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OBSERVATIONS.

AT LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE AND PUBLISHING HOUSE.

By Dr. R. A. Morrissey.

The memorable day of February 11th found us at Salisbury, N. C. Here we were honored by Pres. D. C. Suggs and Faculty of Livingstone College by an invitation to deliver the "Price Memorial Address." Livingstone College had an unusual attraction and fascination for us on such an auspicious occasion, because it was where we had sat at the feet of the illustrious Price, as the Apostle Paul sat at the feet of Gamaliel to acquire knowledge for preparedness and usefulness in life activities. This historic occasion gave us opportunity for observations which were especially interesting and illuminating. They afforded us correct visualization for adequate appraisal of the real work and worth of Livingstone College to the Church and to the race at a time when the birthday celebration, in esteem and honor of the immortal founder, was being appropriately observed in the Church in different parts of the country.

Livingstone College.

At 10 o'clock A. M., February 11th the entire student body with the Faculty marched from the auditorium to the grave in solemn song and tread, encircling the tomb of the immortal Price, executed an interesting program consisting of music and addresses by the representatives of the various classes. On this occasion the principal address was delivered by Prof. J. S. N. Tross.

In the afternoon another program of celebration exercises by the students was rendered by the joint societies under Mr. C. F. Spurgeon with short addresses known as "3 minutes guns from representatives of the students from 28 states including the special address by Mr. Clifford P. Saunders, a student of the Senior Class.

In the evening at 7:30 another program was given in honor of the great educator, J. C. Price, under the auspices of the College Faculty. President D. C. Suggs made appropriate opening remarks complimentary of the spirit of the day and the excellencies of the exercises thus far given.

The program consisted of appropriate music by the choral union, poems on the life of Dr. Price and extracts from some of his speeches with the Price memorial address by the writer on the subject, "Dr. Price as a great man," in which was portrayed the excellent qualities of his life.

- First, As a great Preacher.
- Second, As a great Leader.
- Third, As a great Educator.
- Fourth, As a great Orator.

President Suggs then made complimentary references to the exercises and the memorial address, also to Dr. Moore and Miss Victoria Richardson, members of the faculty who had given so many years of devoted service to Livingstone College as co-workers of Dr. Price. He then introduced Mrs. Jennie Price, wife of Dr. Price, his daughter, Miss Josie Price and Mrs. Mamie Walker Davenport to the audience who received a warm ovation by the students.

The celebration exercises of the day were declared by many who have witnessed many such occasions to be the best in the history of the school. The Price birthday program by the students, for excellency in rendition and unusual intellectuality, clearly demonstrated the thorough and efficient training afforded at Livingstone today. It also showed the fine spirit of cooperation between the faculty and students for the maintenance of the highest standard of discipline and deportment for the best results in the operation of the school under the wise and successful administration of

President Suggs and his efficient Faculty.

The enrollment for the present session has eclipsed all previous records of the school. The enrollment of the faculty has climbed up to 26 strong with all salaries paid up promptly when due.

There are five hundred thirty-eight (538) students enrolled, one hundred five (105) of these pursuing courses of study in the College department, and there will be a much larger class in numbers to graduate from the college department this year than ever before.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE GULF SHORES.

By Rev. G. H. Miles, Presiding Elder, Pensacola District.

Nineteen twenty-four is upon us with all of its responsibilities. Three General Conferences of Methodism are to meet and enact laws for the better government of the church. A M. E. Zion, A. M. E. and the great C. M. E. Churches. All of these bodies are to be looked up to, to give us the things that will tend toward the betterment of the Methodist family. Then this year brings us face to face with another presidential campaign. To great political conventions are to gather in battle array, to put up men as standard bearers of their respective parties. So it is a busy year.

Zion has much to do in this General Conference, besides the election of bishops and general officers. This part of the business should be the least concern. To my mind the enactment of laws that are sane and possible to enforce should be the order of the day. Some of the laws that are on the statute book should be changed or repealed. Among them is the one voting for the return of the pastor. This law never was enacted by the General Conference, but crept into our church when our Zion was surrounded by Congregationalism in New England and New York. These churches saw the Congregational churches doing this thing and followed in their wake. It was allowed and is now a part of our law by general consent. This law of custom causes more harm than good. It gives the people the right to ask for a change or the return of the pastor, and many of them think that their vote settles the matter when to their surprise they learn that the bishop is not bound by any action of theirs. This law ought to be modified, or made clear enough so that the church would know what to expect when they vote; but I say take this law out, if we are Episcopal. We certainly cannot be Episcopal and Congregational at the same time.

