

# The Star of Zion.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

Vol XXVI

Charlotte, N. C., Thursday, July 2, 1903.

No 28

## ZION IN BOSTON:

ON HIGHER GROUND.

BY REV. E. GEORGE BIDDLE, B. D.

On Sunday, June 7th, the North Russell street A. M. E. Zion church under the leadership of Rev. J. H. McMullen, and his noble, self-sacrificing officials,



REV. J. H. MCMULLEN, A. M.

moved out from their old quarters to "Higher Ground," and changed from the North Russell street to the Columbus avenue A. M. E. Zion church.

From every standpoint this is a forward, higher ground movement.

The church building is at least two-thirds larger than the old church, and the valuation of the property is more than two-thirds greater. The building is on the corner of one of the finest avenues of the city, in easy and direct access to all parts of Boston and Cambridge; it is a magnificent building, comfortably seating a thousand people, architecturally beautiful inside and out; the audience room is four square, the windows at once suggest some of Euclid's problems. On either side of the audience room are six windows, the upper squares of which are made up of pairs of equilateral triangles, forming

Rev. McMullen, by his exemplary walk and life as pastor, has united the entire church in this upward, highest ground movement; such is the confidence of the people in his purity of life and integrity of conduct that even those who preferred to remain in the old church readily followed their pastor to the new. We are sorry that in writing of Rev. McMullen we cannot affix "D. D." to his name, for we are satisfied that no

one of the most difficult classical pieces of our great composers. After the sermon Sunday evening they, under his leadership, rendered grandly "The Hallelujah chorus," which was certainly one of the best renditions we have ever heard by a church choir. Numbers gave their names to the pastor for church membership. The offerings were liberal and spontaneous. Every club and auxiliary of the church is wide awake and giving freely. "Brieks without straw" are being exchanged for dollars, and it is expected that thousands of them will be secured as souvenirs of this forward movement, which places our church here in Boston in the lead of all colored churches, not only in Boston, but in New England. To the glory of God, Zion, size and value of church property, leads in Boston, Providence, Worcester, Hartford, New Haven, Bridgeport, New Bedford and Waterbury and in several other important points where is no other colored church in sight, viz., in Torrington, William antic, Middleton, and Attleboro. We propose ere long to lead in Newport, Lynn, Springfield, Pittsfield and many other places.

The dedicatory services were continued through the week. On Monday evening Rev. Dr. R. Wm. Fickland of the Charles St. A. M. M. church and his choir rendered valuable assistance. The Doctor spoke eloquently on the subject of "Opportunity."

Tuesday evening Rev. T. J. Montague of the Ebenezer Baptist church and his church choir had charge of the service. Rev. Montague very eloquently preached the Word.

Wednesday evening was given over to the laymen. The meeting was ably

Robinson, chairman of the board of trustees, should receive the credit due him for his endeavor to bring about the change.

Everyone seemed to be delighted with the eclat with which the exercises were carried out. The church will be known as the Columbus Avenue African Methodist Episcopal Zion church.

The trustees who deserve credit for the work are Scott Robinson, Atlas Skinner, L. H. Galloway, W. H. McIntire, W. H. Batnein, Darby Hill, John H. Long, Jacob Fowler, E. P. Crawford, John W. Williams, Alex. Young and John Banks also have rendered very great help in making this great move a success.

It was noticeable that Bishop Hood was overjoyed; for the last 8 or 10 years he has been sending pastors to Boston to do what Rev. McMullen has so grandly succeeded in doing—placing our Church in the lead—where Zion always, and in every good work everywhere belongs.

Mr. John W. Williams, superintendent of our Sunday school, is planning to make our school a mighty uplift for young people in Boston. Miss Hattie Smith one of Boston's most accomplished school teachers has volunteered her service in the school.

Deacon N. J. Young was ordained elder, and local preacher Rufus Gilbert was ordained deacon on Monday evening June 3th. With these brethren and a splendid corps of class leaders and stewards, the pastor is well prepared to win hundreds of souls to Christ and the church.

New Haven, Conn.

## Enjoyed Their Visit.

Among the friends who have visited Charlotte, N. C., recently were Mrs. Thomas H. Johnson of Allegheny City, Pa., and Mrs. J. H. Unthank, of Philadelphia. Both are members of the A. M. Zion church in their respective cities, and this was their first visit South. They found the South different from what it had been pictured to them. They were astonished and delighted with the progress of their race in the various walks of life. Words cannot express their admiration.

