

One Star Of Zion.

ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH IN AMERICA.

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CORRESPONDENCE

FROM THE MINISTERS AND
MEMBERS OF THE A. M. E.
ZION CONNECTION IN
THE UNITED STATES.

TO THE STAR OF ZION.

Union Springs, Ala., July 24.

Mr. Editor:—My last communication to the STAR left me at Talladega. My visit to that place was quite pleasant. The church under the pastoral care of that old war-horse of Zion, Rev. E. Derry, is looking up.

At Wetumpka Rev. A. Rodgers is moving on nicely. He has the foundation for a new church laid, and good prospect for its early completion.

At Greenville the church has passed through a storm, but by the wisdom and patience of Presiding Elder Shiford, order has succeeded confusion, and a glorious calm has followed the storm.

Rev. S. Allen has built two churches on the Athens circuit and his entire work is doing well. At Milledgeville I found the people a little slow. But when the bishop has to leave the railroad at a county station and walk a mile or more to some one's house and then to church, and gets half through preaching before the preacher in charge puts in an appearance, it is no wonder that the people are slow.

At Burnt Corn and Monroeville I found fine congregations. Rev. Alex. Stokes, who conveyed me to these points, has long labored here and still enjoys the confidence and affection of the people. Our people through this section are remarkably industrious and frugal, and many of them have bought fine farms and are fast accumulating wealth.

At Evergreen Rev. T. A. Weatherington is doing well. He is one of the most promising of the young men in this conference.

I presume many of the readers of the STAR who have read the very interesting letters from your correspondent at Stockton, Ala., have, like myself, supposed that Stockton was a considerable town on some important railway. Imagine my surprise, as learning, on leaving the train, that the church was fourteen miles distant and that I had to make it by horseback. The town of Stockton is located on the Alabama river, twenty-five miles above Mobile. A mill, a variety store and two or three dwellings make up the town. The church is in the pine woods, three miles from the town. Notwithstanding this I found a neat little parsonage, a neat little church and a congregation possessing much of the taste and refinement that distinguish city congregations. This pleasing state of things is the result of the untiring efforts of the Rev. C. L. W. Hamilton, who has had the charge here for nearly three years, who, with his amiable companion, has labored by precept and example to improve the people, and God has blessed them with abundant success.

At Montgomery, the old ship—or Clinton chapel—under the pastoral charge of Rev. C. C. Petty, is wielding a fine influence as the first and largest congregation in the city, and number-

ing among its members many of the most wealthy, virtuous and intelligent of our people. The Hon. James Hall is probably worth between thirty and forty thousand dollars. Elder A. H. White has had uphill business, owing to a long standing lethargy, which has affected the church. I am sure the elder has the elements of success in him, under favorable circumstances, but the odds seem to be against him. I feel inclined to suggest that his work be made a special object of prayer.

At Montgomery I met Presiding Elder Hannon, Strong, Fannin and Thomas, with several other ministers, who gave favorable accounts of their work. Elder Hannon has been quite unwell and is still in feeble health.

J. W. HOON.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., August 20.

Mr. Editor:—Will you permit me space in your bright STAR to let the many readers of its valuable columns hear from Charlotte district. Everything with us in the church is on the boom.

There has been about six hundred conversions and many accessions to the church, and everything bids fair for a steady and rapid growth of our church and the cause of our beloved Master.

The indefatigable efforts of the Rev. E. S. Rives has caused the near completion of the parsonage at Charlotte, which will be worth about \$1,500. Rev. I. S. Hurdle is pushing the noble work bravely on and leaving no stone unturned. Rev. E. W. Dicks is doing noble work and pushing the battle to very gates. Rev. B. L. Campbell, besides other very praiseworthy work, is about having completed a parsonage at Lincolnton, which will be a very great addition to the church in that section. Rev. G. W. Flack is doing good and praiseworthy work. Brother J. W. Whiteside is, by his unremitting efforts, doing a noble work in building up his circuit, which was in a slothful and dilapidated condition. Rev. S. Herndon is moving on finely with his work. Rev. J. W. Thomas has purchased church sites at Kings Mountain and at Shelby, and will, in a short time, have churches in course of erection at both places, which shows that he is moving things bravely onward in the right direction. Rev. A. A. Williams, by his untiring zeal, keeps things moving forward as they ought to be. In fact, all seems to be moving along jovially.

