

THE STAR OF ZION.

ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH IN AMERICA.

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CHARLOTTE, N. C., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1896.

CENTENNIAL VOLUME, 1796-1896.

BANKS-HOOD.

Two Young Hearts United in the Holy Bonds of Wedlock.

THE LIST OF PRESENTS.

The marriage of Mr. James C. Banks of Winston, N. C., and Miss Margette L. Hood, the next youngest daughter of Bishop Hood of this city, took place Wednesday evening at half past eight in the African M. E. Zion church. The ceremony was to have been performed by the Rev. Dr. W. H. Goler, president of Livingstone College, being assisted by Rev. P. L. Cuyler, the pastor of the church here; but serious illness prevented his coming and the ceremony was performed by Rev. Cuyler and Presiding Elder Hill of this district.

The marriage in all probability created more interest and drew a larger number of citizens of both races than any similar event here among the colored people. The bridal party arrived promptly on time, and as the organist, Miss Florrie H. Williams, started up the wedding march from Lohengrin, the ushers filed down the left aisle of the church. They were followed by the bridesmaids and then came the maid of honor, Miss Gertie C. Hood, the oldest sister of the bride. The groom and groomsmen, Mr. John A. Blume also of Winston, came next. Then to softer strains of music the bride, leaning upon the arm of her venerable father, slowly marched down the aisle. She was beautifully attired in white satin trimmed in pt. a'applique lace ribbon and orange blossoms. She was completely shrouded in a veil of Tulle.

The groom was dressed in the conventional full dress black suit as were also the groomsmen and ushers. The bridesmaids produced a very pretty effect by the similarity of their costumes of white organdie. When the ceremony was over the bridal party led by the newly wedded pair marched out as the organist played Mendelssohn's famous wedding march. A reception was held at the home of the Bishop where a large number of the friends of the family were invited. The presents are numerous, valuable and useful.

The bridesmaids were Misses Fannie Burney, Eva Henderson, Hettie G. McNeill, Cora Wilkins and Alice Christmas; the ushers were Messrs. Joseph Hood, brother of the bride, B. F. Williams of Newbern, Oscar J. Hall, Edward N. Williams and Rev. L. E. Farely. The future home of Mr. and Mrs. Banks will be Winston-Salem, N. C. They left Thursday morning accompanied by several visiting friends who had come from a distance to witness the affair. The following is the list of presents received:

Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Farrish, cut glass fruit dish and cake plate; Miss Mary Smith, berry dish and plates; Mr. Levi Hood and daughter, pair blankets; Mr. and Mrs. Martin Abel, stone clock; Rev. and Mrs. Charles Levi, table cloth and dozen napkins; Mrs. Hannah Badham, silver butter knife; Mr. and Mrs. D. A. McMillan, fruit dish and cake plate; Capt. and Mrs. A. Garrison, pair silver napkin rings; Mrs. Thomas Davis, one dresser cover; Mrs. Hattie Beaman, silver sugar spoon; Rev. and Mrs. T. A. Weathering, card basket; Bishop and Mrs. C. C. Petty, pair pearl napkin rings and shell spoon; Mrs. Murchison, fruit dish and flowers; Cape Fear Dry Goods company, Chenille table cover; Mrs. E. Farmer, silver cake spoon; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Tucker, set orange spoons; Dr. and Mrs. J. W. Prather, silver vase; Miss Annie Levy, jewelry case; Miss Maple Levy, hand painted plaque; Mrs. L. W. Levy, cake; Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Pemberton, large picture; Mr. A. J. Cook, large picture; Miss Susie Kennedy, one handkerchief; Mrs. Nat Owens, Chenille table cover; Mr. and Mrs. John Taylor, two handkerchiefs; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Edney, half-dozen table napkins; Miss Hettie McNeill, lamp; Mr. E. N. Williams, rocking chair; Mr. and Mrs. Marion Stevens, after dinner tea set; Miss Eva Henderson, Chenille table cover; Rev. and Mrs. P. L. Cuyler, silver cake basket; Rev. C. M. McNeil, one clock; Prof. and Mrs. E. E. Smith, silver pickle stand; Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Burns, two large pictures; Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Astork, silver butter dish; Miss Sarah B. Manley, glass pitcher; Mrs. M. E. Lanley, china cracker jar; Mrs. M. E. Anderson, salad dish and fork; Miss Mary Ford Manley, perfume jar; Mr. and Mrs. E. V. C. Eato, silver butter dish; Rev. and Mrs. M. R. Franklin, silver tea set; Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Goler, handsome clock; Rev. and Mrs. J. H. White, set of silver tea spoons; Mr. and Mrs. Harry Hart, dresser cover; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Goler, counterpane; Mr. and

