

**The Africo - American Presbyterian.**  
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CONSOLIDATED WITH  
**THE SOUTHERN EVANGELIST.**  
Rev. H. L. McCrorey, D. D. LL. D.,  
Editor.  
W. E. HILL, Associate Editor.  
Rev. C. P. PITCHFORD,  
Business Manager.

Devoted to the Educational, Material, Moral and Religious interests of our people in the South, and published at Charlotte, N. C., every Thursday.

All questions arising under the various subjects above indicated are discussed from a Christian point of view. Each number contains the freshest and best news from the Southern field and from the Church at large. There is carefully selected reading matter suited to all classes of our people—the farmer, the mechanic, the artisan and the professional man.

The Sabbath School and Missionary causes will receive special attention.

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THURSDAY, SEPT. 17, 1925.

**NATIONAL EQUAL RIGHTS LEAGUE.**

The National Equal Rights League, Dr. W. A. Sinclair, President, and W. Munroe Trotter, Secretary, will hold its 18th annual meeting October 7-9, in the Trinity Baptist church, Baltimore, Md. Racial segregation is one of the principal questions to be considered at this meeting. Negro organizations are asked to send delegates and individuals who may be in sympathy with the purposes of the League will be welcomed.

**YOUR ENEMIES—WHAT TO DO WITH THEM.**

Here is a nice bit of philosophy, submitted by a reader: "The injury a man's enemies do him is so trivial compared to what he almost surely will do to himself that it is an absolutely negligible quantity and should be ignored. The corollary is also true, that the injury you can do to those you hate will probably be of so little consequence to them that it is positively not worth the trouble. It is also true, that while one's enemies as a rule can do one very little damage, one's friends can be of the greatest assistance."

Enmity, hate, grudge, malice are all bad words.

We should avoid them, and the thoughts and feelings they describe.

Don't spend your time trying to confound your enemies or your competitors. Concentrate on self-improvement, self-progress. If you think you really must annoy those whom you regard as your enemies, try to do it by succeeding in spite of their ill wishes. This will really hurt them.

The most blighting of all tasks is to be against something or somebody. It is always more effective and more pleasant to be for somebody or something. Politicians recognize this. They always have their own ticket, so they may be for certain candidates.

Cultivate friends; disregard enemies. If you don't get on with certain people let them alone. You can't expect everybody to like you, you know.—William Feather.

In the municipal primary election held Tuesday in New York City, State Senator James Walker, who was supported by the regular Democratic organization, was nominated for Mayor over Judge John F. Hylan, the present incumbent, who sought renomination for a third term. Mr. Frank Waterman won the Republican nomination. The election will be held November 15.

**DEFENDING DR. GASTON.**

(From the New York Age, September 12.)

The editor of The Age is in receipt of two letters written in defense of Rev. John M. Gaston, secretary and assistant treasurer of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., Pittsburgh, Pa., in charge of the Division of Missions for Colored People, to whom was recently tendered the presidency of Lincoln University, which he declined. The naming of Dr. Gaston by the Board of Trustees of Lincoln University stirred considerable opposition, especially among the alumni, which held a meeting in Philadelphia and adopted resolutions of protest.

In the issue of August 22, an Age correspondent writing over the name, "Torch," emphasized the opposition to Dr. Gaston as president of Lincoln, and charged him with a prejudicial attitude toward colored schools, ministers and workers.

The letters received by The Age editor, replying to the alumni resolutions and to "Torch," are as follows:

**ABOUT JOHNSON C. SMITH UNIVERSITY.**

Editor of the New York Age:

We feel that a great wrong, unintentionally no doubt, has been done the work with which we are connected by certain statements in two articles recently published in your paper. Some of these statements were made by the Alumni of Lincoln University, and some by a person whose suggestive assumed name is "Torch."

There is not the slightest idea on our part that in either case there was a willful distortion of facts; on the contrary, we believe that both parties were influenced by information they had received from persons who did not know the real facts in the case.

Our relation to the University of Johnson C. Smith has put us in position to know a few things touching the institution, and we beg the opportunity to give them to readers of The Age to the end that they may draw their own conclusions relative to the charges made.

In the first place, it is said by the Alumni of Lincoln University that Dr. John M. Gaston is Southern in his attitude toward the colored people and that his past record shows that he does not favor the same kind of education for the Negro as for other race groups.

To support the above charge, it is said that under his administration, Dr. Gaston allowed Biddle University to so lower its curriculum as to drop into "Class C" of educational institutions.

