

and high social position : the other a negro servant. They related their experience. No difference could be perceived in the cordiality of the vote by which they were received. The next morning I baptized them both in the same running stream. We then repaired to the church. In the beginning of the service, in the presence of an unusually large congregation, the newly baptized took a stand together, in front of the pulpit, and were addressed by the pastor in the same words of warning, exhortation, encouragement, and confidence. Then, while we sung a hymn, all the members of the church, white and colored, bond and free, came forward and gave the right hand of fellowship to the new sisters. Among them, servants gave the hand to their mistress, yet was not that mistress more sincerely welcomed as a sister in the church, than the humble servant who stood by her side.

God, we trust, has called us to this ministry, permits us to preach to the negro as a man and brother, and the Minutes of our Association, (Georgia Baptist) now before me, show a membership of 4,532 colored, to 2,796 whites. Whether this result is owing to the manner of preaching prevalent among us, or to the fact of God's having an elect people among us, I will not decide : but we do thank God that he calls us to the work which is thus instrumental in saving the soul of the poor slave. Can we engage in this work, without believing in our very heart that the negro is a man, without affirming the essential manhood and brotherhood of the negro ? Here, in the South, among Southern Christians, are the negro's best friends, and eternity will declare the fact.

It was my privilege, two months ago, to attend the meeting of our Western Baptist Association. The claims of our colored population for religious instruction were presented in a strong and able report. Many brethren, ministers and not ministers, discussed the subject, and every one felt deeply, saw clearly, and expressed strongly, the obligation to give the negroes religious instruction. One minister, especially a man of wealth, with a pathos which I have seldom seen equalled, avowed his determination to devote himself to this service. Deeply, truly, does he feel the essential brotherhood of the negro.

The revival of the African slave-trade will never be sanctioned by Southern Christians, nor by the Southern people. The horrors of that trade are keenly felt. The name of Wilberforce is truly honored by us. The Africans are among us, but we have no desire to import