

## DR. DAY'S MOTHER.

BY MRS. BISHOP C. C. PETTEY.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.]

Intellectually, morally and spiritually, he stands a living statue; yea, a colossal monument erected by the indomitable will, the indefatigable energies, and Christian prayers of that sainted mother, who stamped her impress upon his youthful brow.

Mrs. Eliza Day was a member of old John Street church, the mother church of Methodism in this country. She belonged on the class of Stephen Dando, and was a special friend of Rev. Melville Cox, who was sent from John Street church to carry the light of the gospel to the Dark Continent. She often repeated his dying message—"Let a thousand fall before Africa be given up." When the question of slavery and freedom was agitated in the M. E. Church, Dr. Day's mother unequivocally supported the anti-slavery views of Rev. Orange Scott, in the General Conference at Cincinnati.

Believing that a greater work in a broader field awaited her, Mrs. Day withdrew from old John Street church and joined the A. M. E. Zion Church, and as the apostles gathered around the house of Mary Mark and made it a great center for prayer-meeting, so the founders of our great Connection congregated at the home of Mrs. Eliza Day, and made it a place for both class and prayer-meeting.

Impressed with the Christian piety and zeal of his own dear mother and the fathers of Zion who gathered around her, William Howard became a disciple of Varkick, and in early boyhood labored assiduously for the Church of his choice. It was his mother's earnest desire that he should become a missionary abroad; but he preferred being a missionary at home. To know of the success achieved by him along this line, you have but to consult the history of Zion, which would be incomplete without due reference to his life and labors.

Dr. Day's mother early espoused the anti-slavery cause, when it was personally dangerous to life, to so ally one's self. She attended nearly all of the meetings during those dark days when William Lloyd Garrison was the representative of the slave, aided by such men as Lewis and Arthur Tappan and David Ruggles, the practical head of the movement and also keeper of the the anti-slavery office. More than once Mrs. Day came near being killed as missiles were hurled at the speakers upon the platform, as they advocated the freedom of the slaves.

During the ten days and nights when the blood-thirsty mob crazed with rage held possession of New York City, the abolitionists loudly asserted their undying devotion to the cause, which they espoused: prominent among them was Mrs. Eliza Day.

As in astronomical phenomena there appear to be silent physical agencies with which we have no acquaintance, which give shape and guidance to these solar neighbors of great magnitude, likewise in the intellectual and moral world, there appear to be hidden forces whose annities affect the lives of certain individuals, when by the providence of God they are called upon to rise and lead great reforms essential to human happiness.

The true key to this silent, yet potential force is found in the unwritten history of the lives of the mothers of these intellectual stars. As an index of this fact, we point you to the Presidents of the United States, and the character and virtue of their Christian mothers. We now possess the secret of Dr. Day's greatness, whose mother said, "Before you were born, William Howard, I consecrated you to the work of the Lord."

It was this silent force of early impressions which acted as the motive power, and stimulated him to deeds of valor and courage, becoming a heroic leader, worthy of such a mother.

The greatness of Dr. Day is but the reflected wavelets of his mother's cherished aspirations, hopes and prayers.

Newbern, N. C.

## BIG AND LITTLE MEN.

BY REV. R. D. DAVIS.

Never before in the history of fame has there been so much said about the big man, nor has the little man made himself so officious. Looking into the face or mirror of the past, present and future dispensations, it is clearly demonstrated that every age has had its big and little men.

There is a mighty stirring and hustling among the big and little men. Big men are seeking all the big offices. Of course they are right, for a big man won't fit a little office. A little man in a big office looks out of place. Give some big men all the big offices and everything that's a go, and they won't be satisfied. Adam was a big man at one time. He held all the big offices in the world and that, too, in the time of peace; but strange to say, he was not satisfied with his lot nor his share of offices.

I have often asked the question, What does it take to constitute a big man? Some say a plenty of money; some, a plenty of ambition; some, ability and honors, such as A. B., A. M., D. D., LL. D., etc. If you have all these earthly honors and have not Christian graces and charity, you are a little man. But if you have all the honors and also have charity you are a big man, and God, heaven and earth rejoice, and the devil and his followers become angry.

