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BY PESIDING ELDER B. C. O. BENJAMIN

The West Alabama Conference which met at Mobie on the 14th of December. 1892, was an interesting gathering. Bishop C. C. Pettey presided and took all of the time needed to examine all of the work in detail for the purpose of obtaining absolutely correct statistics of every charge, and doing the best possible service for the conference. The city I speak of the West Alabama conference of Mobile in which the conference met is the place selected for the meeting of of considerable proportions. The population numbers 80,000-20,000 of whom are colored. A large majority of the latter own their own homes and are condition of our folks in Mobile as propmechanics compares favorably with any in any city in the South. Though Mobile lacks the enterprise which characterizes Birmingham and Atlanta, it is nevertheless a very desirable place to live. Pure water, salubrious climate, hospitality, fish, oysters, handsome widows, pretty young girls and sincere Zionites are some of the special features of Mobile. Among all our conferences in the South, the Alabama conferences, and especially the West Alabama conference which takes in the "Magic City," seems to have the most hopeful field for immediate and large growth. The immense influx of immigration to the State, the new and growing towns, the vast resources of iron and coal, the many manufacturing interests and the disposition on the part of capitalists to employ Ne gro labor are contributing to the permament establishment of Zion Methodism.

Taking all things on an average Zion ads in Alabama. Other denominations they are all doing their share in the development and extension of christianity and the betterment of the race throughout the State. But the Zion element is surpassingly active and effective in establishing schools, and building new churches in hitherte neglected parts of the State, and are succeeding in moulding public opinion on the side of education, morality and righteousness with a rapidity that can only be accounted for from the fact that there is something about the character of Zion Methodism that sppeals to popular sympathy and

The impulse of pioneering, of pushing forward, of possessing new fields, manifested by James Varick, Fathers Bush hence our success. Our difference of with renewed zeal and more energy. opinion on Organic Uunion does not interfere with our harmonious work for tricts in this conference. The first prethe profit and glory of the church. There sided over by Rev. A. B.Smyer; the secis a profound agreement between us all ond by Rev. William Spencer; the third to cling, and perpetuate the old flag of by Rev. F. A. Clinton; the fourth by Zion until the organic union shall have Rev. Edward Hunter and the fifth by the been effected-in the morning of the res- writer. There are a large number of nrrection-

admiration.

Then shall all nations' song ascend. To God our Ruler, Father, Friend, With peace on earth, good will to men. We'll all be one, but - not 'till then.

to the organic union. I started out to write up the session of the West Ala- up into the thousands. The Birmingham

bama Conference. But what about the West Alabama

tions connected with the conference, the help of God and the asal editorial says : "The West Alabama friends of Zion to liquidate. conference is one of our largest and most . I have already made this article loss intelligent conferences, and in its ranks than I intended, but to close with intelligent conferences, and in its ranks may be found graduates from leading institutions, men representing one or two of the other leading professions such as law and medicine. There are more than a score of men who can perform the duty of secretaries, compilers, etc., in a very proficient manner. The beat of order and a most systematic modus operandi characterized the proceedings from beginning to end. Bishop C. C. Petter, A. M., D. D., who is the able and judicious presiding officer of the conference mer, Steele, Starks, the "Swamp Angel"

men without regard to their rank, hence the enviable esteem in which he is held by them. One of the most pleasing features about the conference was the intelligence of the lay representatives, both male and female. Among these lay delegates were persons who own very valuable property reaching figures that

extend quite up into the thousands." And the half has not been told. Mr. Editor. The eulogistic manner in which may lead some one to believe that I am inclined to be egotistic, not so, I only our next general conference. It is a city want to inform the brethren of the North Carolina and Philadelphia and Baltimore conferences that they must discontinue blowing their horns until they become able to cope with us. The fact that we doing business on a large scale on their have not been blowing our horn is no own hook. On the whole the general evidence that we had no horn to blow, we were simply waiting until the other erty holders, in general business, and as fellows horn rusted. The distinguished bers hence this church came out in open general officers, Drs. R. R. Morris, J. W. Alstork and Editor George W. Clinton, who visited the conference ably repre sented the interests committed to their care. Editor Clinton being a stranger to the conference a great deal of anxiety was evinced by the brethren to hear him talk. His speech on the night of the third day's session was a masterly presentation of unanswerable arguments on the moral, social, industrial, educational and religious progress of the race, and the triumphant march of Zion Methodism. The speech which was interspersed with humorous illustrations was logical impressive and eloquent, and kept the conference and large congregation spellbound for over one hour.

