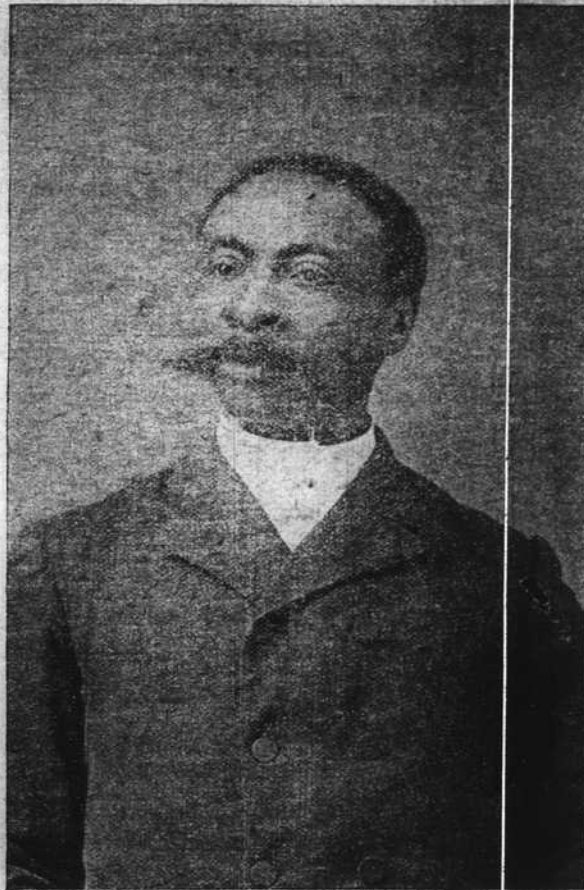


REV. WM. B. BOWENS.

A Successful And Eventful Career—A Worthy Pastor.

A BRIEF SKETCH GIVEN BELOW.

William B. Bowens was born at Newbern, N. C., March 12, 1853. He went North during the war with...



REV. WM. B. BOWENS.

adopted home. He was educated in the public schools of Worcester, having graduated from the grammar school and spent a year in special preparation for the ministry at Worcester Academy.

He was happily converted December 19, 1867, and joined the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church. An association of physicians volunteered to educate him for the medical profession, but he refused this offer because he believed God had called him to preach the glorious gospel.

WESLEY,

was first erected A. D. 1791, but rededicated and enlarged in 1840, during the Centenary of Methodism at the expense and under the direction of his sons and successors in the Christian ministry, the Methodist Conference, in token of their filial admiration, reverence and love.

On Sunday morning, April 3rd, I attended the Wesley's Chapel City Road Men's Bible Class, at 9:45 a. m., participated in the meeting and by special request led the prayer. At 11 o'clock I had the pleasure of listening to a soul-stirring sermon from the assistant pastor, Rev. Mr. Woods.

At 3:15 p. m., I attended services at St. Paul's Cathedral, conducted by Rev. W. C. E. Newfolt, A. M., canon in residence. At 6 o'clock p. m., I again attended services at Wesley's Chapel City Road church, and heard a most glorious sermon by the pastor, Rev. J. E. Westerdale, after which he administered the Lord's Supper to a large and appreciative audience, myself included in the number. I again thought it a high privilege to be allowed to commune at the same altar at which Mr. Wesley had communed.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

NOTICE.

To all the preachers of the Second Educational District: Rally as usual in the collection of Children's Bibles...

A lot on which to erect a parsonage was purchased.

During his fourteen years' service in the New England Conference very nearly three hundred persons have professed to find the pearl of great price, nine thousand dollars have been collected and paid in the purchase of land and the erection of churches for God and Zion, besides the annual collections for educational, missionary and other connexional

THE CANTON DISTRICT.

The Ministers at Work and all the Churches Progressing.

BY REV. S. C. HARRIS, P. E.

It has been sometimes since I have said anything through the STAR. I don't think it is right every time a preacher blows a loud horn, or puts a plank on the outside or inside of a church, to write or get some one to write a longwinded article to the STAR and say they have built a new church. Such has been the case in this Conference. I think it is high time for the preachers that tell such lies through the STAR to call a halt. They get some weak kneed fellow to boom them; to say that they are the only, or the most successful church builder in the Conference. Some will write it and sign some one else's name to it. Those that do such low things are a destruction to the peace of any church. You can't hide under that cloak, brother. There are some in your church that love the truth and they will tell the Bishop that you can fool all of the people sometime but you can't fool all of the people all the time. You can dress up in sheep's clothes, but your wolf ears will stand up.

