

Dedictory Poem.

DATED TO LAURA HINES, THE DAUGHTER OF THE DEPARTED.

BY REV. J. R. DANGERFIELD.

Midst the Autumn breath of ninety-five, While Zion floated with the tide, While furious winds shook her side Like thunders from the darken skies.

Out of the world from God knows where, Came a man with abundant hair, Although small in stature, it was clear He'd never be a man to fear.

But thro' his zeal and honest labor, Zion stands in highest favor, Thro' rain and snow, thro' storm and He worked untiringly, you know.

The victor hailed from the Norwich hills, Came to drive the financial drill; When the scaffolds began to fall low, We know he was not very slow.

Who was it that struck this mighty blow? The Rev. B. W. Swain, you know; With zeal and skill he daily worked, As a young man full of pluck.

There came then a man named Danger- The grass grew not under his heels; field He pictured well the situation, And drew dollars from the Nation,

Little Zion here is all the go, With good congregations, you know; Let us look back at old Zion's grave, In this new one our hearts should crave.

Our God is good we always find, We should leave old Satan behind; Then pastor and members and friends Be true to God and say, Amen!

Bath, N. Y.

Manager's Column

OUR SALESMEN.

We appreciate the kindness of the clergymen and laymen and laywomen who have been kind enough to assist us by selling the STAR OF ZION weekly, and while some of these have made remittances regularly, others have been very slow to respond and a few have utterly failed to send us a single remittance.

The Manager has increased the number of printed copies several times, largely to satisfy our salesmen, but in turn, some of them instead of helping us, have left us in the lurch. Now, friends, we kindly thank you for the interest you have taken in us by ordering papers to sell; but if you really mean to help us, let us have a remittance at once.

Our rule is that every salesman settle up in full monthly, so we can foot up our books at the end of each month. Those who cannot conform to this rule we prefer that you cease to sell for us.

On account of using a great deal of their money for Christmas trees to make the children feel good, many of the schools were not able to pay cash for their literature. Knowing that this was true, we favored all who asked for favors this time. By the time this writing is read by our constituents each person behind our books will have received a bill of what he owes. We shall appreciate an immediate response. This is one of our dearth periods. Not much money is coming in from any source, and so we are compelled to call on all who owe us to settle at once and oblige. We have two pressing notes to meet the first of February and unless you come to our relief at once we shall be placed in a very awkward position. We have a few good reasons for urging you to come to our relief which we will explain later.

IT WAS NOT REV. H. T. HANES. Since our last issue Rev. H. T. Hanes, of Tennessee, has written us saying that he wanted the public to know that it was not he who wrote the letter published from Strawberry Plains, in which a brother asks God to help him to keep from doing his duty when he himself was at fault. No, it was not Rev. H. T. Hanes.

Methodist Centennial Commission. BY BISHOP GEORGE W. CLINTON, D. D. Some time in December, Bishop Alexander Walters, D. D., of the 6th Episcopal district, forwarded to me a letter which had been addressed to him by Dr. Wm. M. Green, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, requesting him to name eight representatives of the A. M. E. Zion Church to co-operate with representatives of the other Methodist denominations in this country for the purpose of making a creditable Methodist exhibit at the forthcoming Tennessee Centennial which will open at Nashville, Tenn., in the month of May.

In compliance with the request of my colleague, and in conformity with the statement from Dr. Green, I have named the following gentlemen to represent the A. M. E. Zion Church: Revs. T. J. Manson, W. H. Ferguson, F. M. Jacobs, R. A. Morrissey, B. J. Jones, W. H. Tucker, H. L. McKinney and F. R. White. These gentlemen will confer a great favor upon the great church which we represent by consenting to act and by holding themselves in readiness to act with the other denominations when notified, as they will be, by Dr. Green. At the ensuing meeting of the Bishops at Charlotte, I will lay this matter before the Board with such information as I shall endeavor to obtain by that time. I herewith append a copy of the proceedings of the first meeting which took place on the 8th inst. It will be seen that our church was not represented in the first meeting. Dr. Green informs me, however, that the brethren appointed to represent our church will be advised of all future meetings, and

that they will be allowed full representation in every part of the work. I need make no comment to arouse our church to the importance of giving this matter proper attention. The fact that we have generally left such opportunities to place ourselves before the public in proper light slip by, to our great detriment, and the further fact, that on account of the valuable material recently on exhibition at New York, which will enable us to make an exhibit second to none, I hope all concerned will give their hearty support to the movement to have Zion properly represented. The following Methodist bodies are represented in the Commission: The M. E. Church, A. M. E. Zion Church, A. M. E. Church, M. E. Church, South, Methodist Protestant Church, M. E. Church (Colored), C. M. E. Church.