Touching this matter we wish to say two things. In the first place, when the curriculum of Biddle University was lowered, Dr. Gaston was not a member of the Board of Missions for Freedmen, and, therefore, had nothing whatever to do with the demotion of our college. In the second place, on one occasion when the faculty, after Dr. H. L. McCrorey had become President, was considering the question of raising the curriculum, Dr. Gaston said: "You need, and ought to have, a curriculum that will enable your students to enter the 'A Class' medical schools of the country; make it so that it will meet the requirements." Remember, the writer was present on this occasion.

In the light of what is stated above, let the reader draw his own conclusions respecting the attitude of Dr. Gaston and the college education of the Negro.

We take the following from the article which appeared in The Age on the 22nd of August: "One of the brightest graduates of Johnson C. Smith University in the last five years is Henry L. McCrorey, son of the President of the University, and this young man, after receiving his A. B., could not enter the Freshman class of Columbia University."

Let us consider the facts in this case. Mr. McCrorey entered Columbia University late; it was about time for school to open and he entered the Extension Department. There was no attempt to classify him; no attempt to put him in the Freshman class or any other class.

The department he entered at Columbia University was no proof of a low curriculum in our school, nor an evidence of a lack of ability on the part of our teachers.

Perhaps we can get a better idea of what we are doing here along educational lines if we refer to some other cases of young men who have gone from here to other schools. A young man who was a junior, 1915, under the low curriculum, was admitted, by examination, to the Freshman class of Harvard University. A graduate of 1916 now has his B. S. from Columbia University, having been required to do 26 points at that institution, four or six points less than a year's work. A member of the class of 1917 was admitted to the senior class of the University of Kansas. None of these men had the full benefit of the curriculum raised in 1914.

Let us take three men of the class of 1921. Of these men, one has his B. S. degree from the State College of Ohio after studying one year there; another was admitted to graduate work in the University of Pittsburgh; and the third one is to do graduate work in Northwestern University this fall. Mr. H. L. McCrorey, Jr., graduated in 1920—one year before the persons referred to above. In the light of these facts, does it seem reasonable that he could not make Freshman class at Columbia University?

We are not boasting, but we think we are in position to do good work along educational lines. As stated by Dr. J. A. Savage, we have the "A" rating. We may say that this rating was given as a result of an investigation by a committee sent here for the purpose of going into our work. The committee did not write to find out what we were doing; they came and saw for themselves.

Our curriculum has been raised twice during the administration of Dr. H. L. McCrorey. It was last raised in 1914; and we are seeing some good results from it. Our students are now being admitted to "A Class" medical schools. This fact is demonstrated by the approval of the medical school of the University of Michigan of the application of a member of the class of 1925. Also a member of the same class has been admitted to the School of Medicine of McGill University of Montreal, Canada.

We are proud of the Presbyterian Church, and the work she is doing through many agencies for the uplift of our people.

The trustees of Lincoln University were wise in their selection of Dr. Gaston as President of Lincoln University; and Dr. Gaston exercised wisdom in declining the presidency of that institution, for he can certainly do a greater work for our people in the position which he now holds than he could possibly do as president of Lincoln University.

We conclude our article by saying there is freedom of action and thought in all of our church courts; no person is forced to do anything against his will to my knowledge. If I am wrong in this matter, I am open to conviction.

P. W. RUSSELL,  
Johnson C. Smith University,  
Charlotte, N. C.

**WHO IS TORCH?**

Editor of the New York Age:

The article appearing in your issue of August 22 over the signature of "Torch," is a very bold piece of effrontery and cowardice, to say nothing of the gratuitous misrepresentations.

The writer, apparently a recent convert of the North, seems to think that Southern Negro workers in the Presbyterian Church should be made wards of some of the Negro Presbyterian misfits of the North. The idea is preposterous and does not merit a passing remark.

Now, "Mr. Torch," we wish to resent your insinuations on the manhood of the Southern workers of the Presbyterian Church. You may say we are coerced to vote for the policies of our Secretary at General Assemblies. You know, "Torch," that statement is a mischievous fabrication of your wild imagination. "Torch," you say that

you labored under the old Freedmen's Board for many years. Then why not sign your name that we may take your measure? You are not under the Board now. Are you the fellow, "Torch," who was turned down by your Presbytery for immoral conduct, and then abused the Board because it refused to continue you in the work against the wishes of your Presbytery? Your article has much the tone of that fellow.

We are of the opinion that there is something radically wrong behind a calamity howler of the stamp of this yellow journalistic Torch.

Very truly yours,  
C. E. TUCKER, D. D.,  
Stated Clerk and Treasurer,  
Presbytery of Le Vere, 405  
West Tenth Street, Chattanooga, Tenn.

