

CANNON BALLS.

RIDICULOUS ADVERTISEMENTS.

BY REV. S. A. CHAMBERS.

"Black Skin Remover" is a remedy we see advertised in the STAR, and its manufacturer claims that its mission is to make white people out of Negroes by changing their skin from "a dark brown to half white, and a mulatto to perfectly white." How ridiculous! "Can the leopard change his spots or the Ethiopian his skin?" This is a clear case of playing upon the fancies of ignorant Negroes. The manufacturer knew that there are some Negroes fool enough to want to be white, so he plans a way by which their wicked and sinful desires may be met.

It is an abominable sin both on the part of the manufacturer and the consumer for one to prepare and the other to use any chemical preparation, vainly attempting to undo what the Almighty God has done. And the religious newspaper that carries such ridiculous advertisements comes in for an equal portion of the condemnation; for the color of the Negro's skin is as fixed as the everlasting hills.

The papers for two months published an account of a colored man using some kind of preparation sold by firms in the country, to make him white, and it poisoned and ruined his face for life. God made the Negro black, and the white man white, and each can best serve the end of his creation in the capacity in which they were created, than to try to be each other either by illegal social equality or by chemical application which promises to eradicate night from the Negro's face and institute day. How absurd! How ridiculous!

A little further down we notice in the STAR another ridiculous advertisement known as "Straight-line." This promises to make "knotty, kinky, curly hair straight."

And another "ad." known as "Ozonized Ox Marrow." This promises to bring peace out of confusion and order out of chaos by untwisting the Negro's hair. Always some one rising up trying to fix the "nigger," either socially, politically or physically. The latter is the latest discovery and invention. Let the Negro alone. He is alright physically. His hair is just as God would have it, and if He is satisfied everybody else should be. He made it.

There is a good deal of criticism over these ridiculous advertisements running every week in our religious papers. We never see them in white religious papers of this country and why should they be given publicity in ours?

We do not believe in medical treatment at long range. The best attention that our wives can get is from a skilled family physician. Being present, they find their hands full to overflowing very often.

Bethel papers carried a few of this character, but the *Christian Index* of the C. M. E. Church—a denomination much smaller than Zion or Bethel—would not carry them.

There is no man in sight upon whose shoulders the blame is to be laid but the Editor, and he is responsible for everything that goes into his paper. Indeed, nothing

can go into it without the inspection and approval of the Editor, and he should see to it that these ridiculous advertisements are eliminated from the STAR. Our law says, "Nothing shall go in the paper without first the Editor's inspection and approval." This is why we lay the blame on the Editor. Nothing should go in the STAR in the way of advertisements but something of a religious character.

The Conference Directory, showing where all of our Conferences meet; the Official Directory, giving the names of our Bishops and General Officers, the names and addresses of the Conference Stewards, the names of vice-presidents of W. H. and F. M. Society of annual Conferences, advertisement of our Publishing House, Book Concern, V. C. E. department, the names and prices of our books and papers, and every thing sold by these departments should go in on the last or eighth page, and these other advertisements about medicines, bleaching preparations and hair straightening frauds should be eliminated from our paper, and the Editor should see that it is done; and if it is not done the Board of Publication, composed of the Bishops and one minister from each episcopal district should order it done.

Rock Hill, S. C.

BISHOP SMALL'S VISIT.

BY REV. S. P. COLLINS, P. E.

Bishop J. B. Small, D. D., visited charges in the third district, North Alabama Conference, as follows: Tuscaloosa, Rev. I. F. Aldridge, pastor; Jerusalem, Rev. T. R. Gaines, pastor; Woodstock, Rev. R. Steal, pastor; Banks' Chapel, Rev. H. C. Banks, pastor; Birmingham, Thompson Temple, Rev. R. A. Morrissey, pastor; Bessemer, Rev. H. MacGee, pastor; Fayette, Rev. I. Fluellen, pastor; Jasper, Rev. N. R. Rhodes, pastor. He met a cordial reception at every point visited in his district. He preached able and instructive sermons. His visits will increase the general fund collections.

