

THE STAR OF ZION.

REV. J. W. SMITH, D. D., EDITOR. REV. G. L. BLACKWELL, A. M., D. D., BUSINESS MANAGER.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS: To insure publication, write with ink and extra care on one side of the sheet only; do not abbreviate; avoid personalities; do not use questions and give us items of news and race news; condense, so as to occupy a column or a half column; do not, if possible, exceed 650 words. When writing about religious, anti-slavery, dedications, convocations, marriages, receipts, deaths of church members, Eastern or Children's Day, and the like, write on postal cards. If you write long articles, the Editor will "hold them down." Send all articles to the Editor and all business matter to the Manager.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1896.

EDITORIAL.

EDITOR J. C. DANCY at the Western North Carolina conference in Rutherfordton fell heavily and sprained his ankle badly.

The next issue of the STAR will contain a ringing reply from Bishop Walters to the fighting and brilliant(?) Rev. Dr. J. M. Henderson of Bethel. The day for hitting Zion and getting away with it is past.

There was great rejoicing last week in the North Carolina conference which met in Wilson when the great Bishop C. C. Pettie, accompanied by his talented wife, walked in almost the picture of health again. He is gradually becoming himself once more. Zion will rejoice to hear this.

The Board of Publication composed of all the Bishops, the three Editors, and one minister from each episcopal district promises to meet soon to harmonize the differences existing between the Manager and the two Editors. That's right; for the General Conference in its rush of business simply elected Editors and a Manager but failed to define their respective duties. The legislation concerning this department is incomplete, defective, and one-sided.

Several ministers continue to write us to know if they have to pay to insert articles or church news in the STAR. We answer, No. This impression is abroad in several sections of Zion. It is untrue. As long as the STAR is a Connectional paper, we have no right to charge ministers and members for publishing their articles. If you feel disposed to give the STAR a donation, well and good; if not, we wink one eye and pass on. To insure publication we simply ask the writers to be brief so that all can be heard.

The San Francisco Elevator tries to be funny. It says: "It would be a good plan for Bishop Walters and Rev. J. M. Henderson to take a vacation on their Zion Centennial-Bethel-priority-Freeman-Recorder controversy. If they would devote as much time to the Master's work as they do to vituperative and meaningless discussion of historical facts, many souls might be saved."

Say, neighbor, if you do not enjoy the discussion, others do. It is grand that your opinion is not the standard opinion of the race.

We regret to announce that for the last two or three weeks the spicy articles of Mrs. Bishop Pettie have not appeared regularly. Both times circumstances over which we have had no control have crowded them out. Such shall not occur again, for we have requested the Foreman to side-track anything that interferes with her articles. Several leading editors are soliciting Mrs. Pettie to write for their papers. This is an honor to the STAR, which regards her and Mrs. Matthews as the two best female writers of the race. Mrs. Pettie as a writer is versatile and flowery, and, of course, will save her ripest thoughts for the STAR. "Woman's Column" is a big hit for the STAR.

Dr. Williams for Superintendent.

The Messenger, published at Charlotte, wants to see Dr. Williams put in charge of the Goldsboro Asylum. That paper says: "The insane asylum for colored people at Goldsboro should be managed by colored physicians, etc. There is no man in the State better prepared to take charge of that institution than Dr. J. T. Williams, of Charlotte. He is a ripe scholar, perfectly sober, and a high-toned

Christian gentleman, thoroughly prepared in every particular. He is a member of the State Pharmaceutical Society, board of physicians of Mecklenburg county, was seven years in charge of the hospital in this city and has had over ten years' successful practice in this city and surroundings. The board will do well to consider Dr. J. T. Williams."—Charlotte (N. C.) Observer.

THE STAR endorses the above clipping and desires to say that Dr. Williams is in every way thoroughly competent for the position. He is one of the first Negro medical graduates of this State and one of the most efficient colored physicians in the country. He has been practicing with great success for ten years, seven years of which he has had charge of the Union Hospital of this city. For four years he was a member of the Board of Health of Charlotte and at present is visiting surgeon of the Good Samaritan Hospital of Charlotte.

