

H. M. Williams, Esq., offered the following resolution which was adopted :

Resolved, That we tender our heartfelt thanks to the Cotton Avenue Baptist church and to its pastor, Rev. T. M. Robiison, and also to the deacons for their kindness and hospitality to this Convention in freely granting us the use of their house of worship.

Resolved, That the good citizens of Macon be kindly thanked for generous hospitality.

The subject of the proposed National Exposition to be held in Atlanta next fall was introduced and discussed by Maj. S. W. Easley, Bishop H. M. Turner, and Col. W. A. Pledger.

A motion was made and adopted that the President appoint a committee of six of which he shall be chairman to investigate the matter and if in their judgment it is worthy of our endorsement they do so in behalf of this Convention and the colored people of Georgia. The chairman appointed the following committee under the above resolution : Rev. W. J. White, Augusta, Col. W. A. Pledger, Atlanta, Capt. C. C. Wimbish, Atlanta, Col. J. H. Deveaux, Savannah, Hon. Nathan Toomer, Perry, Hon. A. Wilson, Bailey's Mills.

Report of committee on resolutions was submitted and adopted, as follows :

#### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

Your committee on resolutions respectfully submit the following report:

We, the representatives of the colored citizens of Georgia, in Convention assembled, do hereby issue the following statement to the people of the state, bearing upon questions which we regard as being of vital interest to the glory and prosperity of the commonwealth.

1st. It is a right of the people, irrespective of race, color, or previous condition, to be called upon to perform the high duty of jurors, therefore we view with alarm and remonstrate against the failure of the authorities in more than 130 counties of this state to call colored men to the discharge of this high function of citizenship. We recommend that the people in all the counties of Georgia, where this deprivation of their rights is practiced, by petition and resolution respectfully and properly drawn, press the consideration of this question to the end, that it may be remedied.

2nd. Common carriers are endowed with certain franchises given by the state for the compassing of the convenience of the people at large; they are the creatures of the state and are as amenable to the law as the humblest citizen. We therefore denounce, in unmeasured terms, the practice of railroads in charging colored citizens of the state first-class fare for passage on their trains, and then, in defiance of their plighted faith, coercing them into the acceptance of inferior accommodations.

3rd. The action of the General Assembly of Georgia, in coupling with the continuance of the appropriation to the Atlanta University, conditions that amounted to its withdrawal, for causes frivolous and insufficient, was unjust, unfair and illegal. We therefore recommend that the people throughout the state take steps to secure in the next Legislature representatives pledged to the removal of these conditions and the restoration of this appropriation to that school, unfettered and untrammelled by these conditions our equitable share of the landscript fund—the nation's bounty.

4th. The present penitentiary system of Georgia is a foul blot upon our civilization; a stain upon the escutcheon of the state; a means by which speculators enrich themselves at the expense of, and on the miseries of the criminal classes of the state, with but slight regard to the requirements of law or the obligations of humanity that one creature holds to another. We do not condemn the proper punishment of transgressors of the law, but we deny the right of the state to entrust or delegate this high function of administering punitive justice to persons or corporations, as it exercises under the penitentiary system of Georgia. We recommend that the people in each county of Georgia organize themselves for the purpose of securing legislative representation pledged to the abolition of this system in our state, and the erection of one more in consonance with the enlightened judgment of the present day.

5th. The ballot in all Republican or Democratic forms of government is the only means by which the citizen in the last resort, can express his will