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The Star of Zion.

THE STAR OF ZION.
REV. J. H. HARRIS, Managing Editor.
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SUNDERED FRIENDS.

Oh! was it I, or was it you
That broke the subtle chain that ran
Between us two, between us two?
Oh! was it I, or was it you?
Not very strong the chain that spanned
Not quite complete from span to span;
I never thought it would stand the test
Of settled commonplace, at best.
But, oh, how sweet, how sweet you were,
When things were at their first and best,
And we were friends without demur,
Shut out from all the sound and stir.
The little, pretty, worldly race!
Why couldn't we have stood the test—
The little test of commonplace—
And kept the glory and the grace
Of that sweet time when first we met?
Oh! was it I, or was it you
That dropped the golden link and let
The little rift, and doubt and fret
Creep in and break that subtle chain?
Oh! was it I, or was it you?
Still ever yet, and yet again
Old parted friends will ask with pain.

—Norah Perry in the Independent.

FROM FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., TO
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

BY BISHOP HOOD.

LETTER NO. 5.

My last left me at Portland, Or. Before leaving that beautiful city, by the kindness of Mr. Wm. Hunter, I had the pleasure of ascending one of high hills on the west, from which the whole city can be seen. To one standing on an eminence three hundred feet above the city, it presents a splendid appearance. From this point, also, the mountains a hundred miles away, in Washington Territory are plainly visible. Mt. Hood, Mt. Adams and St. Helena, perfectly white in their snowy dress, stand up many feet above everything around them. Mt. Hood lays nearly due east from the city; Adams, N. E., and St. Helena N.

The colored people of this city are nearly all doing well and live in their own houses. The value of their possessions range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. Among those in best circumstances are the Waterford brothers, the Ritters, Mrs. Carr, Messrs. Williams, Crawford, Bruce, Bettese, Flowers, Hunter, Love and a few others whose acquaintance I did not form.

On the night of the 24th of June, in company with Rev. W. A. Mitchell, I boarded the steamer "Columbia" for San Francisco. The "Columbia" is a magnificent craft, regarded by many as the best on the line. She is three hundred and twenty-eight feet long, which gives her a very steady motion. Our state-room being near midship, we congratulated ourselves on the prospect for a very pleasant voyage. We turned in about 10 o'clock, and the steamer left the wharf at 12, midnight as I afterwards learned, for I knew but little till next morning.

We reached Astoria, nearly 100 miles from Portland, at a little after 6 a. m. Here we laid for about five hours taking on canned salmon. There are several canneries at or near this place and thousands of boxes are shipped from here. There are possibly twenty dozen in a box. Hundreds of fishermen in small boats are seen at this point catching salmon. Their boats seem almost to cover the river to the bar at its mouth, which is about 11 miles distant. But little else is taken on at this point, and this fish business monopoly here, makes it appear like a town in England, in which the whole of the people are engaged in one business.

We crossed the bar and steamed out into the Pacific ocean about midday. It was a little rough on the bar but not enough so to disturb any except very weak stomachs. Our remained perfectly as usual, and when joyed our lunch at one and dinner at

five and slept well the first night out. When we arose in the morning it was stormy and we began a hard day's struggle with Neptune. Early in the day he levied an assessment on our stomach and seemed determined to make collection. We fought hard and manfully, but late in the afternoon were compelled to yield. He only beat us out of one meal, however, and we came into San Francisco on Saturday morning almost as fresh as when we started.

One cannot imagine why that ocean is called the Pacific. It seems to us to be the least at peace with mankind of any water whose bosom we have ever crossed. The Atlantic rages and foams and lashes itself to fury, but when its mad fit is over, it gets calm, but this ocean mis-called Pacific, which don't know how to get up a big swell, is all the time getting up little ones. It can't be still.

San Francisco has not changed much in its general appearance since our former visit. The new buildings which have been and are now being erected show that there is no relax in the effort to outdo the world in splendid architecture, and certainly no city can exceed the beauty and variety of bay windows here.

In one respect there has been a great change here. That is in regard to the influence of the church. The change in sentiment respecting our church here is simply marvelous. Two years ago it was as nearly dead, spiritually as anything could be to have life in it, and the financial embarrassment was such that a mortgage foreclosure might soon have swept away the last hope for Zion on this coast.

The thirteen years of W. H. Hillery's administration as elder and bishop, had left us but little more than a shell of what the church once was on this Pacific slope. It is stated that members were turned out of church, a score at a time, without any reason except to gratify the passion of the administrator. And many of them were the best members in the church. We have met many of them, some are still grieving over the treatment they received, and refuse to be comforted; it is feared that they have been wounded unto death. Some have returned to the church and some have joined other churches, and have been and are now regarded as among the best Christians in this city; they are active in every good work.

