

The Star of Zion.

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THURSDAY, JULY 28TH, 1898.

EDITORIAL.

ETERNITY is in front of us.

THE war thus far has cost this country \$125,000,000.

BISHOP HARRIS will give his views on women elders next week.

WE regret that the cuts of one of our printers, the pressman, a feeder, two apprentices, a clerk and two bookmakers do not appear in this issue.

PORTO RICO, discovered 1405 years ago by Columbus, contains 3,530 square miles and is rich in minerals and agriculture. Uncle Sam will capture it before he thinks about talking peace with Spain.

THE STAR should have said that Rev. A. B. Smyer is the president of the Sunday-school convention instead of presiding elder. The gifted divine has honorably held the presidency for seven years.

PROF. R. E. TOOMEY, a prominent layman of Zion and ex-president of Greenville College, has been appointed by President McKinley lieutenant colonel of the Volunteer Regiment and stationed at Fort Thomas in Kentucky.

OUR staff correspondents will please not write oftener than every three or four weeks and be sure to keep their articles down to 500 words so that we may not boil them down. This will give those who are not "special correspondents" a chance to be heard.

THE Atlanta (Ga.) Appeal says it regrets to see Astwood and us at war. Weep not for us, Brother Taylor, but for gentlemanly Astwood who failing to refute our facts went down in the gutter to find language debased enough to express his malice and prejudice.

THE Board of trustees for Jones University elected by the General Conference, elected Dr. J. W. Alstork to take Children's Day money for said school. The Board of Education authorized Dr. Wheeler to take it. Dr. Alstork consulted the Senior Bishop and he says it is his recollection that the money collected for this school goes to Dr. Alstork.

THE STAR last week should have said Dr. Puryear reduced the debt on our church in St. Louis \$1,350 instead of reduced it to that amount. The Mobile (Ala.) Weekly Press says Rev. J. F. Moreland preached his farewell sermon at State-street church last week and

has been appointed to St. Louis. The debt in St. Louis is \$15,000, but we believe Brother John will manage it.

For egotism of the most pronounced type we unhesitatingly commend Dr. Smith, the editor of the Star of Zion. In spite of it, however, he wields a trenchant pen.—Baltimore Afro-American.

Thanks for the compliment paid us as a writer, but for asinine vanity of the most pronounced type, due to a head as long as it is ignorant, we unhesitatingly commend the editor of the Baltimore Afro-American.

DR. J. H. ANDERSON, General Statistician, will soon begin to write for the STAR under the caption "Searchlight Scenes," live topics, general criticisms, discussions of important interests affecting the Church and race. He is a writer of ability and versatility, prolific in language and thought and elegant in expression. He is especially gifted with a strongly descriptive and philosophic mind.

PROF. B. A. JOHNSON desires all the pastors who have not done so to send in the Children's Day money for Livingstone College so that he can send his list in to go in the STAR supplement August 18th. The brethren ought to report immediately to the proper parties in their districts. We cannot see why several pastors will collect and hold this money when they hear the schools calling for it. Such men are careless and have no business tact, and really Zion does not need them.

THE public will pardon the pride we take in the fact that the press-work on this issue of the STAR was superintended by one of our feeders—Mr. Albert G. Wyche, the "Kid." Our "Kid" has had but two months' experience with a cylinder press, working under the direction of the pressman, but the latter being sick, "Kid" went ahead, with a suggestion or two from the Foreman, and the press-work—good, bad or indifferent as you choose to term it—on the paper before you is the result.

At the North Carolina State Convention over a week ago, Collector John C. Dancy was very much in evidence. He was secretary for the tenth consecutive time, was a member of the committee on resolutions whose action harmonized the warring elements, and was unanimously re-elected a member of the State Executive Committee-at-Large, besides making one of the five speeches delivered in the Convention. It shows that Dancy is the leading Negro Republican of his State.

THE following words from Mr. C. H. Wetherbe, of Holland Patent, N. Y., a very brainy white gentleman who writes religious articles for several leading white papers as well as for the STAR, will send chills to Rev. H. C. C. Astwood who says the Christian Recorder is the greatest Negro religious paper and the STAR OF ZION next:

"I heartily congratulate you on the splendid improvements in the STAR. Its new form is admirable in every way. I have seen quite a number of Negro religious papers, and yours leads them all. I prize your editorials and always read the paper with avidity."