## Endorsed.

The New Jersey Conference presided over by Bishop Walters, and the Philadelphia and Baltimore Conference presided over by Bishop G. W. Clinton endorsed for the bishopric both Dr. J. W. Smith and Dr. J. S. Caldwell. The New York and New England Conferences presided over by Bishop J. W. Hood endorsed Dr. M. R. Franklin. The Western New York Conference, presided over by Bishop J. B. Small, though it did not endorse any candidate for any office, is for Dr. J. S. Caldwell and Dr. J. W. Smith.

## Pine Bluff District.

BY REV. J. S. LEWIS, P. E.

The Pine Bluff district conference will assemble at Monticello, Ark., July 23-27, 1903. Each circuit and station is assessed \$1.50; all organized missions \$1; ministers of all ranks and delegates of every department of the church 50 cents each for contingent fees. Each pastor must collect without fail 5 cents per head from his lay members for Walters Institute. Look forward to the district convention September 23 at Harlow, Ark.

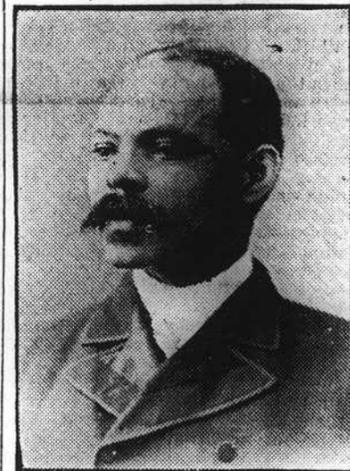
## A Correction.

BY REV. M. EDWARD CHURCH.

I desire to correct my report of April 30, 1903. It should have said Rev. J. C. Sexton, P. E. of the Key West district made a good report, all things considered. Rev. A. Jackson, P. E. of the Bahama District, reported great work done in that foreign field. Rev. L. A. Patrick, P. E. of the Tampa district, led the Conference on all lines. The Presiding Elder's report showed marked increase on many lines. Rev. A. A. Marshall was timeist.

Homeland, Fla.

The A. M. E. Zion church of New York City, West 10th and Bleecker Sts. sold their property recently and will move to 89th St. and Amsterdam Ave. where a modern church edifice will be erected. They hope to enter their new building in January 1904.—Georgia Baptist.



MR. SCOTT ROBINSON.

presided over by Hon. Wm. H. Lewis, Assistant U. S. District Attorney. Mr. Lewis won the hearts of the people by his eloquent and earnest words of welcome. Hon. John R. Murphy a talented young Irishman delivered a fine address on "Organization"

Thursday evening was woman's night. It was presided over by one of the purest and best women of our race—Miss Eliza A. Gardner. Miss Alice Thibou presided at the organ, Mrs. Annie E. Roan sang "Nearer my God to Thee" as we never heard that sublime hymn sung before. Mr. McMullen, the excellent wife of the pastor, delivered a fine welcome address. Miss Jennie Arnett read a fine paper on Jeremiah the weeping prophet and Dorcas the diligent worker. Mrs. Geo. E. Stevens, wife of the pastor of Calvary Baptist church, read a very excellent paper on "Woman's work in the church." Mrs. Agnes Adams made an eloquent and inspiring address. With the noble opening address of Miss Gardner, the presence of a large audience and the United Daughters of Zion presented the trustees with \$25. Woman's night was a grand success.

Friday evening Rev. J. A. D. Bloice, D. D., of Rush A. M. E. Zion church, preached an eloquent and very appropriate sermon. His church choir assisted him in the service. Dr. Bloice preaches extemporaneously, but his sermon was so orderly, compact and logical as any we have ever heard, or seen planned in any of our great works on homiletics. His text was Deut. 8:2. The offerings during the week at all the services were liberal.

The dedicatory services were continued through Monday June 15th with an organ recital on the last night.

The total amount of dedicatory offerings will run into the thousands. The pastor was frequently congratulated on the good work he has accomplished, and he took great care that Mr. Scott



COLUMBUS AVE. A. M. E. ZION CHURCH.

six pointed stars, surrounded by, and inclosing clearly defined circles and a beautiful hexagon. In these beautiful windows we thus have triangles, squares, hexagons and circles, all pointing to infinite perfection and beauty. On a larger and more imposing scale a window of like construction is in the center of the front of the building. The church is finely carpeted and cushioned. In the center of the audience room is a large and beautiful chandelier, with sixty electric burners. In addition to this, the sides of the building and pulpit and large pipe organ, are well lit up. There is a pastor's study, two large Sunday school rooms a well arranged kitchen and all modern improvements.

