

WASHINGTON (N. C.) DISTRICT.

BY REV. W. J. MOORE, P. E.

My whole district is on a boom. Greenville, Rev. L. B. Williams, pastor, needs no booming at the hands of any one, for he is a God-called man, and loyal to the Church of his choice. He preaches Holy Ghost religion, and practices what he preaches; hence his work is prospering all along.

Washington, Rev. G. H. Miles, A. M., pastor, an untiring messenger of the Cross, is carrying everything before him, and has brought peace out of confusion, and the church is in good condition spiritually and temporarily.

Washington circuit, Rev. Stanley Boyd, the energetic gospel trumpeter, is leaving no stone unturned in his effort to perform his whole duty.

Kinston, Rev. E. D. Jones, pastor. In this Brother we have another L. B. Williams, a man who preaches and lives the Holy Ghost religion. He has been sorely tried, but he has conquered every time, and his church is in good condition every way.

Dover circuit, Rev. J. T. Tarboro, a young hero in the gospel, met a warm reception on his new field of labor, and he has everything his own way. His work is in a good condition.

Aurora circuit. The well-known, loyal, irrepressible messenger of the cross, Rev. A. F. Moore, stands on guard at this place, and he is putting forth every effort in the faithful performance of his duty. He has secured another church site and is arranging to build a new church on his district.

Bayboro circuit, Rev. A. F. Mitchell, pastor. This is a very small work but very good people, and Rev. Mitchell is an industrious man. He is used to having something, and he cannot depend on that small body of people for his support; so he is running a large farm, but he is taking care of his little flock just the same.

Smith Creek circuit, Rev. J. W. L. Council, pastor. Oh, if that good brother could have kept his health he would have carried that work this year before. He has been down for the last five months, yet that good people are doing all they can for his support. I ask the prayers of our great Church for his recovery.

Adams Creek circuit, Rev. F. B. House, the old veteran gospel messenger, is laboring assiduously as in days past to build up this work.

Piney Grove circuit, Rev. A. R. Roberts, a young rising star of Zion, is doing a great work at this point. He has made the greatest improvement on that church that has ever been made since it was built; in fact it was an old church rebuilt, and the members and minister are united, and everything is moving on lovely.

Grifton circuit, Rev. W. A. Keys, pastor. This is a very small work for a man of Elder Keys' long and faithful standing, yet as a loyal minister of Zion he went to work and has greatly improved the whole circuit and has made Foreman's chapel almost a new church. He has a C. E. society in all his churches, and the spiritual condition of the circuit is just grand, and the people say there is no man like Elder Keys.

Bath circuit, Rev. E. B. Wil-

liams, pastor. This good Christian brother was sent in good time to save to us our church at Bath. He being a mechanic, and Mr. Brooks wanting to settle up our church matter, the Elder took the whole church debt on himself and paid the bill by building a house for Mr. Brooks, and now our church at Bath is safe to the Connection. Brother Williams is also a good preacher, and his circuit is in a first-class condition. He has built a recess to the church at Bath, and is now repairing a church at Leachville. Oh, for more E. B. Williams.

And what must I say for our 8-page STAR OF ZION in its new dress? Well, in short, three cheers for Dr. Smith, three cheers for Dr. Blackwell, and three cheers for the STAR OF ZION. Dr. Smith, please publish this in full, and I will not trouble you again in a long time.

Wilson, A. C.

JOHNSON-THOMAS.

BY REV. E. D. W. JONES, A. M.

The marriage of Prof. B. A. Johnson and Miss Amanda Thomas, was celebrated in Fifth-st. Baptist church, of which the bride was a prominent and useful member, Tuesday eve., June 28th, Rev. John Frank, the talented, liberal, energetic pastor, and Bishops G. W. Clinton and Alexander Walters, officiating. Long before the hour, the beautiful and spacious edifice was crowded with admiring friends anxious to witness the nuptials of the two well-liked and popular contracting parties; and when the great organ, presided over by Mrs. M. E. Steward, of recognized musical ability, rolled off the wedding march, composed by Mendelssohn Bartholdy, a sea of upturned faces scanned the doors to catch a first glimpse of the bridal party, led by well-drilled ushers up the long aisle. Two handsome little ones carrying large bouquets of flowers followed. Then came the maid of honor, Miss Lucy Steward, the accomplished daughter of Hon. W. H. Steward, Editor of the *American Baptist*, and last of all came the bride leaning upon the arm of Prof. Daniel Lawson, meeting at the altar the groom, who was accompanied by his pastor and school mate. While Mrs. Lucretia Knox, of Indianapolis, softly and sweetly sang, the solemn ceremony was performed, and Prof. B. A. Johnson and Miss Amanda Thomas were declared husband and wife, together in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. After congratulations, the bridal party moved to the strains of another beautiful march down the aisles, and were hurried to the home of the bride, where a grand reception was held in their honor.