> Bishop T. H. Lemax, the grand and venerable bishop who has suffered so much and struggled so hard and heroically to plant the banner of Zion Methodism in Alabama years ago, and who save

While the speeches, sermons, musical and literary exercises which characterized the conference interested their hun dreds of visitors who attended daily. The part in which the ministers were most interested was the reading of sppointments, or rather "disappoin ments" for such it was to a great many of the brethren. To say that Bishop Pettey "swept things" and turned appointments almost "topsy turvy," is to put it in the very mildest terms. Those who wanted did not get, those who got did not expect and Clinton, our pioneer teachers and and those got left. But as we all know champions, are being strictly carried on that Bishop Pettey rarely make a mistake by the Alabama branch of Zion. We in his appointments and that he makes make our religion a matter of every day them with an eye single to the building duty and advantage in the sense of up of the kingdom of Christ and the adapting it to the material as well as the success of Zion. We received what he spiritual aspect of human existence, gave us thankfully and resorted to work

There are five Presiding elder's dis circuits and mission churches throughout the districts; the largest and most influential stations are located at Mobile, Selma, l'uscaloosa, Demopolis, Bessemer and Birmingham all in charge of I hope I will be pardoned for alluding able, competent and God-fearing men. The Mobile churches membership runs church in charge of Rev. A. J. Warner, better known as the "Swamp Augel" is conference? We have the best conferdestined to be one of the leading churchcnes in the connection. For connection- es in the connection, for what Br. Waral pride, and positive loyalty to the dis- ner cannot do in church work it is use ciplinary mandates of the church, we less for any one else to try. He found are simply superb, and the editorial in the church absolutely without member-THE STAR of January 5th, in which the ship and with a heavy debt hanging over editor speaking of our conference, from it, no seats, in fact hardly any church at personal observations, is sufficient en- all, but with his usual vigor, indomitable dorsement of our greatness, After will and earnest devotion to Zion he has speaking in glowing terms of the unusual succeeded in making it the leading in erest manifested in the cause of eda- church in the city. There is still howcation, the healthy and profitable influ- ever a large indebtedness on the church ence exerted by the differen: organiza- which the "Swamp Angel" hopes by the

rys, Hollidays, Cisibornes, Morris, Al-storks, Atkins and Manleys together with our noble bishops live long to continue the good work for God and the

OUR AFRICAN LETTER.

Mr. Editor, friends, readers and son nection. It has been some time since you saw me, many I thought, what has become of me. Still in the work here but there has been some hard things occurred since you saw me last (I mean in THE STAR OF ZION). Satsu through wicked men and women, became prejudice to us and work, tried to destroy us and work, but some how we manage to all Brewerville nor all Zien members rose up in that fight aginst us. No! All is not in it; only, a part of Zion memrebellion in the later part of 1890. Therefore the battle has been hot till late.

While this frebellious party tried to usurp the superintendents position, whether or no, and tried to do away with the law and usages of our discipline in making presiding elders, &c., and the gound root of this thought we were get ting \$1,000 a yesr. After trying every imaginable way here in lying and slan-dering, and sowing discension, so as to make him come to their unlawful plans; after all their threats, etc , and finding he would not succomb. Then writes a fiend slanderer to the board of Bishops. Right on the back of this, at his absence sues me for my own property, a table sues me for my own property, a table their preacher. The receiving of this which he had made out of his own hard letter puts them another degree desper earned money.

These are some hard things, and cause me to be in three lawsuits, three menths in succession, on that table, I working for them in Zion's interests. Now this is that same party that wrote against the who keep up the light and confusion con- forged a receipt on the Elder. I hapin the conference proceedings much to the delight of the brethren, all of whom loves Bishep Lomax as dutiful and grate- wickednes to another. They care for no kind of law, wait for nothing, and did not the Ellier's nor mine either and had Elder asked to assist me in affairs, should I need any. The law of this country is and I believe it is the law in other civilised countries—that a man is respensible to some extent. I had not killed any one nor stolen any thing, but teaching peacably; when I came to any thing here comes a daunken constable about dark with a writ summoning me to ap-

