

## The Africo - American Presbyterian.

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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, DEC. 15, 1927

### SUNDAY COURT AT GOLDSBORO.

The people of Goldsboro witnessed an unusual spectacle last Sunday when criminal court was held to try Larry Newsome, a young Negro charged with the murder of a Wayne County white girl. Although soldiers were present to prevent an outbreak, an effort was made to take the prisoner from the court room. This was frustrated by the heroic action of the officers of the law who held the mob at bay with guns. After this flurry the trial proceeded without further attempt to molest the prisoner. Determined to maintain order, the Judge himself had a gun at hand. The trial lasted three hours and Newsome was convicted and sentenced to death.

Such crimes as the prisoner is charged with bring shame to all self-respecting Negroes, and are as revolting to them as to the white people. It is hard for us to understand how one can allow himself to sink so low as to commit such an atrocity.

### LIVINGSTONE COLLEGE GIVEN "A" RATING.

President W. J. Trent announces under date of December 14th that Livingstone College has been given "A" rating. This news will cause rejoicing not only in A. M. E. Zion Church circles, but among friends of Negro education in all denominations.

Livingstone already has splendid educational work to its credit, and in the new day into which it is entering it is destined to do still bigger things. We rejoice with President Trent on having reached a coveted goal, and congratulate him on the brilliant prospect that beckons him on.

### DR. CAPEHART HEADS NEGRO MASONS.

Raleigh, Dec. 15.—(AP) Electing Dr. L. B. Capehart of Raleigh, Grand Master, to succeed Dr. Jas. E. Shepard, and selecting Winston-Salem for the 1928 convention city, the Negro Grand Lodge of Masons, of North Carolina wound up a two-day annual convention here today.

Other officers elected included W. B. Windsor Greensboro, Grand Secretary; Alfred Robinson, Winston-Salem, Grand Treasurer, and Fletcher Smith, Winston-Salem, Grand Senior Warden.

### PIONEER AFRICAN MISSIONARY CALLED BY DEATH.

Rev. William H. Sheppard, D. D., F. R. S. S., one of the most noted missionaries of the Southern Presbyterian Church, who gave twenty years of his life to pioneer work in the Belgian Congo, Africa, died at his home in Louisville, Ky., November 25, after a year's illness following a stroke of paralysis. Dr. Sheppard accompanied Rev. Samuel N. Lapsley to Africa as a missionary and the story of their experiences ranks among the most thrilling narratives of missionary work in any land. For the past twelve years Dr. Sheppard had devoted himself with untiring energy to missionary work among his own people of the Negro race in the city of Louisville, being pastor of the Grace Presbyterian church, which is a part of the Presbyterian Colored Mission Work conducted in Louisville for almost thirty years by Rev. John Little.

Those who have read the story of Dr. Sheppard's experiences in Africa as published in his book a number of years ago, and those who have heard this eloquent servant of God tell the story of his life from pulpit and platform, are saddened by the loss that has come to our Church through the passing of this really great man. What Booker Washington was to the educational world, William H. Sheppard was to Christian Foreign Missions. He loved his own race and early in life determined to serve as a missionary in far off Africa and, when his strenuous labors there ceased, he gladly took up missionary work among the Negro race in the homeland and ministered to them with a sympathy and love rarely found in any man.

A vast throng that taxed to the utmost the large auditorium of the Second Presbyterian church in Louisville, made up of both whites and Negroes, testified to the esteem in which this man of God was held throughout the city. It was estimated that more than one thousand persons sought to enter the building. After every seat was occupied and all standing room taken, hundreds were turned away from the doors. Dr. C. R. Hemphill, in paying tribute to this noble servant of God, said: "His modesty, sincerity and devotion to Jesus Christ stirred us. Braving strange lands, cannibals and all forms of hardships, he and his white comrades began their mission in Africa. First Rev. Samuel N. Lapsley and then Rev. William M. Morrison laid down their lives. The story of their joint service in Africa reveals the highest type of Southern chivalry. The history of the Church in Africa could never be written without the names of these three men."

Testifying to his power as preacher and pastor, Rev. John Little said: "He loved the Word of God and spoke with power. He fed upon the Book and poured out to us its great truths. He thrilled us and made us love that Word."

"Perhaps the death of no other person in the Southern Presbyterian Church would touch more hearts throughout the length and breadth of our denomination than the death of this man," said Dr. Hemphill. Faithful to his God, loving his fellowmen, efficient in every activity that engaged his powers, he lived and died an humble, sincere, modest man who exemplified daily the spirit of his Master. —Editorial in The Christian Observer.