I expect every pastor to bring large reports on general fund, and a general increase along all lines throughout the district. We must not fall behind last year. Several of the pastors have had successful revivals during the year. I commend them for their devotion to Almighty God, and their faithful service to the Church.

We wish Bishop Small great success in his mission of love, peace and good-will among the churches.

Tuscaloosa, Ala.

CANNON BALL MAN.

BY I. L. FAYETTE.

"Honor to whom honor is due." "Cannon Ball," in the person of Rev. S. A. Chambers, waged a great war and easily laid waste the fortifications of those who favored ordaining women elders. Having fought well and routed and conquered opposers, he may well lay aside his old cannon and wait to see what next will turn up that will not be best for the old Church. The Scriptures sustain him, the people are with him, and *vox populi vox Dei*.

Newport, S. C.

MILTON DISTRICT.

REV. B. F. STEVENS, P. E.

The Milton or second district of the Florida Conference, by the grace of God, is coming. Though we have been on the sand-bar all the year, I have worked and trusted God, and at last the ship is launched out into the mighty deep and is sailing with all of her sails hoisted looking for that haven that is only for those that will do right. Judge from the work that has and is being done whether my men are worthy of praise.

Milton station, Rev. M. Mohorn, pastor. He is doing a good work and is about to complete a new church here. When finished it will be an honor to the Connection. Pastor and people say that they want to be ready for dedication by the first Sunday in November, 1898. Our third quarterly conference there on the 10th was glorious, although finance was meagre. The Reverend reported 118 members. Assessment of general fund, \$59.

Milligan station, Rev. J. H. Simons, pastor. This work is not doing so well owing to the fact that the pastor hasn't the time to pastor the flock as he lives 47 miles from his church. He has not met one of his quarterly conferences this Conference year. No report from pastor at all. Only officers report. Pray that this cold church may be revived. Membership, 30; assessment, general fund, \$15.

Laurel Hill, Rev. H. Taylor, pastor. He is one of Zion's war horses. He was appointed to Defuniak Springs mission where we once had some members, but they have all gone. Rev. Taylor, with God to lead him, went to work and on the second Sunday in May had a new church complete, ready for dedication on the fourth Sunday in May. We had a grand meeting. He has added to his church at Laurel Hill 18 members. He thinks that he will be able to build at Flowriler, Ala., and also at Defuniak Springs. Remember this brother had nothing to start with. Pray for him to continue to spread the borders of our Zion.

Point Washington circuit is where Rev. J. L. Cook was appointed. He got into some trouble here and had to leave. I filled his place with that dignified Christian gentleman, Rev. R. Forde. This work is in better shape now than ever before. He is truly an organizer. Membership, 16; general fund, \$8.

Caryville station, Rev. T. D. Upshaw, pastor. This work has been on the drag all the year up to the third quarter. The members have fallen in line and are determined to do their whole duty. We had an old time quarterly meeting here. These people and pastor are building a new church and making ample preparation to take care of the annual Conference to convene there the first Wednesday in February, 1899. I believe that all things are in harmony now, the good people saying that they were misled. Will each child of God pray that the old wolf may never get into the midst of them any more? Membership, 45; general fund assessment, \$22.50.

Summerville mission, Rev. S. Williams, pastor. He has been sick all the year; so has his wife.

He is just getting able to go to his work. He is one of our coming young men, full of life and energy, and some day will be a power in Zion.

We have several new churches going up now that we hope to dedicate before Conference.

Milton, Fla.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

BY J. C. CUNNINGHAM.

After two years of faithful service Galbraith church felt very sorry that Bishop Pettey saw fit to take Rev. Jesse B. Colbert from them. He is a good preacher, a perfect gentleman, and will succeed wherever he goes.

Rev. P. L. Cuyler, his predecessor, is moving along nicely, and the members are carried away with him. Besides paying up all their general funds this Conference year, the members are going to make Bishop Pettey a present of a nice pair of "red top boots" for sending them such a good church worker. Rev. Cuyler, after slipping off to North Carolina and returning with his two little motherless daughters the other day, got a terrible pounding at night by a mighty throng of his members. They were headed by Miss Sarah Janifer, Mrs. Mary Shaw and others. Flour, meat, eggs, lard, sugar and other good things were the only weapons used. Such a pounding is welcome at all the preachers' homes.