Majors and Minors.

BY W. F. FONVILLE.

Readers of American newspapers have been interested and benefitted by the able discussions that have engaged their attention from time to time, as to what race name we shall or should have. Whenever we decide, it is to be handed down to our offsprings as a rich legacy. Let us decide it for them. If we do not, how many hours of trouble, nights of weeping, days of discussion in open conventions, endless committees, resolutions, headaches and heartaches there are in store for our darlings after they have grown to manhood. I say we have been benefitted because only those who are able to discuss so weighty a question have bothered with it. Such writers as the Editor of the New York Age, T. McCants Stewart, Prof. DuBois, Robt. H. Terrell, Prof. W. S. Scarborough, Mrs. S. E. C. Pettie, Mrs. Victoria Earle, and Mrs. W. R. Lawton have discussed it learnedly from different points as each saw it.

There is a difference of opinion, and a big one. It has been erroneously stated that Mr. Fortune is the father of the hyphenated torrid-temperate word Afro-American. If my memory does not play me false, a young Baltimorean, either an editor or a counselor, first gave it prominence. Mr. Fortune is to-day its boldest champion, its most worthy defender. Looking over some back numbers of the New York Freeman and the Age, they disclose the fact that there were times when Mr. Fortune was no less enthusiastic over the word "Negro." He used a capital letter and gave reasons for so doing. Since the new word Afro-American has engrated itself upon us, he takes it all back, and now no amount of argument or persuasion could make Mr. Fortune spell Negro with a capital letter. The editor of the Age has shouted "Afro-American" so much that he actually got Amos Cummings into the habit of using it.

In everything it seems that we are divided. For instance, a great many papers use the word Negro with a small "n," some with a capital "N." Some use "Afro-American" and the Colored American like some others, go to one better and spells "colored" with a capital "C." The president of the "Woman's Federation" said she was not an Afro-American; some say they are not Negroes, so here we are and there "we am." But surmising up all of the discussions, one is forced to admit, (if he be fair) that Afro-American does cover the ground completely. There is nothing the matter with it. "It's all right."

Let's look on this picture now. I shall look into no encyclopedias, lexicons, or histories to confirm any thing I may say. Instead, I shall take a common-sense view of it and pry by the words of nine-tenths of the race, that there is a lion in the war. There are rocks ahead. The people who compose this race (I don't know what to call them) will never accept any name the learned men and women of the race may decide upon—no matter how correct that name may be—as long as they hate the vile names which they themselves invent and use. Whoever mistakes what is meant when you read or hear that a coon was put in jail yesterday? Everybody knows that does not refer to a white man. We call ourselves "darkey," "nigger," "Sambo," "cuffey," and the "sons of Ham." Nobody, I say, mistakes these vile things. Everybody knows that all of these terms refer to me and my people, and nobody uses these terms so much or with such supreme satisfaction as our own people. They had them down from generation to generation. We

born we call them "little coons" and after a while the baby learns to hiss at them. We call our aged people "old darkeys," our middle aged men, if they be strong, "Sambo." Using the individual for the race, or as the rhetoricians say, the part for the whole, we say "Cuffey."

Who ever heard white people quarreling about whether or not they should spell Caucasian or Anglo-Saxon with capital letters? They do not call themselves "poor white trash," "tallow-faced," "greasers," "stringers" or "crackers." They love themselves too much for that. Who knows but what in the dim future there shall be a convention called for the express purpose of settling this question, and some enthusiastic race man possessing more zeal than intellect, shall offer a resolution declaring that the race accept the word "Coon," the only conditions being that it shall be spelled with a capital "C." Of course none of us will be living. Let us hope that we will not, but it may come to pass. Who can tell? Newbern, N. C.

Annual Address.

READ BEFORE THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONFERENCE—BY BISHOP I. C. CLINTON, D. D.

To Ministerial and Lay Delegates of the South Carolina Conference, Greetings: We, in the kind providence of God Almighty, are permitted to assemble in this 31st session. We are thankful to God that we can answer at the roll call. Coming from our different fields of labor with our flags torn by shot and shell, yet hoisted to the breeze of heaven. Hold up the blood-stained banner of the cross and the Amilikites will fly.