THE special issue this week has

crowded out several very important articles. Next week such talented writers as Bishop Walters, Prof. B. A. Johnson, Dr. B. F. Wheeler and others will be heard. We shall also publish a synopsis of Rev. John Jasper's "De Sun Do Move" sermon, and the presiding elders' reports. Verily the STAR is on a boom and every pastor ought to sell five or ten copies a week in his church or appoint some young man or woman to do so. Those who want to be agents to sell can make money by writing to Dr. G. L. Blackwell.

OFFERS TO BE A MEDIATOR.

The Christian Index, the newsy and brilliant official organ of the C. M. E. Church, published at Jackson, Tenn., after publishing nearly the whole of Bishop Holliday's reply to Bishop Derrick, says:

This controversy is a little unfortunate. It widens the chasm between these two denominations and places the possibilities of organic union further and further away. Editor Johnson of the Recorder and Editor Smith of the Star have taken a hand in the fray. They write of each other strangely. Should they proceed in the discussion, they may need a mediator and we now offer our services. In the meantime we trust Bishops Holliday and Derrick may drop the matter and that no unpleasant feelings be left to mar their future relations.

We wish to say to Dr. Phillips that he will fly up to the stars and sweep cobwebs from the skies before he will ever see organic union between Bethel and Zion. Bishop Holliday and the STAR did not start this controversy and they will not run from it. It is not our fight nor our funeral. Dr. Phillips may act as mediator until Editor T. Thomas Fortune who is laughing and poking fun counts ten.

THE WRONG MAN CREDITED.

The Colored American, in saying that Dr. J. M. Henderson sounds the keynote by showing the pressing need of sending a Negro war correspondent to the front, has a short memory. Rev. D. C. Covington, the colored correspondent of the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer, was the first one to sound the keynote over a month ago, and named Prof. W. F. Fonvielle to go; and by consulting the back numbers of the STAR it will be seen that we endorsed the same man and idea. Henderson saw it in the STAR before he wrote on it in the American and is now strutting in stolen glory. He wants either Cooper, Mitchell, Sweeney, Knox or Fortune to go to the front as this correspondent, and he pledges \$50 towards sending him. The Colored American endorses the idea and pledges \$50 more and also names the following correspondents from which to make a selection:

"We place high in this category the versatile and well-informed John E. Bruce, of Albany, N. Y., the gifted R. W. Thompson, of Indiana, the clever "J. O. Midnight," Chicago and the country at large, the scholarly W. F. Fonvielle, of North Carolina, the thoroughgoing Charles Alexander, of Alabama, the incisive W. T. Menard, of Florida, the polished A. O. Stafford, of the District of Columbia, and others who have won national reputations as correspondents on leading white and colored newspapers."

Just as the printer had set up the above editorial the Colored American comes and we read this:

"Some differences of opinion have arisen as to who is entitled to the credit of originating the plan to send a Negro correspondent to the seat of war. The Star of Zion, Dr. Henderson, Mr. Osborne Hunter and others, were among the earliest and most enthusiastic supporters of the idea, but the actual pioneer honors seem to belong to Mr. Albert A. Ashton, of Athens, Ga., who as early as May 17, addressed a letter to The Colored American, suggesting the need of such a correspondent, and inviting an expression as to the likelihood of a union of the colored press in monetary support of the proposition. Thus, so far as our information goes, Mr. Ashton is justified in claiming to have been first in the field."

Unless Rev. Covington can get over "May 17" Mr. Ashton is entitled to the honor until some one can knock him out. Bruce-Grit writes us to shake hands with Prof. Fonvielle and announce that he is for Fonvielle first, last and all the time for war correspondent, as he is a man of peace, and just the one to write war stories.

WOMEN BISHOPS NEXT.

"The Zion Methodist Church is shelling the woods for a woman Bishop. They already have a woman elder. Lord, what would our grandmothers think if they could come back to earth and see some of the sights we daily behold? Star of Zion, give us your honest views on this question, or are you afraid? Don't these mannish women need spanking?"—Atlanta (Ga.) Appeal.

Editor C. H. J. Taylor, ex-Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, having visited the home of Bishop J. B. Small last year and wrote a glowing account of it in the Baltimore Daily American, calling it "cultured," would not for a moment rank Mrs. Small in the category of "mannish women." In the use of these terms we believe he has no reference to such a quiet, modest and Christian woman who has broken down her health working for God and the race, and is now by the seaside at Beaufort, N. C., trying to regain it. Brother Taylor refers to some masculine women who in churches and at conferences are always tongue-lashing the ministers for not doing (what they think) their duty.

