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YOUNG MINISTERS SHOULD STAND UPON MERITS.

BY REV. J. R. DANGERFIELD.

We are living in a harsh age of the world, a world that stands upon merit, and not favors. The young minister who looks for favors are the ones who, in time, will be left. We see there are favored few that are recognized not for their abilities, neither by their friends and spiritual influences, but by some magical power which they bring to bear upon their superiors' head.

The young minister is now stepping into a great world, where he must set for himself. The eyes of his friends and enemies are fixed upon him. He must consider attentively the serious difficulties to which he must be exposed, if they arise as they will we must surmount them with Christian and manly courage or bear them with resignation.

Young men have many things to contend with among the real and the unreal Christians. The passions of youth spread a thousand unreal charms over the objects of sense and the prospects of fancy. From this we are liable to numberless deceptions. As we stand and behold this world draped in ornaments, the opulence of splendor, her dress of imagination, we are rushed through a vast space mingled with objects in pursuit of new pleasures which serve no other purpose than to fascinate and perplex, to allure and disappoint. With these painful and unwelcome and uncalculated passions, the young minister must not fold his arms in the very hour of despair. Let that ministerial courage, that aim of manhood be the power of thought.

The capacity of improvement forms a principle between the man of whom favors are bestowed. The man with favors who accidentally falls in the grasp by such compensation, without taking in consideration their abilities or their spiritual and intellectual qualifications, you will find there is a certain degree of improvement, beyond which the constitution of their nature forbids them to proceed to any advantage. You notice the man who climbs the highest and reaches the furthest is that man who depends upon merit and courage to go through. That young minister will rise above the present scene of things, yes he will be like a master beast unconfined bound of the world or the flight of time, his ardent soul looks down the long range of eternity, rolling over millions of ages discovering new but happy scenes of existence.

The only examples of manhood are men of ministerial backbone. The most exemplary character as a man of push and energy, our Hon. Fred Douglass, deceased, the humble and scholarly Dr. Wm. H. Day, our only Dr. Price. My sentiments are to the young minister, consider these stars above, strive to make great and rapid advancements in knowledge and virtue that you may excel men in those things in which men excel the brutes.

Conform yourselves to those things in God's laws which he has established and revealed in the great kingdom of His word of nature and grace.

Above all, take care of your mind, your passions and your bodies. These constitute that sphere in which God has appointed every one to exercise dominion.

As one writer has said it this dominion be invariably supported, it will elevate man to the original glory of his nature.

Let every young minister rest upon his merit as a man. If he is not yet looked upon as a man, time will tell before many decades shall roll into eternity, you will stand upon the roll of eminence, not by the work of man, but by the power of God. Let us pray and fight the battle to the end.

RALEIGH DISTRICT NOTES.

BY REV. R. CULBRETH.

The Raleigh district embraces business circles and stations and

thirteen polished and worthy pastors. Every minister is standing at his post of duty, and keeping pace with the onward march of science and progress.

The Raleigh district has long since been a source of great perplexity among presiding elders by reason of its extensive travel and many difficult points to be reached. Traversing about nine counties, and extending nearly from the line of South Carolina almost to the Virginia line on the north. Nevertheless our proficient and distinguished presiding elder, Rev. F. K. Bird, D. D., is master of the situation. His amiable disposition dignified address, and loving kindness make him the centre of attraction. As a harmonizer of affairs he is excellent, as a disciplinarian I know of none more efficient than he, as a preacher, he is a man of the age; profound, versatile and eloquent.

The quarterly conference held at Flea Hill chapel was a success. Rev. C. B. Smith, pastor. This was Presiding Elder Bird's second tour.

The business of the quarterly conference was dispensed with on Saturday. The Sunday following was a high day. At an early hour the Sunday-school was in attendance led by the superintendent, Mr. W. J. Reeves. The lecture given by the presiding elder was superb.

At 11 a. m. the house was filled to overflowing. Rev. Bird, ascended the rostrum and selected for his text: John xiii:35—"By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." So fierce it is that the sermon was a masterpiece of eloquence, logical, full of pathos and interspersed with gospel truths. For nearly an hour he held the vast audience captivated and swayed whilst he wielded the great sledge hammer of gospel truth in such a manner as to scatter the holy sparks of hallowed fire throughout the congregation, which caught and burned with vivid flame upon the hearts of the redeemed. Interlude, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow."