> pear before a justice of the peace, April 29, 1892, about my own table. But that party took all the laws (church members) and put them under a bushel; knowing that they had already sent my husband 6,000 miles on lies and lander and thought to kill and bury me while he was away. But the quarterly court in June took the bushel off, and brought them somewhat to their senses. And thanks be to God, these people see ing how Elder had worked here and how they had sent him away; also knewing how I had labored too, brought many friends to me. The idea of suing a man's wife at his absence aroused the public

sentiment, That party did not write only against the superintendent, but against me. They told the board, how they had called a public meeting, that Thursday, order ing every male and female, belonging to and how warm hearted the friends who strument, sounds like distant thunder, this church to some out. Their object gave. And I have the pleasure to say, was to say who they secognized as their Prof. E. E. Smith, ex-Minister gave \$5 preacher, and to make a preacher-all over the superin endent's head, not only so, but breaking the law and usage of church not according to Methodism. As embar assment. Even af ex the begging they ordered all to come out on that day, of this money some one told a lie, said I about 30 came, I and superintendent inoluded. After they had stated their object and then said, 'I call upon anybody in this body to respond" to this object.
The superinterdent arose with discipline in hand and asked if they would not hear the law, and you are being misled. "No," from several voices, "don't want the face of all this, after all this fight to hear no law, come to attend to our ing, moving the church property, going business." Doubtless the oldest bishop off and returning, sealing up the church you a little one time, but I don't feel ed by the Allenites. that now lives in the United States ever

men, with sticks in hand, made another alander (big as all Africa if it could be alander (big as all Africa if it could be alander (big as all Africa if it could be alander (big as all Africa if it could be alander (big as all Africa if it could be measured) 6,000 miles to the Board of you have done.

Mother Zion did you see when it stated in the board and tried to foot them.

No wonder it is said and so plain, "If it was possible they shall deceive the remainder the blood,"—came on the following the board and so plain, "If it was possible they shall deceive the remainder the blood,"—came on the following the board and so plain, "If it was possible they shall deceive the remainder the blood,"—came on the following the board and so plain, "If it was possible they shall deceive the remainder the blood,"—came on the following the board of blood, but the superintendent, missing the board of blood, but the superintendent is a stick of the superintendent in th

opened some how, and the superintens they came running to the church, when prajudice hearted people.

they gave the alarm and broke up the Now after all this rebellious and destruct

This breaking up of meeting is the outgrowth of the two law suits in last year. seals the church several times and sues But God was for us, and they got beaten again. Now write a paper to the super intendent saying they did not reoguize hold out. Dm't understand me to say nothing he did; such folly and assumption they stated; also a list of names and many were forged, lots of children names, (children and probationers are not eligible to vote on church matters you know) but this they did so as to have majority.

One of the local preachers sent his aper separate from the others, saying the superintendent "I am a polished nan of God untouched, untarnished," &c. "Descon of A. M. E Z. church." Now they leave us and go about a mile

and a half in the country to worship. About June their captain leaves them nd joins the Bethel or A. M. E. church. The Board of Bishors calls the superintendent and he leaves in July. This party returns and says they had a letter from the Board of Biscops to call the nembers and take who they wanted for into discord, degrading, misleading and decleving whom they could.

As they did before, wrote another let ter to the Board of Bishops forging names so as to make them think all the erty. They did not tell the board that among their eargo were liquor men who though', said and did as they pleased It is bad enough for common people to ministers who are also teachers, y tell you the devil has a high seat in such hearts. Offering the Bible to the members with their left hand and the devil with their right hand. Can these men turn their brethren from their drinking habits when they sell it to them?

They did not tell the board how I had ecome responsible for \$39.50 worth of ould have a chance of buying before 10 in another to beg money for our new land; when all, chorister, choir and conchurch, realized when all collected \$25 cash, also visited our school and was precent at the examination. Thought we were doing well under our financial was gone to get members to join the we need the most true iron hearted lodge, and had got two of the worst persons in Monrovia. If this had been true I should not have been ashamed of a come in all i's perfection. funds for the church.

The e are some bard things. Now on that now lives in the United States ever witnessed the church government that this party undertook here, and the other strange things. Now this was before they wrote the board in Dec. 189).

This party did not tell the board how they came out on Friday-1891, like mad man, with sticks in hand, made another attempt to break the law. But this was alander (big as all Africa if it could be attempt to break the law. But this was a paper to the superintendent, saying they came out on Friday-1891, like mad alander (big as all Africa if it could be attempt to break the law. But this was alander (big as all Africa if it could be apper to the superintendent, saying they came out on the North Carolina conference is my christian adoptation. Have you for think of Africa? But the money is source the laborers faw, the field is rough of December 1886, to send me here as missionary teacher? Of course, I am not independent of the grand body, you will answer, here am I, send me.