"Awake; put on thy strength, O Zion; put on thy beautiful garment." To take the world for Christ, we need the sword of the Spirit. The Divine Master stands at the head of the army and says, "I will fight your battles." He said to Moses, "There is a place beside me." You stand on the rock. Ministers want to learn where that place is; then you can take the world for Christ. I will tell you where it is; it is right under the cross. There we are mighty through God to the pulling down of the devil. Trust God. Come to head quarters with ministerial heroism. Come, make good reports, and say, "Wherever the greatest danger, send me—I will go. I only want time to put on my breast plate, helmet and shield, and grasp David's sling and stones and Goliath must fall." "Marching must be done" to gain victory. I hope that your reports will show that you not only stood in the market place, but worked all day. To succeed, we must live in the Lord. Draw rations from heaven's commissary. "Be strong in the Lord and His mighty power." I do not want to hear any minister say that he cannot do anything in his line of duty by his God. God does not call a man to work that he can't do. To think so would be charging Him with the inability to judge.

ON FAILURE.

Why some ministers don't succeed is because they make debts and never settle them. Their creditors read the Bible, that Book from which you preach, which says, "Owe no man." I have accounts against some of the ministers that must be settled. I can't stand it any longer. My reputation is at stake. And again some of you stay away from the parsonage too long at some sister's house, instead of in your study. A minister should visit from house to house, but don't make them too long. Take your Bible with you when you enter; inquire as to the health of the family; then begin to read only one chapter; then pray; take your book and go to the next place and do likewise.

Another failure is some ministers think that all the other ministers have better appointments than they, instead of making theirs better. Some write to the presiding elder and say, "I can't stay here, I want to resign; there is no body here," yet there are a number of souls on their way to hell. Yet he can't find anything God ever called such men and the sooner we get rid of them the better. I have traveled in this conference over 6,000 miles preaching and lecturing. I visited the great Centennial of the A. M. E. Zion Church at New York. It was the greatest meeting of the Afro-Americans ever held in this country. It was an intermingling of the brain of the race on both sides of the Atlantic. They raised \$6,000 by the time I left. The thanksgiving offering will continue until June, 1897. I hope the fifth episcopal district will be up to any South. I will have the revised law of the last General Conference read. Your attention is called to our connectional institutions. We must look well to Livingstone College. I want this conference to give a girl or boy a scholarship in that institution to represent South Carolina. I will not give a minister an appointment that does not and will not take the STAR of ZION. This is the law of the last General Conference. Get books from our own Book Concern, and use our own Sunday-school literature; take the Church Quarterly, The Georgia conferences are improving on all lines.

I have written on all lines of the church work, and hope it will have its effect on this conference. I have written with an eye to the good of the Connection and spread of the Redeemer's kingdom. I wish the hearty approval of the whole conference and victory will be ours. May the blessings of God and his divine counsel control our deliberations. Yours for God and Zion. I. C. CLINTON, D. D.

It is better by far to be stupidly upright than to be craftily dishonest.

Woman's Column.

Mrs. BISHOP C. C. PETTIE, Editor.

An Oration to Hon. Geo. H. White.

On Friday, November thirteenth, long before the arrival of the train on the A. N. C. R. R., carriages, hacks, buggies and vehicles of every description filled with some of our best citizens were drawn around the depot while hundreds on foot crowded every walk way to the train. The occasion was the coming of the Honorable George Henry White, LL. D., Congressman-elect to the Fifty-fifth Congress from the Second Congressional District of North Carolina. Mr. White being an old Newbernian and being the only Afro-American elected to Congress this year, the city made him a guest and showered honors upon him.

As the train pulled into the station, the old "Elm City" star band saluted him with sweet strains of music amid loud cheers and waving of hats, handkerchiefs and bandannas. As he alighted from the cars, Prof. Isaac H. Smith, Mr. Geo. P. Dudley, Hon. E. R. Dudley, Rev. Mr. Byrd, Rev. James Dean, Dr. R. S. Rives and Bishop C. C. Pettie as a committee received and escorted him to a horseless carriage which was decorated with flags and bunting, with very long ropes attached thereto and when the signal was given hundreds of men seized the ropes and pulled him through the principal streets of the city. The reception committee seated in carriages headed the long procession, and the music from the bands made jubilant the city.