The motto of the Raleigh district is to keep in parallel with its former record, and even do more effective work along all the lines of connection interest. Our Children's Day was quite a success this year at the old historic church, Flea Hill. We fee that every loyal Zionist should put his shoulder to the educational wheel of our great connection—Livingstone College. Let every minister, local preacher and layman encourage this institution by sending to its president, Rev. W. H. Goler, A. M., D. D., from 25 cents to \$1.00 to provide a special fund for the benefit of this institution of learning.

Then comes the STAR OF ZION, the connectional planet, Zion's spokesman, and defender of manhood rights. Now let us say that we will bend every effort to help THE STAR and relieve the financial stringency which has oppressed its editor, Rev. Geo. W. Clinton ever since his election to its editorship. His self-sacrificing labors and patience demand for him the approval, sympathy and fraternal aid of every member in Zion connection. Now the way to relieve his financial embarrassment let every member from presiding elder to lay put their hands in their pockets and send him \$1.00 each to raise a sinking fund which may help him to tide over the present financial depression.

A short time ago we were called upon to pay the last tribute of respect to one of our veteran leaders in the person of Brother Cary Goddard, who fell at his post and is gone to receive that happy plaudit and crown that awaits the final faithful.

As an expression of feelings of the church and Sunday-school the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas it has pleased our Heavenly Father to take from us our esteemed brother and leader, Brother Cary Goddard,

Resolved, That we tender our deepest sympathy to the bereaved

family and pray the counsels of God upon his administrator. In him the church has lost a faithful worker, the country a good citizen, the neighborhood an agreeable member, and the family an affectionate provider and father.

Resolved, That we will ever cherish his memory, emulate his virtues and strive to meet him in the paradise above.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to THE STAR OF ZION with request to publish, a copy be spread on the records of the church, and a copy be sent to the family and administrator.

Rev. R. Culbreth, M. J. Hatcher, W. J. Reeves, John A. Robeson, H. A. McLaurin, W. B. Allen, Committee.

ATLANTA GEORGIA DISTRICT NOTES.

BY W. D. SMITH.

Rev. J. H. Turner is still holding the fort at Atlanta, Ga. When he took charge of this church in 1893 he found the church laboring under some very great financial embarrassments. All the pastors that had been there before Elder Turner had some assistance from other sources. But this brother and noble pastor had to stem the tide alone. And another thing, when our church was first organized the members would rally, rally, rally, (new broom sweeps clean) but now some of them can not be found.

Elder Turner deserves praise for the noble work he is doing for God and Zion in Atlanta, the gate city of the South.

Rev. R. I. Apostle, is pastor of Social Circle and Pleasant Hill churches. He was appointed to this work last conference. His people love him and he is doing very well at Social Circle, and has largely built up the congregation. He is now raising money to pay off some old debts. That all might know how highly this noble gospel preacher and lover of Zion is held in the estimation of the white people of this community I will copy what the Walton News, the county paper says about him.

"Rev. R. I. Apostle, whom the News considers one of the most sensible and capable colored men of the State, has a fine school at Jersey. He will do good service for his race."

Let us hope to have more men who can carry such recommendations from a people who have the ability to know.

Rev. R. S. Sings whom our noble bishop, I. C. Clinton, transferred from the old Georgia conference to this last November, and placed him in charge of our church at Monroes and Bethlehem has the people, not only his members but the Baptist are stuck on him. Elder Sings is a good practical preacher and he carries a large crowd when and wherever he presides.

Rev. G. A. Smith, pastor of Spring Hill church, is doing some very good work at that place, notwithstanding he has had some trouble at one of his churches, caused by a misunderstanding with him and some of the members, yet at Spring Hill he continues to repair that church. He has it settled and is now preparing to do more work.

Rev. L. C. Crawford who has charge of Prospect church is doing all he can to bring the people together and I believe he will succeed. We believe him to be a good manager. He is a very good preacher. He has only a bad charge of that church for a short time.

