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Consultation Convention.

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MACON, GA. January 25th, 1888.

In response to a call for a Consultation Convention of the representative colored men of Georgia, about three hundred men from all parts of the state assembled in this city to-day. No public hall being large enough to seat the delegates in attendance, the Cotton Avenue Baptist church kindly tendered the use of their house. At 10 o'clock a. m., the meeting was called to order by Rev. W. J. White, Editor of the *Georgia Baptist*, who requested Rev. C. T. Walker to read the following :

To the Colored Citizens of Georgia :—

The matter of having a Consultation meeting of the leading colored men of the State has been under discussion for some time. On the 24th day of November, 1887, a number of gentlemen met in the city of Macon, Ga., to discuss the advisability of making a call. After fully considering the matter, it was unanimously decided to invite the leading colored men of Georgia, to meet in the city of Macon, on Wednesday morning, January 25th 1888, at 10 o'clock. The Chairman of that meeting, Rev. W. J. White, was appointed to prepare and issue a call for this meeting.

It is not deemed necessary to enter into details in this call, beyond stating that we believe the time has come when the colored men of Georgia should meet, consult and agree upon some wise course of future action, for the promotion of the race's welfare. After more than 20 years of freedom and its benefits, with thousands of our people greatly advanced from the degradation of slavery days, the colored men of Georgia find a predominating sentiment among their white fellow-citizens, to keep them in a condition largely assimilating to their condition when held in bondage. But as the darkest cloud has its silver lining, so the colored men of Georgia sees some rays of hope in the fact that a large number of the best white people of the state are ready and willing to give them a fair chance in the race of life. The present chain-gang and penitentiary system of Georgia, is simply barbarous, and yet no past legislature has removed this foul blot. Every attempt at improvement has failed, and as a matter of fact; the helpless convicts of the state are being made the subjects of cruelty far beyond the limit authorized by the statutes, even in providing for the enforcement of the most rigid discipline. The educational facilities afforded by the state are totally inadequate to the needs of the people and yet the colored people are deprived of a just share of the small amount provided for this purpose. Under the influence of a senseless and unrelenting prejudice, the legislature at its last session has connected with the continuance of the annual appropriation of the *Eight Thousand Dollars* to the Atlanta University, conditions which amount to a virtual withdrawal of this money from that school. This action was taken in the face of the fact that appropriations to white institutions of learning were larger than in former years. The colored men of Georgia owe it to themselves and their children to organize and unite their strength with the good white people of the state for the removal of existing evils, and the securing of more of the benefits to which their citizenship entitles them. This call is addressed to all classes of our people and we trust the people will interest themselves in raising money to assist their leaders to attend.

Ministers of the gospel, school teachers, professional men, the farmer, the merchant, the mechanic, the artizan, and the wage worker are invited to attend. A people who will not try to help themselves cannot expect others to help them. Let us help ourselves and ask the Lord to turn the hearts of others to our help.

W. J. WHITE, Editor *Georgia Baptist*, Chairman.

W. H. YOUNG, Secretary.

Anthony Wilson Member House of Representatives for Camden Co.
 L. Crawford..... Member House of Representatives, McIntosh Co.
 Hon. P. O. Holt..... Macon, Ga.
 Hon. Jeff Long..... Macon, Ga.