THE STAR OF ZION.

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

Published every Thursday at Charlotte, N. C., 106 S. College St.
Entered at the Post Office at Charlotte as second-class mail matter.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: $1.00 *per annum; six months,* 60 *cents; no three month's subscription.*

TO CORRESPONDENTS: To insure publication write with ink and extra carefulness on one side of the sheet only; do not abbreviate; avoid personalities; deal with live questions and give us items of church and race news; condense, so as to occupy a column or a half column: do not, if possible, exceed 650 *words. When writing about revivals, anniversaries, dedications, donations, marriages, receptions, death of church members, Easter or Children's Day, and the like, write on postal cards. If you write long-winded articles, the Editor will "cold them down." Send all articles for publication to the Editor; send all subscriptions; all changes and all business matter to the Manager.*

STAFF CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. Bishop C. G. Pettey, Editor of Woman's Column.

Rev. G. W. Offley, D. D., Rev. E. G. Biddle, B. D., Rev. J. H. Anderson, Rev. J. E. Mason, D. D., Rev. W. H. Marshall, Rev. W. A. Blackwell, Rev. G. S. Adams, DD, Rev. E. D. W. Jones, A. B., Rev. F. H. Hill, Prof. B. A. Johnson, A. M., Rev. J. H. McMullen, Rev. T. A. Weathington, Prof. E. L. Thornton, A. M., Rev. J. H. Manley, D. D., Prof. D. W. Parker, A. B., Rev. J. A. D. Bloice, A. M., Prof. W. F. Fonvcille, A. B., Rev. C. W. Winfield, D. D. H. C. Weeden, Esq., Prof. W. M. Provinder, A. B. Rev. H. W. Smith, Rev. D. C. Covington.

FRIDAY DECEMBER 16, 1897.

EDITORIAL.

BE loyal to your Church.

IT is wisdom to say nothing about that of which one knows nothing. Obey this advice and you will not make enemies or get into trouble.

WE endorse that portion of the President's Message which favors the annexation of the Hawaiian islands. The colored people are in the majority in those islands.

IT is very exasperating to forget a good thing just as you're on the point of saying it and then have to go groping around for it in the dark with the tail just sticking the fringe of your recollection—and never get it.

REALIZING the strength and aggressiveness of Methodism to-day as it has never recognized before, a Catholic priest in England said a few days ago that the conflict with which Roman Catholicism is to contend in the future will be the conflict of Methodism. He might have advanced and declared that Methodism will triumph, too.

BISHOP G. W. CLINTON writes us that he was compelled to cancel four appointments in the West Tennessee and Mississippi Conference on account of a serious attack of an acute indigestion which was very painful for nearly three days, but, if providence permits and there is no recurrence of the attack, he will be able to hold his conference this week in Batesville, Miss.

SOME people who give advice or offer suggestions are actually offended unless their counsel is followed to the letter. They do not take into consideration the possibility that they see only one side of the question, or that they are of a number being consulted, and the man asking advice is doing so not in the sense of acknowledging his inability to manage his own affairs, but because he wants all possible light upon the subject in hand.

CONGRESSMAN W. C. ANDERSON offered a bill in Congress last week providing that mail boxes on all mail cars shall be kept open at all stations except when closed for sanitary reasons. This feature of the bill is good, although its intention is to revoke the order which causes the mail cars to be locked when passing Hogansville because the prejudiced and angry white people in that little hamlet have boy-cotted the post-office and the colored Postmaster Loftin.

THE PRESIDENT AND CUBA.

The President's message, as was expected, is able, clear, practical and pleasing on all topics except Cuba. His word "I regard the recognition of the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents as now unwise and therefore inadmissible" are wholly disappointing. The Republican party in its last national platform is pledged to recognize the political independence of Cuba and the President is under obligations to carry out the pledge of his party.

The President and his party even promised to go further than simple recognition of belligerency. The 70,000,000 American people are expecting the President and a Republican Congress to fulfil their pledge. To fail to do so will be cowardly. The property held by American citizens in Cuba has been damaged, depreciated in value and destroyed. Trade between that country and this has been paralized. Cuba has been largely depopulated by cruel war and human starvation. Crops have been destroyed and, as the President says in his message, "the agricultural inhabitants have been herded in and about the garrison towns and their lands laid waste."

