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THE INNER LIFE.

BY CARINE.

Our actions may be fair to see—
Above reproach that man can bring.
And still a foul blot stain the heart
From which those actions spring.

Our feet may tread the path of truth,
Far as the world can judge or see,
And while our friends look on and praise
We yet may miss our way.

'Tis sweet to hear the cheering words
Of all our fellow creatures here;
And when we strive to please, we prize
The world's opinion dear.

But oh, how transient is the gleam
Of all the honors earth can give,
And in the hour they brightest shine
They yet may cease to live.

But when the heart's intents are pure,
Tho' oft in execution vile,
We still struggle to amend the wrong,
We yet may meet God's smile.

And if we walk in lowly ways,
And fail to gain the praise of men,
If God approves, and stablish our friend,
It does not matter then.

ALABAMA NOTES.

BY REV. E. R. PITTMAN.

Mr. Editor:
Having transferred from the North Carolina to the West Ala. conference by Rt. Rev. T. H. Lomax, I am pleased and able to say I met a very warm reception, from the many good citizens of this city. Livingstone is beautifully situated on the A. G. S. Railroad and is said to be one of the most congenial summer resorts in the state. The great attraction well being one of its medicinal resources. Zion here on my arrival was spiritually dead. Her pillars were dilapidated, her towers storm beaten, and time worn, the sheep of the house of Israel being scattered abroad. Wept much! but anon the clouds began to disperse, and He who holds the winds in His fist and bids it lift the sea from its bed, and pour its waters upon the mountains, diffused renovating fire deep into the hearts of every Zionite. This of course resulted into a general revival. There were more than 30 converted and several more joined the church.

There is much interest being manifested in the Sunday school which numbers about 100 scholars, under the supervision of Mr. M. Tolson, as Superintendent; one of the best in the state. Since our revival meetings, (which were protracted) we have nearly succeeded in renovating the church for which we have raised \$150.00 and a handsome sum in liquidating several floating debts. P. E. M. Rosser, is a self sacrificing and faithful worker in Zion. We boarded the C. M. train at 10:40 pm and on the following morning found myself on the evening of the 20th in the Gulf city, Mobile. After spending nearly a week there, I with regret was forced to leave the place on important business. He is laboring on the sea of time. In one instance he toiled all night in the interest of Zion. We were mending nets of course, and still he's fishing there earnestly.

Livingstone, Ala.

NOTICE.

The ministers and members of the 3rd District of the West Ala. conference will take notice that the District conference will meet in Selma Ala., November 18th 1886. Now dear brethren don't fail to have a good report of your General fund. I want my District to keep ahead and we can be raising \$800. You did well last year but I want us to do far better this year than ever.

J. M. BUTLER, P. E.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

YORK DISTRICT CONFERENCE—BISHOP JONES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Mr. Editor:

It was our purpose to have left home last Tuesday via the N. G. R. R. for Yorkville where Elder D. I. Walker's conference was to convene the next day; but death having entered my fold I was detained to attend the funeral of one of my most faithful and devoted members, viz: brother Alexander Patton, who died Tuesday morning at tw. o'clock October 12th, in the full triumph of Christian faith. He leaves a large family, but he held a policy in an Endowment Association from which his widow will receive one hundred dollars in sixty days. A kind brother carried us on his buggy to Rock Hill where Elder J. H. Jackson, one of Zion's most successful and energetic preachers received us most kindly, but to our surprise, he had our bell rung and when we had satisfied the inner man one of his young men walked up to us and told us that a large congregation was in waiting at the church expecting me to say something to further the cause of their revival. You may imagine how surprised we were when you are told we had only been in town two hours and no one knew we were coming. However, we wended our way to the church, met a good congregation and gave them a twenty minutes talk from the words "And she bound the scarlet line in the window," Joshua 11:21 "The scarlet line that saved a woman and her house." We spent a few hours pleasantly talking after service, and I spent the remainder of the night with Mrs. Caroline Steele, my mother-in-law. At 5 o'clock Wednesday morning we arose from the embraces of ambrosial sleep and joined Elder Jackson again to ride in his splendid buggy to Yorkville, the place of the meeting of the District Conference, a distance of fifteen miles. Elder Jackson has succeeded admirably at Rock Hill this, his fourth year. About sixty-five persons have been converted and added to the church. He will come out O. K. on General Fund. Here we are in Yorkville, and yonder is Elder H. Blake, the genial pastor of Clinton Chapel. We alight from the buggy and are soon escorted to the parsonage where the pleasant smiles and lovely countenance of Mrs. Blake told us that here we should rest and that well.

