

The Star of Zion.

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JOHN C. BANCY, Managing Editor.
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OUR TRIP WEST—FEW DOTS IN LOUISVILLE—ELDER CLAIBORNE'S FAREWELL ENTERTAINMENT—KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.

BY REV. G. L. BLACKWELL.

Mr. Editor:

Sunday August 29th was indeed a high day of enjoyment in Louisville Ky. The District Conference of which we spoke in our last had just closed which left quite a number of ministers in the city. Friday evening and part of Saturday we had considerable rain. On Sunday it was cloudy nevertheless it being the last day for the pastors of Zion churches for the conference year the people came out by the hundreds. Rev. W. H. Ely filled the pulpit at Twelfth Street Church at 11 a. m., and that with satisfaction. He is a transferee from the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference. At 1:30 p. m., the pastor, Rev. S. Claiborne attended a funeral in order to get out of the way of the Quarterly meeting at Fifteenth Street Church at 3 p. m. At night that other disciple filled the stand before a very attentive audience. The congregation at this church has done wonderfully well towards Elder Claiborne; pair all their salaries and gave him Sunday's collection. Rev. H. Campbell filled the stand at Jacob Street Tabernacle at 1:15 a. m. Elder Campbell is quite an enthusiastic speaker. At night Elder J. B. Kidd the pastor filled the stand. Elder Kidd has managed his congregation splendidly and wields a strong influence among his members. Quarterly meeting was carried on at Fifteenth Street Church, Rev. Harper pastor. P. E., J. M. Washington spoke at 11 a. m. and rendered entire satisfaction. Elder Kidd was invited to preach at 3 p. m., and delivered a very fine sermon. At the conclusion of which the sacrament was administered. Both Twelfth St. and Jacob St. Tabernacle congregations together with pastors were present at the afternoon services. The Quarterly meeting was quite a success. We visited all three of the Zion churches of the city which appeared to be in very fair condition. Especially the Jacob St. and Twelfth St. churches. On Monday we visited many places of importance in the city. On Monday night several of the young people gave a farewell entertainment to Elder S. Claiborne, pastor of the Twelfth St. church. The following is a part of the programme: Music by the Quinn Chapel choir; Select reading, John W. McWhorter; Music by Twelfth St. Church choir; Essay, Our Young People, by Miss Lizzie Walker; Music by Quinn Chapel choir; Elder S. Claiborne's Farewell Address. After the presentation of a handsome collection we were requested to respond on behalf of the audience. Retiring from the upper room the large crowd repaired to the basement where the stewardesses had the choicest delicacies for the appetite. The whole affair was grand and expressive of the warm feeling existing among the members for the pastor. Indeed he has done a good work and is worthy of their generosity. There was also an entertainment given at Jacob's St. Tabernacle in honor of the invaluable services of the pastor. On Monday evening, 10:20, Elder Sherman's daughter, Paralee, died after a continued illness. "O Death thou art a monster!"

Tuesday morning at 8:45 we boarded the train for Evansville Ind. Quite a delegation went from the city. Very cheap rates were obtained for sixteen days and return.

KENTUCKY CONFERENCE.

The Twenty-second session of the above named conference convened in the city of Evansville Ind, September 1st, Rt Rev J W Hood presiding, at the request of Bishop T H Lomax the proper presiding Bishop. The Bishop announced that the hour had come to open the session, therefore he read the 5th chap of 1st Timothy. Elder W A Foreman lined and the conference sang, "And are we yet alive." After singing Elder Foreman addressed the Throne of Grace. The Bishop then lead in singing "A charge to keep I have" followed by an old fashion hand shake. On motion Elder G. B. Walker was chosen Secretary with the privilege to choose assistants, which resulted in the choice of Elders L N Demby and J C Temple. On motion Elder R T W James was appointed reporter to the *Evansville Daily*. Elder Campbell was appointed Marshal. The Bishop then introduced Elder W H Chambers a transferee from the Allegheny Conference, Rev W H Ely a transferee from the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference and Rev G L Blackwell fraternal delegate from the Central N. C. Conference. The Bishop further stated that Brother Blackwell was not only a delegate, but was the authorized agent for the STAR and therefore would forward a synopsis of the conference work to the STAR for publication. The necessary committees were then announced. In the announcement, the Bishop particularly charged those on Holy Orders to be careful and exact so that when an Elder is constituted by the conference it will not be ashamed of him afterwards. He said that there might be some leniency shown in the reception of candidates on trial but a candidate for elders orders ought to measure a full man.

