

# The Star of Zion.

THE OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

Vol XXVI

Charlotte, N. C., Thursday, November 5, 1903.

No. 46.

## A FEW MORE WORDS.

David's Army In The Cave Of Adullam.

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

The STAR just at this time reminds me of the Cave of ADULLAM, where David gathered the malcontents. As it is written, "And everyone that was in distress and everyone that was in debt and everyone that was discontented came unto him and he became Captain over them." I have no time nor care to answer all the false statements that are now being put forth from this latter day Cave of Adullamites. But there is one false statement which I think ought not to pass unnoticed, namely, the statement that I have opposed Dr. Caldwell as a candidate for the bishopric. Nothing could be more false. I do not need to say this for his benefit. I do not believe there are two men in the Zion Connection who understand each other better than Dr. Caldwell and I, but I have been afraid to say much for him for some men seem so desirous to oppose anything that I favor, that I have feared that they might transfer their hatred toward him, when they learn that he enjoys my friendship. But since my silence is being wickedly used to support a falsehood, I feel it my duty to nail it to the wall. I might say more but I am not willing to run the risk of turning a tide which is running in a good direction.

I wish also to supply an omission in my last article in speaking of Dr. Smith and his advocates. The type makes me say, "On a plane far above his advocates." I said "Some of his advocates." I may add that about all David accomplished against Saul with his army of soreheads over whom he became Captain was the cutting off of the skirts of Saul's robe.

The Editor says that Dr. Franklin cannot be one of the men mentioned by the Bishop, for the Bishop said, "I know of no man who has shown the qualities for a successful Bishop more fully than he." Now any man who understands plain English knows that there is nothing in this language to hinder the comparison referred to. I did not say he had no equal, but I knew of none better qualified. There is nothing in the language used to hinder a comparison with two or a dozen or a hundred for that matter.

And if I had time I could go through his long wordy articles and find much that he has written which is no more logical than this. But, why all this beating around the bush? Why does not the Editor come out in plain words and say "The Senior Bishop of the A. M. E. Zion Church, who has served the Church faithfully for over thirty years is not an honest man, his word is not to be depended upon, he does not mean what he says?" Does discretion forbid his saying so thus plainly? If so Christian manliness ought to forbid his doing it in a round about way that he has been saying it for the last three weeks.

Charlotte, N. C.

P. S. The Editor announces his retirement from the debate, and gives his reasons.

I regret that he did not state that, at the time he wrote, he had in his possession what was intended to be my last article on the sub-

ject. He answers some things in that article which he has not yet published, as the reader will notice when it appears, and his answer will be better understood then.

I have not charged him with unworthy motives, in entertaining me. He had referred to his kindness to me and I thus undertook to acknowledge that kindness as fully as any words of mine could do it.

I did not intentionally intimate unworthy motives. If so understood, I wish most positively to state that such understanding is erroneous. He had intimated, and others had plainly stated, that it was ungratefulness on my part to oppose his desire for the bishopric after he had spoken kindly of me, and had shown kindness.

The idea conveyed to mind was that because of his kindness to me, I was obliged to support him, or at least not oppose him. It was against this idea that I was contending, as any one will see who carefully reads my statement.

What I tried to set forth was that no personal favor placed one under obligation to violate his conscience. If I failed to make that plain I hope I have now done so.

Wadesboro, N. C.

## Is It Right To Crush Such A Man?

BY J. C. OVERTON.

For the past few months I have carefully read the series of articles in the STAR written by Bishop J. W. Hood, and I have failed to discover any Christian spirit in any of them in regard to Rev. J. W. Smith. The Bishop has been endeavoring to show to the Church why he was opposed to Rev. Smith being made bishop, but he has failed signally to show any thing reasonable whatever. Why doesn't the Bishop admit that it is not any inefficiency of Rev. Smith that is causing him to have so many objections? He knows Rev. Smith morally, intellectually or otherwise stands all right. Last Spring Bishop Hood when asked by a Washington minister what he thought of Rev. Smith for bishop, replied that he had no more chance of becoming bishop than his son who is not a minister, and would not have as long as he lived, if he could prevent it.