As a good general fund is very essential to keeping the glorious work going successfully onward, and as the people are in fine spirits and crops everywhere indicate a bountiful harvest, the time never has been since the establishment of our church more auspicious for good collections on all accounts and especially on the general fund, and I trust that our preachers will in all instances so impress it upon their people. We have been pushing our work with all our might and feel encouraged to know that our arduous labors have not been in vain. All we need, with the help of our Divine Master, is that every brother and sister shall put their shoulder to the wheels and stretch every nerve, and we shall feel bountifully repaid for our efforts by the success we shall achieve. Respectfully,

A. HILL, Presiding Elder.

LANCASTER, S. C., August 18.

Mr. Editor:—Please allow me to in-

form the many readers through your bright STAR of some important facts together with the results of the revival meetings of Mount Calvary and Salem churches, under the pastoral charge of Rev. L. W. Stewart, that were spoken of in your issue of the 25th of last month. We are happy to say that it resulted in sinners being converted to Christ, the weak made strong, the lame to walk, and our hearts were made to feel glad. It closed on Thursday night, the 14th, at Calvary after a short and soul-stirring sermon by Rev. Stewart, and a love feast with twenty-three converts and thirty-five accessions, including both churches. This makes an enrollment of 135 accessions and eighty converts from these churches this year. Much more could be said in regard to the revivals and it would be a pleasure to the writer to do so, but we feel that we have occupied sufficient space.

As it is Rev. Stewart's solid belief that the ministers should collect the general fund and not the bishops, allow me to speak of the creditable and commendable way in which he has taken to secure the acquired amount from his two churches. For Calvary he has appointed three young ladies as agents—namely: Miss Mary Frazier, Miss Eliza A. Douglas and Miss Mary Early, and for Salem, Miss Alice Moore, Miss Minder Traps and others; these agents are to solicit the good people of this surrounding neighborhood to aid them in the great and good cause, and they are to make their reports monthly, while the Rev. Stewart spares no time in keeping his members reminded of that taxation and receiving all he can for that purpose. Through the hard times he has been successful in sending up the small amount of \$13, but we can see by this wise arrangement that the future looks bright for success to secure in due time the remainder yet due.

The Sabbath schools in this section are in a thriving condition, and allow us to speak of Calvary's with her enrollment of sixty scholars, and her faithful teachers under the superintendence of Mr. J. S. Douglas. We are compelled to say that they are going on to success. We solicit the prayers of all the faithful.

Yours for the good cause,

WM. R. DOUGLASS.

CHARLOTTE, N. C., August 29.

Mr. Editor:—

Please allow me space to notify the brethren of Charlotte district that the district conference will meet at Rutherfordton on the 1st day of October at 10 a. m., A. Hill, presiding. "She has gone to her long home." We were called upon on Tuesday, August 26th, to eulogize the wife of Rev. Elder Samuel Jackson. She departed this life on Tuesday morning, the 26th, after a nineteen-days struggle with our common enemy, sickness, having been a loving wife for seventeen years, she leaves to mourn their loss a heart-stricken husband and three girl children.

The husband loses a loving Christian and pathetic wife; the children a loving and sympathetic mother; the church a good, true and faithful member, and the community a lamentable citizen. But she is at rest—her battle is fought, the victory is won, and she goes sweeping through the golden gates of the city of our God, to reap her reward. Let us drop a "tear" of sympathy for the husband and children and for her rejoice.

I. S. HURDLE.

SUMMERFIELD, Ala., August 12.

