. Merriam, " Talladega.
C. G. Brown, " Marion.
C. W. Lovelace, " "

W. H. Raymond, " "
James Sherrard, " "
W. H. Howell, " "

O. L. Drake, " "
A. M. Fowlkes, " "
J. L. Wyatt, " "

Perry Fowlkes, " "
T. B. Thames, " Howard College.
J. S. Bonner, " "

B. F. J. Davis, " "
J. B. Fiquet, " Talladega.
Rev. H. R. Raymond, " Marion.

" E. T. Winkler, " "
" J. E. Foust, " "
" P. B. Lawson, " "

" N. E. Willis, " "

The report was received and adopted.
J. H. Franklin, chairman of Commit-
tee on Permanent Organization, made
the following report, which was adopted:

H. L. McKee, Selma, President; Vice
Presidents—B. B. Davis, Montgomery;
L. H. Bowles, Troy; J. M. Caldwell,
Jacksonville. Secretaries—A. M. Fowlkes,
Marion; A. E. Skaggs, Talladega.

D. P. Goodhue and R. C. Keeble were
appointed a committee to escort the Pres-
ident to the chair.

The President, H. L. McKee, thanked
the Convention for the honor, and asked
for their prayers.

The hymn, "Rock of Ages," was then
sung, after which, Vice Presidents B. B.
Davis, L. H. Bowles, and J. M. Caldwell,
were conducted to the platform by W.
H. Raymond.

On motion, it was resolved that the
rules of the last Convention be read
and adopted for the guidance of this
convention until further orders.

The President appointed the following
standing committees:

Committee on Devotion and Business—
W. H. Raymond, T. A. Huston, W. H.
Howell, J. H. Franklin, and O. L. Drake.

Committee on Resolutions—J. H.
Robinson, S. B. Brewer, J. L. Ferguson,
I. B. Merriam, and J. P. Word.

Committee on Associations—James
Sherrard, E. C. Silsby, C. G. Brown, T. B.
Thames and J. N. Prestridge.

The permanent organization having
been completed, the topic appointed for
this hour for discussion, namely, "The
great object to be attained by the Y. M.
C. Associations," was called up and the
discussion opened by Charles G. Brown,
who was followed by Vice President
Caldwell, of Jacksonville.

The hymn
"Oh for a closer walk with God,"
was then sung.

The President called for reports from
the various Associations represented in
the Convention.

The report of the Columbiana Associa-
tion was made by T. A. Huston, who
stated that his Association was organized

about 10 months ago; consisted now of
18 members; had organized two Sabbath
schools; twelve scholars in one had been
converted and joined the church; preach-
ing regularly held at one of the missions
since organization. Bro. Huston made a
worthy and commendable report.

The report of Talladega Association
was made by I. B. Merriam. About six
weeks ago, union prayer meetings were
commenced, and on Tuesday last (May
12th) organized the Association with ten
members, and believed great good would
result from it.

Special prayer was then offered for
these two Associations by J. H. Robin-
son, of Selma, after which the hymn
"I love thy kingdom Lord,"
was sung.

The Marion Association was reported
by D. P. Goodhue, who stated 30 active,
18 associate, and 10 honorary members.
The principal effort had been to educate
the members in the duties of Christians.
Held weekly prayer meeting. Had one
Bible class.

C. W. Lovelace, James Sherrard, R. C.
Morse, Rev. G. A. Hall, and P. B. Law-
son, participated in the discussion as to
the proper work of Young Men's Chris-
tian Associations to the edification of the
Convention.

On motion it was resolved that all
ministers who shall come into this Con-
vention while in session be elected hon-
orary members and invited to participate
in the discussions. The hymn
"Stand up for Jesus,"
was then sung.

Reports from Associations were again
continued.

Travis Thames, delegate from Howard
College, reported from that Association.
In two revivals there had been about
thirty conversions. There were eight
students for the ministry. Held daily
prayer meetings, supplied the colored
Baptist pulpit, and often other churches
in the neighborhood with services. A
good revival feeling was now manifest
among all the professors of religion in
College, and an early outpouring of God's
Spirit looked for and expected.

Vice President L. H. Bowles reported
the Troy Association as recently organ-
ized and ready for work.

S. B. Brewer reported the Montgomery
Association as more promising just now
than at any time heretofore. That Mont-
gomery needed an active organization,
and asked the prayers of the Convention
for a great revival of religion there.

Rev. H. R. Raymond lead in special
prayer that Montgomery may have such
a revival.

