

# The Star of Zion.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH.

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## FIFTH ANNIVERSARY.

V. C. E. SOCIETIES—MORE EFFECTIVE WORKERS IN CHURCH.

BY REV. JESSE B. COLBERT, A. M. D. D.

In view of the fact that we are on the eve of our fifth anniversary as a distinctive denominational movement in the growth and development of the Christian Endeavor society, I thought it wise to state that we have succeeded (by the approval of the respective bishops) in appointing presidents for the various Conferences. This is done with a view of more concerted action along the line of organizing and fostering the societies in all of our churches as the law provides. The duties and work of the presidents are defined in the new book of Discipline and the revised constitution and by-laws of the Varick Endeavor societies of the A. M. E. Zion Church. It is earnestly hoped that each president will have the unanimous support and co-operation of every pastor and presiding elder in the Church in sustaining and fostering societies in the churches.

Every denomination is working and striving as never before to gather and hold the young people. The age calls for vigilant care in the training of the young people; the signs of the times point to the need of more efficient and qualified laborers in the Master's vineyard; it demands more consecrated heart and mind and body. This can only come from a carefully prepared and well-directed course of training. And who is to do this work if not the Church? The denomination that does this peculiar work will surely be the one that will gather and carry the young people of to-day. As loyal Zionites we cannot afford to allow the golden opportunity of saving the young people for Christ and the Church to pass by unimproved in this particular.

Let each president that has been appointed confer with the pastors and presiding elders of the respective Conferences, and arrange to call a convention of Christian Endeavor workers for the Spring and Summer. In this way you can do more to stimulate and awaken an interest among the pastors and people. There are useful and energetic young people who are anxiously waiting for an opportunity to do something for the cause of Christ. They are standing at the door knocking. Will we not let them in or will we shut the door of usefulness in their faces? The following presidents have been appointed to date: Kentucky Conference, Rev. W. T. Hayes; Allegheny and Ohio Conference, Mrs. Lydia Johnson; Tennessee Conference, Rev. J. H. Branner; Blue Ridge Conference, Rev. F. B. Howell; Alabama Conference, Rev. J. T. McMillan; Central Alabama Conference, Rev. F. H. Cumming; Virginia Conference, Prof. P. T.

Parson; North Carolina Conference, Mrs. Epps; Western N. C. Conference, Rev. H. S. McMullen; South Carolina Conference, Rev. J. W. H. Blake; Palmetto Conference, Rev. D. C. Baum; Arkansas Conference, Rev. S. W. Smith; South Mississippi Conference, Rev. A. G. Alstork; Missouri Conference, Rev. D. J. Donahoo; Central N. C. Conference, Rev. W. L. Lee; Texas Conference, Rev. W. A. Ray; Oklahoma Conference, Rev. W. L. Brewer; Louisiana Conference, Rev. P. C. Alexander; North Louisiana Conference, Rev. A. M. Lang; Arkansas Conference, Rev. J. H. McMullen; North Arkansas Conference, Rev. U. S. Jones; W. Tennessee and Mississippi Conference, Rev. J. N. Abby, D. D. Other Conference presidents will be appointed as soon as we can hear from the proper sources in regard to the matter.

### OUR WORK FOR THE SPRING AND SUMMER.

We want a number of V. C. E. societies aggregating ten thousand members in our various churches. This can be easily done if all of our pastors would simply do their duty in organizing these societies in their respective churches. This is not an unreasonable request by any means when we are brought face to face with the astounding fact that unless we as a Church become more interested and awaken to the necessity of organizing and training the young people in the church and for the church we will be the losers and it will be astonishingly visible throughout the whole Church within the next eight or ten years. Will we not take warning now and proceed on the axiom that an "ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure?" Will all of the pastors that have no V. C. E. society kindly take the hint? *St. Louis, Mo.*

### Livingstone College.

Special to The Observer. Salisbury, April 30.—Livingstone College, the widely patronized institution for the higher education of both sexes, under the control of the A. M. E. Zion Church, is shortly to have another building, making five on the campus. The new building will be three stories in height and will contain the offices and principal lecture rooms. The present prosperous condition of the college is very gratifying to Salisbury. There is not anywhere a better behaved body of students, and in this connection the creditable fact may be mentioned that all the faculty and officers, from President W. H. Goler down, are colored men and women.—*Charlotte Observer.*

### Operation of Hysterectomy.

Successfully Performed by Dr. G. H. Wilkerson, Colored.

