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GREAT DEMONSTRATION AT MOTHER ZION, NEW YORK.

BY MISS EMILINE V. HIRD.

On Thursday June the 23rd, the members of Zion A. M. E. church, West 10th and Bleecker Streets...

was phenomenal. As the last note died in the air the audience broke forth in rounds of applause...

Rev. Caldwell with feeling responded: "Ladies and gentlemen—I stand before you tonight with mingled emotions. I venture to say that no human being with a heart in his bosom could stand before you otherwise...

wished him success in his new field of labor, and concluded with the hope that when he shuffled this mortal coil we all might stand with him above the winds and waves in the clouded sunlight of God's eternal glory...

Rev. Walters was then a young man 30 years of age, and looked so much like a boy that the people said he would not be able to hold the church...

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Master of ceremonies, pastor, ladies and gentlemen.—It gives me pleasure to be here on this auspicious occasion. Four years ago I was requested by this church to lead a man to fill this pulpit and to bring back prestige to this church...

There has not been in four years a misunderstanding or anything like disunion between the pastor of this church and the ministry of this great city. When my eyes rested on Dr. Monroe sitting in his seat, my heart filled with joy, for four years side by side we have struggled, and eternally will all the angels of our struggle...

At an early hour the church was filled with an expectant audience, and as the hour drew near for the exercises to begin "standing room only" was obtainable. The occasion of this great outpouring of people was a farewell testimonial to the retiring pastor of Zion church, Rev. A. Walters, D. D. (now Bishop), who during his four years' pastorate has won the respect and affection not only of his own members, but of every denomination and the community at large...

Dr. Monroe, late pastor of St. Mark's church, was next introduced and in a brief speech addressed his tribute to the worth of the departing pastor. He said that during his four years' association with him he had always found him the same honest, manly, christian minister; always found him in the right place. He spoke very feelingly of the kindness of pastor and people to himself inviting him to fill the pulpit of their church while Dr. Walters was traveling abroad...

Next a duet by Madam Selika and Mr. Veleko, "Only Thee," again woke the enthusiasm of the house, and they retired covered with glory and followed by the cheers of their admirers. In response to frequent calls (for the audience would not be satisfied) Mr. Veleko stepped forward and explained that owing to the lateness of the hour, it would not be just to take up any more of the time, as the program was rather a long one...

for such honor. I am unworthy of it. The remembrance of my humble, but noble parentage; my obscure birth-place and hard struggles in early life, (for I have been looking out for myself since I was twelve years old) working sometimes in hotels and at other times on steamboats, ever struggling for an education and a livelihood; and now, ere I have reached my 30th year, to be called to great gathering to do me honor as a Bishop, it is truly amazing. Well might the poet say: "God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform."

my permanent place of abode, and for which I am very thankful. Have I labored to build up my connection? I have been true to my every interest. I have been most repaid by the greatest gift of the church—the Bishopric. Have I labored for souls until my physical strength was nearly exhausted? If so, here before me is the reward of my toil by which I am very thankful. Have I labored to build up my connection? I have been true to my every interest. I have been most repaid by the greatest gift of the church—the Bishopric. Have I labored for souls until my physical strength was nearly exhausted? If so, here before me is the reward of my toil by which I am very thankful.

When I first entered this city I did not expect much sympathy from them, when I met them for the first time in annual conference I must confess I had some misgivings, but after the first day or two all of my misgivings vanished away like the passing clouds. Coming as I did from the West, adopted into this conference and serving in its first church for four years, and then see the clergy come up during the month of April in Tarrytown and by a unanimous vote from such men as Dr. Jacob Thomas, R. H. Stitt, M. A. Bradley, Abram Anderson and others say, "We believe that the pastor of Zion church, New York, an adopted son of ours, is worthy to be exalted to the Bishopric."

There were others who had as much right to be a bishop as your humble servant. Hear them say, we will give up our claim and serve at your feet though you have been among us only four years, will go with you to the General conference and give you our suffrages. And every member and delegate stood upon the conference floor and when their names were called deposited their ballot in the box for the pastor of this church. From church and clergy you will receive a warm welcome, and from the officers good grand men, they have always been on hand when the bugle sounded for war and I know them. I commend them to you. The Sunday School with its efficient Superintendent, stands ready to hold up your arms, and a more intelligent better organized and better looking Sunday School I never saw. I believe it is the *deus ex machina* of the entire Zion connection, and when you have served four years I think you will say "Amen!"

Mr. Stewart entertained the audience in his usual happy and versatile style, speaking of the occasion as one for the purpose of placing a laurel wreath of affection on the brow of our friend Bishop Walters. He rejoiced that the Bishop was an honorary member of the Brooklyn Literary Union, and that he was a member of the same.

Dr. Veleko then appeared in "The Scapegoat," which he humorously rendered, and which the audience heartily applauded. Next a duet by Madam Selika and Mr. Veleko, "Only Thee," again woke the enthusiasm of the house, and they retired covered with glory and followed by the cheers of their admirers. In response to frequent calls (for the audience would not be satisfied) Mr. Veleko stepped forward and explained that owing to the lateness of the hour, it would not be just to take up any more of the time, as the program was rather a long one...

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The next event of the evening was the appearance of Madama Maria Selika, the "Queen of Song," who met with a perfect ovation as she stepped upon the stage. When the audience had subsided the Madam rendered a cavatina from "Linda Di Schimmoz" capturing the audience with the first note and holding them spell bound while her glorious voice rose and fell in waves of melody, the full, resonant tones possessed a marvellous depth and richness, and the purity and sweetness of the upper register.

Your choir will enrapture your soul, and when they have sung "Rock of Ages" once or twice you will never forget them. We all extend you a hearty welcome I shall always be ready to help you in any way in my power, you have only to command and I will obey. As long as you stand in the pulpit with your hand upon the breast of the cross, all New York will be at your back. I welcome you, God bless you.

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Send 5 cents in silver and get the book "Seven Facts on Baptism" by a Methodist, Rev. H. W. Sierra, Hendersonville, Ky.