J. D. Fay, of Prattville, reported no
regular organized Association, but had
weekly prayer meetings.

Vice President J. M. Caldwell reported
Jacksonville Association two years old,
commenced with five members, had
much opposition to contend with, was
now efficient and aggressive, had in-
creased to eighteen active members, had
organized a colored Sabbath School of
fifteen members, which, in four weeks,
grew to seventy-five; encouraging pro-
gress had been made, and the Association
was persistent in its efforts.

"Jesus, I my Cross have Taken," was
then sung.

The chairman of the business commit-
tee reported 4 o'clock as the hour for the
assembling of the convention.

An invitation from the Methodist Sab-
bath school was extended to the conven-
tion to participate in its missionary cele-
bration on Sabbath night, and referred to
proper committee.

Convention adjourned until 4 o'clock,
p. m., after singing the 231st hymn
"Oh, could I find from day to day,"
and prayer by the President.

A. M. FOWLKES,
A. E. SKAGGS,
Secretaries

BAPTIST CHURCH, 4 o'clock, p. m.
Devotional exercises conducted by Bro.
Keeble. Convention convened and called
to order by the chair. Minutes of the
morning session read, corrected and ap-
proved. The topic—"The value of a
more thorough knowledge of the Bible
for Christian work," was opened by Bro.
Bowles, who descended on the beauties of
the Bible. Then the song,
"How firm a foundation"
was sung. Bro. Robinson, of Selma, by
request of the chair, then followed, recit-
ing a personal experience, showing the
power and effect of a thorough knowledge
of the Bible. Bros. Raymond and Wink-
ler delivered splendid addresses on the
topic under discussion, abounding in
beauty—rich in truth and much eloquent
force.

After singing the hymn No. 496, "Thy
Word is to my Feet a Lamp," the discus-
sion was continued by Brethren Silsby,
Word, Brewer, R. C. Morse, J. H. Frank-
lin, C. W. Lovelace, Revs. G. A. Hall, N.
E. Willis, and E. T. Winkler, after which
the hymn, "Mid Scenes of Confusion,"
was sung.

The discussion was again continued by
Brethren Caldwell, Robinson, and Dr.
Ball.

Bro. Brewer offered the following resolu-
tion, which was referred to the proper
committee:

Resolved, That we will, in our individ-
ual capacity as Christians and members
of the Young Men's Christian Associa-
tions, use more effort to distribute the
Bible; and that each Association make
the proper effort to get the Branch Amer-

ican Bible Societies in each city to fur-
nish Bibles for sale and free distribution
among all classes of our citizens.

The Devotional and Business Commit-
tees reported the order of exercises for
to-morrow.

FOR SATURDAY, MAY 16TH, 1874.
To-morrow morning at 8 1/2 o'clock there
will be a prayer meeting held for one
hour in the Association Rooms to be
conducted by Mr. J. H. Robinson, of
Selma. All are invited to attend.

The Convention will assemble in this
church at 10 o'clock. Devotional exer-
cises for fifteen minutes conducted by I.
B. Merriam, of Talladega. Reading of
minutes. Calls for Resolutions. Reports
of Standing Committees.

Discussion of third Topic. "How best
to promote the work of the Young Men's
Christian Association in the smaller towns
and villages, to be opened by James Sher-
rard, of Marion. At 11 1/2 o'clock the
question box will be opened—question
to be answered by Mr. G. A. Hall. Re-
ports of Committees. Adjourn at 11
o'clock.

AFTERNOON.—Convention will meet at
4 o'clock. Devotional exercises for fif-
teen minutes, to be conducted by J. L.
Bonner, of Howard College. Reading of
minutes. Calls for resolutions. Report
of standing committees.

Mr. R. C. Morse will present the claims
of the international work.

At 5 o'clock, the discussion of the
fourth topic will be taken up—"The best
means for raising funds to carry on Asso-
ciation work, the general arrangement of
its business,"—to be opened by J. H.
Franklin, of Selma.

Reports of committees. Adjournment
at 6 o'clock.

At 8 o'clock p. m., a promise meeting
will be held in the Baptist church, to be
conducted by H. L. McKee, of Selma.

There will be an open-air prayer meet-
ing, in front of the Court House, at 6:30
o'clock. All are invited to attend.

Convention adjourned till to-morrow
morning with singing and prayer.

A. M. FOWLKES,
A. E. SKAGGS,
Secretaries.

BAPTIST CHURCH,
10 o'clock a. m., May 16, 1874.

Devotional exercises conducted for fif-
teen minutes by Bro. I. B. Merriam, of
Talladega.

Convention called to order by the
Chairman. Reading of the minutes post-
poned until the afternoon session.