At the morning service Bishop Hood preached a grand dedicatory sermon on the gift and diffusion of divine light, taking for his text the great fiat of the Almighty, "Let there be light," Gen. 1:3.

At the afternoon service Rev. J. Henry Duckery, pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist church, preached a very impressive and timely sermon. The choir of his church rendered fine music for the occasion.

At the evening service, Presiding Elder Biddle preached on "Jesus the great burden bearer," Isa. 53:5. Long before 8 o'clock the church was crowded and hundreds were turned away. Prof. Ransom had trained his choir to sing

## CHURCH ITEMS.

About Zionites Here and There.

READ.

Smith Grove church is now in course of erection. Hear next week from our picnic and rally on July 4 and 5, and Rev. H. W. Smith, D. D., will speak for us.—H. Preston Whitehead, Smith Grove, N. C.

Our minister, Rev. Richardson gave our Sabbath-school on the Sabbath a fine address. We had a good time. We have the best Sunday-school now that we have ever had.—W. T. Moore, Mt. Olive, N. C.

Dr. S. L. Corrothers, of Galbraith church, was an honored guest last week in Washington at a swell reception tendered to Rev. C. H. Payne, of Huntington, W. Va., who was recently appointed United States Consul to St. Thomas, West Indies.

Mrs. George Emma Tice, of Abingdon, Va., better known in Bristol, Tenn., as Mrs. Emma Williams, died June 9, 1903. She leaves a husband to mourn her loss.—S. M. Charles, Portsmouth, Ohio.

Our church which we were working so hard to complete was blown down by the great storm of June 22—blew down on ten of us. We had to creep out after it was down. I appeal to all who read this for a little financial help. Rev. A. Cook, Bessemer, Ala.

Dear Editor Smith: I shall never forget your sermon which you preached not long ago at the W. N. Y. Conference. It was wonderful. We have succeeded in getting the gas metre back in our church, and we had a grand meeting last Sabbath.—Rev. J. Henry Taylor, Wilkesbarre, Pa.

Mr. Editor, I send you some of the ashes of the mortgage which was held against Zion here for near 15 years, and made her tremble; two years and one month from the time I burned the mortgage which had been hanging over Zion in Tuscaloosa. I am now planning to build a fine brick church.—Rev. J. S. Jackson, Birmingham, Ala.

Rev. John Wesley Smith, D. D., the talented and distinguished editor of the "STAR OF ZION" the organ of the A. M. E. Zion Church, is here on a visit from Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Smith was formerly pastor of West Street church, of Carlisle, and his friends insist that he will soon be a bishop.—Carlisle (Pa.) Daily Sentinel.

Mr. Editor, try to be with us in our our district Sabbath-school convention which will convene Wednesday before the last Sabbath in July. All the boys of the Columbus district want to see you. The first Sabbath in June we raised \$40 for the painting of our church which will entertain the convention.—George Holmes, White Oak, S. C.

Dr. J. W. Smith, the dashing editor of the STAR OF ZION of our Church, has now returned from an extended visit through northern conferences. He was well received by all the conferences. He is a candidate for the bishopric and was endorsed by several of the northern conferences. No man in our Connection deserves to be bishop more than Dr. Smith, who doubtless will be elected at next General Conference.—Florida Industrial Reporter.

We the members of Friendship Zion church are glad to say we have a pastor who can hold up Zion in this city. It is what we have been wanting for 10 years. We are going to do all we can for our church and Rev. R. P. Perry. He seems to have the interest of the church at heart. He is a preacher truly. He was called out last Sunday to preach for Rev. Marior of the A. M. E. church at 3 p. m. and he held everything spellbound. Dr. Smith, keep the STAR shining.—Mrs. Mattie White, Tallahassee, Fla.

The revival at Newcomb church resulted in 14 conversions. All joined the church. One of the oldest persons of the church was happily converted. Rev. Gaither, P. E. preached two nights. Revival opened at Bricville church the second Sunday night in June. The stewardesses of Newcomb church stormed the pastor and family amounting to nearly \$18. Come again, sisters. I like that. Mr. Editor, don't fail to send me the STAR. It shines. Your time is most out.—Rev. R. M. Simmons, Newcomb, Tenn.