

The Star of Zion

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ZION CHURCH.

The church called Zion in the world, is very strong indeed. Her Gospel banner is unfurled, and floating to the breeze. She loves to do her Master's will, to merit his approval. In rain or storm to Zion's hill, forward! we are bound to press. Her members form a jealous crew of soldiers of the cross. The Master meets with very few, and says you'll not be lost. Jesus says in his word, My people I will save. Who repeat believe the Gospel heard. Eternal life shall have. Let all the nations join. This glorious army of our Lord. Salvation to their souls they'll find. And worship with accord. Preachers join the grand parade. Of sinners the best on earth; She will stand all decades, With trumpet sounding mirth. Elders with power and strength of God, In Zion works are divided, Striving for heaven's divine abode, 'Till sinners all are freed. Our Bishops hold the power, Which by the church was given, To change the preacher's bowler. Where he shall work for heaven. We love Zion our choice, Four hundred thousand strong, Praise her with heart and voice, The sweetest Zion songs. O, save or bless the church, Dear which thou our fathers gave, Though angels heaven reached, The church Christ died to save. Clarkville, Tenn.

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

BY REV. B. F. WHEELER.

Mr. Editor—Children's Day was held on the second Sabbath in June this year at Somerville instead of the fourth Sabbath. As a result, we collected more money, had more pretty and fragrant flowers to decorate the church, the weather was not so hot and sultry, did not have our Children's Day after every other denomination in town had theirs. The fourth Sabbath in June may be the best time for holding Children's Day, but for our part we certainly can not see where it is best. Unless it be that we do not care to have our Children's Day on the day that other denominations have it for fear it might interfere with them. For our part we would rather have it when it can be held to the greatest advantage to our church. Will some one who knows, tell us why it should be held on the fourth rather than on the second or the third? Somerville, N. J.

POUGHKEE-PSIE (N. Y.) NOTES.

BY MISS W. POTTER.

On last Sabbath Rev. Adam Jackson delivered an able and interesting sermon both morning and evening. Mrs. Jas. Lewis and baby and Mrs. Bobb. Clave of this city left here last Monday for Washington, D. C. for one month's visit. They will be the guests of her mother, Mrs. Lewis. We wish them a pleasant journey. Miss Maud Potter, of Brooklyn, was visiting in the city and was the guest of Mrs. L. maud Du Bois. Miss M. Wykoop of Marienborough, spent last Sabbath in the city and was the guest of Miss Mary Bradford. Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Vanderbilt's daughter Jessie is quite ill. We are hoping to publish soon a report concerning the remodeling of our church. On Sunday evening June 30th, the A. M. E. Zion Sabbath School celebrated Children's Day. The exercises consisted of reading, songs, etc. which were very interesting. The reading by Miss Sarah Devo was well rendered. Rev. Adam Jackson delivered a short address for the occasion. Great credit is due the choir for their assistance. The amount raised to send Livingstone College was \$10. The church was decorated with daisies and other flowers. On the wall were letters of daisies reading, "Children's Day." The services were well attended.

KENTUCKY HEARD FROM AGAIN.

BY REV. W. A. WALKER.