Elder A. Walters the present pastor arrived here just two years ago. He was selected for this work because of his pronounced piety. He was recommended by that godly man of the Kentucky conference, Rev. E. H. Curry. He believes in sanctification, professes it, preaches it and exhibits it in his life and conversation. He does not make a hobby of it, but speaks of it on suitable occasions. When he came here, the people took him on probation; they had been used to looseness in the ministry, so long that they had but little respect for the cloth—they gave him but a short time and expected to see him lose caste as others had. But to their astonishment weeks were multiplied into months and months began to form years; and still Walters was pursuing the even tenor of his way, and finally one after another began to say as did the Shunammite woman: "Now I perceive that this is a man of God which passeth daily by us." He now has the confidence of all who know him. He is connected with and is an honored member of the Methodist preachers meeting, composed mostly of white ministers. He is the only colored

member of the Young Men's Christian Association, and also a member of the Holiness band.

Colored gentlemen of wealth and influence, who treated him with indifference—some with contempt, when he first came, now raise their hats to him across the street, and many who wholly disregarded the church, are now regular attendants and some of them useful members. Many have been added to the church, a fine congregation has been built up, the mortgage debt has been released, and they have now no debt which troubles them. The church is now a power for good in this city. Elder Walters has not accomplished all of this without a struggle; sometimes the odds have been against him to appearance.

In this city the various benevolent institutions give festivals, and the custom has been to have a minister to open them with an oration, and then close them with a dance, even that most indelicate—not to say indecent—of all public performances—the waltz. Elder Walters was called upon to open one of these wicked entertainments and he, of course, refused. This gave offence to some, but sober second thought has compelled them to admit that he was right, and to-day he goes forward almost without opposition. True christian piety and determined adherence to right conviction regardless of consequences, will win in the long run.

The session of the California conference just closed, numbered 14 including lay delegates. Just before the close of the conference one brother withdrew because we could not advance him to elder's orders. He thinks our standard is too high. This leaves five elders and two deacons. The most hopeful thing about this conference is that the ministers all either profess sanctification or are seeking it. The one who withdrew, stood alone in the opinion, that this blessing can only be obtained at death. Either the doctrine of entire sanctification is necessary to qualify a man for the ministry, is true, or else the questioning of candidates on the subject, as required by our discipline is a mere farce. If we do not believe in this doctrine, we ought not to require candidates to subscribe to it. If we do believe in it, we ought to try to live up to it. I fully believe that if our ministers would all rise to this higher state of grace and urge it upon their people, we would have hundreds of converts where we have not tens.

In this connection I take pleasure in voicing the general sentiment which prevails upon this coast, as to the great usefulness of the pious, yet sanctified Sister Julia A. Fort. For more than thirty years she has preached the gospel; she still blows the trumpet in Zion. Elder Walters regards her assistance as one of the chief agencies in his success. When she came here there was much opposition to her preaching, because she was a female; now there is none. All are delighted to hear her. Her book entitled "A Brand Plucked from the Burning" is most interesting reading. It has the ring of those published by this good sister who adorn the early pages of Methodist history. Elders, have you a copy of it? If not you should get it at once and read it in louds and jubils.

Among the students to our ranks here, the most promising is Rev. R. J. W. James, a man of fine talents and a good education. We have reason to hope that he will prove useful. He is fortunate in having a most amiable and intelligent companion. While here I have enjoyed the hospitality of

one of Zion's strong men, Bro. Ezekiel Cooper. The brethren who attended the General conference will remember the lay delegate from California. He and his good lady spare no pains to make their guest happy.

There are a few remarkable men in this church. Bros. Freeman, Hargreaves and Mason are distinguished for great piety. Bros. Cooper and Davis are distinguished for their financial ability and Bro. Norton is on guard to keep everybody straight. There are some good sisters like those who blessed Paul, but a pen better fitted will most likely record their good deeds ere long.

DRAWSVILLE, LIBERIA, WEST AFRICA.

BY A. CARTWRIGHT.

LETTER NO. 1.

I again ask a small space in your paper to let the brethren in America hear from me. I can say to them I am still battling for Zion and its cause, although it seems to be up hill work with me and I am sometimes almost in despair from the little help that I receive from America. I often think of and pray for the dear sisters and their society (Home and Foreign Missionary) I believe they are doing all they can to raise means for the work out here, and the brethren would help them. It would be a pleasure to me if the brethren would send me a little extra occasionally which they can do very easily by conferring with the Bark Monrovia at 115 Wall Street New York City who makes two trips a year, or you can send anything you wish by the colonization line by Mr. Wm. Cappings agent at Washington City D. C. we need what ever you are disposed to send for we eat, drink, and wear clothes here as you do in America. I hope the brethren will not forget me as they have in the past, let it not be all home, and no foreign interest taken in Africa.

Dear brethren I am short in my salary, but thank God the work has been greatly blessed in Liberia. It is sometime mighty rough, dark, and cloudy and the battle goes hot still Zion's flag is hoisted to the breeze, and means to live. When the people speak of Zion here I tell them that she is 30 years old, and though the sea is rough and stormy Zion's ship still crosses the sea and is making her way into all lands in Africa we are working hard. Our S. S. is interesting I hope our watchmen in America will pray for its greater success here, remember poor bleeding Africa that she needs greater gospel facilities by which the tribes may turn and come to Zion. In conclusion dear brethren you know what is needed in Africa don't forget my salary as is promised for I need it much, may the Lord of Isaac and Jacob be with you and the church forever and all. Yours truly, A. Cartwright, May 13th, 1885.