**THE ATLANTIC SYNODICAL SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION AND SCHOOL OF METHODS.**

By Mrs. Thomas B. Hargrave,  
Corresponding Secretary

The Atlantic Synodical Sunday School Convention and School of Methods convened at Haines Institute, Augusta, Ga., during the week of August 16-23rd. The interest and enthusiasm manifested on the part of a large number of young people marked an epoch in the history of the Convention. The records revealed 125 registrations and it was interesting to note the large number of young people who attended for the first time. This within itself proved that the leaders of our respective organizations have the right idea in giving others a chance.

On Monday night the Convention opened with Mrs. A. S. Clarke, of Cordele, the Vice-President, presiding.

Col. R. H. Richardson, our President, was called to his reward a few days before the Convention, thus casting the responsibility upon Mrs. Clark.

Mrs. Clark's address was powerful and inspiring. After the address a memorial service was held for Col. R. H. Richardson, with Dr. A. B. McCoy, Director of the Convention, presiding, Mrs. A. U. Frierson, I. D. Davis, M. J. Jackson and Mr. J. M. Somerndike spoke on the life and services of Col. Richardson. Each told of his life and devoted service to his fellowman and to his God.

On Tuesday morning every one was ready for class work. Each morning at eight-thirty Dr. A. S. Clark taught the Adult Bible class, and Rev. J. E. Jackson, the Synodical Evangelist of Atlantic Synod, taught the Young People's Bible Study. Special emphasis upon Bible study this year added a greater significance to our school.

Mr. J. M. Somerndike was with us again this year. During the assembly period at 10:25 each day he discussed the meaning and requirements of Christian Stewardship. Dr. C. J. Baker taught Stewardship in the class room.

We were glad to have Miss Agnes D. Snively added to our faculty this year. Her charming personality easily won a place in our hearts. Mrs. Snively taught National Missions and the subject was discussed each day with interest and enthusiasm.

We were also delighted to have our own Miss Maud Kinniburgh again this year. Although she has been appointed Dean of Barber College, we feel that the Convention would be lonely without her.

From 11:50 to 12:20 each day the addresses were respectively as follows:

Tuesday Rev. A. U. Frierson, D. D., spoke from the subject, "The Teaching Function of the Church."

Wednesday: Rev. J. H. Toatley, of Due West, S. C., spoke from the subject, "The Bible as it Applies to Modern Life."

Thursday: Mrs. A. D. Snively spoke from the subject, "The Presbyterian Church at Work in the World."

Friday: Rev. Italy Le Conte, of Union Point, Ga., spoke from the subject, "How Christianity Changes the Individual Life."

All of these subjects were ably discussed and each speaker held the interest of the Convention.

On Tuesday night Rev. M. J.

Jackson delivered a forceful address.

On Wednesday night a business meeting was held and officers were elected. Mrs. A. S. Clarke, of Cordele, Ga., was elected President. Mrs. Clark holds the distinction of being the first woman President ever elected in our four Synods. We consider this a victory for our women who are coming forward to take their rightful place in the Church.

Rev. M. J. Jackson was elected Vice-President; Mrs. Ethel Cain, of Savannah, Ga., was elected Secretary; Miss Lucinda White, of Abbeville, S. C., Treasurer; Miss Carrie L. Jackson, of Greensboro, Ga., Corresponding Secretary. Owing to Miss Jackson's absence, Mrs. T. B. Hargrave was asked to act in her stead.

On Thursday night there was a grand social held in the reception room of Haines. The evening was filled with social activities and feasting.

Friday afternoon Dr. and Mrs. T. J. Frierson entertained a large number of delegates in their beautiful home in honor of the graduates of Johnson C. Smith University.

Friday night Dr. E. J. Gregg delivered a wonderful address on "Our Heritage."

Saturday afternoon at 3 o'clock the final athletic contests were held. Never before has there been so much enthusiasm in this field. The directors of the "Whites" was Dr. G. W. Long, captain, who was replaced by Prof. Adair, Dr. Long having been called away. Rev. Thomas B. Hargrave was coach.

Rev. F. C. Shirley, of Catawba Synod, was captain, and Rev. Wm. D. Wood was coach of the "Greens." It was a fight from the very beginning, and although the "Whites" were victorious during the early part of the week, the "Greens" triumphed on the final day, receiving the cup given by Mr. J. M. Somerndike.

On Saturday evening at 7 P. M., Miss Laney was hostess to a number of friends in her beautiful home. Among those present were Dr. and Mrs. A. S. Clark, Prof. and Mrs. Adair, Mr. J. M. Somerndike, Mr. L. E. Black, Mrs. Agnes B. Snively, Miss Maud Kinniburgh, Miss Theodora Percival, Mrs. A. B. McCoy and C. J. Baker, Dr. and Mrs. Foster of Sumter, S. C., Rev. and Mrs. J. H. Toatley, Rev. and Mrs. T. B. Hargrave. Dr. McCoy was master of ceremonies. Mrs. Snively and Miss Laney made wonderful addresses.

