

The Star of Zion.

Rev. J. W. SMITH, D.D., - Editor.
Rev. G. L. BLACKWELL, D.D., Mgr.

Published every Thursday. Entered at the Post Office at Charlotte, N. C., as second-class matter. Subscription Rates: One year, \$1.00; six months, 60 cents; single copy, 5 cents. No three months subscriptions.

Articles exceeding 500 words which make a column run the risk of being boiled down. Postal card articles will be published at once. We do not promise to print articles from persons who are not subscribers nor agents of this paper. Send all articles to the Editor; send all subscriptions and business matter to the Manager.

STAFF CORRESPONDENTS.

Mrs. C. C. Pettey, Editor of Woman's Column. Rev. G. W. Offley, D.D., Prof. W. F. Fournelle, A.B. Rev. J. H. Anderson, D.D., Rev. J. E. Mason, D.D. Rev. W. H. Marshall, Rev. W. A. Blackwell Rev. J. H. McMullen, Rev. E. D. W. Jones, A. M. Rev. F. H. Hill, Rev. J. A. D. Biotce, D. D. Rev. E. G. Biddle, B. D., Rev. W. H. Davenport, A. B. Prof. W. M. Provinder, A. B., Rev. D. C. Covington Rev. C. W. Winfield, D. D., Prof. J. W. Parker Rev. S. A. Chambers, Prof. B. A. Johnson, A. M. Rev. H. W. Smith, Rev. T. A. Weathington, D. D. Rev. F. M. Jacobs, B. D., Rev. R. E. Wilson, A. M. Rev. G. C. Clement, A. B., Rev. R. A. Fisher, D. D. Mrs. A. Walters, Miss S. J. Janifer

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH, 1898.

EDITORIAL.

GET ready for Thanksgiving.

LET every minister study the grand old Bible in its entirety.

BISHOP C. C. PETTEY, who has been very sick for several weeks, is very much improved. His great Church is praying for him.

WHETHER you write once a month or once a year we shall cut your articles if you do not write short. Remember we are always crowded with articles.

T. McCANTS STEWART, the brilliant Negro lawyer of New York, with his family, has just moved to Hawaii to practice law. He will make that place his home.

DR. T. A. WEATHINGTON informs us that Butler's Chapel, Greenville, Ala., Rev. A. S. Watkins, pastor, was burned on the 4th inst. Thanks to the foresight of pastor and trustees, the church was insured.

WE would be glad if several of our best writers would pray and read their Bibles more and give the STAR some religious articles. We do not want and will not publish them if they are long. Keep them down to 500 words.

NEXT week we shall publish Prof. R. Alonzo Scott's great hymn and music on Frederick Douglass entitled "His Name Shall Live Forever." It was sung by thousands of people at the unveiling of Douglass' monument.

CONSIDERING the ugly, bitter and bulldozing campaign in North Carolina, no one is surprised at the result of the election. The reason that there was so little bloodshed from start to finish was because the whites and blacks were well armed.

THE Democrats three weeks ago refused to let Congressman Geo. H. White make a political speech at Kinston, N. C. Last week they refused to let J. C. Dancy make one at Wilson, N. C. Shame! Shame! And yet some colored men will vote Democratic tickets.

THE reports from the five educational districts on Children's Day are now in the hands of the General Manager who will soon publish them and the Easter Day reports in a STAR supplement. If the secretaries have any more reports, please send them at once so that all can be published in one issue.

THE following letter, dated November 7th, has just been received from the Senior Bishop: "I heartily endorse Secretary Warner's appeal and Bishop Clinton's suggestion that we make a Thanksgiving offering to the Church Extension Department.— J. W. Hood."

WE have received an invitation given by the request of the New England Conference to the silver marriage anniversary of Dr. S. C. Birchmore and wife to take place in our church at New Haven, Conn., November 24th at 7:30 p. m. We wish this prominent couple long life and great happiness.

ABOUT 20 persons who are neither subscribers nor agents for the STAR have sent articles here to be published. They will have to be one or the other if they expect us to publish them. Persons who are too stingy to subscribe for a paper should not write to it. Those ministers who have these people write about them should tell them our decision.

MR. J. C. CUNNINGHAM, an educated and talented young man of Charlotte, N. C., but whose business is in Washington, D. C., is home on a visit, and also in the interest of the Republican party. He is influential and shrewd and hustled and did telling work for the party of Lincoln, Grant and McKinley while in the State. He left for Washington yesterday.

BISHOP H. M. TURNER, of the A. M. E. Church, says in the *Voice of Missions* that should he live to see another General Conference, and he is not superannuated on full pay, he will request to be left without work on the active roll. Neither thing will be done if the Bishop expects full pay. If he will agree to half salary it might be done.