Has not the Bishop been trying to keep his word, by not allowing Dr. Smith to be endorsed by either the New York or New England Conference, and by using his episcopal ax on him in the STAR OF ZION? I ask the Church generally, is there any Christianity in that? Is it Christ like? Does the Apostle Paul teach that kind of doctrine?

I had the pleasure of addressing the preachers of Baltimore City a few weeks ago, and after adjournment I was asked by one of the Bishops of the A. M. E. Church, and two or three of the most prominent ministers why the Senior Bishop was fighting the Editor of the STAR so bitterly, but I was unable to answer the problem. The Bishop's attacks are widely discussed in Baltimore. Is it right to crush a man because he has gone where sent by his Bishop, and accomplished what he was sent to do? Is it right to crush a man because he built a fine parsonage, and built the finest brick church in North Carolina, and at the same time edited the STAR which he has advanced from four pages to eight, and has defended the Church on every hand?

I am not a preacher of the gospel, but I have been born by the Spirit of God, and am a member of Zion Church. My mother and father, grand mother and grand father all are members of Zion Church. I take all Zion's literature, and I contribute to the support of the Church in every department and therefore I feel I have a right to speak the truth when I see it is needed.

223 W. Biddle St. Baltimore, Md.

## Bishop Hood's Appointments.

Sun	8 at 11, Mazong	"
"	" night, Laurinburg	"
Wed	11 Wil's Creek	"
Thurs	12 Beaver Creek	"
Sun	15 Flea Hill	"

## THE CONTROVERSY.

Between Bishop Hood, Editor Smith, Dr. Biddle and Plum Tree Shaker.

SEEN BY OTHERS.

Bishop J. W. Hood is making it warm for the young boys in Zion—The Moderator.

Bishop J. W. Hood, Editor Smith, Dr. E. D. W. Jones and Dr. E. George Biddle are truly hard hitters, men of war.—The Gazette.

After the shelling is over, Bishop Hood, Editor Smith, Dr. Biddle and the Plum Tree Shaker are too great to hold bitterness.—Weekly Standard.

Dr. J. W. Smith's vote for the bishopric is like Rev. G. Clement's for the STAR OF ZION; they increase every day. Good men will rise.—Zion Methodist.

As a keen disputant, full of wit, humor, logic, rhetoric and irony, the controversy now going on in the STAR shows that Bishop Hood hasn't a thing on Editor Smith.—Weekly News.

The Hood-Smith-Jones-Biddle controversy in the STAR OF ZION could well be dropped to the pleasure of many who are friends to all parties and who pray for the good of our Zion.—Zion Methodist.

Dr. J. W. Smith, one of the ablest men in Zion, wrote an able article on "Envy and its Effects." He is being fought by some of the strong men of his Church for the bishopric.—Industrial Reporter.

To elect a man editor twice of its great official organ, and his brilliant newspaper work would elect him again if he wanted it, Bishop Hood's logic is too lame when he says Dr. Smith lacks the qualifications to make a bishop.—The Watchman.

Rev. E. D. W. Jones, the champion plum tree shaker, is according to Dr. J. W. Smith, hard to beat as a Conference entertainer. Since the next Zion Church Conference meets at St. Louis, Rev. Jones is likely to gather the plum best suited to his taste.—Washington (D. C.) Record.

Anxious to reverence his superior officer, Dr. Smith of the STAR OF ZION is a caged lion. He is still cool under a raking fire. If he had his equals, officially, in the case of the fiery Dr. J. M. Henderson, of Bethel, he would make the earth tremble.—The Christian.

Mr. Editor: Every four years a man with one eye can read Bishop Hood's writings and see who he is after. Two white ministers here have been reading his attacks and they said no bishop in their Church would use the official organ to crush one of their ministers; that if they had the power they would vote for Dr. Smith.—F. H. Williams, Waco, Texas.

Rev. E. George Biddle, B. D., of New Haven, Conn., of the A. M. E. Z. Church, and Rev. E. D. W. Jones, A. M., D. D., of St. Louis, Mo., of the same Church, locked horns in the STAR OF ZION the other week. The public is watching them because both of them are able men and write fire-eating articles.—Industrial Reporter.