Rev. O. B. Williams is not doing as well at Buford as we would like to see him do. Brother Williams is a good man; we believe, but he lacks vision and push to make things go whether they want to go or not. A minister ought to lay hold with both hands to do something, and never let his people say that he is too slow.

Our preachers of the North Georgia conference ought never to forget that most worthy Bishop, I. C. Clinton, D. D., said at conference last

morning he read the 32nd chapter of Isaiah. "Look at the 10th verse and think on that," he said. "Go through, go through the gates." The Bishop said the ministers must go through, unlock the gates and leave them open for the people. He also said the locks of these gates were combination locks, that is, they unlocked not with key, but by revolutions, turning and stopping at the right figures. Will the ministers of the Atlanta district do as the Bishop said. Next conference will tell for one can never forget the exhortation and sermon, and as good as I ever heard, that was delivered by the Bishop on that morning.

Buford is a business little town. Our church there is just one year old. We need more churches on that line and to get them we must have a hustler over them.

Rev. J. J. Park was appointed to Bushes chapel, Windsor, Ga., (Old Jugtown) last conference. This brother is doing very well. His people seem to love him. He has raised some money and paid on some old debts.

Winder is the place where we located the Clinton Institute. Rev. Parks taught in the church only about three months. He was to teach five months but could not get the pupils. We talked and talked about this school at our last annual conference. Talk is cheap but money buys the land. We have talked enough, now let us do something. Passing dry resolutions amounts to very little. I shall say more about this school in the near future.

Rev. L. W. Taylor, that Zion hustler, whom the Bishop appointed conference steward to fill the vacancy caused by the death of that faithful steward, Presiding Elder N. T. Hearn, is pastor of Loganville and Lawrenceville. Elder Taylor has his people in his hands and he is leading them the right way. There has been more improvement on this work than on any work on the district. The church is built up spiritually as well as temporarily. We need more Taylor in this North Georgia conference. His work stands next to Atlanta in everything and Elder Turner had better look out for Taylor is steward now and he is going to be up on everything.

Rev. S. T. Jones has Walnut Grove mission in a very good condition. The land will soon be paid for and the building will be started. He says he is going to build this year without fail if life is given him.

Rev. S. D. Kindle is pastor of Curriton and Shearfield. He is a young minister. I believe he will do well. The other young preachers had better watch Brother Kindle or he will leave somebody behind. He has a very hard place this year, but he is doing all he can and will not let it go backward one inch.

Ray Joseph H. Hendrix, one of the oldest Georgia ministers was placed on the superannuated list nearly two years ago, but he has not as yet drawn any money from the general fund. I don't know whether his name reached the proper place or not.

Rev. T. M. Dumas has not got any work, but he is a faithful Christian. He attends his church regularly. We hope better things can be said of him in the future.

There are two kinds of preachers that ought to be expelled from Zion connection and the third is not much better.

First, the preacher who collects general fund from members and returns it not to the conference steward.

Second, the preacher who subscribes for and reads THE STAR OF ZION and will not pay for it.

Third, the preacher who will not let the Sabbath-schools under his charge use our own literature. Such men are an injury to our church.

CHAPELTOWN (MISS.) NOTES.

BY J. E. DAVIS.

Everything seems to be moving along slowly at this time. Our pro-

viding elder is Rev. J. P. Meacham, a man of rare ability well qualified for the place which he holds. He is now traveling through the district and leaving no stones unturned as he passes. God bless Elder Meacham to press forward in the work. I visited the city of Columbus, Miss., a few days ago to see my old mother whom I had not seen for six long years. I found her well and enjoying a good life. While in the city I chanced to call on the New Light, a paper edited by R. D. Littlejohn, a Negro paper of that city. This paper is edited in the rear end of a two-story brick building owned by colored people. This paper is published every two weeks and is full of valuable information concerning the city and State and is the only colored paper that stands in this Southland in the State of Mississippi. The editor is a man well prepared for his work. He is a native of North Carolina, and is also treasurer of the great Masonic Benefit Association, of Mississippi, and one of her best leaders, and is doing all he can for the outcome of the Negro race. May God give us many more men like R. D. Littlejohn in the South. We have no church in this town, but why it is I am not able to say just now. Zion is not much known here, but I promised to send R. D. Littlejohn a copy of THE STAR that he might know where Zion is. I spent nine days in the city and left for home at Botetown on the morning of the 21st of June, and arrived there the same day. After arriving home the next thing was to prepare for Children's Day which took place on the 5th Sunday. We had no programs, but we went to work and made out our own and proceeded just the same. My superintendent, L. H. Hancock, had done all he could in my absence to get the children ready which he succeeded in doing and we had no trouble at all. We served the Lord all that day.

