

# The Star of Zion.

ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH IN AMERICA.

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## THE C. E. CONVENTION.

### The Great Gathering at Nashville --Denominational Rally.

BY PROF. B. A. JOHNSON.

The great Christian Endeavor Society held its 17th annual session in Nashville, Tenn., on the 6th to 11th of July, and for the first time South of the Mason and Dixon line. Except in numbers, the Convention in all other respects has been pronounced a success.

Zion cannot boast much in Nashville, for unfortunately our missionaries and founders passed it by when they were planting the Church in Tennessee. However, our denominational rally was properly scheduled with President Colbert named for chairman. But the wise judgment of the bishops and ministers of both the A. M. E. Z. and A. M. E. Churches caused them to agree to a joint denominational rally which was held in the St. Paul A. M. E. church Friday morning, July 8th. Bishops Alexander Walters and G. W. Clinton were there representing the Episcopacy of Zion, while Bishop B. W. Arnett, who acted as chairman of the joint meeting, represented the A. M. E. Church. Besides these, there were ministers and laymen not only of the two Churches mentioned, but of the M. E. Church and also of the Baptist Church. In the last instance notably two delegates from Cherry Street Baptist church in Philadelphia. An account of the meeting is given in the following minute:

The meeting was opened by singing "Pass me Not, O Gentle Savior." Rev. C. W. Ziegler, of the A. M. E. Church, led in prayer, which was followed by the rendition of the excellent anthem by the choir, entitled "Search me, O God." Bishop Clinton then conducted the Scripture reading, choosing the 72d Psalm and the 13th chapter of First Corinthians. The secretaries chosen were Sidney E. Purnell, of the A. M. E. Church, Philadelphia, and B. A. Johnson, of the Zion Church, Livingstone College, Salisbury, N. C.

Bishop Arnett next introduced Rev. J. O. Davis, D. D., the pastor of St. Paul, who in nicely constructed phrases spoke words of welcome. He was happy in his remarks and laid emphasis on the delight it gave him to welcome the delegates who had come from a distance. He also paid an excellent tribute to the two great founders, Varick and Allen. The response was made by Mr. Geo. M. Oliver, of Philadelphia, who is president of the Varick Endeavor Society of the A. M. E. Zion church at 15th and Lombard Streets. Mr. Oliver in the course of his remarks, intimated that the small attendance at the Convention from abroad as well as the lack of patronage of its meetings on the part of the citizens of Nashville, was an indication that

the Convention had come to Nashville too soon.

When the choir had sung, "God is calling the Prodigal," etc., Rev. D. A. Graham, of Indianapolis, Ind., was introduced for an address. He announced that a little more enthusiasm was necessary to his speaking and requested the singing of the song "Loyalty to Christ." He prefaced his remarks by saying that long before he had heard of Dr. Clark and his work he had organized a "Gospel Band" among the young people of his church in Washington, Ind. But when the Christian Endeavor became prominent, finding that it was the same as his, he adopted that name, and then jokingly remarked that he and Dr. Clark are the fathers of the whole concern. The burden of his remarks was to the effect that the work of the C. E. is practical and contributes to the material, spiritual and charitable development of the Church. He spoke in excellent manner of the prominence given by the Convention to the original Methodist doctrine of a high spiritual life.

When more music had been interspersed, Rev. J. B. Colbert, A. M., who is the official head of the Endeavor work in the Zion Church, was introduced for an address. In speaking of the origin of the work, he made the statement that the C. E. Society was born in heaven. The burden of his remarks was upon the great advantage the work was to young people in the Church, insisting that its methods are adapted to young people and young converts especially, relieving them of much of the embarrassment which often comes to such converts in taking part in church services. By special request, Rev. Graham sang "It pays to serve Jesus."

Mr. J. Jarrett Johnson, representing the Christian Endeavor Society of the Cherry Street Baptist church, of Philadelphia, was called upon to say a word for his denomination.

Bishop Walters, who is one of the 35 trustees of the United Endeavor Society, next made an address. He spoke with enthusiasm when he pointed out many reasons for his being in the work. His race, he said, needed to be identified with all such great movements, and he and Bishop Arnett had both been re-elected for a term of three years as the race's sole representatives on the board of trustees.

Dr. C. S. Smith, the Superintendent of the Sunday-school Department and the Manager of the Publishing House of the A. M. E. Church, when called upon, said he simply represented the social side of the meeting and gladdened the hearts of the delegates by extending them invitations to a reception Saturday evening from 8 to 10 o'clock at the Publishing House.

The feeling having been be-

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## DR. DAY'S MOTHER.

### She Was The Embodiment of Great and Noble Qualities.

BY MRS. BISHOP C. C. PETTEY.

The more we study the beauty, symmetry and force of nature as exemplified in a multiform variety of organic life in the several kingdoms, the more curious we become not only to find the cause by which life is forced to growth and action, but that which makes distinct the species as well.

Common organism is natural; but the development of peculiar, rare and distinct species entirely new to the world has a cause if natural, unseen and inexplicable.

Every student is possibly familiar with Jupiter, Mars, Saturn and Neptune; but once in a while an astronomical expert, scanning the plains of the Pleiades, discovers an orb heretofore unknown. Up shoot the telescopic lenses from a thousand and more observatories, with wonder and amazement, in search of the new neighbor to our planets.

Such phenomena are found in every kingdom. From whence they come we can hardly surmise, as they are guided by laws unknown to us.

