

MAJORS AND MINORS.

"ONLY THE TRUTHS THAT IN LIFE
WE HAVE SPOKEN."

BY W. F. FONVIELLE.

Those who contend for great principles, can afford to "stoop to conquer."

Mouth is alright, and talk is about as cheap as advice, but "What can you do?" is the thing which settles the status of an individual.

One of the surest and best ways to measure the state of civilization to which a race of people has attained, is to gauge it by the amount of soap and water it uses upon itself. Soap and water are great civilizers, and when it comes to a matter of accuracy in determining, they are, in every respect, equal to a barometer.

Since the woman ordination question has created such a sensation in ministerial circles at this early stage of the Church's over-aggressiveness, what will it be when more are admitted?—*Endeavourer.*

Why we shall be used to it by that time; and any old thing will suit us, as "our journey we pursue" at the rapid transit gait we have set for ourselves. The close of every century records the history of some great event. The glorious XIX will have a whole string of events tagged on to it: *Hispano-Americano bellum*, the exit of Gladstone, the leave-taking of Bismark, and the ordination of a woman as an elder, are events that any century—veiled in the mystic future, would like to have chisled on its monument. There has been but one nineteenth century; and it might be well for you to indite upon the tablet of your memory these words: "There will not be another."

The friends every where will rejoice to know that we have the pleasure of placing the name of Dr. R. S. Rives, of Fayetteville, upon the roll of honor. While the laity would be glad to have everybody come over and join it, no one of us asks for nor expects such; but it does look to such men as Dr. Rives to cast in their lots with us. It is significant that the better class of ministers are in favor of "equal rights for all—special privileges for none." Dr. Rives is a man of experience and great influence. He has a following; and when he speaks, he not only speaks for himself, but for others as well. Despite a discordant note from a certain source, sometime ago, it is well known that Dr. Rives is a friend of young men. His whole life is one long chapter of work well done for young people; and his latest utterances only serve to emphasize his devotion to young men. Shake, Doctor.

The Spanish word, Hidalgo, means the "son of somebody." That may be alright for a country like Spain, but in America, it has been and is, the "sons of nobody" who have made the most of their opportunities, and stand in the glare of the "public eye." It has been so since the days of Benjamin Franklin; and the death of a century will not alter it, and time will not obliterate the glorious achievements won in all the walks of life by the great "sons of nobody."

Dr. Price's personal friend, John C. Dancy, is now at work, writing a history of the life of the great humanitarian. It will be well done. None is better prepared to do the work than Mr. Dancy. An intimate friend, neighbor and companion of Dr. Price, he brings besides scholarship, great love for the man, hence for the work in hand. It will be well edited, printed and the price brought within the reach of the people.

The stealing of the Hawaiian Islands by the sons of the carpet-baggers under the Harrison administration, and the recent annexing of them under the present administration, was a piece of business worthy of the old lady herself—England. Your Uncle Samuel may have to pay dearly for the work of Minister Stevens and a man-o'-war. Land-grabbing is an ugly affair for civilized people to engage in.

Certain members of the Alumni of Livingstone College may have something to say before very long.

Wilmington, N. C.

I AM FOR DR. ALSTORK.

BY DAVID WILLIAMS PARKER.

Dear Doctor Smith: I noticed in last week's issue of your most excellent paper a communication from the pen of the veteran Rev. S. P. Collins, one of the fathers of Zion in Alabama, mentioning my name in connection with the editorship of the famous STAR OF ZION. Every man appreciates cordial expressions and the good-will of his fellowman. I plead guilty to being flattered by the interest which Father Collins has always manifested in me, and thank him for his fatherly love. In fact I appreciate the friendship of all Zion friends. I am only a private in the great army of Zion and am not begging for promotion.

I am more interested in others in some respects than in myself, especially when it comes to seeking position. I helped to defeat that good man, Rev. Dr. John W. Alstork, for the bishopric in 1896, and long ago have seen and felt the error then made. All Alabama should unite to a man in 1900 and crown the "uncrowned bishop" at the General Conference in the nation's capital. First, last and all the time, let Alabama enter the next General Conference solid for Alstork. Too many candidates for office from Alabama will weaken Dr. Alstork. My friends cannot please me better than in aiding me to lead the Alabama forces for Dr. Alstork in 1900. Dr. Alstork first and others afterwards.