All the churches here are proud to know that the General Conference of 1900 will meet in the Nation's capital. By the way, Editor J. W. Smith, a few years ago, pastored John Wesley and Union Wesley in this city. We often hear his name mentioned in connection with the churches here, and his host of friends here are highly elated to know that he is so prominently mentioned for the bishopric. If men are to be promoted for their worth, bravery and loyalty to the Church, then the General Conference will not fail to make him "bushop." God calls his true men to the bishopric, but remember those who are called have to fight envy, jealousy and devil in God's name before they are elected and ordained.

It has never been my pleasure to meet Prof. W. F. Fonvielle, but, judging from his witty, thoughtful and versatile articles, he ought to succeed Dr. Smith as editor. He is one lay member that ought to be recognized by the next General Conference. As for me, there is nothing, I can do except that great body would risk me as treasurer.

Washington, D. C.

DOING NICELY.

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

My quarterly conference at Simmons' chapel was a success. They raised all my salary except \$1.05, and some general funds. It being my last quarter, the ladies of Simmons' chapel gave me a grand reception, with Miss Bettie Washington at the head, and Mr. Green Simons at her back. Miss Ellen Williams is a coming young lady. Speeches by Misses Teasey Bundage, Harriet Bird, Easy Bundage. Song by Miss Bettie Washington and Mr. Moze. Miss Bettie Washington is a fine worker in the Sabbath-school. Closing address by the pastor.

Hearne, Texas.

MIST ROLLING AWAY.

BY S. W. L. REAVES.

Our dim vision grows brighter while the mist is rolling away. I am glad to say at this present time that God is for His people and always will be. Eight months ago when I arrived here it appeared to me that I was almost a castaway; I thought of some place that I might resort to for bread rather than to go home; but in that lonely dark hour underneath the shadows of Sinai I thought to trust God for my bread, and the mist was rolled away and my dim vision grew brighter. I began to sound my vocal trumpet and always have bread. The stony hearts were melted down, souls converted, and now I have 20 members and we are preparing to build a church here.

Sunday and Monday nights, September 18th and 19th, were beautiful, while Dr. T. H. Hanna was present with us. The Doctor chose for a subject "Will God protect His people?" He proved himself a master of the subject. While he was preaching, like one of old on the Day of Pentecost, the refining fire from heaven's altar fell in many hearts and they were made glad. Four souls were added to the church. Bishop Jehu Holiday made no mistake when he appointed the Rev. T. H. Hanna presiding elder of the North Arkansas Conference. God bless the Bishop. May he live long to do the work that is before him with credit as he always has done.

Yes, of course, Dr. T. H. Hanna will remain presiding elder in the North Arkansas Conference. I hope the good Bishop will not forget that self-sacrifice and perseverance with success are better than a philosophical Christian who is a fanatic and only hunting some place that they might have the berries shaken down to them, caring nothing for the Church. Those people will always get on the train at the tank where all other bums get on; they will not get on at the depot where they can be seen.

Roe, Ark.

GOING TO AFRICA.

BY ANDREW EMERSON.

Messrs. Smith and Blackwell: You two gentlemen have had congratulations from all parts of America and from some points in Africa and Europe for clothing the STAR in a new dress and giving the Connection and race the finest Negro publishing house in the world. The STAR is one of the leading religious papers of this country.

I am inquiring for relatives. I have neither seen nor heard from them since I left Charlotte, N. C. My mother was named Senoth Johnson. Her owner was named Presley Mayhue. Her husband was named Ephraim Johnson. His owner was named Houston Johnson. My father's name is Wash Emerson. They were living 3 miles west of Davidson College when I left.

I am expecting to leave this country for Africa in the near future in case I can sell my property for half its value. I wish to see and carry some of my relatives with me, to a country of my own, where our own flag inspires us to a higher sense of national honor and leads us on to a higher plane of citizenship and a more useful life.

Lexington, Oklahoma Territory.