Dr. Green states that at an early date a circular will be issued with full explanations. I go to Tennessee this week and will give the matter the closest attention. Watch the STAR for further news concerning the matter. The following is the report of the first meeting as furnished me by Dr. Wm. M. Green:

METHODIST CENTENNIAL COMMISSION. The Joint Methodist Tennessee Centennial Commission met in the Bishops' Room at the Publishing House, January 8, with twenty-five members present, representing the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Methodist Episcopal Church, Methodist Protestant Church, African Methodist Episcopal Church, the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, and the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America.

A Committee on Permanent Officers was appointed, and reported as follows: President, Dr. W. M. Baskerville; Vice-president: Memphis Conference Methodist Episcopal Church, South, Rev. W. A. Freeman; Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. E. H. Creasy; Methodist Protestant Church, Dr. B. F. Duggan; African Methodist Episcopal Church, Dr. C. S. Smith; Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, Rev. S. J. Elliott; Secretary, Dr. E. E. Hoss; treasurer, Dr. W. M. Green.

Dr. Young moved that a Building Committee be appointed composed of one from each church. This motion prevailed, and the following were appointed: Drs. R. A. Young, B. F. Duggan, Rev. E. H. Creasy, Nelson McGavock and C. W. Lane.

The following resolution, offered by Dr. W. M. Green, was adopted: "Resolved, That we call upon our Methodist people in the bounds of the Joint Commission to furnish books having to do with the history of Methodism; also periodicals and journals conducted in the interest of our Church; also pictures of men and buildings; also manuscripts and relics of general interest. These contributions for exhibition are to be forwarded to the Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, care of Messrs. Barbee & Smith."

On motion of Dr. Creasy, Dr. Kelley was designated as historian of the Joint Commission. Dr. Green offered a resolution to fix the second Sunday in February on which all Methodist pastors in Tennessee are requested to raise a 10 cent per capita collection in their congregations to defray the expenses of the exhibits. This collection may not be confined to members of the church, but to all persons friendly to Methodism.

It was decided to place all exhibits in charge of Dr. W. M. Green until they are transferred to the building. On motion of Dr. R. K. Brown, the following were appointed to provide for a Methodist Day at the Exposition: Drs. R. K. Brown, John Braden, Revs. C. W. Lane, G. B. Boon, and Nelson McGavock.

Dr. Green moved that all contributors be requested to furnish their names to their respective pastors, who will forward the names to the Joint Commission to be inserted in a book of Centennial Methodist memorials. This was adopted. On motion of Dr. Hoss, Dr. R. A. Young was instructed to visit the churches of the State and raise funds—about \$500—for the erection of the Methodist building on the Centennial grounds. The Commission proposes to reproduce the first Methodist church ever built in Nashville, a building located near the present public square.

Dr. Young accepted the trust to raise funds for the erection of the building, and began work at once, raising from the members of the Commission, in \$10, \$4, \$5, \$2, and \$1 subscriptions, \$100. Dr. Creasy moved that the committee on Methodist Day arrange for a real Methodist sermon and love feast as a part of the programme. Adopted. On motion of Dr. Braden the committee was instructed to make proper arrangement for presenting Sunday-school and Epworth League work. A resolution protesting against the proposed extension of the corporation lines so as to take in the Centennial grounds in order to legalize the sale of intoxicants during the Exposition, introduced by Dr. Kelley and Rev. L. R. Amis, was adopted. The Commission, after discussing in an informal way the work to be done, adjourned.

Miss Robinson is Correct. Mr. Editor: Referring to the last issue of your excellent paper, I wish to endorse the criticism Miss Agnes Robinson of Harrisburg, Pa. made relative to some poems being guilty of plagiarism, and to one poet whose signature was attached to Tennyson's poem recently published in the STAR. I will forward you the extract following from Tennyson's poem, leaving out, as this poet has done, the fifth stanza; or placing it in brackets.

The Greek letter phi in extract, indicates the stanza omitted in your newspaper. Possibly this poem does not claim originality for this poem in any other sense than involving the labor of copying from the eminent poet Tennyson, lines so strikingly beautiful and true; and the poet may have disclaimed their authorship in quotation marks which your printer has omitted: as he (or the poet) has also failed to follow the usual rule of making lines which rhyme with each other begin together, as poet did, as book printer did, as I have done; but, as the present poet (or your printer) has not done, this is a criticism entirely friendly to all concerned.