Certainly this Government has a right to interfere where questions involve principles of humanity and right. Cuba, which has been heroically struggling for years for liberty, should not be told to fight on until Spain exhausts all her resources before she can receive recognition. We rejoice to know that Cuba where the black people are in the majority, intends to have liberty or die fighting for it. The fires of liberty once kindled in the bosom of an individual or nation cannot be put out.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

The first of December, by request of Bishop Lomax and the General Manager we boarded the train at night at Charlotte and wheeled for the Central Alabama Conference which met that day in Montgomery, Ala. After fourteen hour's continuous ride we stepped in on the Conference in Zion Star church and found the Bishop and brethren busy as bees in a hive. This being our first appearance in this body, we were enthusiastically received. Elder W. M. Findlay entertained the Conference grandly.

This is a fine set of men. They are loyal progressive and interested in the general upbuilding of our Zion. Bishop Lomax calls this his "pet conference." Doctors J. W. Alstork, T. A. Weathington W. H. Smith and Revs. A. J Rodgers, A. S. Watkins, L. D. Workman, W. M. Findlay, W. S. Meadows and P. A. Shuford are undoubetdly the leaders Rev. M. Rankin, R. L. Boyd, C. E. Baker J. W. Armstrong, J. C. Thompson, C. V. Motley, J. W. Eason and others men. Doctors Alstork, Weathington and Elder Rodgers are the presiding elders.

Despite yellow fever, quarantine and small pox this conference came up pretty well on all conference claims and raised on general fund $1,517 34—a falling off from last year of about $60 or $70 But for these epidemic diseases the conference would have easily rolled up this year on general funds $2,000. Out of the three presiding elder districts Dr. Alstork's district raised this year over $750. He says he will raise $900 next year. Every fellow who collected general fund and spent it were either suspended or expelled. Rev. D. L. Jackson, whom the committe on complaints reported as having collected and stolen $25 general fund, $5 Children's Day money and Easter money, and also eloped with a girl, was expelled. Dr Alstork, as soon as he runs across him, is to jail and prepare him for the penitentiary. This is right. No one who steals church money should be allowed to stay in Zion another day.

Bishop T. H. Lomax, D. D., is very popular with his men in this conference. They gave him several donations. They respect his rulings, and when he raps, for order it is immediately given. They like to hear him talk. His wit, humor and sarcasm expressed in a dry and unconcerned way and each point made clinched with his familiar phrase, "No doubt about that," keeps the conference roaring with laughter. The excellent and practical comments on the Scripture lessons in conference evidently shows that the Bishop is still a close reader of the Bible and newspapers. His expository sermon on the eleventh chapter of Hebrews on Sabbath morning was truly instructive and caused a great wave of enthusiasm to roll over the large congregation. We preached at 11 p. m., to a church overflowed with people, people standing in the aisles and the presence of the Holy Ghost was felt. Dr. W. H. W. Rees, (white,) Recording Secretary of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Education Society of the great M. E. Church, was present and said he intends to publish the metaphorical parts of our sermon in the *Christian Educator* in Cincinnati, Ohio, and head it "Genuine Eloquence From a Coming ——," well, it is hardly necessary to put in the other word; but we wish to say that hundreds of people for want of room were turned away from church at night and Rev. J. H. Parker preached a stirring and delightful sermon.

Montgomery is a great, fine, historic city. It was the first Capital of the Southern Confederacy; Richmand was the second. Monday morning we went to the West side of the State Capitol on Dexter Avenue and stood on the identical spot marked by a large brass star where Jefferson Davis stood in 1861 and took the oath of allegiance when inaugurated President of the South. The inscription on the star reads "Placed by Sophie Bibb Chapter, Daughters of the Confederacy, on the spot where Jefferson Davis stood when inaugurated President of the C. S. A., Feb. 18, 1861." We went from there to the corner of Lee and Bibb Streets to see the house in which Mr. Davis lived during his short Presidency. It is an old two-story frame, painted white, and has about eight rooms. The streets on which it stands are dirty and ordinary looking, and this famous old house having been bought by the railroad will soon be torn down. We also visited Jefferson Davis Avenue.