The topic for discussion, "How best
to promote the work of the Young Men's
Christian Associations in smaller towns
and villages," was then opened by Bro.
Sherrard, of Marion, in a well-studied and
able essay, then followed by Bro. Huston,
C. W. Lovelace, R. C. Morse, and G. A.
Hall, who, in a very happy vein, spoke
about ten minutes with much feeling and
enthusiasm.

II. L. McKee, chairman of the State
Executive Committee, read the following
report, which was read to the Business
Committee:

"The State Executive Committee for Ala-
bama beg to submit to the Association in
convention assembled, the following report of
the board a work for the past year:

The committee have labored under many
disadvantages in their work, for two reasons:
First, on account of the committee being re-
moted so far apart, thus preventing mu-
tual aid and counsel; and second, on ac-
count of the want of funds to carry on the
work which they felt they might project if
the means were only provided.

To these two reasons we attribute our want
of success, in any degree, in extending these
organizations over the State.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, we have
reason to think there is some progress
in the work. This has been done by cor-
respondence and an occasional visit.

The reports by delegates from the local
Associations will doubtless furnish sufficient
information in detail, and your committee will
only speak of the work in general.

Since the last Convention, there have been
two new organizations effected. The
growth of those which preserved their organ-
ization, we have reason to feel, are growing
in their work.

We regret to say that one or two repre-
sented at the last meeting, have either
died, or are not actively engaged in any
work.

On the whole, the prospect is encouraging.
A necessity for such an organization is felt;
more inquiry with regard to the work of our
Association is being made.

The committee would, in view of this de-
mand for information, invite the attention of
the Convention to the subject of visitation as
a means of imparting this information.

At the last Convention, it was made the
duty of the committee to issue a pamphlet or
paper to cover this want, but owing to the
want of necessary funds, it was not done;
and instead, the paper on the subjects of the
"Work in small towns," "The Association,
what it is," and suggestions with regard to
organization, as published by the interna-
tional Committee, we thought answered the
purpose.

The expenses incurred by your committee in
getting ready for this Convention have been
as follows:

Printing and stationery.....\$10 00
Stamps and telegrams.....5 00
Total.....\$15 00

Heretofore no arrangement has been made
to publish the proceedings of previous meet-
ings, and your committee think if this could
be done, it would serve to extend the infor-
mation sought, and to stimulate Associations
to greater activity.

Let the committee would recommend that
the second Sabbath in November be set apart
as a day of special prayer for Associations.

2d. That the committee be changed in such
a way as to bring them nearer together, for
we feel the cause has suffered on this account.

All of which is respectfully submitted, with
the earnest prayer that the Great Head of the
Church may more richly bless us this year
than in the year closed.

H. L. MCKEE,
H. H. STEWART,
R. G. KEEBLE,
D. P. GOODHUE,
S. B. BREWER,
E. F. BAKER,
W. L. KENNEDY,

The hymn, "Jesus, lover of my soul,"
was then sung, after which the Question
Box was opened, and questions answered
by Bros. Morse and Hall.

On motion, the further consideration
of the Question Box was postponed until
the afternoon session.

Bro. Raymond, on behalf of the Busi-
ness Committee, reported the following,
and, on motion, it was adopted:

Resolved, That the report of the chairman
of the Executive Committee be approved and
audited and printed in the proceedings of the
Convention.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee pre-
pare and publish a report of the proceedings
of this Convention, including the Executive
committee's report.

Resolved, That the Executive Committee
be authorized to call a meeting of the State
convention of 1875 at Jacksonville, Alabama,
during the month of May next.

Resolved, That this Convention take up a
description for general expenses; also one
or printed copies of the proceedings of this
Convention.

Resolved, That the second Sabbath of No-
vember next be set apart as a day of special
prayer for Associations.

Your committee recommend to this Conven-
on the following named gentlemen as mem-
bers of the State Executive Committee for the
ensuing year: H. L. McKee, Selma; D. P.
Goodhue, Marion; H. H. Stewart, Selma;
James H. Franklin, Selma; J. H. Caldwell,
Jacksonville; E. L. Bell, Selma; S. B.
Brewer, Montgomery; T. A. Huston, Colum-
biana.

W. H. RAYMOND, Chairman.

Jacksonville was selected as the next
place of meeting.