Tuscaloosa, Ala.

At Penicks Chapel, Indianapolis, Ind., June 5 at 11 a. m. and 3 p. m., Bishop G. W. Clinton in his sermons scattered holy fire. It was our quarterly meeting day and the church was crowded. Zion is small here, yet we have some law-abiding members. He preached powerfully Sabbath night at Jones Tabernacle and they gave him a grand reception on Monday night. Tuesday night he preached at Walters' Chapel. It was a happy wait on the Lord. J. J. Kennedy, Norwood, Ind.

CONCORD (N. C.) DISTRICT.

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

In the midst of my third round, I take this opportunity to speak of the pastors and their work.

Zion Hill station, Concord, pastored by Elder W. H. Graham, is in good condition on all lines. He has infused new life into the church; hence the congregation is making an effort to make the church more attractive. A \$112 chandelier has been put in the church which adds much to the comfort of the worshippers. The altar floor has been raised, which also helps in appearance. I think the Elder will be able to put the church in a first-class state before he stops. I look for a full report before the end. This is a good church.

Price Memorial Temple, Concord, Dr. G. L. Blackwell, pastor, knows no failure and has the church in a better state than I have known it to be. He is one of the most successful men, if not the most, in Zion Connection; and one of the greatest preachers of the race.

Bethel circuit, Elder W. R. Hunter, pastor, is progressing finely. The Elder has his people at his command and has collected half of his assessment of general fund for the year, and is now making an effort to put new pews in the church at Bethel. He has organized missionary societies in his churches and they are working nicely. I am hopeful of a full report from Bethel circuit this year. He is a good preacher.

Mt. Pleasant circuit, Rev. J. J. Stubbs, pastor, is in a hopeful state but is not up on all lines. I think though that when the roll is called, success will be his. I expect nothing less than a full report at the conference as the pastor is a young man and can't afford to fail.

Cedar Grove circuit, Rev. N. B. Stelly, pastor, is doing well, and if he holds his base—will continue to do as well as he has, with a well-to-do people—I will expect a full report at the end, though he is somewhat behind at this time on general fund. He has great ambition and must not fail.

Waxhaw circuit, Elder W. J. Gains, pastor, is in a commendable state. He has his people with him, hence he is expected to do well as he is a good preacher, yet he is not up to date with his finances; I believe he can fill all of the blanks by conference. He has charge of a good people.

Redding Spring circuit, Elder A. J. McDonald, pastor, can be classed with the successful charges on the district. I see no cause for a failure on this circuit this year. He has about completed the Morvin church in good style. He is a splendid preacher and is with a fine people.

Rock Hill circuit, Rev. H. C. Chambers, pastor, is contending for its place in the front rank. The pastor has special love for preaching funerals; aside from that he is a faithful pastor. He is now making efforts to complete the Rock Hill church. I am hopeful of him as he is pastoring an industrious people.

Pleasant Grove circuit, Rev. A. J. Gorham, pastor, is not doing as well as I would like to see it. The people seem to think that he has not done his duty by them on all

lines. I hope he will stop the complaint as he has the ability to serve any circuit and render satisfaction if he will. He cannot afford to let a failure on his work be charged to him, for he is too young to have failures to his credit. He is a fine preacher and I see no good reason for his non-success. I hope not to have to speak of any shortage from this circuit at the conference, as we had a fair report from that work last year, and the people will enable him to make a better one this year.

Mr. Calvary station at Monroe, is in a fine condition. Indeed I could not expect it to be otherwise, knowing Elder W. J. Sides to be the pastor who has done and is doing and destined to do a great work at Monroe in church and school house for his people. He is indeed a successful pastor and can serve any people or church. He is still making improvements on the parsonage, painting, etc. I am trying to persuade him to build a brick church at Monroe but he seems a little afraid to make the attempt; but I have no fears but what he can build it as he has the people with him.