The District Conference assembled 11:30 p. m., the affable and open hearted Elder D. I. Walker presiding. The devotional exercises were very feelingly conducted by the P. E. and Elder N. A. Crockett of Chester. A number of important committees were announced, among which was a committee on Sunday Schools, Star of Zion, Church building, Education, Home Missions. The Elder wisely advised the committee as to their duty and the bearing that a good report might have upon the several congregations in the district. He then delivered from manuscript his annual address which was suggestive and very encouraging to every member of the district conference. He urged upon the ministers to live holy lives and let their lives commend the Gospel they preach and the cause they represent. He also spoke in plain language on the General Fund and told his preachers that they must keep the law of abide by the consequences. He spoke

in encouraging terms of the brethren throughout the district, especially Brothers J. B. Brown, F. Adams, J. H. Bryant, S. T. Meek and S. R. Gatteroy, local preacher, who had built splendid new churches on their charges and are now worshipping in them. Brother Gatteroy, the local preacher, has organized a large mission Sunday School from which has grown a promising congregation which has been lately organized into a Zion church by Elder H. Blake. Brother Gatteroy has laid a worthy example for other local preachers and for our long list of supernumeraries which were called to go and preach, but take good care to stay and preach if they can get to preach when they wish on some body's charge and at the hour that suits them. Some very important matters were discussed before the Conference. The brethren showed during the discussion on the topic about receiving persons in the church who were living apart when they had once been married, or who had the second wife or husband and the first yet living, that they mean to try to keep the church of God closed against every openly immoral character. Elders Crockett, Blake and Rev. Kitt, Walker and others made appropriate remarks. Elder C. A. King, P. E. of the Union district being present was asked to make some remarks which he did in a most edifying manner. The committee on devotion appointed Elder G. W. Clinton to preach at Clinton Chapel, A. M. E. Zion church 8 o'clock p. m., associated by J. B. Ellis; at the M. E. church Elder J. H. Jackson, associated by Rev. A. L. Kitt. The churches were crowded at each point and the services were interesting and edifying.

The conference convened again on Thursday morning at 10 o'clock a. m. and business was resumed in usual form. Rev. J. R. Bryant, the efficient young secretary, read a good minute and Elder H. Blake went on with the statistical table and by 11 o'clock a. m. the table was completed. It showed an increase of about four hundred conversions in the district since last conference and about eight hundred accessions to the churches on the district. Although some of the brethren have near all their General Fund and others about half, they did not fill the blank for General Fund, thinking that they can make a full report by the meeting of the Annual Conference. From private interviews with the brethren we learned that the district will come about two hundred dollars ahead of last year on General Fund, if so then South Carolina will hardly be ashamed of General Fund when all the district come together with a like increase. Indeed, Mr. Editor, the York District is in a most healthy condition. Elder D. I. Walker is an untiring and earnest worker in the cause of the connection to which he belongs, and has under him a zealous and able corps of ministers. The district wants him again, and all the preachers have been asked for another year. Four new churches have gone up and the congregations are worshipping therein. The following brethren were elected lay delegates and alternates: Nelson Hammond delegate, G. W. Brown alternate; Samuel Fewell delegate, A. P. Pagan alternate. We succeeded in securing a small list of subscribers with cash amounting to \$3.85 which we herewith enclose. We left Thursday at 12 o'clock a. m. the District Conference still in session.