At 11 o'clock W. L. Lee, of Zion Hill circuit, mounted the stand and took for his text, second Chronicles xvi:9 "For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth," which brought forth the answers from all parts of the house. Just before this hour a wonderful display took place by the little girls and boys on different subjects which made fathers and mothers hearts leap for joy, and also made the writer feel glad himself. After this a collection of \$4.10 was raised and benediction by W. L. Lee.

At 8 p. m., the congregation re-assembled to hear the different papers read on different subjects, by the young ladies and gentlemen of this place which were well prepared.

At 8:30 p. m. the writer ascended the stand took for a text First John iii:20, "And it does not appear what we shall be." Collection.

At 8:30 p. m., the house was again crowded to hear Rev. W. L. Lee, who took for his text Psalm 34:10, "I had rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in tents of wickedness." The speaker handled his subject well and with power. Every body seemed to enjoy his hour.

There had been a very hard time in this country, but I think the hard times disappeared and the good times appeared once more.

The good people of this place had dinner on the ground and every body was well cared for. May God pour out his spirit upon the mothers and fathers and the good people of Wesley Chapel for their zealous effort in preparing for the Children's Day. I have a good body of brethren and sisters at this charge who are always willing to do something for the cause of Zion. This is my third year at this place and I am getting ready to take up my bed and walk. I have not heard from my bishop, A. Walters, in a good while, but I am satisfied that he is laboring for God and Zion if he does stay in the North.

The preachers of the West Tennessee and Mississippi conferences would be glad to have the presence of many of Zion's leaders in our conference. We also were expecting

Rev. G. W. Clinton, editor of THE STAR, at Webb station at our annual conference, but the place being so small he thought it best not to come. But our next conference will be held at Memphis, a city of 80,000 inhabitants.

NORTH CAROLINA TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION.

BY J. E. DAVIS.

The fourteenth session of the North Carolina Teachers' Association, one of the strongest and most influential as well as the most useful organizations among the people of the State, convened June 19th in the spacious buildings of St. Augustine school, Raleigh, N. C.

The local committee on entertainment spared no pains to arrange for the comfort and happiness of the association. The present meeting was more largely attended than any other in the entire history of the organization. The meeting was a representative one in that all the various educational interests and forces of the State were largely represented, viz: the city graded school, the country district school, the A. & M. College, the State Normal and the various denominational colleges and academies as well as the colored press.

The meeting was also a success financially. After defraying all the expenses of the association there remained a balance of \$50.00 in the treasury.

The addresses and papers delivered and read before the body, were a once appropriate, timely, entertaining and instructive.

President Messers, of Shaw University, delivered an address on "The Teacher's Ideal" which was much enjoyed. Superintendent Scarborough also addressed the association dwelling on the subject of "State Education."

Among the interesting papers read we may mention "The teachers of North Carolina, her character builders," by Miss May W. Howe, of Wilmington, "Leadership Demanded by the times and how it may be obtained," by Prof. J. W. Morris, Bennett College, "Civil Government in our public schools" by W. F. Foyville, Tarboro.

Many of the papers elicited warm discussion. The musical and literary concert which took place Thursday evening brought before the association some of the very best musical talent of the race. The entire performance was enjoyed by the large and select audience.

The association was given a collection at Shaw University, by the citizens and teachers of Raleigh. It was an elaborate affair and was highly appreciated by the teach.

On Sunday the annual sermon before the teachers was preached by Rev. Dr. W. H. Goler, of Livingstone College. That it was an able one and suited to the occasion no one will question who knows Dr. Goler. On Monday morning the association left in a body to visit Kittrell Institute, Old Point, Crawford and Hampton Institute.