THE editors of the *Zion Trumpet* and of the *Varick Christian Endeavorer* pass for sanctified men; yet they have enough of the old Adamic nature in them to continually and sneakily rock the editor of the STAR. We believe in sanctification, but not in the kind these two chaps have. Let them keep on and we will slip up on the blind side of them some day.

PRESIDENT MCKINLEY, the Christian and statesman, has written a brief, clear, touching and patriotic Thanksgiving Proclamation, setting apart Thursday, the 24th day of November, as a day of national thanksgiving, and invites the American people "to come together in their several places of worship for a service of praise and thanks to Almighty God for the blessings of the year."

IN this issue Bishop A. Walters announces that the National Afro-American Council will meet in Washington, D. C., December 29th. As Washington is always a charming city to visit, and the railroad rates during the holidays will be cheap, and the race issues to be considered are momentous, there will doubtless be a large and representative gathering of Negro leaders from every section of the country.

Miss Josie Gaines, of Brewton, Ala., writes that Titus Talley, the son of Rev. H. Tally, is very sick; that Rev. Tally and family have been very sick.

FOR AND AGAINST WOMEN.

The following clipped from the *Pittsburg Christian Advocate* will be of interest to Zion:

"Women were advanced one step in ecclesiastical position by the late General Conference of the Methodist Church of Canada. Women have been for years members of the quarterly conference, by being class leaders. The General Conference has now made the presidents of ladies' aid societies members of that body. Memorials were presented asking that women be made eligible to the district meetings, and to the annual and General Conferences, but these were not granted."

FAVORS IT, BUT NOT NOW.

THE *Christian Index* of the 5th inst. publishes a letter from Bishop G. W. Clinton favoring organic union with all Negro Methodists, but not now. Believing that God has a work for each separate organization to do, he doesn't believe that God wants us to unite yet. Editor Phillips, of the *Index*, echoes the same sentiment. We believed this way six years ago when Zion and Bethel were going it blind on organic union, and that is why we killed the movement at that time. Numbers of Zionites who were severely mad with us then for writing as we did are shaking hands and praising us now for the stand we took.

ZION CAN HOLD HER OWN.

That the A. M. E. Zion Church has always held her own in the joint meetings on organic union, no one can truthfully deny. The lamented Bishop Jones' superb leadership and brilliant speech in a meeting of this kind in 1864 won for him the bishopric in 1868. That we came near swallowing or absorbing some denomination at one of these meetings in Harrisburg, Pa., in 1892, the fair-minded Bishop Turner affirmed in his speech at Zion's Centennial, over two years ago; and in his paper for this month he says:

"Doctor Henderson says that Bishop Walters told Dr. Carroll that we defeated the late proposed organic union between Bethel and Zion. If he means between the A. M. E. Church and the A. M. E. Zion Church, we thank God for being thus instrumental. We plead, worked, wrote, 'wire-pulled' and did everything in our power to bring about organic union between the two Connections from 1861 up to 1892, and finally a platform was proposed which would have been a union of absorption of the A. M. E. Church only, for the A. M. E. Z. Church would have simply swallowed like a king snake another snake far larger than itself; and we were opposed to it. And if we defeated it, we bless God for the power he honored us with."

Bishop Turner will be roundly abused by the handful of sinless chaps in Bethel and Zion for admitting that he "wire-pulled."

LET BOTH SIDES DO RIGHT.

Bishop Hood says it is the law and not a ruling by the Board of Bishops that they shall be paid in full in December before apportionments are made to the other interests. That's correct. See Discipline, page 86, paragraph 111, section 3. Of course that law was made with the belief that each Bishop would raise the entire assessment levied on his district.

The dictates of conscience and a sense of right and justice we believe will prompt Bishop Hood and his colleagues to concede the fact that the General Officers and other interests are justly entitled

to their share of the pro rata coming from every November annual conference that has for any reason been postponed to December. Had the Palmetto, Western North Carolina and the West Tennessee and Mississippi Conferences not been put off until December; and the North Carolina Conference not been put back until the last day of this month, which makes the general fund fall in December, every general interest would have received its pro rata from them without protest.

Since Bishops and General Officers are not responsible for the causes which called for their deferment, the General Officers have agreed among themselves that the Bishops love every interest too well to take advantage of the situation; and that they will order the General Secretary and General Steward to give every interest its pro rata from every November conference which has been adjourned to December.

IMPORTANT LEGISLATION.

The Seventh General Conference of the Union American M. E. Church which, after two weeks' session in Camden, N. J., adjourned November first, was composed of 35 elders and 20 lay delegates. This denomination has 3 bishops, 72 elders, 48 deacons, 120 local preachers and a membership aggregating 3,500 members.

Their territory stretches over the Dominion of Canada, the Middle States, and extends to the Southwest as far as Arkansas. They have one paper, *The Messenger*, with an estimated circulation of 400. This session was devoted in the main to the revision of the Discipline. After a hot and stubborn fight the presiding elder system was adopted. Candidates for the ministry are required to take a four years' course of study.