Mr. Editor—Please allow me space in the Star to say to its many readers that we are at our post of duty working for God and Zion. When I took charge of this work nearly three years ago, I found it in debt and nearly no home of worship, and but a very little connection. I have manifested, I say this because there was not more than one third of the general fund collected. Children's Day poorly observed and no missionary money collected at all. The Lord has blessed this work during my stay on it. The spiritual condition of the church is better, and the connectional interest is better. I say there is more connectional interest because in the two years passed we have collected for general fund 50 cents per member as required by law. Children's Day has been observed, and the collection of the whole day has been sent to Salisbury, N. C., which collection have exceeded our seven dollar goal. When Bishop T. H. Linnard visited me last year, I was anxious for him to come into the church for he was peopled up with three poles to keep it from falling down. Since last conference we have knocked down those poles, tore down the old church, and are building a new one, and it will be a credit to Zion connection when it is completed. We moved in the new church the second Sunday in June, do you see we are coming, give honor to whom honor is due, and credit to whom credit is due. It has been said that the Kentucky conference was not loyal to the connection. I am sorry to hear that about my conference. When you hear that the Kentucky conference is not loyal to the connection, please leave me out, for I am loyal to Zion connection, and my work will prove that I am. I will acknowledge that the Kentucky conference with a few exceptions, is not so loyal to the connection as it ought to be. I hope that the Kentucky conference, with the rest of the conference that are not doing their duty in the way of supporting the connectional enterprise will go to work and do more for the connection in the future than they have done in the past. The thought of raising one hundred thousand dollars on general fund every year of the Lincoln Zion connection, I will raise my part of the one hundred thousand dollars. What do you say about it? On Children's Day we made a total five thousand dollars and on Easter Sunday we ought to raise two thousand dollars. I will raise my part. What do you say about it? Would you give me one hundred and seven thousand dollars annually? Now some lazy fellow is ready to say that we can't raise that amount of money every year. Why Zion's connection can raise that amount of money every year if it wanted to. The "bank" follows a man who manages to get their own salary and some of them are always inquiring about the church or church, but just as soon as the Bishop goes on their work they will tell him their health is bad, and that they want to go to a certain church in order that their health may improve. Of course the Bishop will grant their request, and they will go to their charge and will not stay on it long before they will begin to teach their people that they can't raise the money that they will take up their own and take out of Zion connection, the better it will be for Zion, and we will take local preachers that can't do will fill the place of those who are gone. Who will say that to the Bishop? The third P. E. district of the Kentucky conference presided over by Rev. A. H. Johnson is moving along very nicely with one or two exceptions. I will say to the many readers of the Star that I am loyal to the connection, and ready to do my duty. I did what I could to make the Children's Day success. We collected seven dollars and fifty cents on Children's Day. We

would be glad to have J. C. Daney, the Editor of the Star, to visit our next annual conference and introduce the Star to the Kentucky conference since it is nearly a stranger to the conference. Madisonville, Ky.

THE MISSIONARY MEETING AT MOBILE, ALABAMA.

BY REV. E. HUNTER.

Mr. Editor: No doubt you have been waiting for some time, perhaps, to hear something from the Mobile wing of Zion's army. I write to inform you and our many readers of the fact that we are yet living and are still at war against the armies of sin and darkness. State Street, the old ship, is on the ocean with all her sails unfurled, and Christ our captain is on board of her, and properly attends every effort that is put forward by her. I mean to say by this that our old State Street is moving along nicely, both spiritual and temporal.

On the 18th of February last, the stewaresses and daughters of our conference jointly gave a festival for the benefit of the church and parsonage, and these dear sisters deserve great credit for the manner in which they work for the church. It seems that they never get tired working for the Master. May God bless the dear sisters and crown them at last in his kingdom. The success that attended this occasion was one hundred dollars clear of expenses.

Now about this time, while these dear sisters are hard at work for the cause of their Master and church, I received a note from Rev. U. C. Petty, stating the expected visit of Mrs. S. T. Jones, and other ladies of the Home and Foreign Missionary Society, and asking me to inform the President of the missionary society at State Street church, and make arrangements for the same to which I did, and the meeting was called at State Street church on the 21st of February. Delegates were there from Little Zion, Hope chapel and Ebenezer. E. Hunter, the pastor, stated the object of the meeting and Mrs. Bishop Petty, the indefatigable vice president of the H. & F. M. S., of the Wash. Alabama conference, was called to the chair to preside over the meeting. Here arrangements were made for a grand musical entertainment; the pastor to give the welcome address and Mrs. Bishop Petty also made an address, welcoming Mrs. Bishop S. T. Jones to the sixth Episcopal District. Speeches were made by others present. The stewaresses of State Street with our inestimable sister, Mrs. M. P. Scott, its president, at its head and quite a number of members of the church were at this same meeting, held in readiness to and did arrange for a grand reception to be given by the stewaresses and pastor of State Street church in honor of Mrs. Bishop S. T. Jones, the President and general of the vice president at Love and Charity Hall on February 27th.

On Tuesday morning the 25th, Mrs. Bishop Jones and Mrs. Dr. Morris were met by the writer and escorted to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. M. P. Scott. On Wednesday, the 26th, Mrs. Bishop Jones and Mrs. Dr. Morris were conducted for the first time in their lives in grand State Street church, the mother of the faith. Here a large crowd had gathered for the purpose of entertaining the ladies by a literary entertainment. Glowing tributes were paid to Mrs. Bishop Jones by the speakers, assuring her that we were pleased and felt highly honored to have such distinguished ladies as our guests, that we would do all in our power to make their stay with us a most agreeable one.