Both parties were very popular in the city; this fact being evidenced by the large gathering of distinguished friends, in and out of the city. They received many valuable and useful presents from all parts of the country which attested their prominence and standing.

They will reside here until September, when they will go to Salisbury, N. C., to permanently live. We hope for their happiness and peace and pray "That as Isaac and Rebecca lived faithfully together, so these persons may perform and keep the vow and covenant between them made, and may ever remain in perfect love and peace."

Louisville, Ky.

CAPE FEAR DISTRICT.

REV. S. B. HUNTER, P. E.

A few words about my men and their work might as you will see from figures below inspire them to do better this year than last.

Mount Olive circuit, Rev. H. W. Farris, pastor. This good brother had a fine start off until he was bothered by one of our ministers preaching and organizing a society in one of his churches known as the "National Protective Association," which divided his members.

Warsaw circuit, Rev. G. L. Clark, pastor. He has had trouble with the same minister at Faison's church, but as he did not effect an organization his trouble was not so great as Rev. Farris's.

Magnolia, Rev. W. H. Wilder, pastor. He is doing well under the circumstances and has raised money to have the church at Magnolia painted. I shipped the paint to him this week.

Parkersburg, Rev. C. R. Coward, pastor. He is a young man, but a scholar and is trying to bring this circuit to the front. He tells me he expects to raise more money on Children's Day this year than ever has been raised on this work before.

Garland, Rev. E. A. Carroll, pastor. This is that soft and easy Christian minister and I think sometimes too easy for his own good, for some people and church members take advantage of such. He is among a people that claim sanctification and holiness; so this in itself will give him success this year.

Tomahawk, Rev. I. B. Williams, pastor. He is one of our old ministers, but to have him speak and see him act any one would think he was a young man. He and his people are getting along fine.

Carver Creek, Rev. T. H. Lovick, pastor. He has things moving on nicely, although he had it rough the first of the year on account of some members' split off attempting to organize into a Baptist church because he pressed them to pay their church dues. Only seven left, and as the church is in a better condition than ever, it would be well for our churches to get rid of more of such members. He has raised this year, Easter collection, \$9.57; last year, \$4; an increase of \$5.57.

Lisbon, Rev. T. H. Herring, pastor. I said so much last year about this brother being a hustler that one of our presiding elders tried to slip him on his district. He is still making improvements on the circuit.

White Oak, Rev. E. S. Burney, pastor. He is having quite a success on this work. This circuit is in a better condition than ever known before; peace reigns between pastor and people, therefore I expect a good report this year.

Elizabethtown, Rev. W. J. F. Moore, pastor. With his ability as a scholar he seems to have the people with him, and if he can just hold them, we will expect a good report from that work this year. He has made some improvements in church property.

Clarkton, Rev. S. M. Lloyd, pastor. This work is not what it was last year this time under Rev. Carroll. Brother Lloyd has been sick and unable to attend to it, but we hope for a good report

as we have arranged for the circuit to be attended to while Rev. Lloyd is sick.

Abbotsburg, Rev. T. S. Maultsby, pastor. He is a young man, but a hustler and has made some improvements on this work in adding one church and raising money to pay off church debts—a debt of \$50 was due on the church. Rev. Carroll erected at Bladenboro and Rev. Maultsby raised \$30 of this in a rally.

These figures will show what my district did last year without a station and no report to me from one circuit, namely Garland, on Easter, nor Children's Day. As we failed to have any minutes printed this year, I give them as I wish to encourage my men. A new work laid off, new men, and a new presiding elder with 2,335 members in all; for I made it a rule to urge my pastors to bring every member to the front whose name was on the church book, matters not whether they were in Georgia or in the North; if those names are on the book, report them. We expect to do better this year.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Widows and orphans,	2 05
Children's Day,	57 76
Easter,	38 44
W. H. and F. M. Society,	16 33
General Conf. delegate,	1 26
Subscriptions to STAR,	22 00
Annual Conf. collections,	4 10
Local mission,	1 95
African mission school,	1 35
Variety Building,	1 05
Church extension,	5 40
Donated to STAR,	5 00
Presiding Elder's salary,	545 00
Pastors' salary,	2,140 50
General fund,	643 00
Building purposes,	475 00

Grand total, \$3,960 19

Members, 2,335

We mean to better this in every respect.