Mr. George P. Dudley acted as chief marshal, and on arriving at Odd Fellow's Hall Hon. E. R. Dudley called the house to order and acted as master of ceremonies. After some appropriate remarks he introduced as the first speaker of the evening Prof. I. Hughes Smith, who made a brief but far-reaching speech. Mr. Smith is an able man and grows more eloquent as he nears the position of Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. The next speaker was Rev. James Dean of the A. M. E. Church, who is a forcible, eloquent and logical speaker. He proved himself quite conversant with the politics of North Carolina as well as with theology. He was followed by Rev. W. A. Byrd the able and dignified pastor of Ebenezer Presbyterian Church, who spoke with great breadth of thought. Bishop Pettie arose and briefly reviewed the life and labors of the Honorable George H. White, paying many tributes to his past career and in his usual style introduced Mr. White as the only Afro-American elected to the Fifty-fifth Congress.

After music by the band, Mr. White came forward amid great enthusiasm which continued for several minutes, and when order was restored he proceeded to speak with great power. He reviewed the many famous battles of the last campaign as fought by America's greatest heroes and statesmen. He dwelt at length upon the platforms offered by the several parties, and by apt illustrations proved the superiority of the Republican platform above all others; and as he thus spoke of the many issues confronting the American people, showing his familiarity with every phase of these vital questions, the audience lost sight of the familiar face of Solicitor White and beheld instead a statesman of no mean ability.

Virginia Notes.

BY REV. J. J. ADAMS.

Having been North for several weeks on business, we have returned to our post of duty at Oak Street A. M. E. Zion church, to take up the work where we left off. On our return we stopped for a few hours at Philadelphia and Washington and met with the genial Editor of the STAR, Dr. Fisher, Presiding Elder of the Baltimore and Philadelphia conference, Bishops T. H. Lomax, I. C. Clifton, C. R. Harris, Dr. G. S. Adams, and several others on their way from the Centennial who were all exalted over the grand success of the Church and its jubilee. Sorry, brethren, we could not be with you, but we have learned that "it is hard to kick against the pricks." We arrived at Petersburg and found our quarterly conference was booked for the following Friday evening. We hustled around calling in the officers and members, and at the appointed time sixty members of the quarterly conference were present, including the stewardess board. Rev. S. P. Cook, Presiding Elder, presided with his usual business-like manner. Fair reports were submitted, and the work of the quarter was very satisfactory, all things considered.

Social Ripples.

The society of the usually quiet little City of Elms has been drawn out of its old channels and invigorated with new life, new thought and new activity within the past month. Possibly no city in the State has enjoyed more receptions, ovations and grand festivities than Newbern during this Autumn tide. The city is surpassing its record in social lustre. The great around which swing the social satellites of this season is the Honorable I. Hughes Smith.

On Monday night, Nov. 23rd, at the close of the North Carolina Conference of the A. M. E. Church the presiding Bishop and members of the Conference together with the professional ladies and gentlemen of the city were tendered a grand banquet at Drayton Hall by Mr. Smith. Nothing so elaborate has ever been given by a single individual in this city before. The hall was most beautifully and tastefully decorated with flags, bunting and pictures. Presiding Elder James Dean in very appropriate language introduced Mr. Smith, who arose and in a dignified manner welcomed the Bishop, Conference and friends. Toasts were offered by Rev. Mr. Byrd of Ebenezer Presbyterian church; Rev. Dr. Rives of St. Peter's A. M. E. Zion church; Bishop C. C. Pettie, A. M. D. D., and Hon. R. O'Hara, a prominent attorney-at-law. After the collation responses were offered by members of the Conference. Dr. Gregg, of Wilmington, made an indelible impression on all present, with his beautiful, eloquent and oratorical flights. He is indeed gifted in speech. The gods smiled upon him and touched his tongue with the tips of their silver wings, making him the silver-tongued orator of the great A. M. E. Church. In all of his native dignity Bishop James A. Handy, D. D., of Baltimore, eloquently responded to the toast of Bishop Pettie, and in a few words brought down the house with a lofty climax. He is broad and liberal.