Mrs. Charles C. Taylor, table cloth and one dozen napkins; Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Smith, embroidered bed room set; Mrs. Zilphie Broadfoot, quilt; Mrs. Jennie S. Price, Dr. S. P. Wright and Prof. B. A. Johnson, tea set of 53 pieces; Whittier Reading Circle, piano lamp; Mrs. Clara Scurlock, pair pillow shams; Mrs. Chanie Freeman, one dozen doilies; Miss Manley, Japanese bowl; Mrs. Clement Manley, set of silver tea spoons; Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Sides, set after dinner coffee cups; Bishop and Mrs. C. R. Harris, silver butter dish; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hill, two fancy plates; Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Judd, comb and brush case; Miss Hannah Guion, silver bon bon basket; Miss V. Richardson, silver salt bowl with spoons; Editor and Mrs. J. W. Smith, silver butter knife and sugar spoon; Rev. and Mrs. H. B. Pettigrew, silver butter knife and sugar spoon; Miss Rosebud Simpson, silver soup ladle; Rev. and Mrs. Cox, duck and fifty cents; Mrs. A. U. Stitt, silver napkin ring; Mrs. E. A. McDonald, one-half dozen napkins; Lillie Ella McNeil, tooth picks and holder; Rev. and Mrs. S. L. Corrothers, set salad forks; Miss Kate Bain, splasher; Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Gester, one-half dozen after dinner coffee cups; Mr. B. H. Henderson, silver sugar spoon; Mrs. Elsie Thornton, orange spoon; Miss Sadie Whitfield, mustard jar; little Maggie Rose Broadfoot, pair vinegar pitchers; Mr. B. E. Sedberry, bottle of cologne; Mr. and Mrs. J. R. McNeill, lamp; Miss Ida Broadfoot, two rose bowls; Miss Theresa McNeil, fancy plate and flowers; Rev. A. and Mrs. C. Jackson, napkin ring; Rev. and Mrs. J. M. Hill, silver cup and butter knife; Mr. and Mrs. T. H. McNeil, one-half dozen napkins; Rev. and Mrs. J. J. Stitt, towels; Mr. and Mrs. G. A. P. Wilkerson, towels; Mrs. C. R. Jewel, silver berry spoons; Mr. and Mrs. Walter Watson, bread, cake and meat knives; Mr. James A. and Miss Mary E. Hill, two silk handkerchiefs; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adams, one-half dozen napkins and a towel; Rev. and Mrs. F. H. Hill, silver berry spoon; Mr. and Mrs. Richard Grant, silver salt basket; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Jackson, silver cake basket; Rev. and Mrs. E. D. W. Jones, piano lamp; Rev. and Mrs. W. H. Ely, table cloth and napkins; Miss Janie McKoy, china plaque and stand; Miss Nettie McNeil, bride's bouquet; Miss Cora Wilkins, napkin ring; Miss Alice Christmas, mustard cup; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Neal, 50 cents; Mr. Hinton Wilder, pair napkin rings; Rev. and Mrs. C. Fairfax, silver set-sat and pepper; Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Miller, lace handkerchief; Mrs. W. Jackson, half dozen doilies; Rev. and Mrs. M. P. Hawkins, table doilies; Mr. and Mrs. W. Lawrence, butter knife; Dr. and Mrs. R. S. Rives, sugar spoon; Mr. Herbert Taylor, ostrich tipped fan; Rev. and Mrs. G. L. Blackwell, one dozen table doilies; Mr. and Mrs. S. J. Brown, silver bon bon basket; Miss E. V. Bird, napkin ring; Bishop A. Walters, one-half dozen hem-stitched sheets; Rev. W. T. Biddle, silver berry spoon; Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Gorham, toilet box; Hollinworth and Holland, one dozen silver knives and forks; Mr. and Mrs. D. I. Walker, china bon bon basket; Rev. and Mrs. L. J. Taylor, Chenille table cover; Rev. and Mrs. W. J. Holland, silk embroidered pia to cover; Rev. and Mrs. G. W. Lewis, silk embroidered table cover; Rev. and Mrs. H. F. Wheeler, pair blankets; Mr. John Blume, rocking chair; Mr. D. G. Yaacey, picture; Prof. and Mrs. S. B. At dms, chamber set; Mrs. Jno Unthank, lace curtains; —, two dollars.

