

The Star of Zion

The Christian Advocate

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SERVICE

BY LILLIAN GRAY.

The Master said to His servants:
"The fields are golden and fair,
Go forth with your ready sickles,
And gather the harvest with care."
And they went with the army of reapers,
Stalwart and eager and strong,
Up through the brightening morning,
A noble and willing throng.
And one stood watching them sadly,
Frail and disabled was he,
Half envious of their mission,
And burning with loyalty;
And the Master said to him kindly:
"Be not so disconsolate:
There may be some easier work for thee
But they also serve Me who wait."
The day grew older and older,
And no work to the watcher came,
And he said: "I will follow the reapers
Although I am feeble and lame;
I am willing to be a gleaner
Of the scattering grains they leave;
I will do my best, and the Master will
In pity my work receive."

He went; and soon by the way side
Strengthless and faint he sank;
But a little spring in the grass he found
Of which he eagerly drank;
And he fashioned a rustic chalice,
And offered it filled to all
Who passed that way through the
beaten day
And heeded his kindly call.

And up through the dusky gloaming
Came the reapers one by one,
Bearing their sheaves with gladness,
For the harvest time was done;
And the reapers were glad and weary,
And the water so pure and cold,
They hailed with joy, and gladly
drank.
And blessed him a hundred fold.

And then to the gate of the palace
They carried their burdens up;
And just at the last the cripple came,
Bearing his humble offering;
And high with the sheaves it was lifted
And the payment was the same,
To the reapers and he who the water
gave
To the thirsty—in His name!
—Methodist Christian Advocate

BRIEFS.

The British extradition treaty was ratified by the Senate Tuesday of last week.

Up to date more than \$20,000 have been subscribed to the Henry Grady monument fund.

In a lecture in Fremont Temple, Boston, Monday night Rev. Jos. Cook made an attack on Henry Grady's New South.

The first through train on the C. F. & Y. V. R. R. ran from Wilmington to Mt. Airy last week a distance of 340 miles.

The house committee on territories decided to report a bill for the admission of Wyoming and Idaho as states of the Union.

It is estimated that New Hampshire yearly receives \$3,000,000 from her summer boarders, and that Maine receives \$6,000,000.

America is shipping annually 800,000 gallons of intoxicating liquors to Africa. Massachusetts prohibitions have presented petitions to Congress asking that the traffic be stopped.

At Quincy, Florida, last Thursday a deputy U. S. Marshal was enticed by some of his personal enemies into a lonely spot and foully murdered. A man named McFarland is suspected of the crime.

The house committee investigating Ohio's ballot box forgeries adjourned subject to the call of the chairman. The case is practically closed and the witnesses, including ex-Governor Foraker, have been discharged.

The Duke of Orleans, the Bourbon pretender to the throne of France, made his appearance in Paris in face of the order for the exile of the Orleans princes. He was immediately arrested. His defense was that he came to France to join the army.

On Monday the State Supreme Court denied the motion in arrest of judgment made by the counsel for Cross and White, and the bank breakers will have to serve out their terms on the public roads of Wake county.

W. Duke, of Durham, is reported to have written to President Crowl, of Trinity College, offering that institution as much as Raleigh has already offered, and also to endow it with \$50,000, provided the College be located at Durham. This is equivalent to an offer of \$85,000.

SELECTED.

While the discussion of the subject of race is going on in the Afro American in putting in good work in school, church and literature—Christian Recorder.

DON'T GO IN DEBT.

Young men, avoid debt. It has made more drunkards, peopled more jails, filled more jails, read more more lines than any other power on the broad earth. It tempts men to steal; it goods them into lying; it induces them into deception. It is the father of murderous thoughts; the born companion of treachery; the traducer of character and the assassin of good credit. It destroys conscience; it weakens courage; it demoralizes; it works at trickery and embroils rascality. It poisons the mind; sears the conscience; emits the heart; robs life of its pleasures and fills it with gall. It drives men from palaces to poverty; from society to madness; from hilarity to hopelessness; from heaven to hell.—Christian Observer.

HOPEFUL YET.