There should be some way whereby presiding elders on missionary districts could be paid back salary. As it is there is no way for a presiding elder to collect any of his salary should the church fail to pay him. He has no authority to press his claim further than the Sunday's collection, and many times this does not amount to one half of the balance due. Should he take this, it oftentimes causes hard feelings on the part of the pastor who is, as a rule, as hard pressed as the presiding elder.

Every presiding elder who has the love of his men will feel like sharing their burdens. The reason that provision is made for the bishop's back salary is, there is no way for him to get a living unless the General Conference provides for him. Presiding elders are sub-bishops and many of them do more real rugged work than we would want our bishops to do. They are on the go from one conference to another, preaching, teaching, looking out for the betterment of the church, oftentimes without

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MATTERS IN GENERAL.

APPROACH AND FRIENDSHIP WITH B. M. E. CHURCH.

By Dr. R. R. Ball.

W. J. Walls, D. D., Editor "Star of Zion."

Dear Dr. Walls:

A number of outstanding men in our Zion who know me intimately, and are acquainted with my twenty-three years' service in Zion Connection have insisted that I offer myself and service to the Church in the capacity of general officer. They base their insistence upon my thirty-two years in the ministry, three years as editor of the Messenger, official Church paper of Colored Methodism in Canada, eight years as conference secretary in New Jersey annual conference, one of the assistant secretaries for two General Conferences, three years as presiding elder of the New England conference, and nine years as conference secretary or assistant; four years as conference treasurer.

The question of just being a general officer does not appeal to me. The question that my brethren feel that I can better serve the Church in the general field does appeal to me. The demands of my friends are such that I cannot ignore them. If, outside of the pulpit, I am considered of worth to the Church in general service, then I am convinced that my training and experience would fit me to serve the Church best as General Secretary. It is generally understood that Dr. Jacobs, the present efficient secretary, is a very prominent candidate for the bishopric, and is considered to occupy a leading position among those most prominently mentioned. In view of the above I formally announce that I am a candidate for the office of General Secretary of the A. M. E. Zion Church. Certainly I will appreciate the support of all delegates at the forthcoming General Conference who feel that I am qualified to perform the important duties of the office.

It will be remembered, Mr. Editor, that at the Knoxville General Conference we had a fraternal visit of Rev. S. R. Drake, the general superintendent of the B. M. E. Church in Canada. It was my privilege to make the response to his address. I understand that the B. M. E. Church will again be represented at the Indianapolis General Conference. Representatives from the B. M. E. Church are worth a cordial welcome, not only of what they represent in the religious world, but because of their fine attitude towards our Zion. I have every reason to believe that the B. M. E. Church would welcome a closer relation with the A. M. E. Zion Church. If not by organic union, at least in some cooperative movement that would mutually advance the interest of both churches in the Dominion of Canada.

At the last General Conference of the B. M. E. Church in Canada in London, Ont., it was my good fortune to represent our Zion. I will not burden your columns with the fraternal address delivered on a Friday evening. The following brief excerpts from the "London Advertiser," give some notice of the reception accorded the representative of our Church.

Rev. S. R. Drake Re-Elected Superintendent of B. M. E. Church in Canada.—Dr. Ball Speaker at Quadrennial Gathering.

The unanimous re-election of Rev. S. H. Drake of this city as general superintendent of the British Methodist Episcopal Church in Canada, for a third four-year term was the outstanding event at the first day's session of the 16th general quadrennial conference which opened at the

B. M. E. Church on Gay Street, yesterday.

An important feature in connection with the opening of the conference was the presence of Rev. Dr. Richard R. Ball, of Hartford, Conn., who presented greetings from his Church, the Zion African Methodist Church of the U. S. A. Dr. Ball, who will address the conference at the Friday evening meeting, referred in a brief address yesterday morning to his happy reunion with his boyhood chum, Rev. Mr. Drake, and his gratification in seeing him in a place of high honor in the B. M. E. communion.

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A VOICE FROM THE SOUTHWEST.

By L. O. Grady.

At this time the eyes of the A. M. E. Zion Church are being turned to Indianapolis, Ind., where preparations are being made for the entertainment of the forthcoming General Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church that meets in its 27th quadrennial session.

