

CHURCH AND CLERGY.

Rev. Wm. W. Talbert, of the Aberfoil circuit, is fixing to build a new weather-board church at Mallard's chapel. The building there now is a common one, 20x30. The new one will be ceiled, 30x40, and will have windows on each side.—R. A. Winkfield, Union Springs, Ala.

I am in the act of building a church at Pratt City where we have been wanting one for ten years. I appeal to all who love Zion to send me as much as 50 cents by the third Sunday in September. I want to lay the cornerstone on that day.—Rev. N. R. Rhodes, Jasper, Ala.

Our church is in better condition now than ever before. Bishop Small made no mistake in sending us Rev. R. C. Nash. He is a hustler and an up-to-date preacher. The church has long needed such a minister. He is bringing the Connectional claims before the people.—W. M. Gray, Carthage, Miss.

Sandy Springs is starting a new church. I am only 16 years old to-day. Rev. Morrill is doing a great work here and is trying to raise a Christian Endeavor Society. Our Sunday-school officers are S. T. Totum, superintendent; T. W. Jones, teacher; and Emma Johnson, secretary.—D. G. Scott, Orwood, Miss.

I am moving along nicely. I had Rev. R. L. Wright, of Mounds, La., with me for four days and we organized with four members six miles from Oak Ridge. The outlook for Zion here is bright. All we need is some of our strong men to come in now and then. Rev. Wright preached some strong sermons and made heavy impressions.—H. C. Moon-ey, Girard, La.

Bishop I. C. Clinton was with us June 19th and preached a noble sermon at Lafayette morning and night. He was accompanied by Rev. L. W. Taylor, P. E. It was quarterly meeting. Collection, \$21. Rev. Robinson, the pastor, and members received him joyfully. Our membership is 36.—Hastel A. Robinson, Summer-ville, Ga.

Our church work is moving on; 48 have joined the church; 9 converts. Raised since last Conference, \$154; for church lot, \$50. I guess the readers know that Zion lost everything she had in Winnsboro but a few members and some benches. I had 10 to join in the country.—Raised for all purposes, \$110, and \$60 for ceiling.—Rev. Y. J. P. Cohen, Winnsboro, S. C.

Zion is alive in Pensacola. None but a God-sent Bishop T. H. Lomax sent us our beloved pastor, Rev. G. H. Gaines, who is a great worker. June 29th we laid the corner-stone of our new brick church, known as Talbot chapel A. M. E. Zion Church. It is a nice temple added to Zion, and it takes prayer and money to accomplish such work.—G. W. Green, Pensacola, Fla.

I am glad to hear of the good and great work that our men are doing all over Zion. We want our missionaries to come and help us. There is much good to be done here. We want men like

our presiding elder, M. Ingram, who is not afraid of Zion's enemy, who, like him, will speak and sacrifice their time and money for Zion.—R. H. L. Crockett, Cheraw, S. C.

Mt. Nebo circuit is yet alive. We have recently dedicated one of the best churches in Lancaster, S. C. We are pressing toward the goal. Mr. Editor, what was the prize given to the one who raised the most Easter money? Did you give one or was the announcement a humbug? The people very often ask about it and the ministers are not able to answer them.—A. S. Miller, Jacksonham, S. C.

We have organized a new society at Biscoe, N. C., with a nice Sunday-school of 11 scholars. We have purchased a lot and have a church under erection. If we can close it in by Conference it will be the third one we have closed in these two years. We are preparing to build at Crago also. We would like for the Bishop to visit us this Fall. The future is bright.—Rev. C. M. McNeill, Eagle Springs, N. C.

The Sunday-school convention of the Meridian district met in a new Zion church, 28x42, built by Rev. B. C. Coleman since the annual Conference of last January. It is one of the best colored churches on the M. and O. R. R. The convention was said to be the best one ever held in the South Mississippi Conference, and Rev. J. S. Jackson, P. E., delivered a fine address. He is a fine preacher and orator.—Shugulak, Miss.

We have collected on general funds \$16.75 and sent it off. Our missionary sisters are coming to the front. Up to June 27th, Mrs. Mobley had collected \$7 55; Mrs. L. Gordon, \$2 75; Mrs. Delia Head, \$1 70; Mrs. L. Beckham, \$1 00; Mrs. M. Harrison, \$1 65; and Mrs. Jenevah Perry, \$1 15. Our church and Sunday-school are in bloom. Rev. A. James is doing a great work. We expect to start a revival August 28th.—Rev. E. Beckham, Amite City, La.

Sunday, July 31, was a great day in Montgomery. It was the re-opening of the Old Ship church. Dr. J. W. Alstork preached the sermon of his life at 3:30 p. m. Subject, "Church of God." He is a greater man than our Zion knows and he treats his men fatherly and kindly. Dr. J. H. Manley has won a great name in our State by remodeling the Old Ship at a cost of \$3,000. She is now the metropolitan church of the city. We preached on Monday night and our choir did the singing. We have six churches in this city; Bethel, one. Zion owns Montgomery.—Rev. C. Baker, Montgomery, Ala.