The Messenger clearly recognizes the good qualities of the Negroes. It believes in them as the South's best laborers. It does not favor the African scheme or any other scheme that proposes to remove the Negroes as a whole. Distribution is better than deportation. Any danger of race conflicts may be averted without a general exodus. Let bad whiskey be abandoned. Let bad politics be eliminated. Let the Negroes regard the whites as not their political or personal enemies. Let them cease to hate the Republican party as the enemy of all in politics. Let them cease to rush into quarrels because a drunken white man and a drunken Negro get into a fight. Let them cultivate a polite, pleasant address, and not mistake liberty for license, and there will be no race troubles of any consequence anywhere. The Messenger means well and would by all proper means prevent race contentions, antagonisms, conflicts and instead would have the races to work together in peace, aiming at success on their respective lines. Whites in the South work with Negroes. In the North there is a strike when this mixing takes place or a row—Wilmington Daily Messenger.

OVERDOING FOR CHILDREN.

It is quite possible to do too much for children, though some parents do not seem to think so. It is good for a child to do all he can for himself, to amuse himself, to wait on himself, and to perform such little offices for those about him as he is well able to do. A child who is the center of service who does little but receive kindness, attention, gifts, is apt to become "all mouth"; his capacity for active charities and benevolences is not developed, and he loses the greater blessedness of giving.

The very first requirement of our Lord is, "Deny thyself," then, "Take up thy cross." Children who are not taught the lesson of self-denial and of cross-bearing when young are likely to grow into selfish and exacting men and women, unchristian, men and women.

Even a sickly child needs to learn to consider the welfare of those about him, to be tender of their feelings, to deny himself some things in the interest of others. The tendency in such cases is to lavish every thing on the patient, to deny him nothing, to require nothing from him. The wise and judicious parent cannot fail to see that symmetry and beauty of character needs to be cultivated as much in delicate children as in those that are robust. This is in their own interest not less than in the interest of those around them. Everybody is glad to help a suffering, unselfish child, and smooth the thorns from his path. The manifestation of selfishness, of indifference to the welfare of others, though in a sick and suffering child, dulls the edge of sympathy in those that serve him.

Even if the parent is independent of the help of the child, it is good for the child to feel that he can minister to the comfort and happiness of the parent in many ways, and to be required to do what he can to contribute to the common good of all the circles of which he is a member.—Christian Advocate.

SLOWLY RECOVERING.

EXPRESSING HIS GRATITUDE TO GOD AND ALL SYMPATHIZING FRIENDS.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
Feb. 19th 1890.

BRO. DANCY.

In order to allay the anxiety of my many sympathizing friends, irrespective of religious creeds, and many without any religious profession, I hereby express my profound gratitude to my Heavenly Father for His loving respice, and my hopeful recovery; and to assure the one hundred friends here in the District under the lead of the pastors wives, (as well as those who as best they have enabled them to unite in the splendid donation) of my appreciation of the generous motive which prompted them, and my thankfulness for the loving and helpful result of it all; as well as for the many letters of sympathy, and prayers of any needed aid; and for the assurance by letter, and through the urgent and tender solicitations of the "Star," that heaven has been, and is being so strongly petitioned for my recovery. These assurances, supplementing the loving kindness of the Divine Being, would seem to prolong my stay—God grant it!

Fraternally,
S. T. JONES,
Bishop.

MOORESBURG, (IENN.) NOTES.

BY REV. M. M. MORRIS.

Dear Editor: Allow me a word in our paper that our readers may know how we are getting along. This makes our third year on this work. We have had three protracted meetings. The first one at Whitesburg we had 24 converts, and at Bean station we had 2 conversions. We are in the midst of a revival at Moresburg and have had three conversions up to date.

My work is doing well, spiritually and otherwise. Rev. B. M. Gidger will be at Galbraith on the 8th and 9th of this month to hold my second quarterly meeting for this conference year. We hope to have a good time. I see by the blue mark my subscription is out. Please find enclosed one dollar. Please send my paper on as I can't do without it.