They made provision for district conferences which now gives them as many conferences as other Methodist bodies have. Among the principal changes in the Discipline are the laws governing trials, the composition of the conferences, and the rights of members. Provision was made for a court of appeals. No minister is to be removed from his charge in the interim of the annual conference for cause without a trial. Heretofore the Bishops have had power to remove them whenever they felt so disposed. The financial plan taxes each member one dollar a year general fund.

A Sunday-school Union was organized; also a Mite Missionary Society. The head of the latter society is called the General Missionary. A preacher must now travel ten years before he can become a member of the General Conference. He must also travel the same number of years and must be 40 years of age before he is eligible for election to the bishopric. Lay representation remains as before—one layman from each charge. Local preachers must attend Sunday-school or forfeit their license. The salary of the bishops is increased to \$1,000 each a year. The transfer system was approved with great enthusiasm. One can see that this was a very busy session of the General Conference and was a representative body of Negro divines.

SHOOTING STARS.

Rev. S. E. Robinson, of Maxton, N. C., says the Wednesday night collection at the Rockingham district conference was \$12.10 instead of \$1.40 as reported.

Rev. P. A. Wallace, of Chattanooga, Tenn., was given a hearty reception by the members of his church and the citizens at large. He is much pleased with his church. He says the STAR is much sought after in his city.

All who intend to visit the Louisiana Conference will write at once to Rev. S. M. Morgan at Tallulah, La. He is having grand success and will entertain the Conference which meets at Killarney, La.

Rev. John H. Love, of Newbern, N. C., writes: My church work is healthy. We have succeeded in reducing \$400 from the debt of \$1,300, and added 80 to the church. I congratulate you on the manner in which you have sustained the dignity of our Church as Editor of the STAR.

"I must request the congregation to contribute generously this morning," said Rev. Mr. Stimpay, sadly. "My salary is eight months in arrears, and my creditors are pressing. I, of course, work largely for love, and love equally, of course is tender, but it isn't legal tender."—*Harper's Bazaar*.

Presiding Elder Wm. Sutton, D. D., of Henderson, N. C., one of the greatest hustling P. E.'s in Zion, writes: We have bought a new church at Nueserion for \$130, bought a site in Elm City for \$25 cash, bought a site in Battleboro for \$40, have the lumber sawed, and we are now in Sutton's chapel singing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow." Scotland Neck and Rocky Mount are doing well. Peace reigns on my district. Lookout for a big report.

Rev. L. V. Watson met with big success at Newport, Tenn., this year before Conference met. He paid off a two hundred dollar note, raised more Easter money than any church on the Greenville district, doubled the general fund, raised all the Connectional claims, organized a V. C. E. Society with Mrs. M. J. Watson as president and went to the Conference claiming the prize offered by Bishop Harris. Such working men are bound to come to the front.

G. W. Ball, of Johnstown, Pa., writes: Our new pastor, Rev. Smith Claiborn, is an able preacher. He is fine. We all like him very much. Our work here is steadily going on. Miss Narsissa Cook, the esteemed and devout secretary of Sabbath-school, has left to enter Livingstone College. Our Sabbath-school passed the following:

Resolved, That while we reluctantly give her up, we can send her to her Alma Mater knowing she will reflect credit on the school and people. As the greater part of us have observed her as a child and young lady, and as her connection with school and church dates from an early age, we find that she possesses elements that any and all of us could emulate with safety. She has been a faithful worker in school and church, exemplary in manner and deportment; modest and unassuming, chaste, respectful and courteous to her elders, obedient to parents, a loving sister, a kind friend and a congenial companion. Resolved, That she takes with her the prayers of the school that God may keep her, and that her curriculum will not be freighted with any mishaps, but that a perfect understanding will spring up between instructors and pupil that will make the finishing of her school life one bright epoch in her existence.

THE CITY OF MY DREAMS.

Words by Rev. J. W. Smith, D. D., Editor of the STAR OF ZION; music by Rev. R. Alonzo Scott, the singing and musical evangelist. It is one of the sweetest hymns on record. Bishop J. W. Hood told Evangelist Scott that the churches and homes in New England are carried away with it. Mrs. Bishop C. C. Pettey writes that it is very popular in the North and West. Rev. J. F. Waters, of Bridgeport, Conn., has ordered 150 copies. Several choirs and individuals have ordered copies. Don't rest until you order a copy. Ballad, with words and music, 5 cents apiece, or 50 cents a dozen. Address, Rev. J. W. Smith, Charlotte, N. C., Lock Box 546.

To My Ministers: The minister that raises the most general fund according to membership, I will give him a set of theological books.—Lancaster, S. C., I. C. Clinton, Bishop.