Clarksville circuit, Rev. W. F. McKee, pastor, is doing well. He is a young preacher but is doing as well as the former pastor. He is faithfully discharging his duties as pastor and as a preacher, holding his official meetings and visiting his members when necessary. I am looking for a full report of the work at conference.

Rev. J. E. Little is preaching at Streeter's Grove and Staten Stand missions. I think he will be able to fully establish them by conference.

Kesler's chapel station at Wadesboro, Elder A. McCallum, pastor, is in better condition in many respects than it has been in ten years. The Elder has remodelled the parsonage, giving it entirely a new appearance. It is neat enough now for any preacher to live in—even a bishop. Elder McCallum believes in helping the people as well as to expect help from them. The people of Wadesboro should congratulate themselves for the much needed improvements made since he has been pastor. He is in the lead financially and says he means to stay there.

Gatewood circuit, Elder G. B. Kelly, pastor, is not doing what it is able to do, not what it has done on all lines in the past years. But I hope Elder Kelly will unite the forces on his work and make complete report of this year's work. I know he can if he will. He as others must bring his full assessment this year as he has one of the strongest circuits on the district. His people believe him to be selfish and he does not associate them as they desire. If he would convince them that such was not true, he would be able to do a great work on the Gatewood circuit, as he is indeed serving a willing people.

Norwood circuit, Elder J. S. Settle, pastor, is coming to the front again. Efforts are being made to complete the church at Norwood, and to build a church at Cottonville. I think Elder Settle will be able to do the work as he has the people with him. It is worthy of note as all the pastors for the past five or six years have had to serve a divided people at Norwood, owing to a school trouble there. I am hopeful of Elder Settle's complete success.

Morvin circuit, Rev. R. A. Simmons, pastor, is highly appreciated by his people, but I don't think he has done what he could have for the general Church up to date. He has the confidence of his people, therefore I know he can make a full report at the conference. He is a fine scholar and a good preacher and can entitle himself to one of the best charges in the conference if he will do it. I think he is most too modest in his demands of his people. It is true that he has charge of a good people, but all the people need is strict leaders.

Polkton circuit, Rev. T. O. Little, pastor, is in a pleasing state. I think the pastor will be able to build two churches this year, Cedar Hill and Cross Road. He will make a full report at conference, for he is a good brother and has the confidence of the people he is serving.

Ansonville circuit, Rev. R. H. Bright, pastor, is not doing well I regret to say; and I hope to not have to say at the conference what I say now. He is one of the oldest pastors and thinks he knows how to pastor a work. I am waiting to see his improvements, etc.

Elders Sides, McCallum, Settle and Simmons all taught school on their respective charges during the Winter and Spring.

Wherever the pastors are doing their full duty for the people, their charges are in good condition spiritually and temporally. I am satisfied that every member of the Concord district can make a full report of his work this year, hence I will not have any disposition to ask the indulgence for any of them who falls short. The people of the district are obedient to the laws of the Church, and as a whole have no disregard for their pastors. Ofttimes we ministers find fault with the people when we ourselves are responsible for our shortage. We must obey our own commands if we would have the people to obey us.

Whenever the pastor obeys the law strictly, nine times out of ten he will be able to make a full report. Every failure is traceable mostly to the neglect of the pastor. When will failures cease? Whenever the ministers become strictly obedient and quit amending the law in the absence of the General Conference.

Charlotte, N. C.

Rev. J. B. Johnson, P. E., one of Zion's pioneer lights, noted for good-will, brotherly love, Christian bearing, held a lovely district conference and Sunday-school convention in Bloomfield, Ill., July 30th. The flattering reports from each church showed that Zion another cause were triumphing. Brother C. W. King ably presided over the convention which was a wholesome success. The reports from the schools were gratifying.

The third quarterly conference of the Selma district and Autauga Hill circuit convened at the above named church with Rev. W. M. Spencer, P. E. He read Proverbs 22:1-10, and treated the subject that "God is everywhere." It was thoughtful, powerful and theological. He should not be left out in 1900 for consecration to the bishopric. We want a Southern bishop to rejoice over.—Rev. W. L. James, Prattville, Ala.