A big man is he whose life-work is established by Christian character. There is not a better representation on earth than our honored Board of Bishops, General Officers, ministry and laity. A little man is he whose life-work is characterized by deception, prejudice and false statements. Dr. J. M. Henderson is a little man. Bishop Walters, a true and tried representative of the A. M. E. Zion Church, overhauled Henderson exalting himself and making a false statement and held right still until Dr. J. W. Smith, the quill-driving Editor of one of the leading journals of the age and the idolized organ of our Church, hurriedly came and knocked him dead as a door nail, and friend Chambers, better known as "Cannon Ball," made him rusty as iron.

Belmont, N. C.

Rev. John H. Love, of Newbern, N. C., will celebrate the anniversary of St. Peter's church September 14-18. He is meeting with splendid success and is studying hard and developing into a fine preacher.

## TUSKEGEE (ALA.) DISTRICT.

BY REV. L. B. PETERSON, P. E.

My district has the appearance of a new field. It is the second district in the Alabama Conference, and covers the same territory that was occupied by the Opelika district. Such is the progress of the district since we took charge. Six new mission points have been established where Zion previously had none. Old houses of worship have been improved in many places, with some new ones built, while still others are making preparation to build. Two new parsonages are in course of erection, one of which is so near completed that the preacher and family are in their comfortable home.

Rev. D. W. Wright, Auburn, Ala., our Sunday-school worker, is progressing finely. The young men in town and country attend the Sabbath-school better now than we have seen them for years. It is to be attributed to four things: (1) to the fidelity of the pastor; (2) to the efficiency and deep interest of the superintendent and teachers; (3) to the very excellently gotten up literature that comes to us from Zion's Publication House at Charlotte, N. C.; (4) to an increasing desire for the floods of literal and spiritual light that pour into our Sabbath-school each week from the above named department.

War is on hand and the times are hard, but we don't believe that the receipts of our Easter offering of this year will fall any behind those of last year. The Tuskegee district has the fewest appointments but she reported ahead in raising general fund in 1897, and she expects to occupy the same place in 1898.

Our STAR readers tender thanks to Editor J. W. Smith, D. D., for his very newsy eight-page paper. Long may the STAR live and shine into every Afro-American home in the land.

The ardent seeker after the inspired truth among the ministers of this district, read with great interest and profit the discussion between Bishop C. C. Pettey, D. D., and Rev. Jno. A. D. Bloice on the subject of "Biblical Episcopacy." Zion is proud of her eminent scholars.

We have completed the second round on our district, and the outlook for the future is in all respects good.

Rev. B. M. Gudger, is pastor of the Tuskegee station. This is the Elder's second year here, and he has succeeded very well. He raised more general fund last Fall than has been raised for many years. The frame part of a very desirable building for a parsonage is now standing on the church ground, as the effect of the pastor's labor. He commenced his protracted meeting this week with a very encouraging outlook for success.

Rev. D. W. Wright is pastor of the Auburn station. He eminently stands high. His great work has been mentioned by the Bishop who called to see him a few days ago. When he called his people together last Winter to consider the matter of building a parsonage we were present and were among the first to lay down a half dollar for the purpose.

Rev. Joe Goode has charge of the Notasulga circuit. He has made a very good impression on

his people. He never fails to keep in remembrance that each member is due fifty cents general fund for this year, and it must be paid, or else under the law they will lose their membership.

Rev. J. W. Booker is pastor of the Tallasee circuit. This is one of the leading circuits in the Alabama Conference, as it is composed of some of Zion's best people. The main church of the two that form the circuit is at Tallasee, a very enterprising town. It is destined to become one of the largest cities in the State. Here we shall hold our ensuing district conference, October 12, 1898. This place is reached by the Montgomery and Tallasee Railroad and by the T. P. and W. if no other way can be found. Rev. J. W. Booker has been given a very warm place in the hearts of his people. Our last information of him was that he is rallying to raise money to pay off the debt that hangs over the Mount Zion church. He raised on Easter Sunday \$2.15.

Rev. W. M. Jacobs is in charge of the Little Zion circuit. This is his first year here and his people had gone to work by the second quarterly conference and put a new suit of clothes on their pastor. Some improvements have been made on several lines. New lamps, window lights, steps to the building and a number of accessions to the church, show up the work. We have a large and thriving Sabbath-school at this point, but we failed to get the amount for Easter offering.

[CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.]

## AUGUSTA (GA.) DISTRICT.

BY REV. R. S. SINGS, P. E.

*Vox et preterea nihil populi, vox Dei.*

Mount Zion station, Augusta, Ga., Rev. R. I. Apostle, pastor, is in a flourishing condition. He is doing all he can to bring his people to the light.

Smith's Chapel circuit, Rev. J. E. Springs, pastor. He is a coming young man and is carrying his people with him and is loved by them. He has organized a V. C. E. Society with 65 members.

Green Grove circuit, Rev. N. McCollough, pastor, is moving along nicely. He lost his wife the 28th of June. She was a true Zionite and left several children. May the Lord be with him.

Mt. Couble circuit, Rev. J. H. Huston, pastor. He is doing all he can to enlighten his people, and I believe he will succeed.

Fullwood circuit, Rev. McWharton, pastor. He is a young man and is getting along nicely. I believe he will come to the front on all lines.

Dents circuit, Rev. Dent is in charge. He is a good pastor. He is caring for his people and has bought land to build a new church. All of the lumber is living on the land.

## NOTICE.

The district conference will convene at Green Grove, August 24, 1898. All of the preachers are expected to be there according to law. All local preachers expecting to go any further in the calling, come on time. The Sunday-school convention will convene with the district conference the 27th. All superintendents are required to be present, and a delegate and 75 cents is expected from each school. Lazy boys, drag for general fund.

Givard, Ga.

## TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

BY REV. W. H. DAVENPORT.

Those sages on "the other side of the fence" who see the wisdom of maintaining a fight between the only really responsible Negro organizations in the world, and who have breathed out murmurings against the Editor of the *Christian Recorder* because of his reluctance to be effusive to the detriment of the race, and have therefore questioned his Connectional loyalty, either do not know Dr. Johnson or are mistaken as to what constitutes loyalty. If there be disloyalty in him, he has a poor way of demonstrating it to the people to whom he may be inclined. If he is disposed to fellowship with his neighbors, his accusers should expect him to indicate it in some other way than by trying to knock us into the dark abyss of forgetfulness. Johnson is more honest than Coppin, less bitter than Henderson and Astwood, and is as loyal to Bethel as Bishop Walters is to Zion. And Bishop Walters has conceded several things to our sister Church in the presence of his own congregation, whereas from the other side in the same community we have received innuendo and sneers from the Episcopal-gallery-performer, whose fame is built upon his relation to an ox-cart.

The Zion Church has a mission to perform, and is trying to perform it. It does not envy the blusterings of profound shallowness, and holds in utter contempt those who insinuate that the ninth commandment is useless and should therefore be nullified. Zion is not Roman Catholic. It has no vicar-bishops nor archdeacons; but it is not worried over this conclusive evidence of its inferiority. It is going on in its simple and quiet way, preaching the gospel of the kingdom somewhat effectively, thereby giving disquietude and unrest to those "superiors" who are so far above us as to be oblivious of our existence. The Zion Church will continue in its course of righteousness, and however strong the temptation might be to roast a heifer to celebrate a cock-fight, it will not be swerved from its proper and commendable course.

Camden, N. J.

## THE STAR OF ZION.

The *Star of Zion* certainly shines! Its issue of July 28th is par excellent and should be read by all of the people. Our own people would find large encouragement in its mechanical appearance, its literary finish, and our white fellow citizens would be compelled to rub their eyes to see whether they were trustworthy or not. There are many fine half-tone portraits in the paper, beginning with the handsome editor, Rev. J. W. Smith, D. D., whose distinguished bearing and thoughtful countenance suggest the possibility of the excellent work that he is doing for his denomination and his race. Dr. G. L. Blackwell, the Business Manager of the Publication House, suggest the careful business man who is making the *Star* shine with mechanical excellency, standing as he does behind a score of competent workmen and women of the race, many of whose faces radiate from the *Star*.

We could write a column on this special number for it is worthy. But as space will not permit, we say to our friends and patrons that a subscription to the *Star of Zion* would prove a paying investment. We congratulate our brethren and rejoice with them in their eminent success in journalism.—*Charleston (S. C.) Inquirer*.