Zion almost owns Montgomery. We have eight churches there and Bethel one. We have strong pastors there—see appointments in this paper—and Zion must keep strong men there. Zion is well guarded in that city by such strong Alabamian as Alstork, Weathington and Rodgers. Every one is popular with white and colored and lives handsomely. Mr. J. H. Arrington, the accomplished organist of Old Ship, with his horse and buggy, drove us around the city. Our people, on the whole, are doing well and are very intelligent. Many of them are very wealthy. The relations between the whites and blacks are very friendly. We saw colored guards guarding white convicts and *vice versa*. The Hale Infirmary, colored, the costly gift from the late James Hale, colored, of Zion, to our people, is larger and finer than white Infirmary. The State Colored Normal School, Mr. W. B. Pattison, Principal, is up-to-date in its methods of teaching. Prof. Pattison sent two carriages to conference for a committee to visit his school. In the Industrial Department we saw a splendid clay bust of J. C. Price made by one of the students. We are now on our way with Bishop Lomax to Tuskegee to meet the Alabama Conference.—J. W. S.

SHOOTING STARS.

Rev. J. L. Whitten is taking well in San Francisco, Cal. He is an able divine and preached recently on "Leprosy—its symptoms, detection and taeatment."

The *Zion Trumpet* says that Rev. T. C. Johnson, an elder in Bethel, formerly a member of Zion, was received back into Zion by the quarterly conference in Williamsburgh, N. Y.

Rev. R. J. Strother is meeting with excellent success tn Newburgh, N. Y. His church is a bee-hive and his thoughtful sermons are being published in full in the white papers of that city.

Rev. A. J. Tolbert, who built a beautiful little chapel last year in Catskill, N. Y., has just laid the corner stone for a fine new church. That's what Zion wants—church and parsonage builders.

Rev. A. L. Green, the hustling pastor of Pilgrim's Rest A. M. E. Zion church at Whistler, Ala., was in the city Saturday shaking hands with friends for the first time in three months.—Mobile (Ala.) *Weekly Press.*

Rev. S. J. Hargraves is the new minister at St. Matthew's church. He is a graduate of Biddle and is an orator of no mean ability. Rev. J. M. Mitchell goes to the Lethee circuit near Rockingham:—Maxton (N. C.) *Blade.*

In the quarterly conference in Fleet-st. church, Brooklyn, N. Y., Presiding Elder E. Geo. Biddle gave local preacher's license to Brother D. W. Francis, who promises to return to San Domingo and work in the interest of Zion.

The Palmetto High School, of Zion, in Union, S. C., opened four weeks ago with bright prospects. Mr. J. A. Cunningham is the principal. He has been the proficient principal for the last three years of the graded school at Lancaster, S. C.

At the Baptists Young Peoples' Union held in Oakland, California, a few days ago, so the California *Elevator* says, Miss Emma Chandler read a carefully prepared paper on the duties and reponsibilities of the race, with the results, as shown in the lives of the lamented trio of leaders, teachers and preachers—Bishop Daniel A. Payne, J. C. Price and W. J. Simmons.

The Varick Christian Endeavor, State Street church, under the presidency of Mr. J. E. W. Smith, is in a flonrishing condition. The exercises on Thanksgiving Day showed that a great deal of good work is being done by these young men. The exercises are always commendable and each participant seems to take special interest in the work. It will do you good to pay them a visit.—Mobile (Ala.) *Weekly Press.*

Of course it cannot be denied that there are individuals of the race who have grown into exemplary characters, monuments of honor, adorning the cause of God and their people. We point with pride to the noble Douglass, Price, Washington. Alex. Crummell, D. D., and True Reformer Brown, and many others worthy of emulation.—Hartford (Conn.) Correspondent in *Indianapolis Freeman.*

Rev. Dr. A. A. Crooke, thenew, popular and beloved pastor of the Union Wesley church, preached an able and impressive sermon last Sunday night to the Young Men's Immediate Relief Association, his text was: "Quit ye selves, young men in the service of the Lord, because ye are strong." The subject was masterly handled and the audience left with many indelible impressions brought upon them. The Association raised $31.72, donating $5 to the pastor as a token of their esteem and the rest to aid the church. Standing room was at a premium.—*Washington Bee.*

