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Why do those who owe the STAR hesitate so long to pay when they know it is due us and that it is needed? Let us have an answer.

THE NEED OF RACE CONFI-DENCE-UNITY AND CO-OP-ERATIVE EFFORT.

BY REV. H. WILLIAMS'

Mr. Editor:

Being quietly seated in my room, a few thoughts suggestive of appropriately expressive ideas which may to write this article. The points necessary, if made, pre-supposes confideuce. The lack of this most necessary element for the political, religious make usthe acknowledged equal of other living in the same. races. We can easily account for the causes that lead the race into this most confidence was the topic of the owners' time. discourse to the slave, and the race has not yet wholly recovered from the March, one of our class-leaders and influence of this most damaging and secretary of the quarterly conference. diabotical lesson.

the old lesson of gone by days of dark- Sons of St. Luke. His name was ness and unacknowledged manhood, William R. Decordova, of Philadeland to learn what is necessarily im- phia, Pa. He was a man who played plied by freedom and citizenship. Con well his part in all of the many offices fidence in and patronage given each that he filled. As a husband, he was other is necessary as a means for the affectionate; as a citizen he was an political, religious civil, and financial ornament; as a Christian, devout, elevation and permanent advancement chaste and upright; as an officer, he of the race as a whole. We must be gave entire satisfaction. Ever since helpful to each other in the most hope last June up to his dath, he has been ful way, which is the only way to con- an invalid, and as such, he bore his vince other races that we are moving afflictions as Job of old. His comin the right direction. It is highly plaint was dropsy of the heart. Durnecessary and it will bring to the race ing all his sickness he had to sit up, immeasurable worth. However com- and often had to walk the floor to petent, fit or worthy a man of our race keep from smothering. He never took may be, non-confidence stamps as a his bed finally, until Saturday night, wall against his chance to rise as oth- when death struck him, and when ers of a different race.

has the odds against him; or should almost taken away his strength, he he engage in business, character, fit- motioned for them to hand him a piece ness and honesty are all laid aside and paper, which they did, and with a MAY: the name Negro, placed in front. Ev. trembling hand, he wrote that he ery political, civil, social, educational wanted Elders J W Alstork and J A and financial force is against the No- Foster to preach his funeral; and just gro. Every successful avenue is closed below that he wrote. "On Jordan's to the colored man. His manhood is stormy banks I stand and cast a wish denied; therefore his equality in the ful eye," &c. And a few hours after church and before the law is denied this, (Sunday morning before day), he and every door looking or pointing to yielded up the ghost. He was buried by the society of which he was the the equality of man, is closed, when the chief officer-the Daughters and Sons knock comes from a colored man. These doors must be forced open, and nothing is more necessary in the accomplishment of this most needed attainment, than confidence. We must cultivate a habit and taste for each other's welfare. Trustworthy and principled men must engage in some profitable business. Then let them have our confidence and patronage. Confidence in one another will force open every door for our entrance and thereby destroy all discrimination, and hundreds of friends who followed every unrighteous law upon the stat- in the procession, told of the many ute books will be repealed. Our des- friends both white and colored, that tiny is in our hands and we must make brother Decordova had made to him- can learn the exact cost our own status. Cultivate race confir self while he lived. dence; the happy period will grace

wolf that round the enclosure prewled the city of New York, Bil, alas I have leng the face, new plate not on the has gone up to join the General, con- send 10 spruce extended

fold. Turned with a sharper pain the ference above. fearful doe and flying stag amidst the "We speak of the realms of the blest, ings roam, of man, their former foc. Nor evening bears, the sheepfold growl around, nor mining vipers heave the tainted ground. Race confidence will break the bar between the races. . Mr Editor, please excuse the length of this letter. We hope for salutary effects. Let us do our whole duty.

Greensboro, N. C., March 25.

THE CHURCH AT MONTGOM-ERY, ALA.

DEATH OF WM R DECORDOVA, A PROM INENT CHURCH MEMBER AND CITI-ZEN-A SPLENDID TRIBUTE TO HIS

BY REV J. W. ALSTORK.