No, we are not afraid to give our honest views on woman ordination nor anything else pertaining to Zion. We stated in last week's STAR that in view of the fact that nearly all of the denominations are against this new move, and are criticizing Zion, that our Bishops ought not to ordain any more women to elder's orders until the General Conference approves or disapproves of what has already been done. Zion is not shelling the woods for a woman bishop, and Brother Taylor will please correct that statement, but if any more women are ordained before 1900, Editor J. C. Dancy says he will start a movement in favor of women bishops.

This ordination business is a very serious and solemn affair, and before we can endorse women elders, the theologians must show us Scripture to warrant it. Sister Small is lucky. She has been ordained. It is not her fault. She passed a creditable examination. With no law to stop her, the ordination had to come. Her ordination will hardly be nullified. Since the General Conference let down the bars by striking the word "male" from the Discipline, giving the women equality with the men in everything, it ought not to be. We see where it is leading up to. Unless some of our Bishops, against the

general sentiment of our denomination, rush before 1900 and ordain to elder's orders some more of the women preachers we have, we feel confident that Sister Small will be the first and the last woman elder made by Zion Connection.

We hear that some of the other women preachers want to be elders. Let them wait until the General Conference speaks. When that body struck "male" from the Discipline, it did not dream of women elders. Running ahead of other denominations, ambitious to do what they haven't done, may cause Zion to shed tears some day.

SHOOTING STARS.

The Star wishes to know how we like her new dress. We answer, fine, fine, fine!—Bristol (Tenn.) Ship.

The STAR is a beauty in her new dress—the best Negro paper in the world—neat, clean, first-class. Hurrah for Dr. Smith and Dr. Blackwell.—Rev. M. S. Kell, Sharon, Pa.

Rev. S. A. Chambers, of Rock Hill, S. C., was the first to fire a shell into the fort of what he calls the "petticoat ministry"—ordaining women to holy orders. A great war is expected.—Pee Dee (N. C.) Herald.

The Star of Zion, official paper of the A. M. E. Zion Church, was recently enlarged from its old form to an eight-page organ. It is greatly improved in appearance and better represents Zion Connection. Editor Smith and Manager Blackwell have the congratulations of the CHRISTIAN INDEX on their success.—Christian Index.

The Star of Zion, of Charlotte, N. C., has been greatly improved. Manager Blackwell and Editor Smith present to an appreciative public an eight-page journal neatly printed on good book paper. It takes its rank as the leading Negro Church paper in this country. We congratulate the Editor and Manager for the excellent work they are doing for the benefit of Zion and the race.—Edenton (N. C.) Herald.

The Varick Building, in which is located the publishing interests of the A. M. E. Zion Church at Charlotte, N. C., is a three-story structure. Manager Blackwell has recently made some repairs on it. The two first floors are now in use, and the third floor will be used for a book bindery department in the future. The Star of Zion, Quarterly Review and the Sunday-school Literature of the Church are all issued from this building. Some ten or eleven persons are employed in doing the work.—Christian Index.

The Star of Zion in new dress and form is the most inviting and inspiring Negro journal coming to our study, reflecting great credit on the race at large and especially on our Church in whose well-equipped Publication Department it is edited, printed and published. Dr. G. L. Blackwell, the energetic and efficient Business Manager, has made our Publication Department one of the most successful business enterprises in the country. Dr. J. W. Smith, the peerless Editor of the Star, causes our well-known Church organ to rank side by side with the great Advocates of our Mother Church. But the best of all about the Star is that it is becoming more and more intensely spiritual and helpful to pastor and people along all lines of Church work.—Zion Trumpet.

Mrs. G. W. Clinton and little Willie, after spending several days with the Bishop at Henderson, Ky., have gone to Indianapolis, Ind., where they are the guests of Rev. and Mrs. Wakefield. Mrs. Clinton will soon go to St. Louis to work up a cantata for the benefit of our big church there. Bishop G. W. Clinton surprised his mother and many friends in the city by making a short visit to his home on Monday to look after some business. He returned to Tennessee Tuesday where he will attend a district conference at Coal Creek. He will next go to Mississippi, where he will make several visits prior to Bishops' meeting and Jubilee at Asbury Park, August 15th. The Bishop expects to take a vacation for two weeks, spending the time in Western New York, after Bishops' meeting.