On Thursday evening, February 27th, the reception was given by the pastor and stewaresses which proved very enjoyable. The table was spread with all the delicacies of the season. All enjoyed themselves

nicely. At the close of the supper a few minutes were spent in pleasant conversation and entertaining speeches from some of the guests. Among the speakers was our much loved Presiding Elder, Rev. F. A. Clinton.

Now Mr. Editor, in conclusion I will say a word about our parsonage that will be ready by the first of May for the writer to move into. This building will cost \$1,500 on the 9th of February. I have what is called the brick plan collection books which were brought in on the 31st. This was a grand rally indeed. We raised \$621.90. The Lord is with us. [We publish this by request at this late date, for fear its further omission might occasion some undue feeling among the Mobile friends of the Star, and their number is legion.—EDITOR.]

SUNDAY AT THE PHILADELPHIA AND BALTIMORE CONFERENCE.

BY OUR SPECIAL REPORTER.

This has been a big day for Zion. The session of the Philadelphia and Baltimore annual conference of the African Zion Methodists held in session during the past week, there was a general expectation that conference Sunday, would be a jubilee among that branch of the Methodist family. It is an admitted fact that in pulpit power this church stands among the people of African descent the highest in developing ministers educated in the school of experience. It has surprising record in this and many other respects. In times past the church was one of the religious powers in this city, and as evidence of the division of its ministers and members, Elder David Stevens, a free man from Pennsylvania, while pastor of Spring street Zion church, now Waters' A. M. E. chapel, put himself in pawn in the days of slavery to save to the congregation, by whom he was redeemed with enthusiasm; and John Henry Butler, the well known prominent citizen of African descent and loyal Zimite, paid \$3,400 out of his own pocket to secure the church on corner of Howard and Montgomery streets, which was finally lost, and has since been converted into a colored public school. The impressive memories that cluster around Zion church in this city, were revived to day, and it seems that the declaration of the Psalmist was verified that "the Lord loveth the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob."

There were excursions and delegations here in demonstration of the power of Zion from Washington, D. C., Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Carlisle and other places in large numbers. Zion church was not spacious enough to accommodate the crowd, but the fitting of the various city pulpits by the several ministers afforded the people an opportunity to hear the representatives present.

The centre of attraction was at Zion church where there was a crowded congregation at the morning service to hear Rev. J. B. Small, D. D., of Wilmington, North Carolina, who sermonized from Paul's letter to Timothy, 6th chapter and a part of the 12th verse: "Fight the good fight of faith." He commenced by saying: "A fight is an evil tendency, therefore the fighting commenced in the text is well qualified. The apostle meant that it should be a good fight. He knew that a world misconstrued the idea of what the world thought was a good fight. The man who succeeded in being victorious would as a general thing consider he fought a good fight; and in order to remove this idea and make it so clear that we might not misunderstand what it meant—that it was not merely as we would suppose it to be in our selfish views, but that it was to be the fight of faith." The speaker continued in this line, showing his familiarity with ancient customs and a consistent application to the subject, which produced an excellent impression. The conference and the congregation were delighted.

The people who were present from Harrisburg, which church is just now very anxious as to who will be its next pastor, upon a comparison of views thought that Dr. Small could successfully hold the fort, and hoped

that he would be sent to the capital of Pennsylvania.

At 8 o'clock in the afternoon, Rev. R. G. Dyson of Washington D. C., preached a very fine sermon from Revelation 14—5. And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people. It was an effective flow that was highly appreciated.

Tonight Rev. R. J. Daniels of York, Pa. preached a very acceptable sermon from Exodus 36—15: "My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." The theme discussed was the presence with his people. Elder Daniels is a good preacher and did himself and the subject justice. The church was densely crowded at all the services.

MY SOJOURN NORTH.

BY REV. A. M. BARRETT, P. E.

Mr. Editor: I embrace this opportunity to state a few thoughts. I visited Rev. J. W. Smith at Washington, D. C., just before the sitting of the Philadelphia and Baltimore conference. He is much beloved by his congregation.