We acknowledge that the STAR is world-wide, but it is too narrow to hide dirt and conceal lies. A fool is known by his many words. Whenever you throw a stone into a pack of dogs, don't ask which one is hit, but wait and see. The one that hollers is the one that's hit. Mr. Editor, I know that it is a general thing, whenever some preachers go on a charge and a good crowd comes out to see the new preacher, for them to run to the STAR and write thus: "Mr. Editor, when I was appointed here, this work was dead, the members were scattered and the name of Zion was dead or almost dead here; but I am glad to say that they are revived again, and I have taken in so and so many members." Yes they are the same old financial back-sliders. At the close of the Conference year they will go out again. Our churches here are making slow progress on the account of such members, with some exceptions, therefore, I need not state the condition of this district when I was appointed here, for all of Zion knows her condition, it having been told again and again through the STAR last year.

Rev. E. A. Boyd, in charge of Canton circuit, is doing well, and is doing all he can to pay off the indebtedness of the church. He is loved and highly esteemed by his people.

Rev. P. Green, pastor of Sharon circuit, is moving along nicely. His people are well pleased with him. Some preacher tried to poison the minds of his people at Sharon. I heard of it and went there and met him in official meeting and overcame the trouble by the power of God.

Rev. N. E. Nolan, of Camden circuit, is succeeding nicely. He is working hard to pay off the debt of Camden church and built a new one at Free Union.

Rev. J. E. P. Marshall is at Liberty chapel circuit. This is his fifth year at one of his churches. This grand old warrior is loved by saints and sinners, and is moving along all financial lines. He is a lover of his Church.

Rev. N. L. Mills, of Middletown Grove circuit, is a coming young man. He has captured and carried off his members, saints and sinners. They say that God was in the Bishop's heart when he made the appointment. He has paid off one of the notes on the church and is preparing to remodel Sherpaburg church. Brethren, you had better watch him.

Rev. M. A. Garner is on the Glen archa circuit—this is another coming young man. His people love him. He is doing all he can to pay the indebtedness of his church. Your people want you to holler a little louder than the Bishop.

MISSIONARY WORK

OF THE W. N. C. CONFERENCE.

MISSIONARY DEVOTIONAL MEETING.

This outline will make a very helpful missionary prayer-meeting if carefully prepared for in advance.

1 What is the ground of missionary work? John 3:16; Luke 2:10; Mark 16:15.

2 What is the need of missionary work? Psalm 14:2-3; Ephesians 2:12; Roman 10:13-15.

3 What is the purpose of missionary work? Luke 19:10; Acts 26:18.

4 What is the sin of standing aloof? 2 Kings 7:9; Judges 1:23; Matt. 25:25-27.

5 What is the motive of missionary work? Luke 16:5; 1 Corinthians 5:14; Psalm 115:12.

6 What are the ways of helping missionary work? Isaiah 68; 2 Corinthians 1:11; Matt. 9:28; Proverbs 3:9.

7 What is the spirit in which help should be given to missionary work? Mark 14:8.

8 What is the record of a sharer in work? Proverbs 11:25; Job 28:13; Matt. 25:33.

9 What is the end of missionary work? Matt. 25:14; Isaiah 2:17; Hab. 2:14.

I have carefully selected this for a guide for a missionary prayer-meeting and earnestly urge that all the churches throughout the entire conference will observe from Wednesday May 18 to Sunday May 23 inclusive as a time for special prayer in the interest of mission, that God may wonderfully bless the efforts put forth for the advancement of His cause and the spreading of His kingdom.

Mrs. M. A. Harable, Vice Pres.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

We would like to inform all the stockholders of the Colman Mfg. Co. that their assessment is now due...

them and others. Brethren, keep a clear lookout along all lines.

Among the many things I see to be done in this district is to pay for these churches that the STAR has been burdened with long-winded articles about. The preachers on missions have not done anything yet but the outlook bids fair for success. Build churches if you want to pastor others.

N. B. The district ought and must go to Palmetto Home this year. It will be the means of spreading Zion in that rich country. Brethren, let us know "no failure" this year. We are glad to say that we have not held a quarterly conference this year without taking some one in the church. I am going to report general fund every quarter. Send me some blanks, Dr. Day.

Canton, Miss.

ZION IN TEXAS.

BY A ZIONITE.

Zion in this portion of her broad field is still alive, up and a doing. With such a man of God as Bishop Holliday at the helm, the work is destined to be the greatest Conference of Zion in the near future. Since our last annual Conference Rev. Jehu Holliday, D. D., has visited every point in the State, stirred the cause of Zion, making a lasting impression. God bless the old sire.

As co-workers, the field has a few faithful and coming men in this first district of the Texas Conference. Rev. J. W. Whiten, pastor of Sneeds mission with his good people, has succeeded in building a fine church 40x30, and has added 20 members thereto, and is still moving along. Rev. J. H. Brown, pastor of Ft. Wontu mission, is having quite a rough time just now, but the fog and mist are clearing and he will come out all right. Blonwn, Calvert station, is also having marked success under the pastorate of Bro. Wm. Jones, with several accessions during a revival meeting held recently. Rev. S. B. Brazell is pastor of Anderson's chapel. His work is moving along swimmingly.