This Washington Post recently quotes extensively from the Messenger's recent able editorial on the fidelity of the colored people. In this connection I am reminded of several facts which are suggested by the state report in Senator Vance's speech in reply to Ingham, to the effect that North Carolina was one of the most conservative of the slave holding states. There was a wealthy gentleman from Hillsboro, Hon. Absolom Tatum, who was State Senator for eighteen years and a member of the second Congress. This gentleman owned many slaves, but was so much opposed to the institution of slavery, that when he had freed his slaves and left his landed property to be equally divided among them. He lived and died a bachelor, and is buried in an old graveyard, long disused, near the center of the city of Raleigh. Over his grave is an ancient looking granite monument erected by his memory by the Legislature of North Carolina, a most unusual thing of a North Carolina Legislature to do, vido the unmarked graves of Nathaniel Macon, Chief Justice Henderson and scores of others. This Mr. Tatum had a brother in law who was also an abolitionist and who would have liberated his slaves also, but for the fact that the majority of them were his wife's dowry, and she thought the property should descend to her children. A paper, the Ledger, I think, was edited for a while at Oxford by an outspoken abolitionist, Mr. Daniel R. Gooden, who left North Carolina for this city at the breaking out of the war, and as he thought the question of slavery was the main one involved in the impending struggle. Mr. Gooden was recognized here as a leading authority by the anti-slavery people, was made Chairman of the committee to pay the people of District of Columbia for their slaves, and the same influence caused him to be made Marshal of President Lincoln's inauguration. His abolition record secured for him the intimate friendship of Charles Sumner, Thad. Stevens and of Mr. Lincoln himself. In spite of this Mr. Gooden has always been an ardent North Carolinian and to my certain knowledge aided several North Carolinians

who made their escape from Washington after hostilities commenced and were accidentally caught here. The three gentlemen mentioned above were all natives of what was originally Orange county, before the subdivision which created Warren and Orange. Doubtless every one of the older families in the State could produce a many examples of men who were opposed to slavery.

ENDORING THE MONUMENT IDEA. HOW IT CAN BE ERECTED.

BY REV. G. W. THOMPSON.

Mr. Editor: Permit me to express a few words about the monument idea. This is an idea that we hope will meet a hearty reception at the annual conference of the A. M. E. Church, and from the Bishop to the Probationers, and that every one may have their cooperation and means to accomplish the desired end. It is a grand idea and one worthy of acceptance and a liberal support. Should we be so fortunate as to accomplish this design, we would show to both present and unborn generations the love, pride, gratitude and honor that we have for sainted Bishops who have been commanded to lay aside the robe of the Levite who ministers outside the veil, to put on the sacred vestments of priests, to minister before the altar and in the holy of holies forever and forever.

Let us give honor to whom honor is due, so as to reflect credit upon our lives and works. We appeal to the young ministers of the connection to support this grand monument idea, to do something to manifest our continental pride and unwavering determination to reach the same as heroes of our great connection. Can't we suggest some plan that will meet the approval of the Board of Bishops? It seems that if each conference would appoint or set apart a committee on monument funds and let that committee arrange the plan on which the fund is to be collected, and submit the plan to the annual conference this year. Thus we might soon be able to begin the work of erecting the monument very soon.

A GRAND AND WORTHY MAN GONE.

DESERVED TRIBUTES TO HIS MEMORY.

BY REV. W. H. NEWBY.

Dear Editor: Please allow me space in our worthy columns to announce the death of Rev. W. H. Pitts, one of the oldest members of the Virginia conference.

He was born at Western Branch township, Norfolk Co. Virginia, eighty one years ago. Two scores of these years he spent working in the vineyard of the Lord. Rev. W. H. Pitts was superannuated about three years, yet with Christian fortitude, which he possessed in a high degree, he answered to the roll call at the last conference held in Elizabeth City, N. C., Jan. 1890, with his loving wife at his side to care for him, which abided with great delight. He said to some of the members that he would not meet them any more in a conference.

About ten days ago he was taken with the grippe, the prevailing epidemic Saturday February 8th at 7:45 a. m. the messenger Death came. How solemn is life's last hour. The journey is ended, the immortal candidate in life's last shore. The bitter flood lies between him and the better land; and from thence he has gone to review all the road along which he has travelled. Memory reaches back to the past, and in a few minutes he seems to live the whole of life again. The scenes long forgotten, now in his dying hour, gather around him in reality, and he is able to look calmly on death, with the dark gleaming in his uplifted hand, and say, "I am alone, beside my bed," and fall back in the arms of Jesus and die.

The funeral took place in the A. M. E. church, Portsmouth, Va., Feb.