Mr. Editor:—

Please favor me with space for a

sketch of our third quarterly conference held at College Hill, August 9th. At 11:30 a. m. the conference convened Elder J. M. Butler in the chair. After opening the conference the elder made an interesting address, giving a sketch of the work done in the late General conference, the changes made in the laws and most especially those relative to local preachers. He said that they would have to study earnestly to meet the requirements of the law; also to be able to preach effectively and successfully, for the young are being educated, and it would take educated ministers to preach to them. After the examination of characters the Sunday school work was taken up, and some rendered good reports which awakened quite an interest in the conference, and the writer was called upon to make an address on Sunday schools. The elder, Rev. J. L. Shearer, S. Garrison and Rev. J. C. Saunders followed in remarks on the same.

Conference then adjourned to partake of the many good things the sisters had prepared.

Sunday, August 10th, at 9 a. m. the Sunday school assembled, and after the usual exercises the elder addressed the Sunday school very nicely, exhorting the young men and young ladies to elevate themselves intellectually and morally, that they might be a blessing to the church and their race. At 11 a. m. he preached a good sermon from the words "Come and See." Collection \$18.80.

Monday, Aug. 11, the pastor went to Selma, and brought back with him Bishop T. H. Lomax. At 8 p. m. the church was filled to its utmost capacity, and many were left out.

The Sunday school was beautifully arrayed near the pulpit with A. Woods at its head, and gave music for the occasion. The pastor introduced the bishop to the congregation and he addressed the Sunday school grandly, complimenting it for its good music and grand appearance. He gave a sketch of the origin and the progress of the Sunday school, the great need of its support and appreciation by the old people. He advised the children to be prompt and faithful to its every duty, for the hope of the church rested upon them.

The bishop preached an eloquent sermon from Hebrews, 2d chapter, 9th verse, "and the people were constrained to hear the words of the Lord for the spirit of God seemed to dwell in him."

After the sermon the bishop spoke of the various institutions of the connection, and especially of Zion Wesley Institute, insisting on the people to support it, and send their children there to school. He also spoke of the prominent men of the connection, the work they are doing for the elevation and advancement of their race, and he showed the people that a grave responsibility rested upon them for their aid in the good work.

The people returned home feeling that it was well that they came to the house of the Lord.

Very respectfully yours,

S. C. ALEXANDER, Secretary.

The Wilmington district conference will convene on the 9th and 10th of October, 1884. A full delegation is expected and will meet with the church at Smithville. Each circuit and station is expected to bring the sum of two dollars to defray the expenses of the district conference and send a delegate to the annual conference. All ministers and preachers are expected to come prepared to make their reports.

A. W. ALLISON.

ALLEGHANY CONFERENCE OF THE A. M. E. ZION CHURCH IN AMERICA.

AKRON, O., August 13, 1884.

To-day was the opening day of the 34th session of the Alleghany annual conference of the A. M. E. Zion church, which will be held in this city in the A. M. E. Zion chapel on High street for the next five or six days.

At 10 o'clock Bishop J. J. Moore of Little York, Pa., called the meeting to order. The following members were present together with a number of visitors:

Elders—James Henry, Franklin, Pa.; J. H. Trimble, Bedford, Pa.; C. H. Dockett, Homewood, Pa.; J. H. Baptist, Franklin, Pa.; P. R. Anderson, Akron, O.; Dr. N. H. Williams, Washington, Pa.; John Holliday, Pittsburg, Pa.; S. T. Whiten, Johnston, Pa.; T. J. Manson, Chicago; Isaiah Pendleton, Salem, O.; John A. Mulligan, Uniontown, Pa., and Nelson Davis, Edward Little, Elizabeth, Pa., deacon, and Rev. Samuel Davis, East Liverpool, Ohio, ministerial delegate, were the remaining members of the conference present.

The first half hour was devoted to devotional exercises, consisting of the reading of the Scriptures by Bishop Moore, the singing of two hymns and prayer by S. T. Whiten. The conference then proceeded to organize.