Calvert, Texas.

ZION IN LOUISIANA.

BY A. B. G.

Dear Editor: I am jubilant over Zion's great men and of the race until I can no longer hold my peace. When I cast my eyes to the East, West, North and South and see the son's and daughters of Ham coming up from darkness despite the potent powers of ignorance, prejudice and superstition with which they have to contend, my heart breaks out with hallelujahs and "glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will to all men." I am truly glad of our great men.

Rev. J. Thomas, my beloved pastor, and Rev. D. J. Adams, presiding elder, are the right men in the right places. Rev. Thomas is an excellent worker for God in Zion. Since the flood in last year he built a fine church, cooled it up and has paid all expenses with the exception of a few dollars, and on the 4th Sunday in November he laid his corner-stone though the weather was very unfavorable. A numerous crowd was present to witness the grand scene in Madison Parish, La., at a colored church. Zion in North Louisiana is yet alive.

Trinidad, La.

BISHOP HOOD'S APPOINTMENTS.

May 22nd, Greensboro, N.C. 23-25, Salisbury, 26th, Charlotte, 27th, 28th, 29th, June 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD.

Succinct Reports Indicative Of The Progress Of Zion.

THE CHURCH AT WORK.

The A. M. E. Z. church of Fawn, near Gatchelville, held protracted meeting with 23 converts and 26 accessions as a result. Rev. W. H. Turner is our pastor. We are having grand success.—Miss Mary Belle Harris, Airville, Pa.

We have just closed our revival here; nine converts and sixteen accessions. The people say it was the largest revival ever seen here. The church is alive. We are remodeling the church and preparing for conference.—Rev. O. Davis, Whistler, Ala.

At the Presiding Elders' Union which met in Carlisle, S. C., Rev. E. D. Bullock preached the opening sermon in the place of Rev. H. W. Smith who failed to come. Text, Genesis 49:23. It was an instructive and reviving sermon. Pray for the success of Zion.—A Spectator, Carlisle, S. C.

I have 6 officers and teachers and 89 scholars in my school. Of course we have some trouble with some of the directors. If a preacher fails to do as they want him to do there is trouble. We have one of the most eloquent presiding elders in the field.—E. D. Mashtop, Park Dale, Ark.

The Herald in the hands of the Negro has fully demonstrated the possibilities of the race in all the routine of journalism. The success of the Negro journalist has been phenomenal notwithstanding the lack of encouragement and the indifference on the part of those who ought to rally to their support. Leading journals such as the Age, Gazette, Plaindealer, Word, Planet, Sentinel, Conservator, STAR or ZION and should have not less than 20,000 subscribers.—Anna E. Neal in the (Ark.) City Herald.

On Zion circuit we had a great congregation at Good Hope church. Brother William Alexander, a new superintendent, a young man, will push things to the front. He is doing well. He has got the circuit on his feet. Brother J. D. Belton is the superintendent at Zion Hill church. He is a young man who can be made smart and energetic. In quality and principle I am teaching my church to be second to none; teaching them to pay their dues to the Connection.—Rev. R. Spencer, J. W. B. Smith, secretary, Kalb, S. C.

Zion is on wheels here and moving off grandly. Our candle march was the grandest seen here. About 450 people were on the grounds that night and all the Christians had candles and sang, "Marching must be done." At its close we went to the church and pastor N. T. Hunter preached a powerful sermon from St. Matthew 23:34. The white people were much impressed. Station agent, Mr. Arnett, said he followed the speaker until he got to fingering the stars and measuring heaven off in four squares, and he was lost. We love our pastor. He is a power in the pulpit.—R. J. Hast, Mt. Vernon, Ala.

I wish to commend the young ladies of Asheville's mission Sunday-school. They are taking more interest in the mission work than ever before. They gave a concert for my benefit April 1st and collected \$12.00. They are doing all they can to help me to carry on this work. Hope our stronger workers will engage them. They have organized the H. and F. M. Society with Miss Ella Siler as president; Miss Anna vice-president; Miss Perry Miller, secretary; and Miss Lizzie Miller, treasurer. We have now 35 members. Bro. M. M. Siler is the city minister. Mrs. M. Siler, reporter, Asheville, N. C.

The Utica (N. Y.) church in its annual Sabbath-school convention district conference was held, is situated in the very best locality. The field is grand and an active and progressive minister could go to this city and build a \$5,000 or \$8,000 Variak Memorial church or a Walters' chapel. As it now stands Zion has no claim on one dollar's worth of property. There are over 600 colored people in that city and we have not one inch of ground in that city. Minister in this conference should go up. Don't find fault with it. See how we are situated. Go as many other churches, and as you see the field, you will see the need of a church.