All honor to Prof. Smith for his limitless extension of hospitality to strangers visiting our city. He inherited this noble trait from his sainted father. He is a banker and broker, an accurate, energetic financier, and is one of the wealthiest Afro-Americans in North Carolina. Mr. Smith is an enthusiastic McKinleyite. He worked late and early advocating the cause of the gold standard leader. See how he stands at home where he is best known and what a simon pure Democratic paper, the Newbern Chronicle has to say of him:

"If a colored man must have the position of Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia, we say without reservation, and we mean all that we say, there is no colored man in the country more entitled to the appointment than Prof. Isaac H. Smith of this city. While the country is full of original McKinley men, it is a fact which will vouch for that Prof. Smith was out for McKinley more than twenty months ago. Besides he was the only colored man from this State yet known who was enthusiastic enough to send the campaign fund a handsome subscription. He is able, qualified and has the united support of his party. We don't believe the Republican Party could pick a man who is more entitled to the position."

The Chronicle voices the sentiment of this entire community regardless of race or party lines. An Eastern North Carolina with friends throughout the United States expect to see Mr. Smith appointed Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. Newbern, N. C.

Meriden District Conference.

BY W. E. STANTON.

The Meriden district conference convened in Meriden August 5th, '96, Rev. S. C. Harris, presiding. As the gavel sounded louder and louder, the following ministers and delegates heard and answered to their names: Revs. P. Green, J. W. McDowell, E. A. Boyd, A. F. Chapman, W. A. Davis, W. E. Stanton, J. E. O. Marshall, Wm. Mills, Wm. Smith, B. C. and Colman H. Westbrook. Delegates: Lucy Hinton, S. B. Little, Wm. Byram, C. Weston, P. Speight, D. Holliway, Georgia Darden, Eliza Holden. The following officers were elected: Rev. A. F. Chapman, secretary, J. W. McDowell, marshal, W. E. Stanton, reporter to the STAR.

Reports as read by the several committees showed an increase in church work all through the district. Much business of importance was transacted during the sessions. The district conference of the A. M. E. Church convened at the same time and place, with Rev. Wm. Davis presiding. They sent Rev. Colman to bear fraternal greetings to us, which were received with much joy and gladness. Rev. A. F. Chapman in a few well chosen words responded. The writer was sent to bear fraternal greetings to them. Presiding Elder S. C. Harris preaches well. He is the Jehu of the South Mississippi conference.

The following ministers preached good sermons, full of sense and power: Revs. A. F. Chapman, J. W. McDowell, Wm. Davis, E. A. Boyd, B. C. Colman, and the writer. Many congratulations were showered upon the ministers for the good impressions made upon the people in Meriden. Miss Genetta Colman was the organist and performed her part to the delight of all. The conference paid her \$3. Too much can't be said of the good people of Meriden for the excellent care they gave the ministers and delegates. Zion is destined to be second to none in this great city.

Elder Harris is doing his best to make the district what it should be. His sermons and lectures were grand. With such men as leaders Zion will soon come to the front in this part of the field. Our next district conference will convene at Lohurthur, near Carthage, Miss. Enclosed find two dollars for the publication of this letter. Mrs. A. W. Shelby, vice-president of the W. H. and F. M. society, was present and made some interesting remarks relative to the society. She has her heart in the work. Binnsville, Miss.

Little Rock, Ark.

Rev. E. B. Waul, an able young man in our town, is doing a great work for God and Zion. He has only been in the ministry about 3 years. He is carrying a fine congregation. He stands up for his great church. If there were more young Wauls in the field with his zeal and power, this great church would roll on. God bless Rev. Waul; I bid him God speed. He reminds me of the history of our great hero, Rev. R. Haywood Stitt. Preach this great gospel. Little Rock, Ark. F. K. White.

fund, \$12 for general expenses of the church. On Monday evening the quarterly conference reassembled and the business of the quarter was completed. At the close the ladies of the stewardess board presented the Presiding Elder with a fine silk umbrella. The pastor made the presentation speech, to which the Rev. Cook responded in a very pleasant and touching manner, and spoke in high praise of the ladies of our church.