MORGANTON NOTES.

BY REV. C. L. BYERS.

This being the second time in six years I have written for the STAR, allow me to say that Zion is on her march here in Morganton, N. C. Our third quarter, held by Rev. M. V. Marable, P. E., convened July 22-23. Elder Marable leaves no stone unturned in his quarterly conferences. I have been under him for six years. He believes in heading everything with some money; he has worked hard to bring his district to the front. We have raised here since last quarter, the 4th of April to the 23rd of July, \$145.82; for this quarter \$22.72. It was a success in every way and said to be the grandest affair of the kind ever held in the history of the church. At 11 o'clock he preached a sermon that set the heart on holy fire. In the evening he administered the Lord's supper to 57; at night he spoke of the happy state of the Christian. He knows how to handle the gospel. Elder Marable is indeed a power in the pulpit, a strong man and a safe leader. That is why the statesville district now stands as the banner, because of the earnest labor of this leader and his ministers. New churches are being built and remodelled; so why not call it the banner district? We expect this to remain the banner, for dollars, new churches and members will tell the news. Keep your eye on her. We have a good people in Morganton that will dis at the wheel of Zion.

Our membership is not large, but it is strong and will do her whole duty. We have a fine board of 24 stewards-esses who look well to the interest of their church, and who made the church a present of a fine carpet at a cost of \$11.75. This is our first year here, but look out for our report in December, 1896. We think much of this good people.

DEDICATORY SERVICES

Of the Douglass Memorial Church.—A Review of the Work.

BY REV. J. HARVEY ANDERSON.

The dedicatory services of the Douglass Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church, Elmira, New York, Rev. Syl-

but the great dailies of New York City, complimented the colored people of Elmira upon their wonderful achievements in securing such a grand church edifice, and their success in raising contributions. Too much credit cannot be given Rev. T. K. Beecher for the use of his valuable influence, which as a pastor, has



DOUGLASS MEMORIAL A. M. E. ZION CHURCH, Elmira, N. Y.—Rev. S. L. Corrothers, A.B., Pastor.

CARTHAGE DISTRICT CONFERENCE.

The fourth annual session of the Carthage district conference convened at Thomson chapel the 20th day of October, 1896, with that able divine, Rev. G. H. Miles, A. M., in the chair. Conference opened with devotional services, after which Rev. W. A. Peggans was elected secretary; Mr. R. L. Taylor, recording secretary; Rev. J. C. Cox, reporter to the STAR; Rev. D. A. Kelley, statistical recorder; Brother Hector Smith and Brother John Wray, marshals. Rev. M. Monzingo, assisted by Rev. G. W. Richardson and Rev. Richardson preached from 48th Psalm, 14 verse, a soul-reviving sermon. Prayer by Rev. J. S. Bennett.

The second day's session was grand. The several delegates reported, which showed that great work has been done on the different circuits by the several pastors and presiding elders this year. Every circuit and mission throughout the district sent in strong votes for the return of same pastors and presiding elders another year. A banquet which the good sisters and brothers of Thomson chapel, had nicely prepared for the delegation was partaken of by us. Rev. Green, assisted by Rev. L. A. Cameron, preached a fine sermon from the 42nd Psalm. Rev. J. C. Cox, assisted by Rev. C. M. McNeill, preached from St. Matthew 24:14. The house was filled with holy fire from above. It was a good sermon.