Lovingly for Christ, Carriwright.

Carrier E. S. Carriwright. twice, luw suits twice last year, writing you again.

THE WEST ALABAMA CON. throughout the session. The bishop is impartial in his rulings, courteous and Dysons, Offices, Blackwells, Clintons, Smiths, out of the superintendent and others to keep not including the 9 that were expelled for out of the church, and they sealed the considerate almost to a fault to all of his rys, Hollidays, Ciaibornes, Morris, Aldoor. The following Sabbath the door pelled unlawful. I see in the discipline a form of trial and expulsion from the held 11 o'clock services; also met on the laity to the histopria. But none for open following Wednesday and held asseries, rebellion, is such once is left understood. Some of this party came out like mad for him that has charge to fight do his best, for God in Zion especially when it commade to fight you in your house, locks the do such talk, the way these two men raced and suc. It is high time for that man to such roated, in such indecent language, and seems if they had pickets out, why

tion, most of the ring-'eaders of that rebe'lious party and some of their followers are gone to the Bethel or A. M. E. church here, who are now trying to build up their church. Surely when they get the strug glers, degraders and law-breakers, out of the other churches, the other churches will have joy, peace and prosperity.

This must be a time of cleansing pur fying and these left will rebuild Zion, go on rejoicing, giving praise to God.

From what I see of some of the bisho writings, and hear, looks like they are omplaining of work moving slow, nothing done. With all due respect, if they would but ca'l up the financial record, and there see what has been done for Atrican mission and workers. Also see how this humble work emerged through financial drowners from the very first. All these b anks are certainly staring. As for me, I thank the general conference of 1892 for the \$19.34 and the \$23.50 that was sent on superin tendent's salary (for so the letter said) but afterwards I learned it was for me. This \$19.34, \$43.50, \$61.84 is all I have had working the five years here. Surely there is no reasonable ground for complaining.

It certainly takes oil to make a machin run without friction; and in some things kind words and good wishes will not buy, it takes the money or no go.

What shall be done for those scholars we have been trying to get ready to enter our college? After seeing the resolution that was made in general conference, 1888 boys and girls, to be sent to our colk cordingly we have labored under that resolu-iou, hare some waiting now, would

As God remembers us and gives u means and support, why not we remen ber others? Suppose we mention a few of our connectional financial plans and deal in liquors, but when at comes to drop first on Childrens Day; second, on Ladies Home and Foreign Missionary Society; third, Easter Sunday; fourth, African Mission Day. The three former are now much thought of, but the latter and I hope none the least, is tucked away. Ob, those blanks I see, now-and -then a work; what I see in the STAR. and some of the annual conferences of last year, and previous ones. Oh, those books for their children so that they blanks I see on reports on African Mission Day. James City, Jones Chapel,

gregation join in one solid sound of and forget you are yet on earth, please get back by next African Mission Day in

I am not at all envious of your organ bles and books, after these, the adorning not shrink nor shirk from duty on

on the New England states. What say

mother, if you ever intend to help your ment of Bishop Clinton, to preside over poor children do help now, now is the the Fourth District has given general mother overlooked the house, I hope you will not stop there, but look East, West, in '77, we only had but five good churches South and North; for some of these folks are aleep, and need a, rousing collection

While I nave made mention of a fer places, never mind lets made a grand rotation over the whole connection; with willing minds and happy hearts, see if you can't turn out \$2000 in September, African Mission Day. The Western levlaborers will not shrink from coming to this field, as they do now, and some o the A Ms. and D Da., will be packing LOUISVILLE, (KY.,) NOTES, up for African Mission, and John Bull, (a term for African fever) will not be so

much dreaded.

I hope there is no sore headed brother or sister will grunt at me, and say, Sister Cartwright wants too much; and that we men are aftermoney. Now in the face of m Sister Cartwright died in that Dark Con- and if one won't work he tries ar tinent, we shall see her in the resurrec- in the meantime he does not become are here and here to stay. You do not ments under their control intend to kill us thus; and remember,
"Other sheep I have not of this fold,"
weeks visiting very near every church of

and the word is,

The harvest is great and the laborers are few:

There's weeding and fencing and clear ing of roots
And plowing and sowing the frui s. There are foxes to take, and wolves to

I've sheep to be tendered, and lambs

ones led."