At the latter the association was most royally entertained and will long remember this delightful trip.

The association elected officers for the ensuing year. President, Geo. E. Davis, of Middle University; vice president, W. B. Crittendon, St. Augustine; secretary C. L. Coleman, Charlotte; assistant secretary, Rev. A. B. Vincent, Raleigh; treasurer, Miss Loretta Mayo, Kittrell Institute. The association will meet next year at Kittrell Institute, Kittrell, N. C.

GREENVILLE (TECH) NEWS.

BY J. E. DAVIS.

The month of June brought to our church here many blessings both spiritual and temporal.

Rev. J. E. Henderson, presiding elder, held our third quarterly meeting here June 2nd, which was largely attended. It is said by many of the old members of the church that

it was the most business quarterly that they have witnessed in the history of the church.

The educational and Sunday-school convention which convened here on the 4th of June and adjourned on the 7th was largely attended by the ministers and their Sunday-school delegates. Each Sunday-school was requested to bring \$1.50 for education. Some brought this amount, some \$1.00 and some 50 cents and some 25 cents. Many of the ministers contributed liberally in the convention. The writer took the lead in industrial contributions. He gave one dollar, Rev. G. W. Ross gave fifty cents and nearly all the other brethren gave twenty-five cents. The brethren of this district showed great interest in education and pledged themselves to stand by the faculty of Greenville College and raise their monthly collection and send it in regularly.

Mrs. R. A. Morrissey, who so very creditably managed the school here for eight months in the absence of her husband, President R. A. Morrissey, was president and made quite an interesting speech. She told the brethren of the neglect of their duty and urged them to begin at once to send in their monthly collections or inform the faculty why they do not send it every month, and this would show their interest in the work.

Among the visitors to the convention were Revs. A. G. Kester, presiding elder of the Knoxville district, J. D. Gaither, of the Concord circuit (in the Tennessee conference) and Miss F. T. Kyle, of Rogersville, Tenn., a recent graduate of the Normal Department of Livingstone College.

Rev. J. D. Gaither gave a pigeon entertainment one night during the convention for the benefit of Greenville College. The amount realized was \$17.

The sole object of the convention was not to make speeches and offer resolutions but to raise money for the College now and hereafter. The amount raised during the convention was between \$36 and \$40.

The amount raised was sufficient to pay off the last note held against the college land by its former owner. When it was announced in the convention that the last payment had been made on the land, by the presiding elder, the convention applauded and sang "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." This convention has made many friends for the college here and abroad. Many of the young men and women who were delegates to the convention, say they will attend school here next year. Presiding Elder Kester said he did not intend to be behind on his district in the support of the college.

Rev. Gaither assured us that the Tennessee conference would beat her former record this year for the cause of education. Rev. Henderson, presiding elder, is doing a most commendable work on this district. He has strengthened the district numerically and financially. On the 24th of last month he in company with the pastor and trustee at Whitesburg, Tenn., bought a new church for \$120 which formerly belonged to the Baptist denomination, but was sold by the court for debt. When completed it will be worth \$300 and will seat 500 people.

We have just closed a revival in our church in which ten persons were converted and eight joined the church. We collected \$405 on Children's Day. We raised \$1200 on church indebtedness June 30th. Misses Estella and Maggie Jackson, of Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., are at home visiting their mother.

Rev. R. A. Morrissey, A. R., who has been in the North seven months soliciting help for Greenville College, returned home Saturday morning in the very best of health and is now praising God for having had a successful trip. He will leave again in a few days to canvass the Blue Ridge and Tennessee conferences hunting students and financial aid for the college. Brothers get ready to entertain him and aid him in this much needed work in our church in this State.

Greenville College honored itself by having the scholarship and brilliant Rev. G. W. Clinton, editor of THE STAR on Zion, to deliver the annual address at its closing exercises and now the good news comes to us that Wilberforce University has honored itself, as well as our church and the entire race in conferring the degree of D. D. upon him. We congratulate Dr. Clinton. We know of none more worthy of such an honor than this able and representative man who has done so much for the elevation of the race.