Dr. G. H. Wilkerson, the Negro physician who came to Birmingham some time ago, has the record for making the first operation known as hysterectomy, as far as colored physicians go, in Alabama, and his patient has just been discharged. Dr. Wilkerson is historian for the Colored Medical Society of Alabama, and the details of the operation have been noted and will be reported at the next meeting of the society. Dr. B. G. Copeland watched the case in particular no little, and has given the operator due credit for the able manner in attending the case and conducting the operation. There are now more than three colored physicians in Birmingham, while three drug stores are being conducted by that race. *Birmingham Daily News.*

## REV. THOS. H. SCOTT.

Brief Sketch of a Beloved And Useful Pastor.

BY A FRIEND.

This brief sketch and the accompanying "cut" will introduce to the many STAR readers one of Zion's most beloved pastors in the person of Rev. Thos. Henry Scott. He was born in Dinwiddie county Virginia in 1842, his parents being Lydell and Nellie Scott. At the breaking out the war he became greatly exercised about his freedom and soon found means to enter the Union Army as an employe as at that time the enlistment of Negroes was not allowed. He served throughout the War and witnessed the surrender of Gen. Lee at Appomattox Court House.



Rev. Thos. H. SCOTT.

In the Fall of 1865 he was happily converted in Zion church, Philadelphia, Rev. J. P. Hamer, being pastor at that time. Shortly after his conversion, being thoroughly convinced that God desired him to preach the Gospel of peace he applied for and received local preacher's license. For over four years he faithfully and acceptedly served the Philadelphia church as local preacher under the administrations of Rev. M. M. Bell and Rev. John E. Price. In the meantime assisted by his wife, Sophia, who like her husband was a preacher, he established the Zion church at Frankfort, Pa. In 1884 Bishop Hillary ordained Brother Scott as Deacon after having been received a year previous into membership of the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference. Until 1888 he served the Philadelphia church as Deacon.

His first charge was at Williamsport, Pa., where his success was most notable. Upon request of Rev. M. M. Bell, Rev. T. H. Scott was removed in the midst of his Williamsport work and was sent to Mount Holly Springs where he built a new church and greatly added to its membership. Spruce Run church was attached to Mt. Holly. He repaired the former and nearly doubled its membership. Before leaving this church, which

was dedicated by Bishop J. W. Hood, LL., D. D., he paid all the debt except about \$75. At his next charge Newtown, Pa., he made a great reputation as an evangelist and he also improved the property. He was next assigned to Mt Calvary, West Philadelphia, and after doing good work he was sent to Williamsport a second time. In 1892 he was delegate to the General Conference which met at Pittsburgh. Great success attended his efforts at Salisbury, Md., where he conducted a successful revival.

In 1896 Rev. Scott was a delegate to the General Conference at Mobile, Ala. His more recent charges have been Middletown, Pa., and Saint Luke's East Harrisburg. He is at present the beloved pastor of the latter named church. "Father" Scott, as he is affectionately called, has the love and confidence of all who know him. His piety, his earnest, soul-stirring sermons have earned him an enviable reputation. Recently he was tendered a public reception in Harrisburg, and the city's best known people thronged the hall. He is a strong spiritual gospel preacher, sweet singer and a power in prayer.

### Bishop I. C. Clinton's Appointments.

MAY.  
5th, Biddleville, N. C. . . . . 11 a m  
5th, Clinton chapel . . . . . 8 p m  
6th, Center Grove . . . . . 7:30  
7th, Mowinglade . . . . . 7:30 p m  
8th, Matthews Station . . . . . 7:30 p m  
9th, Jonesville . . . . . 7:30 p m  
10th, Pineville No 1 . . . . . 7:30 p m  
11th, China Grove . . . . . 11 a m  
11th, Pineville No 2 . . . . . 7:30 p m  
P. O. Address from May 4-10, 412 W. Hill St, Charlotte, N. C.