The Star of Zion, the official organ of the A. M. E. Zion Church published at Charlotte, N. C., and edited by Rev. J. W. Smith, formerly of Carlisle, is out in a new dress, and with the photographs of those who are employed in its publication, including those of Editor Smith and Miss Alcinda E. Chapman, daughter of Wm. C. Chapman of this place, and a graduate of the Carlisle high school. She is a clerk in the office. The edition is highly creditable to say the least.—Carlisle Daily Sentinel.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

BY REV. GEO. PENMAN, D. D.

[CONTINUED FROM LAST ISSUE.]

JOSEPH ARCH, M. P.

The Guardian is an organ of the Anglican Church, and is a bitter hater of Methodism and all its works and adherents. Yet, it has recently discovered some good in what it is accustomed to regard as unmixed evil. It has reviewed the "Autobiography of Joseph Arch, M. P." Mr. Arch was, till twenty-five years ago, a farm laborer. That means that he had to work hard for twelve or sixteen hours a day, for which his wages were \$2.50 or \$3 a week; out of which he had to feed and clothe himself, wife and family, and pay house rent and school fees for the education of his children. At that time the farm laborer was so hopelessly crushed that few thought him capable of asserting any right or putting forth any efforts to raise himself socially and intellectually. Mr. Arch was and is a Methodist local preacher. He founded the Agricultural Laborers' Union, and was elected its first president; and has continued in the office ever since. He has done more than any other man to improve the condition of the poorest of our English workers. He is a member of the House of Commons. In gaining his seat, he fought and defeated a member of our aristocracy—a noble lord—who had represented the division for many years.

The Guardian in its review has many bitter things to say of Mr. Arch, and his attitude toward "the Church." But it recommends the clergymen to read the autobiography, that they may see what the farm laborer thinks of them and their "Church." It also bears this testimony to the influence of Methodism: "Arch was a Methodist preacher, and the Methodist organization facilitated the spread of the Agricultural Laborers' Union. It is impossible not to observe the magnitude of the service rendered by this sect to the nation. Had the agricultural agitation taken a definitely irreligious and anarchic character, it is difficult to overestimate the calamities which must have ensued. That this danger was averted, that in the main, the laborers, even under the trying circumstances of hunger and idleness, generally abstained from breaches of the peace, that the leaders of the agitation constantly upheld the sanctity of the moral law, and repudiated with abhorrence every disposition towards anarchy, must principally be ascribed to the Methodist influence which presided over the origin and largely governed the development of the movement."

Bedford, England, 28 June, 1898.

A FEW NOTES.

BY REV. W. A. GARNER.

Being young I did not think it proper to be showing myself through your columns; but allow me to congratulate you upon the excellent way in which you are sending out the STAR. It is brilliant. We eagerly look for it on Saturday.

Our district is not in the best condition. A great many think it is alright, though I cannot see it. I do not think a church is prosper-

ing when they are just taking in those turned out by the former pastor, and no new converts. For some time our churches in this district have been this way. I was assigned to a small work of eight members, a mission which had been pastored by the untiring Rev. J. H. Prophet, who during last year built a neat little church at a cost of \$200, through the confidence of a gentleman (white) on whose place the church stands. About \$100 has already been paid. This year we finished paying off the insurance and we are now preparing to raise \$100 more for this year. The gentleman, Mr. John R. Cameron, gave the land and paid the \$200 for us, and is waiting patiently on us. So you see we have a great deal to do with such few members. We are well surrounded by other churches who treat us very kindly when they hear the cry, "Come over into Macedonia and help us."

If any one who reads this article cares enough for Zion to help us, send your contribution to me at Sharon, Mississippi. It will not do for Zion to lose this church.

Our district conference will convene here this month. The trustees are expecting to try to raise \$40 or \$50 during this time by putting tables on the grounds. Rev. S. C. Harris, P. E., is doing all he can to help us.

A question now, dear Editor, and I am through. Who is in possession of the grounds around the church during the sitting of the conference, the trustees or the conference?

Sharon, Miss.

[The pastor and trustees control the grounds; the conference, the collections lifted inside of the church.—EDITOR.]

BISHOP HOOD'S APPOINTMENTS

SEPTEMBER.

- 4th Brooklyn, E. D., N. Y.
 - 8th Raleigh, N. C.
 - 9th Kittrells, "
 - 10th St. Marys, "
 - 11th 11 a. m., Mt. Mariah, "
 - At night, Henderson, "
 - 13th-15th Durham, "
 - 16th. Union church, Granville Co., "
 - 17th Harris Chapel, N. C.
 - 18th Taylor's Chapel, "
 - At night, Oxford, "
 - 19th Haywood, Chatham Co., "
 - 20th 11 a. m., Mitchell's Chapel, "
 - 21st 11 a. m., Evan's Chapel, "
 - 22nd Ged's Grove, "
 - 23rd Glovers' Grove, "
 - 25th Union Grove, "
 - At night,
- Address, 1st to 4th, 353 Bleecker St., N. Y. City; 5th to 7th, Fayetteville, N. C.; 8th to 12th, Henderson, N. C.; 13th to 15th, Durham, N. C.; 16th to 18th, Oxford, N. C.; 19th to 29th, Fayetteville, N. C.

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