BISHOP JONES IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Rt. Rev. S. T. Jones D. D., the presiding Bishop of the South Carolina Conference, has returned from Salisbury whither he went to enter his daughter, Miss Jennie C. Jones in Zion Wesley College. He spent last Sabbath with us. It was a pleasant and bright Sabbath. Union church was packed to overflowing. At 11 a. m. the Bishop was in the pulpit. He preached one of his characteristic soul stirring and edifying sermons from the 6th and 7th verses of the 26th Psalm. The Bishop is now in good health and was in one of his happiest moods and that is a sufficient guarantee to all who know him, that he preached an able sermon. We had several children and adults to baptize in the afternoon, and succeeded in getting the Bishop to deliver the initiatory remarks.

He gave one of the most lucid and forcible expositions of the subject of Infant Baptism based upon the words of our Saviour in Mark 16:15-16 that we have ever heard. The congregation was highly delighted and well satisfied with the Bishop's discourse and will await his next visit with anxiety. We collected \$55 and some cents on Sabbath. We will raise every cent of our General Fund if we can only meet our people the two remaining Sabbaths. The people petitioned unanimously for our return the fourth year. How about it God and the Bishop knows. Next week I shall visit Elder A. M. Moore's District and hope to forward a large list of cash subscribers. Mrs. Anna Gill of Lancaster, is visiting Fort Lawn the guest of Mrs. E. J. Clinton. The S. C. Conference convenes on the 10th prox.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CHARLOTTE DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

BY REV. G. L. BLACKWELL.

The Charlotte District Conference for '86 met in the A. M. E. Zion church at Shelby, N. C. Wednesday October 13th, Rev. R. S. Rieves P. E. The P. E. being detained in Charlotte Rev. E. L. Campbell took the chair, and opened the session with devotional exercises. Rev. G. L. Blackwell was requested to keep the journal, Rev. M. Slade prepared the statistical table. The chairman appointed the necessary committees. Delegates duly authenticated were seated. The devotional committee reported to preach at 8 o'clock p. m. Rev. G. L. Blackwell, of Lincoln, Rev. M. M. Johnson to associate.

The services at night were well attended and the collection was handsome.

SECOND DAY.

The opening exercises were conducted by Rev. E. L. Campbell and J. S. Settle. The roll was corrected and called, minutes read and approved. Each member per motion was required to remain during the business of the conference. A resolution was offered by J. W. Thomas and G. L. Blackwell to present the P. E. a suit of clothes. It was unanimously adopted and the amount for each to contribute specified and G. W. Johnson of Charlotte was made the treasurer. The P. E. arrived and stated reasons for his delay. After expressing himself glad to meet the brethren, he then read his address which was very pertinent to the occasion. The secretary replied to the address assuring him that his efforts had been and are highly

appreciated by the brethren. Brothers G. W. Johnson and J. W. Michael were elected delegates to the Annual Conference, M. Roberts and G. S. Adams alternates. The delegates from the various charges reported the wishes of the members and the progress of the work which showed considerable improvement in every way. All the pastors were invariably asked to be returned. Considerable building and repairing has been carried on and successful revivals at nearly every point. The General Fund and other finances are rolling up which indicate that the pastors are doing their duty. Harmony and tranquility prevail all over the district, the greater part of which is due to the pleasing disposition and executive ability of the Presiding Elder. Rev. J. E. McNeil was appointed to preach at 8 o'clock p. m. which he did with entire satisfaction.

Elder McNeil is the "Sam Jones" of Zion connection. Conference adjourned.

NIGHT SESSION.

After the sermon a short session was held. The committee on General Fund reported which report showed that two-thirds of that money had been raised.