### Bishop Hood's Appointments.

MAY.  
Sunday 19, Maxton circuit, . . . N. C.  
" 26, Concord, . . . . . "  
" 27-29 Salisbury (Com't)  
Thurs. 30 Blacksburg, . . . . . S. C.  
Fri. 31 Clover, . . . . . "  
JUNE.  
Sun. 2, at 11 Ebenezer . . . . . "  
" 2, at night Yorkville . . . . . "  
Tues. 4, at 11 Unity . . . . . "  
Wed. 5, at 21 Liberty . . . . . "  
Thurs. 6, at night Rock Hill . . . . . "  
Fri. 7, at " Chester mission . . . . . "  
Sun. 9, at 11 Rehoboth . . . . . "  
Mon. 10, Foundation . . . . . "  
Tues. 11, David Stand . . . . . "  
Fri. 14, McCall's station . . . . . "  
Sun. 16, at 11 Mt. Zion . . . . . N. C.  
" 16 at night Olio . . . . . "  
Mon. 17, Dyer Hill . . . . . "  
Tues. 18, . . . . . "  
19-28 Fayetteville . . . . . "  
Sun. 30 Carthage . . . . . "

### Bishop Alstork's Appointments.

8th, Walnut Grove . . . . . Ark.  
9th, Parksdale . . . . . "  
10th, Holly Grove . . . . . "  
11th, Montrose . . . . . "  
12th, at 11 A.M. Thompson chap. . . . . "  
12th, at 8 P. M. John Wesley . . . . . Wilmot . . . . . "  
18th, Zion Hill . . . . . "  
15th, Murrell . . . . . "  
16th, Dumas . . . . . "  
17th, Young's chapel . . . . . "  
18th, Grady . . . . . "  
19th, Pine Bluff . . . . . "  
21st, Warren . . . . . "  
22nd, Monticello . . . . . "  
Address from 8th to 18th Wilmot 13 to 22 Monticello, Arkansas.

## CHURCH PROPERTY.

How It Can Only Be Legally Mortgaged or Sold.

BY BISHOP J. W. HOOD, D. D. LL. D.

Mr. Editor: The announcement that I was authorized to explain the action of the Board of Bishops respecting the mortgaging of churches has brought to me questions enough to keep me writing a longer time than I have at command. I may state, however, that there are just two things that all ought to understand.

1st. That the local trustees have no right to sell or mortgage any of our church property without the consent of the membership. This consent must be given in a duly called church meeting, presided over by the pastor. My opinion is that the quarterly conference should be consulted before such action is taken.

2d. As I understand it, the action of the Board of Bishops had reference to churches which have been deeded to the Connection, directly. For instance: The church lot at Durham, N. C., was bought with money contributed by the ministers in the Central North Carolina Conference, and yet the church was mortgaged without proper authority. The church at Raleigh, N. C., was bought in the same way, and the local trustees would have no right to mortgage it. Clinton chapel at Charlotte, N. C., after a long litigation, was, by order of the Supreme Court, deeded directly to the Connection. There are a considerable number of churches in different parts of the Connection deeded in some manner directly to the Connection, or to some Conference or mission board.

The purpose of the Bishops was to give notice that such property could not be loyally mortgaged without the consent of the Connection, given by some competent Connectional authority. I may add that some preachers, with a portion of the trustee board, have mortgaged church property without the consent of the members. This they have no right to do; and people who loan money under such circumstances may take notice that it is not a safe investment.

### Fishkill Landing, N. Y.

### Commencements.

The Commencement of the Lancaster and Industrial Institute, Lancaster, S. C., Prof. M. D. Lee, Principal, will close May 22.

The Commencement of Livingstone College will close May 29. On account of the large number of students and for want of room it may for the first time in the history of college be held on the campus. See futures notice.

Rev. R. B. Bruce, editor of the Sunday school literature, has been invited to preach the annual sermon at the commencement exercises of Clinton Institute, Rock Hill, S. C., Prof. R. J. Crockett, President, the second Sabbath in May.

The Commencement of Bennett College, Greensboro, N. C., Dr. J. D. Chavis, President, will be May 19-22. The baccalaureate sermon by Dr. J. P. Morris, Vice-President, May 19th. In the evening be the sermon before the Religious Societies, by the Rev. J. P. Franklin, B. S., Mount Airy, N. C. The Annual Address will be by Rev. M. C. B. Mason, D. D., on Commencement Day, May the 22nd.