The presiding elder delivered his fourth annual address and stated to the conference that when he took charge of the Carthage district four years ago he only had 860 members, but now there are 2,000 members, and 9 new churches have been organized and built. "Now I bid you farewell," said he, "and if I never preside over you again as my four years are out, I bid you God-speed."

Third and last day's session was one to be remembered. The several committees reported. In the educational reports on the district High School, a resolution was passed that the district conference sustain a half scholarship in Hamilton Seminary; which honor fell upon Brother S. A. Turner, local preacher of the Albemarle circuit, Stanly County, N. C. Rev. G. W. Richardson, assisted by Rev. E. B. Bennett, preached from St. Matthew 25:2 a grand sermon. R. L. Taylor and C. W. Foushee were elected delegates to the annual conference.

The ministers of the Carthage district organized into a ministerial union. "Rev. G. H. Miles, P. E., assisted by Rev. D. A. Kelley and Rev. Peggans, preached the Centennial sermon from second chapter of Joshua, setting the house on holy fire. A vote of thanks was tendered to the good people of Thomson chapel for their hospitality after which \$1 was donated to the STAR. Total amount of finance raised, \$41.50. Conference adjourned to meet at Mount Zion, in October, 1897. Rev. L. C. Cox, Carthage, N. C.

vester L. Corrothers, A. B., pastor, took place Sunday, Sept. 6th, the program extending over one week. Bishop A. Walters, D. D., of Jersey City, had the ceremonies in charge, and was assisted by the Presiding Elder, Rev. James E. Mason, D. D., Rev. W. H. Ely, D. D., Auburn, N. Y.; Rev. J. Harvey Anderson, Rochester, N. Y.; Rev. B. F. Wheeler, D. D., Ithaca, N. Y.; Rev. G. C. Carter, Wilkes Barre, Pa.; Rev. J. R. Dangerfield, Bath, N. Y.; Rev. E. J. Butler, Norwich, N. Y.; and a number of the city pastors, including Rev. T. K. Beecher, (brother of the late Henry Ward Beecher), and Rev. Samuel Eastman, Park Congregational church; Rev. I. Jennings, D. D., First Presbyterian church; Rev. E. M. Mills, D. D., First M. E. church; Rev. R. M. Clond, Benton-st. Free Baptist church; Rev. B. W. Hamilton, D. D., Centenary M. E. church; Rev. O. D. Allen, Riverside M. E. church; Rev. F. T. Keeney, Hedding M. E. church; Rev. W. D. Moore, North Presbyterian church; Rev. G. W. Deskins, Baptist; Prof. J. W. Roberts, President Elmira Business College, and many other distinguished churchmen and citizens. The visiting A. M. E. Zion clergymen filled a number of the pulpits of the white churches on Sunday morning and evening, with expressions of universal satisfaction.

Bishop Walters preached the dedicatory sermon at 3 p. m., from Haggai xi:9—"The glory of this latter house shall be greater than that of the former, saith the Lord of hosts; and in this place will I give peace, saith the Lord of hosts." The sermon was a masterly effort, and heartily appreciated by the large audience of one thousand people. Owing to the lateness of the hour after taking the offering, the Bishop postponed the dedicatory ceremonies till Monday afternoon. About twelve hundred people attended the evening services and heard an able sermon delivered by Dr. Ely. Joy and spiritual enthusiasm were at high tide during the entire day, and the services and scenes of the day resembled the occasion of an annual conference. Every person, white and colored, appeared anxious to contribute his share of compliment upon the pastor and congregation, and help swell the pleasures of an occasion as never before was known in this section of the Great Empire State among the colored people. Not only the local press,

been forming in the city of Elmira for nearly fifty years, and to Prof. J. W. Roberts, who is the Secretary of the Building Committee and whose efforts together with those of his amiable wife, has been contributed night and day, week after week and month after month to help Rev. Corrothers in accomplishment of his great work.