To say the least the report was encouraging. Brother G. W. Johnson and the secretary made lengthy speeches on the adoption of the report. Several persons said that they never understood so thoroughly about the distribution of the fifty cents as they did that night. The P. E. gave encouraging words and charged the brethren to bring the last cent of the money to the conference if too late to send to the conference steward.

THIRD DAY.

Devotional exercises were conducted by the P. E. and E. L. Campbell. Rev. J. S. made an inquiry about the traveling expenses of the P. E. It was explained by the committee that expenses were to be paid from the last church of holding a quarter directly to the other church to which he goes and the church to which he goes to pay the amount. This explanation being given it was agreeably settled. A resolution was offered by G. W. Johnson which was unanimously adopted, for the return of the same P. E. A resolution was offered by T. N. Davidson returning thanks to the pastor and the people for their hospitality during the conference. The subject of Education, Temperance, Zion Wesley, Star of Zion and S. S. was a very prominent thought of the conference. Much enthusiasm fill the heart of each pastor to collect all his money and to do his whole duty. The session was most delightful and enjoyable. Yours for God and Zion,
G. L. BLACKWELL.

PRESIDING ELDER REV. R. S. RIVES' ADDRESS BEFORE THE DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

BELOVED BRETHREN:—Through the tender mercies of an Allwise and gracious Father we have been preserved and permitted to meet again in the assembly of a District Conference. We have numerous reasons for exclaiming "Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is within me bless, praise His holy name!" The Lord has been very mindful of us during the past year, though our experiences may more than equal that of any previous year yet God be praised for sparing and delivering us from death and the many fatal snares of sin and Satan

through which we have had to pass.

Aside from misunderstandings such as are common to finite creature, I might say we have gotten along admirably, I certainly enjoy the best feelings toward every brother of this district, and hope you have the same for me. Though men differ in opinion, views and tact, yet they may agree. But when men allow themselves to overleap their bounds and interfere with another's work, unpleasantness is inevitable. I am sure, however, that those who know me best, love me most and if you all don't love me in the capacity of P. E. it is only because you don't know me. Brethren, I make mention of these facts because of some apparent innovations on my part, and those of others, while I believe our purposes have been pure and were of good intention.

Whether it will be my privilege to preside over you another year, or whether you wish me to or not, is a matter I leave for your consideration and decision. May the God of all grace be with us during this conference and enable us to do the business thereof, in a manly and christian way. Whatever failures we have had or may have all must share a part of them; and whatever success we have had or may have will be to the credit of all concerned. Therefore let each do his part with an honest heart, and God will bless every part.

1st. Let the committee on General Fund find out the amount due each charge and the amount paid.

2nd. Let the committee on P. E.'s salary find out the amount paid and the amount due, etc.

3rd. Let the committee on pastor's salary find the amount paid and what amount due, etc.

4th. Let all the committees gather every item pertaining to their respective work and let us know just where who are before leaving this conference for the annual conference.

I want us to stand even with, if not head and shoulders above any P. E.'s district in this conference boundary. In short, let us do our very best; for they that do their best "do well." Let the wishes of every church be fully expressed, and their courses manfully sustained. If any church don't want the P. E. let it be known and the reasons brought out. If any church don't want the pastor, let it be stated and the causes made known.

If the Presiding Elder has not discharged his duty, let it come to light and the causes. If the pastors have not done their duty, let it be known and the reasons. Let righteousness be laid to the line and judgment to the plummet—God will be glorified and his cause vindicated. His church will be built up and his servants strengthened. As for myself, I am ready to go on the balance and be weighed; I hope you are all ready to follow. I have traveled 1510 miles at the cost of \$56.55.

It is hoped that the cause of Temperance will share at least a part of our consideration and endorsement. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Ghost be with us, AMEN.

NOTICE.

Send ten cents to the A. M. E. Zion Book Store, 183 Bleecker street, New York, and get one of Rev. J. H. Manley's pamphlets "A Wonderful Dream" Proceeds to be contributed to the rebuilding of Norfolk church.

JACOB THOMAS, Agent.