The various annual conferences that send delegates to this great meeting have held their sessions, and the roll of members has been made up. We take it for granted that in the selections by the various conferences over the Church, then best men and women have been selected that could have been forgotten. If this is true, there will be gathered at Indianapolis next May the best material in this great Church.

The work of selection of delegates having been finished, the great problem that confronts that selected body is one of legislation on measures for the future welfare of the Church. If you note I make the problem of legislation the great one. If we are not going to do any legislating, and are going to leave the work of running the Church in the hands of those elected, as it is largely at the present, then the great problem is that of the selecting of men in whose hands the affairs of the Church will be safe.

In this meeting we are to select men to the highest office in the Church—four or five as the General Conference may see fit. Then too, the departmental heads must be elected and also the heads of the various institutions. Those who are aspiring for office are busy getting in touch with the delegates and some of the delegates are getting in touch with them, one asking for suffrage, the other asking for donations for one thing and another.

For a while the papers are full of articles on the qualifications of bishops. Some men demand a type of man, such that God would have to provide some special mould to have him cast in. More has been said along the line of moral fitness perhaps than along any other line. We all must agree that one who aspires to the highest office in a Methodist Episcopal Church should be a man above reproach. He should be able to present to the church a clean record.

But after all that may be said or done, we will find that, if we elect any bishops at all, they will be taken from the rank and file of our ministry, men of like passion, who are as good and as bad as we are. God can only give back to us the material that we have furnished him with. But out of this unit and unholy mass God has been always able to get a man to do His work; and we have reasons for believing that He will do the same thing in this approaching General Conference. To this end let us pray.

In our swing around to the conferences during the spring, summer

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GLOWING TRIBUTE.

TO MEMORY OF LEADER OF COLORED RACE IS PAID BY NEGRO PHYSICIAN.

(Article in Asheville Citizen.)

Glowing tribute to the memory of Dr. Joseph Charles Price, prominent Negro leader, was paid by Dr. J. W. Walker, former Negro physician here, in an address delivered Sunday night at Hopkins chapel A. M. E. Zion church. Dr. Walker is now in charge of the colored section of the State Sanatorium at Sanatorium, N. C. The occasion was in honor of the Price Anniversary, February 10. Price was the founder of Livingstone College.

In part Dr. Walker spoke as follows:

Dr. Joseph Charles Price was born in Elizabeth City, February 10th, 1854, and he, too, like the illustrious and immortal Lincoln and Douglas who were born in the same month, was destined to play an important part upon the stage of human activity.

"The master men and women to whom we owe so much, thanks to the Divine, have not been confined to any particular age; they do not always come from royal blood nor are they bound by racial lines. In one epoch, they are called from among the despised and debased portions of humanity. At another, they rise up rugged souls and at the loom of life weave the garment we seest them wear." And still another from the classic walls of some institution of learning.

"When this good man and good woman would make their appearance, they are known and felt; for stocks and dungeons, guillotines and edicts from the thrones of monarchs are as nothing to thwart their aims and purposes. For God Himself has called them, and who has the brazen temerity to defy the Omnipotent in arms?"

"On the natal day of young Price, there was no star to point or guide the wise men, or prompt the announcing of his advent; his coming was unnoticed, a mere incident. Unheralded, he was born in a log cabin, his mother and father were slaves, mere chattel, poor and unlearned, struggling for existence. Under such circumstances, who dares to prophesy greatness? Can any good thing come out of Nazareth? Could a gloriously flaming soul be tabernacled among such unpromising environments? Such humbleness, such meekness? Yea, veritably we remember we are told that God raiseth up the poorest from the dung-hill to set them among princes and to make them inherit a throne of glory; for the pillars of the earth are the Lord's and he hath set the world upon them. He shall keep the feet of his saints and the wicked shall be silenced in darkness; for by strength shall no man prevail."

"Black as ebony, of a despised race, born and largely reared in poverty, with no light of fair surroundings, this child of destiny comes forth to win the plaudits and admiration of the world."

"Milton wisely said that childhood shows the man as the morning shows the day." As a rare child, his childhood days were exceptional and his footprints can be easily traced from the lowly earth to the vaulted skies. Whatever the changes in fortune we are told, he went from the Sunday School and church to the schoolhouse, from the schoolhouse to college, and wherever found he was struggling upward ever in quest of light, stamping his great personality indelibly upon those with whom he came in contact. Indeed, we are told that he associated with his fellows, he was ever found moving with high erected thoughts seated in a heart of courtesy. In college he was the

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