The building is named in honor of the late distinguished Frederick Douglass, who was a member of the A. M. E. Zion church from his early youth till the day of his death, and gave the first ten dollars toward our great Centennial Jubilee Celebration in New York City in October. It is a brick structure, with brown stone trimmings, two stories, of "Gothic" architecture, "T" shaped at the rear, 56x92, and one hundred feet in height to the top of the bell tower, situated on the corner of two prominent streets, surrounded with a six foot wide Memorial windows looking out on either street, modeled after the greatly admired windows of the First M. E. church, stained glass windows of varied patterns adorn the building on every side. There are two principle and one local entrance on Dickinson St., and one main entrance on Fourth St., the latter being so arranged as to diverge into the main auditorium, the lecture room, the gallery, the parlor and the reception room, and the local entrance on Dickinson Street, leading into the kitchen, pastor's study, and reception room; the gallery is also entered from Dickinson Street, as is the pulpit direct. Ice-frosted glass adorn the lower story windows, and heavy doors of latest pattern. The auditorium is capable of seating seven hundred people including the gallery, which is built in a half circle, the whole being patterned after the amphitheatre idea, and so arranged as to bring the entire audience in close range of the pulpit, from which an ordinary whisper can be distinctly heard even in the adjoining Sunday-school room, which forms an addition of three hundred seating capacity when the beautiful kit-doors are raised.

The pews are of heavy oak, fine finish and highly polished, with book racks, and the floor is carpeted with becoming tapestry, the aisles with matting, and the altar and pulpit with rich layings. Fine pulpit-furniture from the platform, to the left of which is an alcove for the placing

of a large size pipe organ, and capable of containing besides, about forty songsters, fronted by a beautiful, highly polished railwork, and observable from any part of the audience room, and even the adjoining Sunday-school room. A large chandelier of gold-burnished brass, with twenty-four sperm candle jet burners, swings from the centre dome, and twenty-four other high grade brass lights, in pairs of two furnish the light. Unique arrangements for ventilation are secured, and two large dry air furnaces furnish the heat. A fine altar rail and kneeling form surround the platform, and convenient space for the administration of the services.

The lower story consists of a ladies' parlor, beautifully furnished with plush settees, and chairs, carpeted, and hung with lace curtains, and capable of seating two hundred guests; pastor's study, and a reception room, or festival parlor which will contain three hundred guests; a dining room which will seat eighty-five guests, and large kitchen, with pantries, and the usual modern water closets, coal bin and storage room. There is no Negro church outside the city of New York in this State containing the conveniences that this gem of a church structure does, nor do we know of one in the city that does. The Sunday-school room is up stairs, and opens into the main audience room by lift doors, and it is set with chairs, carpeted, and contains the Sunday-school library, and an infant department at the rear of the room. It will seat about three hundred.

The total cost of the building is \$10,490.00 exclusive of the grounds, \$5,000.00 of which has been paid, and \$700.00 cash in hand. The subscriptions and cash during dedication week reached \$3,700, and they are still coming in. The city pastors took a deep interest in this work, and by their congregations greatly aided in its success; in fact the entire citizenship of Elmira was interested, and claims a share of the credit. Hundreds of the people visited the church and inspected its varied apartments with comments of surprise and approval, and not a few left a handsome contribution attesting their appreciation.

This building is truly an honor to the memory of the distinguished dead for whom it is named, a credit to the taste, industry, and culture of the colored citizenship of Elmira, an ornament to the city, a pride to the white citizens, and a monument to the religious progress of the race. The accomplishment of this grand work was simply phenomenal. In nineteen months the membership of this church was more than doubled, it now being 191, the general tax raised from forty, to one hundred dollars, the pastor's salary from five and seven hundred, to one thousand dollars, and all other local and general financial interests proportionately increased and met, and besides all this, erected this magnificent church, with nearly the ten thousand dollars cost provided for Rev. S. L. Corrothers, who succeeded to the short pastorate of the late Rev. Dr. Joseph P. Thompson, who died at this charge, is a man of faith, purpose, and industry; he thinks not on failure, but sees success in the start and goes directly to it. Wonderful man, that Corrothers. In this opinion every white and colored citizen of Elmira share. This work places Elmira a charge in the lead in the Central and Western New York Conference, and it is the largest, and leading in membership, of any Negro church in the state, outside the City of New York; all in nineteen months.