S. T. Whiten was elected secretary; J. H. Trimble assistant secretary; Jehu Holliday statistician, and Nelson Davis and John A. Mulligan reporters.

Bishop Moore then delivered his address, which was more than an hour in length, and was listened to with much interest and frequently interrupted by expressions of approval. He spoke mainly of the good work the conference was doing. All the brethren manifested their approval when he said that no one was wanted in the conference who was seeking a place to make money or gain popularity. At 1 o'clock the conference took a recess.

The annual conference of the A. M. E. Zion church, now in session in the Zion chapel, South High street, is one of the oldest organizations of this kind in the United States and is connected with similar organizations in all parts of this country, Canada, Bahama Island and Africa. This is the second time the conference has held its sessions in Akron, the former meeting held here being in 1873.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

The session convened at 3 p. m., Rt. Rev. J. J. Moore, D. D., presiding.

After the usual devotional exercises the roll of members was called, and the remainder of the session was devoted to passing the character of the members.

The members are composed of men of more than ordinary intelligence in their race. The bishop, J. J. Moore, presides with great dignity and his rulings give general satisfaction. The name of Wm. Hamilton, elder, from Uniontown, Pa., was added to the list of attendants.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

The second day of the conference opened with an increased attendance. The morning session began promptly at 9 a. m. Bishop Moore presiding.

The session was opened with reading a passage of Scripture, singing and prayer.

The secretary read the minutes of yesterday's proceedings, which were adopted.

Rev. S. S. Condo, of the Evangelical church, was introduced to the conference by Bishop Moore, and he addressed the assembly in a very encouraging manner. The remarks were listened to with the closest attention. They were designed chiefly for the encouragement of the brethren in the work of the ministry. He also invited members of the conference to occupy his pulpit next Sunday morning and evening.

Elder Ramage, of Tennessee, one of the delegates, was then introduced. He spoke very encouragingly of the work in Tennessee.

Rev. W. L. Slutz, pastor of the Second M. E. church, Akron, was introduced, and he made some interesting remarks.

Elder Macruder being called upon addressed the conference eloquently and effectively. He was followed by Elder James Henry, of Franklin, Pa.

A vote of thanks was tendered these gentlemen for their entertaining remarks, and the conference adjourned for dinner.

BISHOP MOORE'S APPOINTMENTS

Thursday, September 11, Columbia, Ky.

Friday, September 12th, Greensburg, Ky.

Sunday, September 14th, at 11 a. m., Springfield, Ky.

Sunday, September 14th, at night, Bardstown, Ky.

Monday, September 15th, Bloomfield, Ky.

Tuesday, September 16th, Russellville, Ky.

Wednesday, September 17th, Greenville, Ky.

Thursday, September 18th, Earlington, Ky.

Friday, September 19th, Slaughter, Ky.

Sunday, September 21st, at 11 a. m., Madisonville, Ky.

Sunday, September 21st, at night, Hendersonville, Ky.

Wednesday, September 24th Board of Bishops meeting.*

Sunday, 28th, —

Wednesday, October 1st to 8th, Maryville, Tenn., at conference.

Address from August 14th to 17th, 23d to 31st, No. 419 Laurel street, Louisville, Ky.

September 8th to 12th, Bardstown, Ky.

September 13th to 18th, Hendersonville, Ky.

September 19th to October 4th, Maryville, Tenn.

*The Board adjourned to meet at Knoxville, but it is not quite certain that we shall meet there. See notice later.

Letters from the East should be mailed at least four days ahead of the latest date given.

NOTE—Be careful to calculate the distance and start letters far enough ahead.

The pastors will please make a special effort to secure good congregations.

The bishop will give instruction on the importance of sustaining our institutions. Collections will be taken up.

Letters designed to reach the bishop at the above mentioned places, should be sent a few days ahead.

Some of the survivors of the Greeley expedition are to go on an exhibition and lecture tour throughout the country.