A Blue Beard exhibition and Martha Washington tea party was given by Miss Mamie E. Skinner, organist of A. M. E. Zion church, last Thursday evening, in the Immanuel Baptist church. An excellent audience greeted the juvinile play, and acknowledged it to rank infinitely above any presented for several years. Miss Skinner is an amiable energetic, young lady with sterling qualities, who having lost her remaining parent not long ago, has the hearty commendation of her large number of friends in her inevitable success.—*New York Age.*

The wife of the President has given special permission to John Philip Sousa, "The March King," to dedicate to her his new composition, just finished, and which will be called "The Lady of the White House." Mrs. McKinley forwarded her permission last week to the editor of *The Ladies' Home Journal*, which will publish the Sousa composition complete in its next issue. This magazine has also recived for the same number a new and large portrait of Mrs. McKinley, taken a few days ago in the White House conservatory. This is the second photograph which the President's wife has allowed to be taken within ten years, the first portrait taken of her since 1887 having also gone to *The Ladies' Home Journal*, which published it in its last October number, causing the entire edition of that issue to be exhausted.

"THE way of the transgressor is hard," and it needs no arguing.

MAJOR AND MINORS.

JOHOSHAPHAT TAKES IT BACK.

BY W. F. FONVILLE.

"Here's a pretty howdy-do." I met Bill Arp once—once only. I was a boy then; and with the swagger of a Georgia Major, he asked me if I knew his name. You have already guessed what answer I gave to this great man of the South. I, at, that time, he expected to know so distinguished a citizen as "Col. Arp of Gawgah, Sah!" But since that memorable day I have learned to know the "Major." Lieut-Gen'l. Arp poses as a Southern humorist, and manages to keep things moving around home by the aid of the sheckles he pockets from the business. Bill Arp is a vicious writer and because of that I seldom read him. Some time back, however, I did read one of his sindicated contributions. He said that he was mad all over because McKinley had insulted the South by appointing Negroes to Federal positions. I don't intend to write about Bill, nor the appointing of Negroes to office. But about something nearing home. Follow me awhile.

* * * * *

Unlike "Majah Arp," I am not "mad all over," but disappointed all through. "Friends, Countrymen," readers of the STAR (This is no funeral oration of Marcus Anthony) but bear with me a while, just a short while, until I can wipe away the thermal (the adjective is all right) tears that are chasing each other down my cheeks. "Have mercy and pity me, for I am desolate and sorely afflicted." Perhaps you to have had sorrows, troubles and disappointments in life. If so, "Turn thou unto me." How I long to pour forth my story as the blue-bird does—free, unfettered. But every attemp is stiffled, and the words I would say, are held back by tears—"tears that unbidden—start:" "Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the——. Tears again.

* * * * *

We have been good friends, you and I. I have written and you have read. The whole Church knows that I have been enthusiastic in any advocacy of a re-convening of the General Conference. But, I take it all back new; and if those who have difiered from me, will for forgive me, I promise not to mention such a thing again before May 1900. I have been forced to take such a position because the RevJehoshaphat Weobley Sides of Monroe, N. C., in a beautiful letter, written in his prettiest style and most clearing English, has publicly retracted, and says that Bishop Walters need not tell him where the Centennial money is now. If these knotty uuestions can be settled out of court, what is the need of having the Conference reconvened. Here I have been laboring all Summer and Autumn, upon this one idea; and when I was most sanguine of success, my strongest supporter falls away, and in November monosylabics says; "I take it back" notwithstanding he wept Jeremiah tears some weeks back.

* * * * *

There are other mooted questions, you say? Why, to be sure there are. But upon whom can we now depend? The robe question has not yet been settled, nor has that other great question, as to the manner in which we Methodists should pray. There is "Onr Episcopacy and the everlasting Prosiding Elder system. But who can tull but at the very last moment the Rev. J. W. Thomas may be found standing a—praying, and Rev. S. A. Chambers wrapped in a robe of gigantic proportions done in filigrees and ruffled from top to bottom?