I preached in the mother church in New York for Rev. A. Walters. He is a good worker and his congregation is pleased with him. His people treated me very kind indeed. Brother Walters is repairing the church. It will be a beauty when completed. I preached for Rev. G. W. Offley. He certainly has a fine congregation. He was sick. His people are pleased with his return. I visited Rev. Jacob Thomas. I enjoyed my visit with him. He made everything so pleasant for me. May God bless him.

Dr. Miller at Newburgh seems to be pleased with his new charge. He treated me kind. Also Bishop Thompson's wife; she seemed to be filled with the Holy Ghost. Lord bless her.

Boston—I arrived here Saturday. I met Rev. S. C. Birchmore and family. They were a father and mother to me. May God bless them. The Elder is pushing things to the gate. I visited St. Paul Baptist church and was treated very kindly. I am well pleased here. Rev. Birchmore is wielding his sword among the white as well as colored. I could say a great deal more about him and his church but I have not time now. Boston, Mass.

A WOMAN'S WORK FOR HER PEOPLE.

BY MISS MAGGIE I. STEVENS.

Dear General Armstrong, Trustees, Teachers, Students, and Friends of Hampton Institute:

Appreciating the great honor of speaking to you to day, I feel that it is little that I can tell you. Only four years ago—it sees a but yesterday—I stood where I now stand and received my diploma from the hands of our honored trustees; received it with a solemn prayer to God that I might never cast a shadow of disgrace over my Alma Mater, but go out to do what she sent me to do—to lift up those who are falling.

I have spent a part of every year since my graduation in teaching public school. My work does not consist in that alone however, but is also in Sunday School, as teacher or superintendent; in temperance and missionary work; in sewing school, in conducting women's prayer meetings and in doing whatever I can for our people's good.

Every year I have taught the same county district school in this state, not far from my own home. The people among whom I live and labor are in a pretty fair condition. Many own the land on which they live, and earn most of their living by tilling the soil; though, owing to the severe rainfall for the last year or two, the crops have been greatly reduced, making it for many a hard struggle to support their families. Some are making rapid improvement; others, slow, but sure and some little or none. Some race prejudices exist and is a draw back. Notwithstanding this, they are responsive to a certain extent by the whites if they respect themselves. With an idea of finding a place

where their chance would be fairer and better, many of our best men and women caught the fever of emigration I have not had it. I believe that the future success of our people depends much upon the women's work and improvement.

I am glad to say that a good work has been done for them and is still going on. Mothers' meetings are held throughout our neighborhood, by two or three white friends who have necessary ability and independence. In these meetings we have Bible reading, singing and prayer. Cheap cloth and garments are sold; the mothers are taught how to cut and sew, and instructed as to the right management and training of their children. It is the great desire of the mothers to have their children educated and brought up better than they were. In most their homes, family worship is held and the parents try to make home attractive to their children.

Miss Daughtery, a northern lady, and Miss Sallis Harris, of our own county and state, are doing a great religious work among our people, particularly among the women over whom they have great influence.

Mrs. Marriage Allen, a lady from England, who is widely known all over Virginia and North Carolina, and in other states, has done an unparalleled work for women and men particularly in the line of temperance. Mrs. Della I. Hayden, one of our own Hampton graduate teachers, we call sometimes the mother of educational work in the country.

In the Sabbath School of which I was on a member and in which I now teach and sometimes lecture, we have a little bit of a lending library. Some of the books are my own, and others a gift of some kind friends.

The young people among whom I live and teach have a pretty high standard of morality. I pray God to make me a blessing to them. It is not enough for us teachers to tell our people the sort of life they must live; we must live that life before them ourselves, in the school room and out side of it. Example is more telling than words.

Near the end of my first term of teaching—three years ago—I organized a temperance society among my larger boys and girls. Soon, with their parents' consent, my whole school with a few exceptions joined it. At last the school house could not hold us, and I got permission from the church trustees to use the church near by. Our first meeting there was a grand success. My pupils were prepared with essays and recitations. When the exercises were over invitation was given to the old and young to come and sign the pledge. Great strong men came forward with tears in their eyes, saying it was what had long been needed. Their wives came also, and through the influence of the young women, many of the young men signed.

I thank God that my little school house was the beginning of a noble work in our own county and others. Mrs. Allen on her next visit to this country, took right hold of it and it spread to, nearly every one of our churches and schools in the country.