On Saturday night a grand musical was rendered, directed by Rev. S. Q. Mitchell, of Brunswick, Ga. Rev. Mitchell was highly praised by Mr. J. M. Somerndike for his unselfish service and efficiency.

Sunday morning Rev. R. E. Foster preached an interesting sermon and it was interesting to note the large number who remained over.

Sunday night Dr. A. S. Clark administered the Communion. Sixteen diplomas were awarded to those who had attended the School of Methods for five years.

Miss Lucy Laney had charge of the boarding department this year and it was a treat to enter the dining room.

We are all looking forward to another year when we can drink once more from this fountain of opportunity.

**THE SYNODICAL ASSESSMENT.**

The Presbytery of Catawba in session at Love's Chapel, September 11, 1925, ordered all the churches within its bounds to see to it that their Synodical dues are all paid to the Treasurer of Presbytery before the meeting of Synod.

The approaching meeting of Synod demands attention to this matter immediately.

ROBERT P. WYCHE,  
Stated Clerk.

**WANTED**—A man or woman teacher for an Elementary school, who can play music well enough for school closing and testimonials to John F. K. Simpson, Fayetteville, N. C., P. O. Box 642, at once.

**AN OPEN LETTER TO CAPT. JOHN EDGAR SMITH.**

Capt. John Edgar Smith,  
Secretary of the Board of Trustees of Johnson C. Smith University.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Capt. Smith:

I have read your open letter to me as President of the Alumni Association of our Alma Mater. For one, I am sure you are suggesting a forward step. Your motto is: "No Step Backward." Your suggestion says, "Go Forward." The late Dr. Sanders suggested this—not to the Alumni, of course—to our workers on the field over thirty years ago, but somehow another every one was too modest (?) except the members of the faculty of Biddle University. One old alumnus of Biddle said to me that he was not seeking "cheap notoriety." False modesty! But at the same time the Presbyterian Messenger had on its front page every week a cut of some man of note of our Church, with a brief sketch of his life: where he graduated and when, his college attainments, etc., and what he was doing and where constituted the outline.

The late Dr. Joseph T. Gibson was the brilliant editor of this weekly paper then; and being a Washington and Jefferson alumnus, he did not fail to extol the merits of Washington and Jefferson and her brilliant men. But modesty has about buried all that was in Biddle. While, on the other hand, there is a remnant of old Biddle left to make a suggestion sufficiently potent to arouse and to bestir an interest to move forward.

As your Secretary, I will do what you so timely outlined in your open letter to me, if the Editor of the Africo-American Presbyterian will grant us brief space. No doubt a number of the boys are too "poor" to furnish us with cuts of themselves, while others are too close with the money they are spending for soft drinks and ice cream. Send me your cuts and where you were born—and when, if you wish—and the year you graduated and such matters, and all other things will be added thereto to make things interesting.

Capt. Smith, it is still interesting to pause just for a second at your kindly reference as to how true Lincoln was to Dr. Imes in landing him in St. James pulpit in New York City. Good for Lincoln! While an old Biddle "boy"—and an able one he is—was called to Fifteenth Street church in Washington, D. C., an old alumnus of Lincoln—who was once a Congressman in this State—

told me on King Street in Charleston that some of Lincoln's best men "worked hard to get one of Lincoln's men as Dr. Grimke's successor." In this I should say, Hurrah for Lincoln! And, on the other hand, I should say let none of us lose sight of a place's needs to save an incompetent man because he is a member of our clan. Love your mother, father, sister, and brother, but don't get married to them lest you prove the theory of evolution that man did spring from an ape and a very poor grade of ape, or at least can go back to the ape.

Don't be too anything. "Nihil exelsiore." It will cause a toppling and deterioration. Love your Alma Mater; but don't lose sight of the fact of the existence of others, Johnson C. Smith; for there are others.

I shall have to close this letter. I hear the Charleston bus coming. I must run out and sign it down in order to meet our Smith Chapter tonight. I arose this morning at five o'clock to write this letter to you before the bus comes by. I hope it will arouse the boys. I shall lay the matter before the chapter tonight. I feel that other chapters will do likewise.

W. L. METZ,  
President of Johnson C. Smith Alumni Association.

We call the attention of our ministers and churches to the letter of the Moderator and Stated Clerk of the General Assembly on the church budget. Let every church do its utmost to "lift the level" in raising the quota allotted to it.