Our A. M. E. and A. M. E. Z. Churches are having a veritable war among their general officers. The Church organs are so full of hot letters that it is a wonder that the papers don't catch on fire and burn up before reaching the readers. What will be done at the General Conferences it will take a prophet to tell.—Little Rock (Ark.) Reporter.

Bishops J. W. Hood, D. D., LL. D., Rev. E. D. W. Jones, D. D., and Editor J. W. Smith, D. D., of the STAR OF ZION, are having a lively time discussing men and measures through that organ. Some good may result from the discussion, but we doubt but that its attending evils will have a big showing. We naturally enough feel our inferiority to the distinguished prelates, and yet we would suggest that "Whatever brawls to disturb the streets, there should be peace at home."—Rock Hill (S. C.) Messenger.

Let personal controversy cease. We see no other Church leaders using their mouthpiece as we are using ours, to vent personal spleen, and bitterly attack one another, which things do not tend to the glory of God, nor strengthen the cause of Christianity in the world. In this appeal we are taking no

sides.—A. M. E. Zion Quarterly Review.

Jacob and the Angel are through wrestling. The last week's issue of the STAR bore the intelligence that the controversy between Editor Smith and Bishop Hood had subsided. Dr. Smith represented Jacob; Bishop Hood the Angel. It seems from the Editor's closing remarks that he retires from the scene limping. If so, Brother Smith, it is strong evidence that you have received a blessing.—Rev. J. T. McMillan, P. E., Tuskegee, Ala.

## Replied Keenly.

Rev. J. W. Smith, D. D., the able and very scholarly editor of the STAR OF ZION, the official organ of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, published at Charlotte, N. C., and who has developed that paper from a folio to the excellent quarto it is to-day, has in a manner so keenly replied to Bishop Hood, in a recent issue of his paper, wherein he (the Bishop) refuses to support the editor as a candidate for the bishopric, to the extent that we think his nomination is almost assured. Dr. Smith is one of the strongest men in Zion, and we think his addition to the College of Bishops, will be a great addition to the Zion Connection.—Tampa (Fla.) Intelligencer.

## The Star of Zion is All Right.

The following excerpt from the Star of Zion is self-explanatory. Editor Smith, after directing attention to the continued prosperity of that able publication, concludes by saying; "Bishop G. W. Clinton said a few months ago that the Star is one of the most widely quoted Negro papers in this country. Yesterday we received a check, which we gave to Manager Hill, from one of the greatest men in this Nation, containing this question: 'Will you not send your paper addressed to the President, Personal, White House, Washington, D. C., each week?' When we by hard work, can give our Church such a paper as is thought worthy for admittance each week into the White House, our friends and enemies can draw their own conclusions."—Philadelphia Courier.

## That General Conference.

Bishop Hood and other tall men of Zion are saying many things concerning the forthcoming General Conference. Drs. Jones (the plum tree shaker), Caldwell and Franklin and the great Dr. Smith are among those who are supposed to be fortunate to the Episcopal sphere. According to Bishop Hood's letter in last week's issue of the STAR Dr. Franklin would be a fit subject for that lofty height. The Index has no vote to cast, but feels moved to say, if Dr. Smith may be judged by the matchless service rendered his Church for the past 8 years as editor of the STAR OF ZION as to what he will do on the bench, Zion would honor herself to make him bishop in 1904.—North Carolina Index.

## Bishop's Reasoning Unsound.

Bishop Hood goes for the Plum Tree Shaker and the brilliant Editor of the STAR. In view of the fact that Editor Smith is the logical candidate for the bishopric, does it not seem from the above that there is a small war on between the old and young elements in Zion? It occurs to us that Bishop Hood's reasoning is unsound. He states that the Connection does not need more bishops because they haven't raised a certain amount of money. In fact, Bishops are not infallible or immaculate. They were once poor struggling ambitious fellows, and their indisposition to allow a share of the seat on the throne may be the undoing of the kingdom. Men who work will not always wait. It takes more to win now than it did in ancient days when Bishop Hood was made bishop, and those who win the fight are not going to wait until those who have gone ahead die with senile debility before they want a share in the kingdom.—Mobile (Ala.) Weekly Press.