10th, 3 p. m. Not less than fifteen hundred persons were present. Dr. Manly was assisted by Revs. C. E. Steward, W. E. Cook, W. H. Newby, R. E. Davis and N. Williams. Dr. Manly took for his text: Heb. xii. 10. "For he looked for a city which has foundations, whose maker and builder is God." The Doctor first gave a short history of the life and labors of "Father Pitts" as we all knew him in the Virginia annual conference. He showed the way to the city of the living God. In this way we find Elder W. H. Pitts, anticipating a final rest—a secure building not made with hands. The whole of his sermon was affirming and edifying to the Christians.

The impression made by the Doctor will long be remembered. Rev. Steward followed him in some few touching remarks that made our souls rejoice. Near seven hundred friends viewed the corpse for the last time on passing out of doors.

Mr. Editor, the Masons, Odd Fellows and other institutions of which he was an honored member, showed their high appreciation and respect to his memory by being out in full force.

ANOTHER GONE—CHURCH NOTES.

BY REV. J. A. JACKSON.

Mr. Editor: I write to let our many readers know that we are yet alive on Wilson chapel circuit and at work. We have raised a new church at Unity since our conference.

Mrs. J. A. Jackson who departed this life January the 5th, was a long sufferer with consumption. For 23 years she lived a devoted and spotless Christian life, and died a triumph of the faith. "The Lord gave and the Lord taketh away." My loss is her gain.

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

BY REV. A. WALTERS.

Mr. Editor: Allow me space to tell of the doings about New York.

The Book Room, under the generalship of Bishop Thompson, is doing grandly. There has been a debt of \$732 against the Concern and in favor of the M. E. Concern for ten or more years. One day last week Bishop Thompson walked into the office of Messrs. Hunt & Eaton, agents of the M. E. Book Concern, and said: "Gentlemen, here is one hundred and ten dollars which I will give you if you will give me a receipt in full for the amount we owe you." The proposition was accepted, and that debt is cancelled. Through the settlement with the former agent two thousand and two hundred dollars was wiped out.

Of the \$3,980.44 of indebtedness reported at the General conference at New Bern, N. C., in 1889, only \$28 remains unsettled. The Bishops have bought plates for the new hymnals at a cost of \$200, printed three thousand copies, bound fifteen hundred copies of the same at a cost of \$744.79. He has also had one thousand disciplines bound at a cost of \$170, and bought fifteen hundred and fifty of the handsomest bound hymn books ever placed upon the market. The connection owes him a debt of gratitude for such work. There has been paid on this amount \$658.48, leaving the Book Room, with this immense new stock on hand, only in debt \$826.42. Such has been the marvelous success of the Concern since Bishop Thompson took charge of it. He has honored the Concern over \$1,800, of which has been paid him \$450 of this amount has been paid by the Bishops alone. Bishop Hood has stood nobly by Bishop Thompson in the work, having not only met his part of the \$450, but turned in through private sales in his district \$26 in the last 30 days. Ere another twelve months shall have rolled around, the Concern will have one dollar and will have quite a stock on hand. May God continue to bless the Concern.

REV. L. IN ZION.

An interesting revival has been in progress for several weeks, and up to

this writing, 130 have accepted Christ and 110 have been admitted to the church. We expect to remodel our church this season, and make it the handsomest Negro church in the land. Spiritually, financially and numerically, our church is in a splendid condition. On Sunday nights the church is packed to the door. God is certainly in Zion.

Mrs. Julia Hall, the trusted and worthy clerk at the Book room, is very ill. The Book Concern can hardly afford to lose her. It is our earnest prayer that she may recover. Mrs. Josephine Richardson is filling her place very efficiently.

The New York conference expect to lead in General Funds and "Old Zion" expects to take the banner. She led off last year and expects to do so again. Look out for seven hundred and odd dollars from my Presiding Elder's district.

The STAR is not forgotten and if the Editor will look in upon us at Youkers, during the second week in May, we will make your heart and pocket book both glad.

A REQUEST OF THE CHURCH.

BY AN EARNEST WORKER.

To the Bishops, ministers and members of the A. M. E. Zion: I have under consideration the publication of a small book of sacred poems called the Pilgrim's Comforter. My object is

1 To bring out the poetical talent of our church that has hitherto lain dormant with so many in whose breasts God has placed the sacred muse.

2 To preserve and hand down to our church and to posterity a precious legacy in sacred verse, of the thought and religious convictions of the thinkers and workers of our church of the present age.