FROM INDIANA, PA.

Mr. Editor:

I am glad I can write another letter about our doing in Indiana. Since my last letter I have been trying to work for God and Zion. Our church is getting along very well at present. I must say the "Star" shines in my house as a beacon light. I cannot see how I could do without a paper so valuable to our people. It has enlightened me. My mind goes back South when I read it. God bless Zion.

As the annual conference is drawing near, our Elder, John A. Mulligan, is holding his last quarterly meeting and we are trying to do all we can to raise his salary for him, to help him to the conference. Surely he has tried all he could to teach the people about the law of our beloved Zion. It is certain he has pointed out to them the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world. My dear editor, let us labor to have good ministers among

I get my paper (the Star of Zion a weekly) but it is received here twice a month, and it seems strange that there seems to be trouble in getting letters to me. I have been expecting official letters from America, but they come very slow. I say now as I said in my first letter, that money and packages may be sent to me, by the Bark Monrovia, by applying at 115 Wall Street N. Y. and through Mr. Cappings agent of the colonization Society, Washington City D. C. colonization rooms. These agents sends Emigrants, money and anything any one wish to send to Africa, I would state to the brethren that every thing in the way of eating and clothing is very high here now, and I would be pleased if Elder Harris would spend some of the money allowed me on salary in buying clothing and provisions and send by either of the above mentioned lines to my address. While this may be a little troublesome to you yet it would be a great saving to me, while things are high with us, I make this general request so that any of my friends and well wishers may send me any article of clothing or otherwise, upon the Emigrants boats coming out from New York, or Washington City, every time the boats land here I am looking for something from America.

Dear brethren I am having a good time in Zion's cause, but would still have it better if I could get to the places that I wish to go, so we have lost two counties where Zion could be established had I the means to reach there, or go down the coast, so I hope the elders, and preachers will not forget to recommend all members of Zion church coming to this country to our Zion church in Africa, we will try and take care of them by the help of God. Therefore you brethren in America might do a great deal of good to our church here, by speaking to the numerous emigrants that comes out here by recommending our Zion to them as a free church, I am holding the fort here and I want good honest and straight forward men to help me for my people desires to look up to the ministry and have confidence in it, it is not altogether the nice clothes one wears but the principle, our people have learned to appreciate good principle in a preacher or an individual even if he is clothed in rags, so brethren in conclusion help me by your prayers let me hear from you often, my Sunday school is in a good condition and I desire to make it better by the assistance of God and your help, Pray for me farewell, May 29th, 1885.

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us, men that can help to build up our beloved Zion, like Elder Mulligan. Our quarterly conference has given him a unanimous vote of thanks for his christian zeal and love towards us. As I saw the red mark on my paper I know my time is out. I am sorry I cannot do more for our beloved "Star" if I was able I would send you more than a dollar for my paper, and a half dollar to help you on with your work. I saw in the "Star" that the General conference of the A. M. E. church and our beloved Zion had called a conference to consolidate the two bodies. I would to God it was so. It is the command of God for us to be united in His strength. If we were united we could pull down the strong hold of Satan. Hoping that the good Lord will help our bishops in effecting the object, without the least embarrassment to the connection, and that both parties may be satisfied, I think I have said enough. But I cannot help it, when I think how good God has been to me to bring me out of slavery, and to see my brethren in the South editing a newspaper like our beloved "Star" Who would have thought it? Glory to God, amen.

I hope the Bishop will return Elder Mulligan back to us.

Yours for God and Zion,

JAMES F. JACKSON.

FROM MONTGOMERY, ALA.

Mr. Editor:

Please allow me to call the attention of all the ministers and pastors in charge of churches in the Alabama conference to the fact that we now have on hand blank forms for reports to the annual and quarterly conference. Also presiding elders forms which they can get very cheap. Remember brethren, you are required by the law of the last General conference to make an annual report to your last quarterly conference as well as to the annual conference. Send in your orders at once.

Children's Day was observed here, though we did not succeed as we wished to in our little school. We raise \$2.75, there being a funeral in the afternoon, and at night the presiding elder's claims had to be settled. This will I hope teach the officers of our churches how important it is to aid the pastor in raising and paying in the quarterly conferences as per discipline, page 233. Children's Day is a new feature in the history of our church polity, and a grand one at that. Is this to be continued throughout this quadrennial year? If so please answer through the "Star," that hereafter in making out appointments quarterly or annually, we will have an eye to the 4th Sunday in June and be able to make ample preparations for it. That day's proceeds will net grand results to Zion Wesley College in the future. I am heart and soul in that cause.

I had enclosed \$1.30 for two new subscribers to the "Star" Revs. J. H. Hale and A. Lewis. Now, as we have under consideration the interest of the "Star," we have determined that the East Alabama conference shall not be behind in the list of subscribers, and as we mean to do our best in getting all of our preachers to subscribe, will you or your wife tell us how many subscribers you have upon your list from this East Alabama conference? We do not mean to be behind in any particular.

Yours truly, M. G. THOMAS

By E. A. Conf. Book Steward.

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