Mr. Editor, if you think this poet who published this poem in your paper is wholly to blame in the matter, you might print the stanzas, which I will copy and send you, with such lines as will head the page as a preface; making the lesson derivable from this occurrence useful to many more than one person; and making the editor more secure from carelessness of future contributors. If you think this poet is not to blame, you need not publish it. Send it to the poet for comparison and preservation.

I am a Presbyterian minister and read, throughout, with no little pleasure, your excellent paper loaned to me by Rev. A. Rorex, the A. M. E. Zion pastor here, and I very sincerely wish yourself and church all prosperity in God. Maryville, Tenn. D. S. BAKER. Dr. Baker is a white minister—EDITOR.

Warm Reception. BY S. J. HARGRAVE. Mr. Editor: As this is my first communication to the STAR since your election and induction into office, it is hoped you will find room for it. We are very pleasantly domiciled here as president of Carr's Academy and pastor of Norwood circuit, which work was assigned us by the last C. N. C. conference which met in Fayetteville, N. C. On our arrival we were tendered a warm and flattering reception, and made to feel at home. On the Sabbath we preached to a good and responsive congregation, and met Mr. H. S. Sellers, our predecessor in the work at Carr Academy. The trustees of this growing institution will meet here in the near future to consider the advisability of raising the grade of the school in point of curriculum and title so that its title will be Carr Normal and Collegiate Institute. Norwood, N. C.

Our church, State-st. church, Rev. J. F. Moreland, pastor, is in a prosperous condition spiritually and financially. When Revs. Samuel Sherman and P. J. McEntosh were our pastors, we paid them \$70 per month. The estimating committee to fix pastor's salary, namely, Wilson Lang, Harrison Mumford, Emily Gray, Sammy Banks and Frank H. Levens, chairman, met December 31, and after a very pleasant session, agreed to give to Elder Moreland \$80 per month. There were only one dissenting vote.

The special assessment resolution offered by Bishops Hood and Lomax at the general conference met at Waterloo in our quarterly conference was and was doomed to ignominious defeat. No bad feelings were manifested in the defeat of these measures. Each one spoke and acted according to the dictates of his conscience. Mobile, Ala. F. H. LEAVENS.

Announcement. The ministers of the South Carolina conference will please collect and remit the General Tax to me monthly according to Discipline, paragraph 109, page 88. Brethren, you must come to the law or step down and out. Z. Beltz, conference steward, Fort Lawn, S. C.

Having been appointed conference steward of the Palmetto conference, will the brethren please collect and send me the General Tax monthly. Grover, N. C. J. W. A. BLAKE. Thanks. Mr. and Mrs. Dancy, desire to express through the STAR OF ZION their heartfelt thanks and appreciation for kindly aid extended them through the illness and death of their infant daughter.

TALKS, On Varick Endeavor, BY THE PRESIDENT.

The following are the names of the pastors and the places where the Varick Christian Endeavor Society has been chartered: Lancaster, S. C., Rev. W. A. Blackwell, pastor. Pensacola, Fla., Rev. J. H. Manley, D. D., pastor. Blacksburg, S. C., Rev. John A. Blake, pastor. West Chester, Pa., Rev. E. S. Bailey, pastor. Plant City, Fla., Rev. R. R. Frederick, pastor. Birmingham, Ala., Rev. A. J. Warner, D. D., pastor. Washington, D. C., Rev. G. S. Adams, pastor. Franklin, Pa., A. P. Parker, pastor. Goldsboro, N. C., William Sutton, pastor. Lincoln University, Pa., P. A. Wallace, A. B., pastor. Mount Vernon, N. Y., W. H. Ely, D. D., pastor. Mobile, Ala., J. F. Moreland, pastor. Atlanta, Ga., J. H. Turner, pastor. Boston, Massachusetts, S. F. Dickson, pastor. Gloversville, N. Y., R. M. Turner, pastor. St. Louis, Mo., H. W. Smith, pastor. Pittsburg, Pa., G. W. Kincaid, pastor. Port Chester, N. Y., C. Fairfax, pastor. Chicago, Ill., R. M. Devine, pastor. Bloomfield, Ky., J. R. Irvin, pastor. Concord, N. C., J. S. Settle, pastor. Asheville, N. C., F. M. Jacobs, pastor. Troy, N. Y., William B. Downs, pastor. Ithaca, N. Y., B. F. Wheeler, D. D., pastor. Coffeeville, Miss., J. J. Moore, pastor. Urfua, N. Y., J. C. Temple, pastor. Montrose, Pa., J. E. Nichols, A. B., pastor. Tarrytown, New York, R. J. Strothers, pastor. Petersburg, Va., J. J. Adams, pastor. Yorkville, S. C., J. H. Turner, pastor. Plymouth, N. C., W. L. Clayton, pastor. Cambridgeport, Mass., Clinton D. Hazel, pastor. Rock Hill, S. C., N. A. Crockett, pastor. Charlotte, N. C., H. B. Moss, pastor. Mocksville, N. C., R. L. Houston, pastor. Washington, D. C., J. B. Colbert, pastor. Auburn, N. Y., W. A. Ely, pastor. Maryville, Tenn., T. P. R. Moore, pastor. Washington, D. C., J. H. McMullen, pastor. Chester, S. C., H. Blake, pastor. Sharon, Pa., J. A. Ralls, pastor.