The Bishop then rose and read his Episcopal Address which was very concise, practical and instructive. Among the things referred to in local and general affairs, were the meager sums the Bishops are getting on salary; the tone and standard of the christian ministry. Immediately after the address a committee was appointed to draft a code of resolutions, reciprocating if possible for the invaluable service of the Bishop while in charge of the Kentucky Conference. The committee consisted of Revs. James, Claiborne, Curry, Washington and Irvin. The committee on Devotion announced that Rev D J Donohoo would preach at night but the annual sermon would be deferred until Thursday night by which time the new church would be ready for occupation. The session adjourned. Rev Donohoo preached a very acceptable sermon and was commended for his effort.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

The conference assembled at 10 a. m. as per rule, with the Bishop presiding who read the 6th chapter of 1st Timothy. He also gave some very important comments on the chapter. Rev G L Blackwell announced and the conference sang, "Jesus shall reign where'er the sun" etc., after which he led in prayer.

The Bishop introduced to the conference, Rev J F Lyons D D, who was subsequently received as a member of the Kentucky conference. Rev Lyons is quite an accomplished scholar and a learned divine. He was once a member of the Zion church and held several first class charges, but for some cause unknown left and joined the Baptist church. He now comes back with excellent recommen-

dations from the church he has served at New Bedford Mass and with proper credentials. Should our brother be blessed with health and opportunity he is destined to do valuable work. The minutes were read and approved. The Bishop then read his financial report which included collections on travelling expenses and donations by the churches and brethren. The Bishop returned thanks for their liberal donations. The presiding elders proceeded to make their reports. Elder J M Washington of the Louisville District showed to the conference that his ministers had not been sleeping but wide awake and pushing on the cause. All of his ministers have done well with only a few exceptions. They treat him as a father, and he them as brothers. Elder Washington is a whole soul man and makes it good and easy for all his ministers. There are few such P. E.'s as Elder Washington, he is loved by all. Presiding Elder, J R Irvin, made his report of the Greenville District which showed progress in the work. Elder Irvin is a Zion man in every particular and pushes forward his preachers with energy. The Bishop announced that Elder S. Claiborne would preach the Annual Sermon at 8 p. m. The Bishop requested the Elders to meet him at 4 p. m. Conference adjourned.

Elder S. Claiborne preached a very acceptable discourse from the text "It is finished." The Elder is acknowledged to be one of the leading preachers in the Kentucky Conference.

THIRD DAY'S SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Bishop and Elder W H Tucker. Minutes read etc. Rev Simpson of the Bethel church was introduced. The conference considered the cases of those who failed to bring in General Fund and after reasonable and sufficient excuse was rendered, their characters passed.

P. E., E H Curry made his report of the St. Louis District which showed indications of improvement and advancement. Elder Curry is a thorough going Methodist and a systematic worker in the church. He is loved by all his ministers and wields a telling influence.

The passage of characters was resumed. On motion Saturday 12 m was set apart as special hour for Rev G L Blackwell to speak of Zion Wesley College and its claims. It was reported that Rev D Bruce would preach at 8 p. m. Conference adjourned.

FOURTH DAY'S SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Bishop and Rev H Campbell. Roll was called, minutes read etc. All the characters passed except two or three whose names were dropped from the roll.

The special hour having arrived the Bishop said, "Rev. Bro. G. L. Blackwell who is here representing the College, the General Steward for Children's Day money, the STAR of ZION, and as Fraternal delegate from the Central N. C. Conference will now speak of the College and its interest." Brother Blackwell after a few preliminary remarks on the race and its progress, set forth the claims of the Institution in a very lucid manner. He spoke especially of the Endowment Fund. The brethren came forward and paid cash \$15, one dollar of which was given by a lady from Lebanon Ky., Mrs Sarah Haden who is a prepossessing widow worth about \$3000 or more. Several more subscribed to the fund.

