

# The Star of Zion

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

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## OBITUARY OF MRS. MAMIE M. ALSTORK, LATE WIFE OF BISHOP J. W. ALSTORK.

By Bishop J. W. Alstork, D. D., LL. D.

Mamie M Alstork was a daughter of Nellie L. Lawson. She was born at Talladega, Alabama December 25th 1855. She died at Montgomery, Alabama, January 12th 1920. She was married to John Wesley Alstork May 26th 1872 by the Hon. G. W. Plowman, of Talladega, Alabama. She was educated in the common schools of Talladega and entered Talladega College, but did not finish her College Course because she married.

She was converted to Christ and joined the A. M. E. Zion church under the late Rev. Landy Fanin.

Within a few months of forty eight years she enjoyed a happy and helpful married life. She stood by her husband and shared whatever came whether joy or sorrow, success or failure. She was a model wife ever looking to the interest of her husband. There were no children born to them. She took great delight in helping others to educate their children. Her home was the children's happy resort. She was a friend to everybody, especially the ministers and their families. She was a consecrated Christian and a worthy member of the church. She was a lover and sympathizer with all humanity. She was always happy when helping the needy and helpless. She was active in helping the cause of education and charity. When her husband was a pastor she delighted in helping among the people of the

service as the wife of a pastor.

When her husband was Financial Secretary of the A. M. E. Zion Conference eight years, handling hundreds of thousands of dollars she was his faithful Secretary. Much of the time her husband was away from the office (because he was a Presiding Elder) she received and receipted for the money. There was never a time when one dollar went wrong.

As the wife of a Bishop she was much at home as to the duties and responsibilities of that position. She worked for God and humanity from her conversion to the grave. She always sought opportunity to do good. She was a member of the singing choir wherever she went. She was a Sunday School teacher in the Sunday school wherever she was situated. She was president of the neighborhood club, a charitable organization. She was President of the ministers' wives' union. She was a member of Anna M. Duncan Club. She was a member of St. Paul Club. She was a member of the Auxiliary Board of Hale Infirmary. She was Most Ancient Matron of Lidia Court No. 13 Free and Accepted Ancient York Rite Masons.

She was president of the Third Episcopal District comprising the following Conferences: Alabama Conference, Southeast Alabama Conference, North Alabama Conference, Cahaba Conference, South Alabama Conference, South American Conference. She was the first to organize the Episcopal District Convocation. She held one for every year for three years and raised \$3,375.10. She and her workers were arranging for the fourth one when the Lord called her.

She delighted to work in this Department. The ladies who assisted always made it so pleasant for her. She attended most of her husband's 5 Conferences and always took an active part with the ladies on their programme. She attended all of the General Conferences including the one in which her husband was elected Bishop at Washington, D. C.

She always delighted to be with her husband that she might help him

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Rev. Rev. P. A. Wallace, A. M. D. D. Pastor of Fleet Street Memorial A. M. E. Zion Church, Brooklyn, New York. Cleared Church of heavy debt. Bought New Parsonage. Doubled Membership. Has won Congressional nomination. Prominent Candidate for Bishop.

## EASTER DRIVE AND OFFERING

By John C. Dancy, Secretary Church Extension and Home Missions.

Word reaches us from every point of the compass that better reports will be made this Easter than ever before.

A most cheering and significant pledge is that there will be more promptness in making reports than in previous years.

In the death of Rev. P. H. Williams, our department sustains a great loss, because he made it a point to send in twice the amount asked of him. He believed that the Church Extension and Home Mission Department a chief asset of the Church. O, for more men of his spirit!

We must break all previous records this year and we must do our best to get our reports in before the General Conference. We must make a splendid showing there to maintain our record.

If we could jump from \$700 in 1916 to \$4,000 in 1920, what good reason is there that we should not run up to over \$5,000 in 1920? Let us all get busy and do just this particular thing. This one thing we can and must do.

We rendered a splendid account of ourselves with our Bethel Brethren in Baltimore a few weeks ago, and were made to feel proud of ourselves and they expressed themselves as being proud of us, and we were proud of them. But we will be prouder of ourselves if we continue our average increase annually in our Easter Offerings.

Let everybody get busy. This is no one man's task. Everybody must help. Send in your order at once for Easter Programs, etc. Send all orders to our office in Philadelphia.

Our Bishops were never more enthusiastic over the Easter Offering than now. They realize that the more we can raise for the department from this source the more churches we can help, and the more benefit the department can and will be to the General Church.

Now is the time to bestir ourselves and we must not be laggards, but rally on the job until Easter is over. Are you in heart and sympathy with us? If so show it and act promptly in making report.

By Rev. W. W. Evans.

Editor Star of Zion:

I do not know how you feel about it, but if I were the Editor of a paper I would never like to be boosted up in my own magazine; but as I am not the editor nor ever likely to be, and as there is no other magazine as good as yours to do the job, will you allow me without flattery to boost you up this once as plain Dr. Harvey Anderson, Ph. D., the man who is playing the game square, and impartially by not only giving his competitors free scope to air their candidacies, but also brings them out prominently before the public.