V. C. SOCIETY—ITS NEEDS. A charter, 25 cents; 50 pledge cards, 25 cents; 50 topic cards, 50 cents; Constitution and by-laws, 5 cents; total, \$1.05. To understand the C. E. work more thoroughly, you need these books: How a Hand Boole of Christian Endeavor Methods, 50 cents. Why Reasons for Christian Endeavor Movements, 50 cents. Looking out on Life, by Pres. F. E. Clark, 75 cents. When Thou hast shut the Door, by Wells, 60 cents. Any of the above books and literature will be sent to any one for the prices quoted. Address, Rev. J. B. Colbert, A. M., Varick E. Headquarters, 1114—6th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

TOPIC FOR SUNDAY, JAN. 31. "Eve's Lovers Loyal to Christ—What Will They Do?" John xiii. 31-38; viii. 31. Mon., Jan. 25. Shown in love. John 21: 15-24. Tues., Jan. 26. Shown in obedience. Matt. 7: 21-29. Wed., Jan. 27. Shown in truth. Mal. 2: 1-7. Thu., Jan. 28. Shown in earnestness. Isa. 62: 1-7. Fri., Jan. 29. Shown in toll. Ex. 13: 19-24. Sat., Jan. 30. Shown in praise. Ps. 147: 1-11.

SCRIPTURE VERSES—Matt. x. 38; Mark viii. 44; Luke ix. 23; xiv. 27; xxiii. 26; John xix. 17; Acts xiv. 22; Phil. ii. 5-7; Heb. xii. 2, 3; 1 Cor. xii. 13; 2 Cor. xiv. 12, 13; Eph. iii. 16-21; vi. 18, 20.

CHRIST'S DOMINION OVER WINDS AND WAVES was absolute; demons and disease were subject to his bidding; but from his disciples he asks and accepts no allegiance that is not willing and loving. This love must give proof of its presence by obedience, "if ye love me, ye will keep my commandments." Nathan Hale, when about to be hanged as a spy, regretted that he had but one life to give for his country. Many of us do not give even the whole of one life to our Lord. No nation is content to share with another the allegiance of its humblest subject. A man may live in a country a large part of his life, and enjoy much of its liberty and advantages; but, if he wishes to be a citizen, he must wholly beget, and ties that bind him to another government. No disciple can be true to the Master, and still give half his heart to the world. This is the worst case. As surely in the approaching day of universal judgment it will not be inquired what we have read, but what we have done; not how eloquently we have spoken, but how boldly we have lived.

A One-fare Rate for the Mardi Gras. For the above occasion, the Southern States Passenger Association has authorized rate of one limited first-class fare for the round trip, limit of fifteen days from date of sale. Tickets sold Feb. 26th, 27th, 28th and March 1st. For any further information write to any agent of the Southern Railway or R. L. Vernon, Traveling Passenger Agent, Charlotte, N. C.

BISHOP HOOD'S APPOINTMENTS. JANUARY. Red Springs, N. C. Greensboro, N. C.

NEGRO BUSINESS ASSOCIATION.

Afro-Americans Hold the Fort—The National Crib—Going to Pelece—Other Notes. An Afro-American Financial Accumulating Merchandise and Business Association was organized in Pittsburg, Pa., June 22nd, 1896, for the purpose of accumulating money to establish business among the race. This association promises to build three large buildings, not to cost less than \$40,000 each. In these are to be carried on all kinds of merchandise, and our young men and women will be thus employed.