Wilmington, N. C.

WEARING ROBES.

The *Richmond Advocate* says "the Bishops of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church have decided to wear robes on special occasions when the ritual is used." The *Holston Methodist* commenting on the above, observes: "Like the Negro, this is a backward movement. It is a revival of sacerdotalism, a return to Judaism and Paganism. Why should a bishop wear robes rather than any other preacher?" We are as much opposed to bishops wearing robes as the *Methodists*; but, we enter our unqualified protest against that paper for slurring on the Negro. The Negro is not a back number, neither can this movement of our Zion brethren be considered as a peculiar idiosyncrasy of the race. —*Christian Index*.

NOTICE.

The meeting of the Michigan and Canada Conference has been changed from the 4th Wednesday in August to the 5th Wednesday in August. Ministers and delegates please govern themselves accordingly. Place of meeting, Detroit, Mich.

[Signed:] A. Walters, Bishop.

Jersey City, N. J., July 16, '98.

NEW HAVEN (CONN.) NOTES.

BY REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.

Rt. Rev. J. W. Hood, D. D., LL. D., presiding Bishop of the New England Conference of the A. M. E. Zion Church, accompanied by his estimable wife, arrived in our city Saturday evening the 9th inst., and were entertained by Mrs. F. H. Hill, 24 Foote Street.

At 10:45 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. on Sunday the Bishop occupied the pulpit of the Foote-st. A. M. E. Zion church, preaching two most excellent sermons to immense congregations. Two persons were received into the church during the morning service.

Rev. Francis H. Hill, the new pastor at the Foote-st. A. M. E. Zion church, delivered an eloquent and impressive address before a large audience at 3 o'clock. The services were held in observance of President McKinley's proclamation. The church was tastefully decorated with our national colors. The music was both patriotic and inspiring.

The following newly elected officers of the V. C. E. Society were installed last Sunday evening at 6:30: president, Miss Josephine Scott; vice-president, Mr. A. Fisher; secretary, Miss Lizzie Birchmore; corresponding secretary, Miss Esther Gray; treasurer, Mrs. Susie Spencer; pianist, Miss Bessie Spencer. Chairmen of the several committees were appointed as follows: Look-out, Miss Emma Williams; Prayer-meeting, Rev. J. A. Hall; Flowers, Mrs. Hattie Fisher; Calling, Miss Carrie Stevens; Social, Mrs. Lizzie Wilmore; Sunday-school, Miss Annie Pickett. Addresses were delivered by Bishop Hood and by Mrs. K. P. Hood, the president of the V. C. E. Society of Fayetteville, N. C.

GRAND RECEPTION AND WELCOME.

The members of the Foote-st. A. M. E. Zion church and the citizens of New Haven in general turned out in large numbers on Monday evening, the 11th inst., to accord their newly-appointed pastor of the church, Rev. Francis H. Hill, and his family a welcome reception and to manifest their high regard for Bishop J. W. Hood and his most refined and lovable wife who accompanies him on his Episcopal visitation through the New England Conference. The exercises began with an anthem by the choir. Rev. W. H. Singleton, master of ceremonies, called on Rev. S. S. Jolley of the M. E. Church who offered prayer. Another selection by the choir, "The Pastor's Welcome," was followed by an address of welcome on behalf of the church by Mr. Frederick D. Meyers, a promising young man of the church. Addresses on behalf of the various churches of the city were delivered by the following pastors: Rev. A. C. Powell, of Immanuel Baptist church; Rev. S. S. Jolley, of the M. E. church; Rev. T. Nelson Baker, of the Congregational church. A letter from Rev. Fernandess, of the U. M. E. church, was read expressing his regrets in not being able to be present. Bishop Hood was introduced and made a response in which some very interesting historical events connected with this church and her ministry were recounted. Rev. Hill followed in a brief address in which he expressed his pleasure in so cordial a greeting and welcome to the churches and city and homes of the people of New Haven. An elaborate banquet in the lecture room followed the exercises in which all present participated. Rev. Singleton provided an extensive trolley ride for the Bishop and his wife and Rev. Hill and family on Tuesday. The Bishop departed for Bridgeport, Conn., in the afternoon.