Bro. Franklin introduced the follow-
ing, which was adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That the third annual Conven-
tion of the Young Men's Christian Associa-
tions of Alabama cannot separate without
expressing their gratitude to the pastors of
the Marion churches for their ready hearty
welcome and co-operation. To the Associa-
tion of Marion for the perfect arrangements
that have so largely contributed to the suc-
cess of the Convention. To the citizens of
Marion who have opened their homes and
hearts, and lavishly bestowed upon us good
and sincere affection, and have made
our stay not only comfortable and pleasant,
but delightful. To the ladies who have pre-
sided at the organ and aided us in the sing-
ing, and by their sweet voices melted our
hearts. And we further tender our thanks to
the International Executive Committee of the
Young Men's Christian Associations of the
United States and British Provinces for send-
ing to our Convention both G. A. Hall, of
Washington, and R. C. Morse, of New York
who have, by their earnest, loving words,
stimulated and quickened our hearts to greater
activity in Association work, and more sup-
ported devotion to our mission—having souls
to the MARION COMM-WEALTH for the ex-
traordinary, giving details of the various dis-
cussions. To the President of the Convention
for the able and impartial manner in which
he presided over the sessions of this Con-
vention.

Bros. Keeble and Thames were added
to the Committee on Resolutions, vice
Bros. Word and Robinson, absent.

Convention adjourned until 4 p. m.,
with singing and prayer.

A. M. FOWLKES,
A. E. SKAGGS,
Secretaries.

BAPTIST CHURCH,
4 o'clock, p. m., May 16th, 1874.

Devotional exercises conducted by Bro.
Donner of Howard College. Convention
called to order by the Chairman. Min-
utes of the afternoon session of yesterday
read and approved. Minutes of morn-
ing session postponed reading. Report
from Selma Association by Bro. Keeble,
who said that a wonderful amount of
good had been accomplished by the Asso-
ciation. The Association had a good
hall with splendid library of 600 volumes
and free reading room. The room was
constantly open to visitors, and the Gen-
eral Secretary was always present to wait
on visitors. The Association held Sab-
bath evening services at the jail. Two
regular weekly prayer meetings. Through
the instrumentality of the Association,
the East Selma Methodist and Presby-
terian churches had been established. Had
done a good work in visiting the sick
and afflicted who were strangers in the
city. A membership of 150, 125 active,
and 25 associate members. The annual
expenses about \$1000, and the Associa-
tion clear of debt. The mission work at
East Selma African church productive of
much good. The Depository of the
American Bible Society in the room.
Five young men had been induced to
enter the ministry through its spiritual
influence. Had developed a more Catho-
lic spirit, and liberal fellowship and com-
munion among the various churches.

Closed the report by saying much good
was yet to be done. Bro. R. C. Morse,
of New York, addressed the Convention on
the international Association work.

The topic, "The best means for raising
funds to carry on Association work, the
general arrangement of its business," was
announced for discussion. Bro. Frank-
lin absent, and no discussion was had on
this subject. Bro. Hall, however, spoke
a few minutes in a rich, harmonious vein,
affording much pleasure and some instruc-
tion.

The Business Committee desire that all
Associations who are prepared to contri-
bute to the expenses of the State Executive
Committee, to report such subscription
to the Secretary of this Convention after
this meeting adjourns; and that citizens
who may feel disposed to contribute to
this cause can do so as they pass out at
the door, by dropping their contributions
into the basket.

The Business Committee reported the
following appointments for Sabbath, May
17th:

At 8 o'clock a. m., there will be a prayer
meeting held for three quarters of an hour in
the Association Rooms to be led by Bro. Jos.
Hardie of Selma. All are invited.

At 9 o'clock the members will be in at-
tendance at the different Sabbath schools as
follows:

Methodist S. S.—S. B. Brewer, J. D. Fay,
G. A. Hall, F. G. Wood, Presbyterian—J.
H. Franklin, T. A. Huston, J. M. Caldwell,

At 8 o'clock p. m., there will be a prayer
meeting at the Howard College, to be led by
G. A. Hall, J. B. Fiquet, J. H. Franklin,
and J. N. Prestridge.

At 10 o'clock the delegates will meet with
the Methodist Missionary Society at the
Howard College. There will be an open
air service held in front of the Court
House at 4 1/2 o'clock, conducted by J.
Caldwell and N. J. Cross.

At 8 o'clock p. m., will be held in
church a concert service and a meet-
ing of the delegates, conducted by G.
Hall, of Washington.

Convention closed by singing
prayer.

A. M. FOWLKES,
A. E. SKAGGS,
Secretaries

The "Farewell Meeting" of the Asso-
ciation was held at the Baptist Church
Sabbath night, which was participated
by the Ministers and citizens of Marion
who expressed a desire to see the Asso-
ciations succeed in the noble and glorious
work in which they are engaged, and
bade the delegates God-speed in their
ende