3 And as these poems are to be sacred, to make them form the nucleus in the dim future of a Sunday School and church hymnal which shall be a considerable extent peculiarly our own. For as a distinct and religious body, we must certainly look forward to the time when in the hymn book we use shall be found as authors of the hymns we sing, some of the leading men and women of our church. I most respectfully request therefore

1 That any member of our church, especially general officer, who has any gift at verse making, will forward me any short sacred poems, he or she may now have on hand, or may here after feel disposed to write.

2 That only one side of the paper be written upon.

3 That the date of the composition of each poem and the full name of the author be subscribed to each poem.

Some of the best poems sent us will be sent to the STAR for publication from time to time prior to the publication of the book.

The range of thought which these sacred poems shall embrace may be as wide and extensive as the Gospel itself. When this little book of poems is published, each poem will have the full name of its author signed to it.

Whatever proceeds may accrue from the sale of the book, after expenses have been deducted, will go to the widows' orphans' and superannuated ministers' fund. So that there will be no pecuniary gain to any individual resulting from the sale of the book. It is to be hoped that this idea of bringing out the poetical talent of our church may commend itself to all the members of our church, and that our request may meet with a generous response from our Bishops, general officers, ministers, school teachers and the laity in general.

I know very well that some of our Bishops are too modest to offer, of their own accord, a poem for publication, and yet it is hoped that they will sacrifice their own feelings in this case to the general good of the church, and yield to our request, so

that the church in the years to come may have some thought of theirs expressed in sacred verse.

And now, my dear brethren, let us see what poetical talent there is in our church. I know there is a good deal of talent of this sort in our church and let us put it in print. Hoping this idea may meet with general favor throughout the length and breadth of our church, and hoping the manuscripts will begin to come at once to me, I am your most humble co-laborer,

B. F. WHEELER,
Somerville,
N. J.

SOME THOUGHTS THAT HAVE OCCUPIED THE MIND OF "FELFOY."

Mr. Editor: Permit me to express my admiration to the many other workers composing the same army some thoughts which he has never seen publicly expressed, but which he has no doubt others besides himself have pondered in their hearts. Every true lover of Zion must desire her prosperity. That she is in a prosperous condition, her numerous workers, and the work she is accomplishing as a factor in the religious world, fully attest.

But to be satisfied with past achievements, or contented with present conditions, is a hindrance to future progress and continued prosperity. Therefore if anything can be said or done by any one, to stimulate the energies of the workers in Zion to great efforts for her good, let the word be spoken, let the act be done. But who is able to do this? Not the writer of this article; the most he can do is to offer some suggestions, in the fond hope that he will not be considered presumptuous for so doing. Having been born in Zion, and raised in her Sunday School, it is but natural that we should take an interest in her welfare, and desire that she should not only hold her own, but that she shall wield a greater influence for good in the future than she has ever done in the past. All honor to the noble Christian men and women who labored so assiduously in the past, and who by their labors made it possible for Zion to attain her present eminent position.

But let us remember that each age has its own responsibilities—its own work to perform, and that it is the duty of the present generation to carry the flag of Zion to still greater heights; and from the highest point we can possibly attain pass it on to the succeeding generations of men and women, whose hands are already outstretched to receive it and who are marching up some 500,000 strong from the Sunday schools of Zion all over this land.

What, then, may the present workers in Zion—both ministerial and lay—do to advance the standard of Zion? To the writers mind, two things may be done which will very materially assist in effecting this desideratum. One is, let the ministers throughout the connection study more earnestly to show themselves approved unto God, workmen that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth; the other is, let the churches or societies pay their larger salaries, that they may buy the literature necessary to each study.

Every workman in every department in life requires good tools to do good work. If a man can do passably good work with poor tools, and with an insufficient number of them for all the purposes of his work, he will do much better work with better tools, and with a sufficient quantity of them for his various purposes. The Bible is, of course, the great storehouse of the Christian worker; in it he must find materials for use in the work in which he is engaged. But it is one thing to have materials for work, and another thing to know how to use them. To assist him in this, there is a mass of literature—historical, exegetical and homiletical—which has sprung out of the Bible, with which, in this reading, thinking age, every Christian reader should be supplied. Besides which there are papers, such as the (N. Y.) Independent, Reviews, (Fink & Wagnalls) Homiletic and I do not mention his own church paper for a course every

(Continued on next page.)