Needs of the work. We have long since reported annually to the Board of eral Conference, and occasionally wrote to the STAB, at least they were mailed The school needs to be on better foo'ing 12th Street A. M. E. Zion church. He houses, one for the girls, one for the has made an excellent showing in the boys, dining hall and chapel, and go on short time he has labored here. The the manual labor system is the best plan. church is gathering strength and central This government I learn will give 100 ing its forces so that success is sure. Dr acres of land for mission purposes, after Holliday is full of energy and knows no these s medical building, then we shall failure. need M Ds.

We want to go down deeply for the natives, (I mean the raw natives) take them ways succeeds wherever he is sent; he at 6 or 7 years of age, and keep them till has a large following and is almost idolcould have a chance of buying before the others bought them all and how hard I had tried to grade the school, how kind the merchant was to wait on them. I thought you loved me and Africa I never received a cent. They had all benefits; and what a flourish the school was enjeying, and of the 14 or 15 young folks converted in 1890, all added to our church. Right on the back of this they brought about this rebellion. Also how I had gone 14 miles in one direction and 10 in another to beg money for our new identification and comparatively inscaling in the comparatively inscalled to train the country. It is a mistake to train the boys and leave the girls out, the boys will want wives when grown, and so train, civilize and christianize them, that they may serve God clothed in their they may serve God clothed in comparatively 'speaking, 'so few are trained or cultivated. How much can a the river, Rev J R Irvin is stationed. in cloth, cash and Liberian currency, praise whose voices assisted by that ie. handful of foreigners do among so many Rev Irvin is succeeding nicely, and is handful of foreigners do natural and handful of foreigners do natural like a loved by his people.

The Ladies National Advisory Board of the Ladie rapid and prosperous commonwealth is concerned, I like the Livingstone college in the interest of the Madisonville High building and want one similar.

The hope of our cause and country is the rising race. The native Liberian I like to seachristian competion and wish the rising race. The native Liberian we had one for our new church when it and Afro-American should be trained is finished, but not so costly as that, for alike, then the expected glory and grand-we need the most true iron hearted our of Africa may be realized.

Once more let me appeal to you, do your part for us and work here, we are ing our best under the circumstances mediate rotation which has now rotated and often when you cannot send cash why send provisions. Do not get weary

Livingstone College students on you I am largely looking for the advancement

Brewersville, W. C. ORGANIC UNION.

BY REV. M. S. LAY.

ssionary secretary, Dr. J. H. Manly, all these blanks, figures and sacrifice, has enthused new life in this city, in the say that I need a donation; it may look fact that it is an impartial and truthful say that I need a donation; it may look that I need a loo me with sympathetic words. Poor knows no failure. He is full of plans, tion morning, and a thousand others get weary nor discouraged, but is sure of scared to death, poor Sister Cartwright success in the end. Such men are capascared to death, poor Sister Cartwingness and the end. Such men are capa-away with Africa, America for me, we ble of managing successfully the depart-

"Go work in my vineyard ther's plenty request sang a few of his selection of songs which caused the tears to roll from their eyes. They gave Dr. Holliday \$5. for his church, and Dr. Manly a contri-bution for his excellent singing, remarking "that it is the best sin Secondly, he conducted a series of en-tertal amonts for Rev. Dr. Jehn Holliday during which time he built the "Old ment which never fails to interest every body. The entertainments were quite Bishops, and quadrennially to the Gen- circumstances and inclemency of the weather.

Rev. Holliday is doing a great work at

At 15th Street A M E Zion church. Rev R T Anderson is stationed. He al-

At New Albany, Ind., just across the

School, presided over by Mrs Washington is doing a great work. Mrs Washing ton is interested in the cause of educahave been made. She is the daughter of the late Mrs Amanda Lancaster who was one of the organizing members of Jacob Street Tabernacle, and a pillar in said church while she lived.

At Jacob Street Tabernacle the writer is stationed. Here we are doing nicely. Every faction is in line and work is ing on grandly. Our church went in with Rev Dr Maoly, with an entertainment at the Odd Fellows Hall. The enment at the Odd Fellows Hall. The en-tertainment proved a great success in spite of every opposing obstacle and the very bad weather. The band was quite a novelty, being composed chiefly of young lanies. They acquitted them-selves nicely and pleased the audience. It was the grandest of the season and re-flected great events on Page De Menter It was the grandest of the season and a fleeted great credit on Rev Dr Monle We are moving on we think successfully.

Rev J B Johnson, P E; of the 1st District has just completed his first quarterly round, and reports his district in fine condition.

Rev E H Curry, D D, was in the city