We are yet alive in this part of the vineyard. We have charge of Clinton Chapel, in the city of Montgomery, Ala., and we have about all the work that we can do. I have about 1200 members to see after. I have 51 class be of some benefit to the readers of leaders, 9 trustees, 18 stewardesses, 2 the "Star," and especially so if viewed stewards, 30 Sunday School teachers, from the same standpoint, moves me 15 officers with 586 scholars to care for. With this vast multitude to govern and feed, you will see at once that I have got all that I can do But we are on the advance. I have a splenand financial stocess of the race, both did people, and with their untiring in church and State, is a great draw energy, have been able to purchase a back to the permanent establishment parsonage, which cost us one thousand of the necessary points which are to dollars, and your humble servant is

We added 103 members to our church last year, but we expect to do damaging error which has engulfed better than that this year, the Lord thy. We commend her to Him who the race and entailed a most damag- willing. We are now in the act of wept at the grave of Lazarus, and ing defect upon posterity. The lesson starting a revival, for which we ask an was scrupulously taught and aptly in- interest in the prayers of all God's peoculcated by the slave-holders in the ple. We have had a good many deaths murderous days of slavery. This non- among my congregation up to this

We lost by death on the seventh of He was also the Grand Master of the But it is high time for us to forget United States, of the Daughters and it had cut off his speech and he A colored doctor, lawyer or dentist could not utter a single word, and had

> of St. Luke. He was buried with great honors by the above named society. His funeral took place at Clinton
> Chapel, Monday March 8th at 3 o'clock
> p m. Fully three thousand persons
> were present at the funeral. Your
> Thumble correct tried to make the state of the humble servant tried to preach the risburgh, Par and and servant funeral from the following scripture: Rev. xiv, 13. We made the best of it we could. After which we retired to the cemetery. The thirty-two hacks

Brother Decordova is known by most of the ministers of Zion, more The serpents brood shall die. The especially in the East Ala. conference sacred ground shall weeds and noxious He was lay delegate to several of the papers by addressing plants refuse to hear; nor shall the annual conferences, also to he last flocks fear the great flons. The mighty General conferences which was held in Geot P. Rowell & Co.,

grey-hound's go, and round the dwell- Of that country so bright and so fair, And oft are its glories confessed, But what must it be to be there!

We speak of its pathway of gold, Of its walks decked with jewels so rare Of its wonders and pleasures untold, But what must it be to be there!

We speak of its freedom from sin, From sorrow, temptation and care; From trials without and within. But what must it be to be there! We speak of its service of love, Of robes which the glorified wear,

Of the church of the first born above But what must it be to be there! Do thou, Lord, midst sorrow and wo, Still for heaven my spirit prepare;

And shortly, I, also shall know,

And feel what it is to be there!" Surely he shall rest from his labor and his works do follow him; therefore he is not dead but sleepeth.

There is a dreamy presence every where,

As if of spirits passing to and fro; We almost hear their voices in the air, And feel their balmy pinions touch the brow. We feel as if a breath might put aside

The shadowy curtain of the spirit land Revealing all the loved and glorified That death hath taken from affection's

Let us all be in readiness for the soloun hour of death. In the death of Brother William R. Decordova, his wife lost an affectionate husband, the city one of its best citizens; the Duaghters and Sons of St. Luke one of their best ornaments, and the church one of her humblest and most energetic members.

The bereaved wife has our sympathen turned on the other hand and said to the bereaved family, "I am the Resurrection and the life; he that believeth in me, though ne were dead, yet shall he live." This same Jesus has that same tender heart to pity, love and to protect. He will all thy sorrows heal.

What a friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear, What a privilege to carry, Everything to to God in prayer."

Sleep on Bro Decordova, we will see thee again, when we meet beyond the river, where the surges cease to roll. Montgomery, Ala.

BISHOP HOOD'S APPOINTMENTS

Sunday 5th, John Wesley, Washington, D.C. Sunday 11th, Galbreath Chapel Washington, D C. Thursday 15th, Burville.

Sunday 18th, Wesley Zion, Wash ington, D C. Tuesday 20th, Chambersburg Pa — Newville, N

- Carlisle, Sunday 25th, 11 a m, Mt Olive "night, Shippinsburg Wednesday 28th, Mechanicsburg Thursday 29th, Middleton Friday 35th, Milton.

Sunday 2nd, Williamsport Tuesday 4th, Chanceford Wednesday 5th, Fawn Church Thursday 6th, Peach Bottom - Hozanna

- Avandole Wednesday 12th, Media Thursday 13th, Westchester Friday 14th, Newtown Sunday 16th, Frank fort A 1. Wednesday 19th, Conterence conrenes at Harrisburgh, Palous) Line

Address - April 18th to 26th, Car-lisle, Pa. April 27th to May 2nd,

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#### NOTICEL

The Board of Bishops of the A. M. E. Zion Church will meet in Binghampton, N. Y., March 3, 1886. C. R. HARRIS,

Secretary.

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# GRAND CENTENNIAL

DONATION

### A. M. E. ZION CHURCH

The Board of Bishops at their Semi-Annual meeting in Charlotte, N. C., December 17th, 1885, in response to request from various parts of the Connection, have extended the time of the Centennial Donation (for a full notice of which, see another column of STAR), to the

st WEDNESDAY IN SEPEMBER and have ordered that the following in relation thereto be printed and circulated among the ministers, members, Sunday school children and friends of the Church. In token of God's mercy in sparing us to see the one hundredth year of Episcopal Methodism in America, and the eighty-eighth year of the existence of our beloved Zion Church, it is proposed that we express, by a Centennial Donation, some mark of our gratitude to Heaven for this unspeakable gift.