The trustees are—Anderson Murphy, president; Daniel Webster, treasurer; J. B. Laws, secretary; E. A. U. Brooks, Allen Fitch, Thomas H. Stewart, Jeremiah George, William M. Hall, William Dorsey, L. H. Johnson. The building committee consists of Mr. Seymour Dexter, president 2nd National bank, president; Mr. L. G. Ratburn, banker; Prof. J. W. Roberts, President Elmira Business College, secretary; and the pastor and Mr. John Brooker. The church was formally dedicated on Monday, September the 7th, 3 p. m., by Bishop Walters, assisted by the visiting pastors, and a number of the city pastors. Interesting services, followed by appropriate festivities were held every night during the week—drawing large crowds every evening—and largely participated in by the white citizens who constituted a chief portion of the program. Above we present the readers of the STAR a "cut" of the church. At a future date we will be pleased to present the "cut" of Rev. S. L. Corrothers, A. B., the untiring, and indefatigable pastor, with a sketch of his scholastic and ministerial life.

THE RIGHT WAY.

He Who Walks Therein will Have God to Guide His Steps.

BY C. H. WETHERS.

He who is in the right way, the way of real duty, the way of God's appointment, has reason for expecting that God will somehow guide him. Only, let him be sure that he is in the right way. This is to be determined, not by what one imagines is the way, not by what he chooses as the path to walk in, not by deciding from circumstances what way to take, but rather and especially by most anxious consultation with God, he may mark out the way and plainly show it to him. Then, being in the right way, walking in it obediently, gladly, steadily, the believer may confidently expect to be prosperously guided. A bright preacher says: "Many men run into all manner of perplexities by their own folly and self-will, and never ask whether their acts are right or wrong, wise or foolish, until they begin to taste the bitter consequences. Then they cry to God to help them and think themselves very religious because they do! That is not the way to get God's help. Such folk are like Italian brigands, who had the image of the Virgin in their hats, and sometimes had the pope's commission in their pockets, and therefore go out to murder and ravish, in sure and certain hope of God's favor and protection. Such ones impose upon God, although in their ignorance they may not know it. They want their own way, but they cannot have their own way and be in the right way at the same time. It is hard for many to learn this lesson."

IMPORTANT STATEMENTS.

PRIZES.

The special prize banners to the church and Sunday-school, and the fifty dollars in gold to the pastor and presiding elder raising the largest amount of money, will not be awarded until the whole affair is over, June 1897.

APPROPRIATIONS.

No appropriation will be made to any church until all the churches shall have held their celebrations and spent in their moneys.

BISHOPS.

Have you sent to your ministers in your several conferences notices of subjects for the Centennial day in your conferences. I am afraid all of my colleagues are not notifying their men to get ready for their conference Centennial. Please do so, and send them the subjects before your conferences meet in order to have creditable exercise.

GRANT BARGAINS.

From now until after the holidays we will sell the following handsomely bound books, with over three hundred pages each, at fifty cents apiece, cash: Lives of Eminent Methodist Preachers, Men who have Risen, Lives of John and Charles Wesley, Heroic Women of History, History of Palestine, History of the Crusades, Steps toward Heaven, Young Ladies' own Book, Binney's Compend. We are prepared to sell flexibly covered, self-pronouncing Teachers' Bibles for \$2.25. Cash must accompany all orders.

SUPPLIES.

The Committee is prepared to furnish buttons, badges, pictures, and programs at the following prices: Badges and buttons, 75 cents per dozen; 25 per cent discount will be given on cash orders for buttons and badges. Pictures of the Bishops will be furnished at 50 cents each, cash 35 cents; For dozen for cash, \$3.00. Plain programs 10 cents each, \$1.00 per dozen. Souvenir programs, 25 cents each, \$2.50 per dozen. If you want Centennial poems, Centennial songs and Centennial exercises, write to us. All conferences and churches celebrating hereafter should secure them. Centennial Buttons with Bishop Vark's picture on them, 10 cents a piece, Centennial badges with same picture 15 cents a piece. All persons who have received from the One Dollar Certificates will please report either the cash or certificates on hand at once. All moneys must be sent to Rev. E. Geo. Biddle, 355 Biscocker St., New York City, N. Y.