* * * * *

What is the need of calling the General Conference together. Does Prof. Crockett write any more resolutions? Is not the Rev. W. A. Blackwell still "pausing for a reply? And does he ask for any more degrees? Not a single one. Who knows but what the Rev. J. J. Adms is already riding the circuit as a presiding. Rev. J. H. Love is now at St. Peter's in Newbern, and may have, since yesterday, abandoned his research after and theory of perpetual motion. The financial plan has been settled and the disputants have taken a day off. But there is one figure standing alone, unbending, unyielding; like a sentinel upon the ramparts. Like Marshalls Ney, the "bravest of the brave." Like Cambronue at Waterloo, even after Napoleon himself had turned his back upon the field and his face towards Paris—Like Cambronue he forms the the hollow square, and when a flag of truce is sent in asking him to surrender, he sends back the memorable reply, "The old guard dies but never surrenders." Out of all this chastic mass, stands one lone sentinel with his face turned towards the morning, "The observed of all observers"—E. Geo. Biddle.

Goldsboro, N. C.

CLINTON INSITUTE.

The annual meeting of the Crockett Literary Society was the best in the history of the society. The installation exercises were highly enjoyable. The following were formally installed: President, Mr. P. G. Killingsworth; Vice President, Miss M. A. Gist; Secretary, Mr. F. H. Neal; 1st. Critic, Miss Nettie C. Crockett; Treasurer, Miss Lizzie Neal; Chaplain, Mr. W. Neal; Janitor, W. A. Bowans.

The president's inaugural address was surprisingly good. All the former officers deserve special mention. Mrs P. G. Walker furnished the society with a spicy historical journal. All enjoyed it. Rev N. A. Crockett in responding to the toast of "His Impression of the Society," made all feel his presence of the past and present of the race.

Dr. J. W. Smith, D. D., editor of the STAR OF ZION, paid us a pleasant visit this week. Dr. Smith came a visitor and left a friend. He evinced his friendship not only in burning words of thought and eloquence but by presenting the school with a fine portrait of the hero Maceo. Call again.

Bishop G. W. Clinton called by while enroute for the South Carolina Conference. He also spoke to the extreme gratification of the students. The Bishop is one of us in purpose.

The boys are getting along nicely with the well.—Rock Hill (S. C.) *Messenger.*

LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE.

The college is the recepient of a beautiful lithograph of the late Cuban leader—Gen. Maceo. This is a gift from the enterprising firm of Geo. Rowell & Co., and came through the recommendation of Dr. J. W. Smith, Editor of the *Star of Zion.* It is needless to say that the authorities and students are grateful for this valuable gift. It will adorn the walls of the college and be kept in memory of that brave patriot.

This week the *Star of Zion* prints an excellent account of the institution with cuts of three of the professors and a bird's eye view of the buildings and grounds. No words are at command for expressing gratitude to the Editor and Publisher of our excellent Church organ for this flattering notice. But after all it is all Zion and such notices are but the promotion of our own.

Mr. W. A. Hunton is the only representatives of our race on the staff of more than twenty-five or thirty International Secretaries of the Y. M. C. A. His work is confined to the college for Negroes and since his taking hold seven years ago there has been marked development in College association work. His visits are always inspiring both to the association as such and to the individual students. But this work in Livingstone College has always been a positive force in developing the Christian life of the school. Its missionary spirit has borne tangible fruit and permanent form in the establishment of at least two churches in the college vicinity, which are now attached to the Western North Carolina Conference and receive regularly appointed ministers. The greatest revivals in the history of the school have been the culmination of the religious meetings of this association.

President Coler announced publicly a few days ago that plans were on foot to begin a special course in English Theology about January first for ministers in the field as well as candidates for the ministry.

The course will afford an opportunity for valuable learned men in certain English branches which will help those men whose early training has been neglected. Special emphasis is to be laid on the study of the Bible and Sacred Rhetoric.

The adopting of such a course ought to be commended by all and no one who is deficient should let slip this opportunity. The laity of the Negro Church is demanding an educated ministry and men not able to expound the Scriptures intelligently will sooner or later be relegated. Special terms will be allowed all ministers and the term will be from January 1st to April 28th. The Board of Trustees and Bishops at the meeting in Charlotte last Spring adopted a resolution to collect $1.00 from each minister at the conferences for support of this department and ministers showing a receipt for said amount will have even better terms than those specially arranged. Further information may be obtained by writing the Secretary of the College Faculty, Prof. E. Moore or the Dean of Theology—Dr. W. H. Goler.—*Livingstone.*

WEBB (MISS.) NOTES.