### APPEAL

Each Annual Conference, Church, and Sunday School, is called on to join with us in giving the above ex-The secretary of the contract.

## ANNUAL CONFERENCES.

From each member and friend of an Annual Conference, 25 cents or

### CHURCH OR SOCIETY.

From each member or friend of every Church, 25 cents, or more.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

From each member or friend of each Sunday School, 10 cents or more, all of which is to constitute a fund called the "Centennial Fund," to ena. day in Oct. 1886. ble us to lift all of our Connectional interests to a higher and more satisfactory plane game with an denia . moitmill

### BANNERS.

The Board of Bishops will cause three suitable banuers to be made. One to be given to the Conference, Church and Sunday School respectively, donating the highest sum of money in proportion to membership.

The banners shall be presented to the successfully competing Conference, Church and Sunday School on Thursday.

### SEPTEMBER 23 1886, AT CHARLOTTE, N.C.

The fund shall be used in relieving the financial necessities of the General Church interests—including Zion Wes-ley College, the back dues of the act-ing Bishops, the Book Concern, the Star of Zion, the Ladies' Home and Foreign Missionary Society, and the Bishop T H Lomax, Presiding Superannuated Preachers.

Where to Send Donations

New York Conference - Muets in Hudson City, NY, on the 2d Wednesday in May, 1886. BISHOP JONES. Presiding.

New England Conference-Meets in - Conv., on the 1st Wednesday in June, 1886, at 12 m.

The California conference meets at on the Fourth Wednesday is June, 1886, at 10 a m-Bishop --presiding.

Genesee Conference-Meets in Pa., 1st Wednesday in September, 1886 at 10 o'clock A. M. Br. J. P. THOMPSON,

The Georgie conference will meet on the 1st Friday in December 1885, at Monroe, Ga.

BISHOP LOMAX, Presiding. The South Georgia conference will

meet at Ridge Springs, S. C., on 1st Tuesday in December, 1885.

Virginia Conference - Meets at Hertford N C. on the 4th Wednesday in November, 1885. BISHOP S. T. JONES. Presiding.

South Carolina Conference—Meets in Rock Hill on the 3rd Wednesday in November, 1885. Bismor J. J. MOORL,

East Alabama Conference-Meers at Opelika on the 4th Wednesday in November. BISHOP J. W. HOOD,

North Carolina Conference - Meets on the 4th Wednesday in November, 1885, at Kingston, N. C. BISHOP T. H. LOMAX.

\*Arkansas Conference—Meets in Pop-lar Bluff, the 4th Wednesday in November 1885, (25th). BISHOP J. P. THOMPSON.

Presiding. \*Central N. C. Conference-Meets in

Presiding.

Wadesboro, N. C., on the 2nd Wednesday in December, 1885. BISHOP S. T. JONES, Presiding.

West Alabama Conference-Meets in Luscaloosa, Ala. on the 2d Wednesday in December.

Br. LOMAX. Presiding.

West Tennesse and Mississippi Conference-Meets at Cooksville, Miss., on the 2d Wednesday in December. 1885 at 10 o'clock a, m. BISHOP J. P. THOMPSON,

Presiding.

New Jersey Conference — Meets in Alantic City the 3d Wednesday in Apl 1886, at 12 o'clock. BISHOP J. P. THOMPSON.

Philadelphia and Baltimore Conter moe Meets in Harrisburg Pa, the 3d Wednesday in May 1886. BISHOP J. W. HOOD, Presiding.

East Tennessee Conference-Meets at Knoxville Tenn on the 1st Wednes-RT REV J W HOOD, Presiding.

antooff noissi Florida Conference—Meets at Tam-pa, on the 2d Wednesday in February 1886. Br. J. J. Moore, Presiding.

Michigan and Canada Conference— Meets 2rd Wednesday in September 1886, at Detroit, Mich. Візнор

Presiding.

Allegheny Conference—Will meet in Avery Mission Church, Allegheny City, the 2nd Wednesday in August 1886, at 10 a. m.

Louisiana Conference Meets on the 4th Wednesday in December at Amitt City, La. Bp. Lomax, Presiding.

Presiding

Notice salemen seeing red marks All Donations should be sent to the on packages of papers sent to their Centennial Steward, Rev. T. C. Clinton address, will find the paper stopped unless settlement is made at once.

ALEKS HELIÖZG BORIELI

Star of Zion

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HE NEW-YORK TRIBUNE

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