The committee on candidates made its report which recommended only

two out of eight. Quite a discussion arose on making the case of one not recommended a specialty, finally he was received. The Devotional committee announced the appointments for Sunday as follows, Hood's Chapel, A M E Zion Church, 11 a. m., Rev G L Blackwell; 3 p. m., Rt Rev J W Hood; 8 p. m., Rev E H Curry. A M E Church, 8 p. m., Rev W A Foreman. Baptist church, 11 a. m., Rev S J Dixon; 8 p. m., Rev R T Anderson. Conference adjourned.

SUNDAY IN EVANSVILLE.

The services on Sunday were well attended. At 11 o'clock that other disciple preached from the subject of "Messiah's final triumph." The audience seemed to be well pleased. At 3 p. m. Bishop Hood held the audience in amazement as he pictured out the only reason why the rich man went to hell. His theme was well handled as is always the case when that divine makes an attempt. Elder Curry at 8 p. m. said that Elder Blackwell had surveyed the whole kingdom of Christ in minute details and Bishop Hood had pointed out hell in all its horrors so he was going to ride on the through freight and say what he wanted to from the subject of the "Works of Jesus being well done." As P. E. Washington says, "he walked about in Zion." Elders Dixon, Foreman and R T Anderson are said to have preached very acceptable discourses.

FIFTH DAY'S SESSION.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the Bishop and R E Irvin. The several reports were called for. The committee on Holy Orders reported, which report was adopted. A motion prevailed to sell or trade 15th street church at Louisville and purchase elsewhere in the city in a more suitable locality. Committee on Temperance reported, which subject was discussed freely by Elders Washington, Curry, Kidd, Claiborne, and Blackwell. Committee on Literature reported which recommended the unanimous use of our own books and periodicals in preference to any other. Elder J B Johnson was elected presiding elder to succeed Rev J R Irvin, Elder J M Washington was re-elected and Elder Curry continued as his time had not expired. The fraternal delegate from the Central N C Conference delivered his message and spoke of his conference as not the oldest but the largest and proudest of the Zion connection. He was replied to by Elder S. Claiborne who assured him that his message was highly accepted and that the Kentucky conference was in perfect unison with the onward movements of the Zion church everywhere. At night Rev R T Anderson preached the ordination discourse after which the Bishop ordained several preachers and deacons.

SIXTH DAY'S SESSION.

Love feast was held at 9 a. m. the business of the conference was resumed. The other reports were submitted. The minutes were provided for, Elder G B Walker compiler. A resolution was drawn up commending the labors of Rt Rev J W Hood, and also according to the coming Bishop T H Lomax a hearty greeting. The appointments were read after which the conference adjourned to meet in St. Louis Mo the 1st Wednesday in September 1887.

APPOINTMENTS.

I.—Louisville District, J M Washington P. E.
Twelfth St Church, Louisville Ky, S Claiborne.
Fifteenth St church Louisville Ky, W H Chambers.
Jacob St Tabernacle, Louisville, Ky

J B Kidd.
Jones Tabernacle, Indianapolis Ind
R T Anderson.
Lovely Lane Church, Indianapolis Ind, J F Lyons.
Jones Tabernacle, New Albany Ind
G B Walker.
Little Zion, Jeffersonville Ind, J J Kennedy.
Goose Creek Ky, C H McElroy.
Bardstown " H Campbell.
Chaplin, " J Banks.
Aaron Run, " M C Clark.
New Castle, " D J Donohoo.
Bloomfield Circuit, " W A Walker.
Sautafee church, Thos Hutchins.
Lagrange and Eminence, A Nichols.
Mt Sterling, _____
II.—Greenville District: J B Johnson P. E., _____
Greenville, " Ky, R T W James.
Columbia, " W H Ealy.
Madisonville, " L N Demby.
Redport, " S M Puryear.
Johnson's Chapel, Springfield Ky, W A M Cypress.
Gordonville, Bibbtown and Folk's Chapel, H H Harlin.
Russellville Ky, J R Irvin.
McNary, Callonn and Sacramento, _____
Earlington and Nebo, W A Foreman.
Beachland and Pleasant Run, J R Ealy.
Belltown and Greensburg, _____
Cloverport, W W Daisey.
Sherman's Chapel, Lebanon Ky, I. W. Selectman.
Adairville Circuit, Geo Edmonson.
S Carrollton, Green Johnson.
Nortonville, J M Freeman.
III.—St. Louis District: E H Curry P. E.
Washington Chapel, St. Louis, Mo, D Bruce.
St Mark's Chapel, St. Louis Mo, T J Manson.
Mt Pleasant, St. Louis Mo, E Jackson.
Grant Memorial, St. Louis Mo, W H Smith.
St John's church, East St. Louis Mo, N Slaughter.
St John's church, South St. Louis Mo, A Wakefield.
Webster Grove Mo, C H Johnson.
Braidwood Ill, S J Dixon.
Centralia Ill, Y Carr.
Du Quoin, " _____
Cahokie, " E Scott.
Bridwell Chapel, Evansville Ind, A Bunch.
Corydon and Cairo Ky, A R Jackson.
Henderson Ky, J C Temple.
Slaughterville, Sebree and Dixon Circuit Ky, J Browder.
Jacksonville Mission Ky, J Gough.
Pleasant Valley and Boonville, _____

TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D. C.

BY REV. JNO. A. D. BLOICE.

Leaving Salisbury N. C., on Sunday the 22nd of August, I arrived in Washington D. C., on Monday morning, and was met at the depot by the Rev. R G Dyson, whose guest I was while in the city. Not long after my arrival I mounted the cars and took a tour through the city, visiting the Capitol, Smithsonian Institute, Washington Monument, Medical Museum, Botanical Garden, Treasury Department, Freedman's Hospital, and places of historic interest. I need not stop to say that Washington is a magnificent city. I need not eulogise her for the numerous facilities which she affords for intellectual development. I need

not speak of her many parks and gardens of elysian beauty. I need not dilate on the mechanism of that lofty monument whose top soars farthest into the aerial regions and bespeaks the rising superiority of the American nation. I need not try to excite the "warm affections" of our young men by a glowing and elaborate description of the virtues and beauty of her lasses, but let me say to him who has never visited the city, that should fortune smile on you, let not death seize you ere you arrive in Washington, and behold the beauties of the city of magnificence.

On the following Sunday morning after my arrival, I preached in Wesley Zion both morning and night, to a very appreciative audience, and was gratified to feel and know that my feeble efforts were attended with success. The church is in a dilapidated condition; but strenuous efforts are being put forth by pastor and people to repair and beautify the edifice. The pastor Rev. R H G Dyson is a striking demonstration of the possibilities of the self-cultured man, and the lofty eminence which may be attained by patient, preserving application.

The Sunday school under its Supt. Mr. Gunnell is in a rising condition; I say rising, when I remember that its increase in three months has been 142. The Elder is a zealous worker in this department, and devises every means possible to make it succeed. There are 25 classes in this school; each named after the worthy Bishops and other distinguished officers of the A. M. E. Zion church. I addressed the school on Sunday morning, and saw in it the elements of success.

On Monday the 30th I was favored with a reception from the "Clinton Literary Association," when addresses of welcome were delivered, and congratulatory expressions made by Dr. Laws, a distinguished divine of the Baptist church. This season was one of the grandest in the history of my life. The ladies who form the major part of this association, are some of the finest specimens of the "ideal lady," and above all zealous workers in the church. Led by their venerable pastor, and their distinguished associate, J D Baltimore, engineer of the Freedman's Hospital. I found myself after a season of intellectual treat, ushered into an "inner sanctum," where amid the delicacies of the evening, I reclined myself and feasted away. When shall I forget thee O Clinton circle! When shall grateful recollections of your hospitality be forgotten! Never! Never! On Wednesday night, I gave a special sermon to the young, and was pleased to know that my discourse achieved its object.

Reluctantly yet willingly; sorrowfully yet joyfully, I left Washington on Thursday night to resume my work, and preach the word at home. Before I conclude, let me say that the hospitality accorded me by the elder and his wife was such that their own souls could reasonably desire no more. May peace and prosperity attend the elder and wife through life, and may he long to "unfurl the ensigns of Zion," and write her name on the hearts and minds of the coming generation.

NOTICE.

Brethren of the Virginia conference would it not be wise to have the conference meet on the 4th Wednesday in November, seeing that Bishop Hood who presides at the N C Central conference, holds that conference on the 2nd Wednesday? I know it will meet the convenience of the members and friends at Sunbury, so let us meet on the 4th Wednesday.

Yours etc. J. McHaffey.