From the time of your occupancy of the Editorial Chair I have been critically watching the progress of The Star of Zion in its literary flight and during the three first years of that occupancy it compared favorably with religious magazines of the same class, but this last year you have simply brought The Star of Zion up to a standard of literary excellence that will be hard to beat, giving us a readable paper that any religious institution will be proud of, for which you are to be congratulated. Now we do not want any more experimenting. It took you four years to bring the magazine up to its high standard and we do not want a new editor to start fresh experimenting; for it will be a very difficult matter to give us a better paper. Therefore, the General Conference should see to it to give the officer who is making good the commendation, "Well done, good and faithful servant," and so encourage him to do better. In passing I will say the same thing about the Editor of the Quarterly Review, the Rev. C. C. Alleyne, whose magazine is of a very high class and compares more favorably with the English and American Literature of the same class. Dr. Alleyne has only one competitor which fact I will take as a sign of general satisfaction with his

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420 South 11th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

## Address Of Dr. George E. Haynes, World Survey Conference, Inter-Church World Movement, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Negroes are feeling a consciousness of being one hundred per cent American. (Applause.) In spite of the newspaper headlines to the contrary. They feel that they have a contribution to make to America and the world, and they ask for the opportunities and the facilities for the development to make these contributions.

They have economic contributions to make, as they have made in the United States. They have helped the South to change from swamp to cotton fields and to blossom like the rose. They have helped to build our railroads, bridge our rivers and tunnel our mountains.

And yet today they are asking, and a part of our program is to bring the church behind that natural desire that they may have an opportunity to get work (the facilities through the churches, if you please) to find work to hold their work and to be trained for their work the same as other Americans. They wish opportunities for living conditions with housing and neighborhood facilities just like other Americans, both in the rural districts and in urban centers.

The housing conditions in every one of our large cities, North and South, where Negroes live are a disgrace with the

tion, of fire protection, of police protection. Vice and crime from their own group and that imposed upon them from the white world without are to be found. There are red light districts imposed within or near the Negro neighborhoods. Negroes ask that these housing and neighborhood conditions be changed. And they believe that the Church and the Christian conscience of America will see to it that they are changed. (Applause)

They ask that in the rural districts the Church be the means to bring to the conscience of the landlord and plantation owner the question of housing and living conditions for those who toil upon the land.

The Negro needs health. Particularly is there need of provision for medical service; for physicians, hospitals and nursing service. There is need of educational propaganda both from public health authorities and from hospitals supported by the Christian Church.

When you remember that for ten million people there are today in America only about ten hospitals that can be called in any way adequate and three of these are outside of the South where the great bulk of the population is; when you remember that the Negro physicians today in practically every city, North and South, and in every rural district where there is a general hospital, public or private, cannot follow his Negro patient into the hospital to give him treatment, you see that we are face to face with a thing that cries out to American conscience. And health is a matter that concerns all the people. Disease and death draw no color lines.

Again, the Negro has something to contribute in the life of America in that good feeling and humor that makes America a happy place in which to live. The leading comedian of the American stage today is a Negro—Bert Williams. A great many of the popular airs contributed to American music were written by Negroes, and first presented to the American public through Negro voices. Recreation, then, and provision for recreation in every rural and in every urban community is a small problem of the church.

But not only in recreation, and in labor, and housing which should be provided for workers; but in the matter of education, particularly that secondary education so absolutely necessary if we are to have the trained brains for the internal, race leadership, all this must receive a new awakening of the American Conscience.

Our program is adopted after a series of conferences of representatives from all of the church mission boards, and all of the distinctly Negro denominational representatives, proposes a national system of three hundred secondary schools of high school grade, twenty-one junior colleges, eleven senior colleges, and as replenishing of 60,000 professional people—physicians, nurses, social workers, college, high school and primary school teachers and ministers.

We have about 30,000 teachers and about the same number in other professions. For the supply of the proportion of trained brains and chastened and uplifted spirits that must go into this leadership which is absolutely essential for 10,000,000 Americans, these leaders of education and of church denominations agreed in conference and recommended to the National Council of Review that national program of secondary and higher education.

Do they ask this for education, but their expression has been the sole and the greatest untrammelled expression that the Negro has had in the past. He has something in religion to contribute to America.

Those who have studied these spirituals which Mr. Burleigh has sung, which are a part of some five hundred which came out of slavery, know that they breathe all of the range of emotions of love, joy, fear, triumph, but not one of them breathes a note of malice, hatred or revenge. (Applause.)

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## FACTS UPON FACTS.

By S. A. Chambers, (Cannon Ball) Star Candidates.

Dr. Anderson is in and may not be as easily gotten out as some may think. He has made an excellent editor and the General Conference may take cognizance of that fact when the election comes off. He is an able writer, has a large stock of useful information, and knows something about almost everything that has happened since he was born, and much about things that happened before.

He stands for re-election and maybe who can tell from where we now stand which way the little gods will turn the wheel of fortune.

Dr. W. H. Davenport is also a candidate for The Star. He is a fine writer and quite entertaining, if tried he would make the Church a good editor. My wife says: "Davenport is a fine writer, I like to read his articles." Many others say that and more. Davenport is good editorial timber. We have heard many favorable comments on his articles.

Drs. W. J. Walls and H. T. McLeod, two excellent young men and two model pastors, and two polished scholars fresh from the classic walls of Livingstone College, are formidable candidates for the Editorship of The Star, and are more to be dreaded than an iceberg. They give tone and prestige to any pulpit where they stand and would do so to any position.

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