BY REV. M. V. HANCOCK.

Mr. Editor: This is my first note to the STAR; please don't cast it away. This is my first year on this work. I found this circuit in good condition. We have a good Presiding Elder; he is just sweeping things before him. On the 3rd of July we had a picnic on Little Zion church grounds and on the 4th a rally. The M. V. Railroad company gave us an excursion train for the occasion; there was a host of people on the ground. During both days we raised $115. We are preparing to build a new church at Little Zion.

Everybody is wide-awake around Webb. On July 11th we intended having a rally at Johnson Tabernacle but it rained all day till 6 p. m. We had a small congregation of about 18 persons and raised $26.83. We have put some very nice seats in our Tabernacle church and the members of the church are all right. The following names are those who donated something towards the new seats:

A J Johnson, $5. Alfred Andrews, A L Thrower, Lee Thrower, Harvey Roberts, Mr. A G and E D Galmoor Provinces, paid $2 50 each. The following are the sisters and friends who paid $1 each: Sisters Dorcas Johnson, F A Mitchell, Georgia Johnson, Bell Roberts, Alice Sims, H J Andrews, Rose Foster, Lizzie M Provinces. The friends that donated other amounts are: Prof A Harvey, 75 cents. Mr D Watkins, B C Kenedy, $1 each. Messrs Hitson Lacy, 50 cents. F Johnson, 10 cents. Taylor Hiram, 25 cents. Miss T A Hayes, 15 cents. Y C Logan, 10 cents. Mrs S J Bowles, 10 cents. The following promise $1 each: W W Hayes, A Shaw, Tom Hughes, B Sanders, Isam Anderson. J Moore, 50 cents, and E P Griffins, 50 cents.

Mr. Editor, we are moving along nicely. Zion is in the front in this place. Revs. A. P. Pettey, H. Helm, W. M. Hurt, Revs. Nelson, M. W. Waters and Cromwell preached for me on the 4th of July. That was a Holy Ghost day.

Go on, Dr. Smith, you will be rewarded in 1900. I hear the boys talking about you. Come down to our annual conference in December and we will treat you right.

Presiding Elder S. T. Meeks is a good Presiding Elder and knows how to hold a lovely quarterly conference. The Spartanburg district is moving on nicely. Two mission points—Moore's station and Gattieroy's mission, near Nesbitt, S. C.,—have been established on his district this year. Editor Smith was the first General Officer to visit us and preached two wonderful sermons which shows him not only to be a great writer but a great preacher. He is unassuming, easy to approach, lively and pleasant, keeping in touch with his brethren. He is Zion's great defender, as his fight with Dr. J. Henderson shows. He will be remembered for it. The STAR is the leading Negro paper today. Rev. S. R. Gattieroy.

Woodruff, S. C.

—o—

I would like to ask Dr. Blackwell if he books advertised in the STAR for traveling preachersare the required ones for Elder's orders? If so, there will be rejoicing among those preachers who have been deprived of ordination for not having them—many of them not being in our Book Room. Dr. Smith is making the STAR the only Negro paper in the South. May God bless him to continue his historical correspondence with Dr. Henderson and other antagonists of Zion.

Furman, Ala. Rev. T. M. Moore.

—o—

Bishop Hood is a father and counselor, a deep thinker and close observer. Bishop Lomax is a hard worker. Bishop Pettey is a scholar and theologian. Bishop I. C. Clinton is a Holy Ghost preacher. Bishop Walters is a debater and hard hitter. Bishop Harris is a scholar and logician. Bishop G. W. Clinton is a fine orator and able writer. Bishop Holliday is a natural born preacher. Bishop Small is a scholar and disciplinarian.

Dr. Blackwell makes a good General Manager. The election of Bishops G. W. Clinton, Holliday and Small forms a splendid arch in Zion's building; and when Dr. Smith was elected Editor the keystone was fitted in the building. Never before has the STAR been so newsy. When you want a Zion David to meet the Bethel Goliath, Editor Smith is the man. With the present bench of Bishops and General Officers we do not need a change in eight years unless otherwise ordered by Providence. Rev. J. P. Meacham.