The Petersburg church is pushing along manfully, considering the stringent times and the great obligations they have had to meet during the past few months. Several notes amounting to several hundred dollars have fallen due and had to be met, which were made during the previous administration. We have met them and paid something on each of them, but they had to be renewed; and it is very probable that the church will have to dispose of some valuable property they now own, and at a sacrifice, in order to satisfy some of its creditors who want this money, and eliminate themselves from their pressing condition; and it is this that has greatly retarded the progress of the present administration. We hope, however, that when the annual conference meets we shall be able to make an encouraging report, and maintain the previous high standing of this church. Petersburg, Va.

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Manager's Corner.

Remember that no subscription for the STAR for less than 60 cents will be entered upon our books after this date. Therefore we ask that no minister or agent accept less than a six month's subscription from any one.

The Manager wishes to begin every minister's subscription to the STAR with the sitting of his conference.

The Sunday-school literature for the first quarter of 1897 will be ready to mail on the 15th of December. We are glad to say that with the next quarter the senior leaf will be raised in its grade. No school in the connection need not have any fears now about the grade of the senior leaf. It will no doubt meet the need and requirements of any school we have. Let us have your orders. Teacher's Journal, 10 cents for the quarter; Senior Leaf, 3 cents; Picture Lesson Cards, 3 cents.

Will the ministers whose postoffices have been changed please notify us so we can straighten our books accordingly.

The Quarterly Review for October is out in full blast. Let everybody send in his cash order. Only \$1.00 per year.

Yours truly, G. L. Blackwell.

Close to the Throne.

Hon. John C. Dancy is not the "original" McKinley man, but is pretty close to the throne at Canton, Ohio. Did you read Hon. Powell Clayton's (of the National Committee) letter to him?—North Carolina Sun.

Make Him Censor.

We hope that the next General Conference of the A. M. E. Church will create the office of Censor, and that Dr. J. M. Henderson will be selected to fill it.—San Francisco (Cal.) Elevator.

Woodward Notes.

REV. L. W. STEWART.

Bishop I. C. Clinton, D. D., was with us not long ago. At the church a large number of people were waiting for him, and he soon handed down the word of God to them in power until we could see the light of God's truth sparkling all over the house. The next day he went over to my next church, Sweet Prospect, and preached one of the best sermons that I ever heard him preach, after which he gave a beautiful talk, encouraging the celebration of the Centennial anniversary of the A. M. E. Zion Church. We are moving on nicely here on this field of labor. We gained 12 souls for God during the revival meeting. We are coming on the line of duty with all power.

We are not dead, but alive. We have had a successful revival of 33 converts at Silvia Grove church. The success of this meeting is due to our pastor, Rev. W. J. Conquest, whom we believe to be the right man in the right place. When he came to us he found the work completely dead. Just the year previous to his being sent to us, our church was completely torn up and all but three members had scattered, but since being in our midst he has succeeded in getting the membership back to ninety-five. He has borne the toil and endured the pain this year for his churches and people, as all three of his churches were about the same. We shall endeavor to send in a good report to the conference, God being our helper. From the trustees of Silvia Grove church.

Our Literary Society is conducted by the president, Miss Mary Falls; vice-president, J. C. Reany; chaplain, Rev. F. L. Wingate. The news of the town is written by Miss Carrie M. Taylor. We have a committee to arrange the program for each night. We want you to know that we have some wide awake boys and girls. This society is for the improvement of our boys and girls so that they may make a great mark in the world. We know here in Zion we have young men and women that will soon be able to fill the position of any other people in the world. Dear Editor, please excuse these poor remarks. I am anxious for the world to know of our society. CARRIE M. TAYLOR. King's Mountain, N. C.

The man who is conscious of his own rectitude need have no fear of what the tongue of slander may say against him.