Likewise at great intervals, under strange circumstances, and at times when the civil and religious world is most in need of reform, we discover a new intellectual, moral star rising higher, and shining brighter, spinning aloft in the great world of thought. To this class of superior models came forth Moses to guide Israel; Solomon for the Jewish kingdom; Mary to mother the Church as she gave us Christ; Dorcas for evangelistic work; Napoleon for France; Joan d'Arc for Orleans; Nelson for England; Victoria as a Christian sovereign; Toussaint L'Overture for the freedom of his island; Gomez and Maceo for liberty-loving Cuba; Frances Willard for temperance reform; Lincoln, William Lloyd Garrison, Stephen A. Douglas, Charles Sumner, Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe and our own Eliza Day, for the emancipation of American slaves.

God has specialists in every department of His vast laboratory, and none are fraught with more curiosity or welcomed with greater admiration than the phenomena of the mind. As we find no example in nature for super-individual development, we finally conclude that God in His providence brings forth these rare specimens to meet the uncommon demands and to give to the world such lights in order that humanity may attain to that dignity and eminence in character and thought essential to His glory.

Another illustration of divine purposes may be found in the days of colonial oppression, when the colonies were suffering unjust taxation without representation. When the time was ripe, God raised up Patrick Henry to blow

the sparks of liberty and independence into a colonial blaze. Then it was that Washington rose from the humble position of surveyor to the chieftainship of the colonial army and on to the Presidency of the new born republic.

With the new republic came new church organizations, which grew into mighty strength, and commenced an evangelical career of gigantic power. The revolution might be truly styled the mother of Methodism.

Methodistic moral suasion wrestled against every species of enslavement in favor of the republican liberty which is to-day characteristic of this glorious Union. Slavery, the hydra-headed gigantic evil, has haunted the shadows of civilization through all ages.

Emerging from barbarism, the stronger realizing their superiority have a tendency to oppress and enslave the weaker; but in so doing the oppressor as well as the oppressed is cursed with the multitudinous evils entailed in this crime. The plague-smitten Egyptians are verily typical symbols.

But there was still another great evil which greatly agitated the minds of the free people of this country, nearing the close of the eighteenth century. At this epoch, there was not a single colored religious organization in all America. The colored people were subjugated to white supremacy even in receiving the holy communion; and this being the age of revolution and reform, every spindle revolving around the sentimental axle of American civilization was independence.

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## TEACHERS' INSTITUTE.

BY E. B. HENDERSON.

The Teachers' Institute held in Charlotte, N. C., from July 25-31 inclusive was well attended. The roll numbered 120, with an average attendance of not less than 75. Great interest was manifested each day by the teachers and instructors. Prof. Geo. E. Davis was the chief and able instructor of the Institute, assisted by other professors and noted educators. President Sanders, Dr. Yorke Jones and Dr. E. E. Green, of Macon, Ga., delivered timely and pointed lectures, and in a most striking manner the needs of the race were pointed out and advice given as to how these needs might be complied with. A vote of thanks was tendered to the officers of the Institute for faithful performance of duty.

Rev. Geo. W. Ingram, of Kershaw, S. C., raised a mortgage of four years off of his church, and it is doing well spiritually and financially. His church at Gold Mine is prospering. He is preparing to entertain the State Sunday-school Convention which meets August 10th. Brother Ingram is a graduate of the Junior class Livingstone College, studious, fine orator, intelligent preacher, and cannot be kept down. If he could be given a church up North where he could attend Yale or Boston University, he would soon rank with Doctors Blackwell and Bloice.

## CHURCH AND CLERGY.

### Succinct Reports Indicative Of The Progress of Zion.

DOING A GREAT WORK.

Our pastor loves the Sunday-school. His equal was never here before. The whole church loves him. Good Hope church had a fine picnic—150 people led by the pastor marching around the church singing, "Marching must be done." —W. M. Alexander, Carty, S. C.

Sister Kizzie Johnson is a faithful member of Little Zion church of which I am pastor. Instead of the Negro expressing his desire to fight Spain he had better organize some plan to stop lynching and Negro suffrage in the Southland. —Rev. T. M. Moore, Furman, Ala.

Brother Charley Lovless' house was burned July 12th. He was preacher's steward at Cooksville A. M. E. Zion church and local preacher. I feel that he has friends white and colored that will reach forth their hands to help. —Rev. Wm. C. Pierson, Cooksville, Miss.

My father, Rev. A. Robinson, had a grand rally two Sabbaths ago and collected \$14.12 which enabled him to pay \$13.25 on the new seats for his church. Rev. W. O. L. Kelly of the M. E. Church preached a wonderful sermon for him. —Hattie A. Robinson, Summerville, Ga.

Rev. J. M. Hill held my third quarterly meeting on the Tar Heel circuit. Ninety-six took the Lord's Supper. We raised \$25.25. We had a Holy Ghost shower. We are moving along fine on all lines. The STAR is fine in her new dress. —Rev. H. C. Harrison, Fayetteville, N. C.

Rev. J. S. Jackson held a successful quarterly meeting here June 27th. While our membership here is small yet through the untiring efforts that are being put forth by the pastor and P. E. success is ours. Many thanks tendered you for the eight-page paper. —Rev. W. L. Hamblin, Harpersville, Miss.

Rev. M. Hancock was with us recently. Zion is coming in this place. We have done a good work. Rev. J. M. Mitchell, the missionary, set up a mission here April 25th and appointed Brother J. E. Moss pastor. He has added several members and has a good Sunday-school—21 on roll. —O. G. Moss, Blythe, Miss.

I have been reading the STAR which is grand and full of news. We had a grand time Sunday of Children's Day. Rev. F. R. Smith, our pastor, is building up our church. Our superintendent, C. C. Terrell, is doing well. Miss Mollie Locke, one of Zion's daughters, is our teacher. God bless our Editor. —Mira Grice, Powellton, Fla.