## Notice.

All persons, not members of the Western N. C. Conference, who expect to attend the next session at Statesville, N. C., November 25, 1903, will please notify Rev. W. A. Blackwell, Statesville, N. C., at once by postal card, and all ministers or delegates who expect to bring their wives will notify him so that homes can be arranged. Please do not delay this as he will not be responsible for parties who are so careless or negligent as not to notify him.

## OLD LANDMARKS.

Personal Experience.

BY REV. J. F. MILLER, S. T. D.

"O! the times, O! the manners," was an expression forced by the condition of affairs in a country where missionaries were wont to establish and propagate a religious sentiment not in keeping with the truth of Christ Jesus. This same expression is forced from us when we contemplate the fact that we have had a varied experience in mission work in the A. M. E. Zion Church. We have felt the force of the definition of a missionary as given to us by one of the Bishops of the Church. Bricks are to be made without straw. This is the sum totum of our position. We spent three months visiting and met the rebuffs, the snubs of our own pastors; hence were forced to leave the field. A church with 27 members was organized. The Presiding Elder was notified by the board, and to date he has not been on the ground; yet he had funds to extend the work. Self-preservation is nature's first law. Today we are as firm as ever in the belief that a work can be built up with the co-operation of the Bishop, Presiding Elder and brethren. To illustrate. We visited one of our most important charges and preached, etc! The pastor said of us: "He has no work; give him something," and \$1.54 was the result, after he had pressed the people and gotten \$11 and more. I did not ask it.

When will the spirit of right enter men's minds and do to others as they would have them do to them? Punishment, if that is what is intended, should touch the man, but the innocent wife and children ought not to be made to suffer. If a man has any spark of manhood, he would never use his official position to crush a brother for a personal matter. The day will come when these very men will be at the mercy of others. The cry comes from more than a score of men, "We will not stand it." Be warned. Be just. Do right, and Zion without doubt will extend her borders. We are alive and are pushing our work. You shall hear from us this month.

Let Dr. Smith retire and Dr. Jones or another come up to the STAR. The Church wants men of sympathy. Such a man is Dr. J. W. Smith. We hope to see him sit as bishop and deal fairly with all men. We believe he is a man on the Bishop Small order: firm, but kind, and not swayed by aspersions of vile mouthed men.

Lenoir, N. C.

## Appointments.

WEST TENN. AND MISS. AND N. ARK. CONF.

8	NOVEMBER.
10	Coffeeville, "
11	Glendora, "
12	8 p. m., Webb, "
13	Dublin, "
16	Riverside, "
18	Clinton Chapel, Memphis, Tenn.

NORTH ARKANSAS.

19	NOVEMBER.
20	Brinkley, Ark.
21	Poplar Grove, "
21	11 a. m., Hot Springs, Ark.
"	8 p. m., Coleman chapel, Little Rock, Ark.
22	8 p. m., Tucker, Ark.

Take notice, the appointment at Sardis, Miss., is cancelled by request of P. E. Chapelton, Nov. 2nd instead of Nov. 1st. Coffeeville, Nov. 7th instead of Nov. 6th. If any change in the above appointments is desired to help the work, the pastor or Presiding Elder may write me at Batesville, Miss., until Nov. 3rd; Coffeeville, Miss., until Nov. 6th; Webb, Miss., until the 10th; 268 De Soto St., Memphis, Tenn., until Nov. 11th; Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 20-30, Conference.

G. W. CLINTON.

## Ring Him Up.

BY REV. J. T. MCMILLAN, P. E.

My esteemed brother, Rev. J. T. Williams, Saratoga, N. Y., in reply to your request in a recent issue of the STAR OF ZION relative to Alabama's integrity in 1904, I want to say that Alabama, as far as I can understand, is profoundly grateful to the many friends who so loyally supported Dr. J. W. Alstork in 1900 for the bishopric, and will stand by her colors in 1904.

Tuskegee, Ala.