Last July and August Miss Martha S. Dole, another daughter of Hampton, and I, worked for the temperance cause among our people in Greensboro, North Carolina and the neighboring towns and churches. The work took well especially where the Woman's Christian Temperance Union had been started. Opposition and misunderstanding, were of course not wanting. Some said that I received a dollar a head for all who signed the pledge. (I don't know from whom), and in one village where for the last year or two, the crops have been greatly reduced, making it for many a hard struggle to support their families. Some are making rapid improvement; others, slow, but sure and some little or none. Some race prejudices exist and is a draw back. Notwithstanding this, they are responsive to a certain extent by the whites if they respect themselves. With an idea of finding a place

meeting held on Wednesday afternoon and conducted like those here at Hampton. They have both done good, I think, to our women and girls.

What my people need most is earnest prayer, unshaken faith in God, and pure works that can stand the test of the world's temptations.

Some of the best things to do for them are these: Sweep alcoholic drinks out of the land; let the Blair Educational Bill pass; let prejudice die in the hearts of both the white and the colored races and give us a chance in the world to make men and women of ourselves.

I appeal to you, the noble and the strong, who hold the laws in your own hands, and to a certain extent, the fate of our future, to do these things for a people still bound, and struggling for life and light.

I would like to say to all who are, and are to be, teachers, preachers and leaders of our race; let that place where you live among them be the better for your presence there. Let not your name be a hatred because you have destroyed their peace, happiness and faith, and led them down instead of upward. Sacrifice your own pleasures for our people's good and God will bless you and them.

May God bless Hampton and may one of her sons and daughters become a beacon light on our people's pathway.

[Read at Hampton commencement.]

BISHOP HOOD'S APPOINTMENTS.

JUNE: Sunday 22nd, Norfolk, Va.; Sunday 29th, New York City.

JULY:

Sunday 6th, East St. Brooklyn, New York; Tuesday 8th, Orster Bay, L. I., N. Y.; Thursday 10th, Hempstead, L. I., N. Y.; Sunday 13th, Port Chester, N. Y.; Thursday 17th, New Rochelle, N. Y.; Sunday 20th, Tarrytown, N. Y.; Tuesday 22nd, Peekskill, N. Y.; Wednesday 23rd, Newburgh, N. Y.; Sunday 27th, Troy, N. Y.; Thursday 31st, New Paltz, N. Y.

AUGUST: Sunday 3rd, Kingston, N. Y.; Tuesday 5th, Middletown, N. Y.; Wednesday 6th, Haverstraw, N. Y.; Sunday 10th, Poughkeepsie, N. Y.; Wednesday 13th, Bridgeport, Conn.; Sunday 17th, New Haven, Conn.; Tuesday 19th, Middletown, Conn.; Thursday 21st, Waterbury, Conn.; Sunday 24th, Derby, Conn.

NOTICE.

The pastors and Sabbath School Superintenders are requested to send in their orders with cash as early as possible. Letters containing money must be addressed to Rev. T. A. Washington financial Secretary Montgomery Ala.

R. R. MORRIS

NOTICE!

Subscribers for the Sunday School lesson books, Lesson Leaves, and Teachers' Assistants are requested to forward their orders with the money before the 15th of June, for the third quarter; quarterly, which are 3 cts. per copy, Lesson Leaves 1 half cts. per copy, Teacher Assistant 5 cts. single copy two or more 50 cts. per year.

R. R. MORRIS

Editor and Supt.

T. A. WASHINGTON

NOTICE.

To the ministers and members of the A. M. E. Zion church—The Rev. Jacob Thomas having tendered his resignation as General Agent of the Book Concern, to the Board of Bishops at their recent meeting at Louisville, Ky., the following has been ordered by the Executive Board of Book Concern: that until further notice is given, all moneys due Book Concern, and any orders for Disciple and other church literature, with the exception of Hymnals, and Sunday School matter, be sent to Rev. A. Walters 66 Grove St. New York City.

Orders for new church hymnals to be sent direct to the Bishop of the Episcopal District, from whence the order comes.

By order of Book Committee of Book Concern.

Rev. J. P. THOMPSON

Pres't.

Rev. A. WALTERS, Treasurer.

Rev. J. H. WATTS, Secretary.