Its object is to accumulate \$200,000, which is to be divided into shares of \$2 each, and any person can purchase one or more shares for 10 cents each, for which the association gives the purchaser a membership certificate. This certificate entitles the person to any employment which the association may need; also when the holder of the certificate has paid in \$32, his or her certificate will be endorsed as a paid up certificate; and the holder will cease to pay any further dues; and on the certificate he or she draws annual dividends of all monies over the current expenses, and when the husband dies the wife receives the same; when the wife dies the children take up the same certificate and receive the same dividend as long as one of them is living. Single persons holding certificates receive the same privilege, and when they die, whoever they designate will take up their certificate and receive the same dividend.

Already \$35,000 worth of stock has been taken. The association has two coal yards running, four teams and 14 persons employed now. It will open a brick yard and stone quarry in East Liberty this spring and employ 125 men and 40 teams. It will own coal yards next fall in Alleghena, Bradford and McKeesport, Pa. Men, women, boys and girls are asked to take shares. You pay 10 cents for a share, then 10 cents a week. After two years you can get your share back, minus one cent of the association. You can also borrow money out of the association. Rev. J. H. Thomson, of 38 Arthur Street, Pittsburg, Pa., is the President and general manager. The Afro-Americans will watch the workings of this association and if it proves a successful association will be likely to be established in other sections of the country.—Star of Zion.

Afro-Americans Hold the Fort. A greater than the silver question now stirs Salt Lake City. The members of the 24th U. S. Infantry of colored men are permitted to occupy Fort Douglas in place of some white regiment? The 16th Infantry has been ordered elsewhere. Its officers were white and charming. They and their families mixed in the best society of Salt Lake City, and had become a considerable part of the social life and activities of the town. And now Negroes hold the Fort. Society is up in arms and Senators cannot help but posted off to Washington to persuade Secretary Lamont to take away his "niggers," and put some other white regiment there, if the dear 16th must go. But Lamont says that it is too near March 4th for him to raise the issue about his corps. Once more it may be remarked that Mason & Dixon's line does not bound the limits of caste prejudice.

The National Crib. The army of colored men who are anxious to be assigned a place at the national crib when President McKinley takes the reins of government is growing amazingly large. Every fellow who made a speech at the crossroads or wrote an article for publication during the campaign expects a place. And all the men who 100 or less years ago won notoriety because reconstruction made it possible for them to be elected in States which they today give a very wide berth, are now, as they have been for years, hungry for a job. They seem to be for a good man at a camp meeting who is called "the good Lord call when He will, I expect to die in harness." It would be more praiseworthy if some of these gentlemen would start out to try to do something practical in a business way for the people they whom name they have traded so long.—Philadelphia Tribune

Going to Pieces. The Afro-American League of California, the strongest surviving organization of the league kind, is about to go to pieces upon the rock of political and sordidness. State President, T. B. Morton, it is alleged, has been selling out the league to everybody inclined to buy, and the colored men of California who have made the organization a strong one are thoroughly disgusted with the outcome. It is to be hoped that this discouraging state of affairs can be remedied by the removal of the guilty head and the substitution of a man of more honor and less financial need; but the usual result of such conditions induces the fear that the Afro-American League of California has reached its greatest crisis.—The Elevator.

The appointment of Miss Albretta Moore to a place as deputy collector in the South Town (Chicago) office was a strong hint for the "Windy Ward" Republican Club of the Windy City.—Cleveland Gazette.

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A great deal of energy in the way of manumission is being spent by leading 1936 men in all parts of the country in their efforts to secure office. Many of them can do better by remaining at home and looking after their private affairs. If they must have office they should apply for something at home—some office they are competent to hold. All cannot be ministers and consuls abroad, only one can be recorder of deeds. Bruce Grit in agitating a national Negro organization sounds the key note.—Colored American.

Thirty-three years ago the immortal Lincoln emancipated 4,000,000 slaves, probably experimenting, all tattered and torn, from centuries of bondage. How startled would that executive be today if he could draw back the curtain and see the fruits of his experiment.—Seattle (Wash.) Republican.

T. T. Allain, a bright colored Republican, who was a member of the Louisiana Legislature years ago, and since then has been a factor in the politics of Illinois, will seek the position of fourth auditor of the Treasury.—San Francisco Elevator.

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