Wilmot, Ark.

WOMAN'S COLUMN.

MRS. S. E. C. PETTEY.

AUTUMN LEAVES AFLOAT.

The conferences have all seemingly rounded up good and pretty full, reports this Autumn tide. Which is the banner conference along all Connectional lines? We pause for a reply until we hear from the Winter conferences.

* * * * *

So far the Central North Carolina Conference carries off the palm in raising missionary money in the South. We congratulate the efficien and zealous Mrs. J. M. Hill, who is vice-President for that conference district. The mother conference of this sunny South, yea, the old North Carolina Conference, loudly clapped when it was announced that one hundred dollars had been raised for missionary purposes; but the Central North Carolina exceeded this amount by five dollars. To the Central we make our politest bow and assure you that this, the mother conference will strive to take the palm from you ere the close of '98.

* * * * *

It is with much regret that we chronicle the departure of the talented Dr. R. S. Rives, ex-pastor of St. Peter's A. M. E. Zion church, Newbern, N. C. He goes to Fayetteville to succeed Dr. R. Alonzo Scott as pastor of Evans' Metropolitan church. Dr. Rives is a hustling, up-to-date preacher, a ready reasoner, a pleasing speaker, a model pastor, and withal a cultured Christian gentleman. While we had entertained the hope of having the good Doctor with us longer, we are truly Methodistic in our views and bow in submission to the will of the Bishop, fully trusting that the good people of Fayetteville and Cross Creek vicinity will tender Rev. R. S. Rives, D. D., a right royal welcome.

* * * * *

The A. M. E. Zion *Quarterly Review* for the month of October is a newsy magazine and should be read in every Afro-American home. It has many valuable contributions from some of the best brain that this country has yet produced. The editorials are terse, spicy, and on diverse topics. In fact the whole volume reflects much credit upon its clever Editor the Hon. J. C. Dancy, A. M.

* * * * *

Rev. J. H. Love has succeeded Dr. Rives as pastor of St. Peter's A. M. E. Zion church. We have not enjoyed the honor of a personal acquaintance with this distinguished divine; but we have heard much of the good work done by him for the Church of his choice. We extend a cordial weloome to the entire Love family and sincerely trust that their sojourn among us will be pleasant, profitable and altogether Love-ly.

* * * * *

The *Sunday School Gleaner* for the month of November contains nothing but sheaves of golden thought. It is a newsy little sheet and richly deserves a wide-spread circulation. We congratulate the scholarly and versatile Editor, Rev. G. L. Blackwell, D. D.

* * * * *

The reference above regarding missionary money refers solely to Southern work for the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference holds the banner high over all, having raised and turned over to Bishop J. B. Small, D. D., one hundred and fourteen dollars, ere his departure for the Dark Continent. There are only two presiding elder districts in this conference, which also raised seven hundred and eighty-one dollars general fund per presiding elder district. While I am interested in each of the Episcopal districts, it is my special desire to see the Third Episcopal district lead the van.

* * * * *

Wedding bells will soon ring in the North. It will be quite a brilliant affair so Dame Rumor says. All eyes are centered on the union of Jersey City and New York. Philadelphia is to furnish the wedding cake. Can you guess the names of the contracting parties? If so keep them till the cards appear.

Newbern, N. C.

Dear STAR: The sad duty is devolved upon me to chronicle the death of Sister Diana Dunbar, which occurred Nov. 18th at 5 o'clock p. m. She died in full triumph of the faith. She was a consistent Christian member of Social Chapel, the oldest Zion Church in Georgia, for 35 years. She was born in Terrell Co., N. C., in 1828. She was the daughter of Isaac and Nancy Haskel. She was the faithful wife of Rev. J. Dunbar for 49 years. She lived 69 years 3 months and ten days. Her life was a series of good deeds for her fellowmen. Her house was the preacher's home. Her funeral was attended by Revs. S. H. Hays, A. J. Williams, C. H. Mallory and the writer. Peace to her ashes.

Augusta, Ga. H. P. THOMAS.