### WORKERS' CONFERENCE

The Annual Workers' Conference of the Division of Missions for Colored People of the Board of National Missions, Presbyterian Church, U. S. A., will be held January 31st to Feb. 8, 1928, at Haines Institute, Augusta, Ga. Those expecting to attend should write to Prof. J. M. Tutt for entertainment.

J. M. GASTON,  
Secretary.

### BIG MASS MEETING.

Ebenezer Baptist church, corner Second and Davidson streets, was the scene of a big mass meeting last Sunday afternoon, Dec. 11. The meeting was held under the auspices of the Colored Branch of the Charlotte Co-operative Nursing Association. His Honor Mayor M. Redd made the principal address. The main thought of his address was, that success in life depended upon our willingness to be unselfish and render service to our fellowmen. The mayor received a rousing welcome and got hearty applause to his address.

Other speakers were: Mrs. Virginia Gibbs McPheeters, City Supervisor of Nurses, who set forth the needs for more nurses to work among colored people. The Rev. J. C. Taylor, Vice-President of the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance, assured the public that the Alliance was solidly behind the movement to secure more nurses for our group.

Stirring appeals for subscriptions were made by Mr. David Owens, President of the Goodfellows' Club, and Mrs. H. L. McCrorey, one of the members of the Nursing Association. Mr. Owens gave statistics showing how very important it was for another nurse to be employed at once. He pledged the support of the Goodfellows' Club. Mrs. McCrorey touched the hearts of the vast audience as she appealed for better care along health lines for many of the neglected women of our race.

The response was encouraging. Between \$600 and \$700 in cash and pledges was raised. The Seventh Street Presbyterian church choir, with Dr. T. A. Long presiding at the organ, and the Johnson C. Smith University Quintette, rendered the music for the occasion.

The Rev. L. B. West was master of ceremonies. In his closing remarks he thanked the audience for their presence and the enthusiasm that was manifested. He also thanked all those who had contributed to the success of the program, especially Dr. H. M. Moore and his congregation for placing the church at their disposal.

### LEBANON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, RIDGEWAY, S. C.

Funeral services were held Thursday, December 1, at Lebanon church for Mr. Charlie Martin, who died at his home here on Monday, December 28, after a protracted illness. The services were conducted by the pastor, Rev. J. R. Dungee, who preached from Psa. 147: 2, "For so he giveth his beloved sleep." The pastor was assisted by Dr. W. D. V. King, pastor of Bethlehem Baptist church, and by Rev. Henry Harrison, interment, with Masonic rites, was in Lebanon Cemetery.

Because of exceedingly inclement weather, services were not largely attended on Sunday morning, December 4. Those who attended, however, received a treat in the beautiful sermon delivered by the Rev. Henry Harrison, from 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Rev. Harrison has preached for us on several previous occasions, and each time his messages have been remembered long afterwards.

Mrs. Clara Marshall passed away Sunday, December 4, at 8 P. M., at a ripe old age. She had been in failing health for a long time, yet her going was marked by a wholesome degree of sadness. She followed within a year, her sister, Miss Lizzie James, who also died full of years. Mrs. Marshall is survived by three daughters: Mrs. Louis Benson, Mrs. Millard Williams and Mrs. Harriet Miller, all of Ridgeway; two sons, Mr. Jack Marshall, of Lennox, S. C.; and Mr. Robert Marshall, of Columbia, S. C.; three sisters, Mrs. Flora Love, of Ridgeway; Mrs. Nellie Arnold, of Columbia,

and Mrs. Lucy Means, of Charlotte, N. C., besides a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Funeral arrangements at this writing are incomplete.

Rev. J. R. Dungee entered Waverly Hospital, Columbia, Tuesday December 6, for a minor operation.

Mr. Lois Benson, who is a patient at the Waverly Hospital, is still making steady improvement.

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

#### THE SEVENTH COMMANDMENT. (Ex. 20: 14.

#### Duty of Man Regarding Moral Purity.

(This is an abstract from a sermon just preached by the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, of Southampton, Long Island, N. Y.)

"Thou shalt not commit adultery."

If I were called upon to speak or preach on the subject of divorce, I would select the seventh commandment, and then turn to Matthew 5:32 to call attention to what Christ taught with what God commanded. This commandment is the wall around the family, the city of true love, with its homes, its children, its heavenly life of love, the earthly Bethel whence Jacob's ladder rises to heaven, the type of the city of God. This wall defends this home against the demons of selfishness, the dragons of sensual love and divorce, the storms of vile literature, the armies of evil thoughts and bad companions.

This commandment is also a wall not for defence, but to keep men from entering another city, the city of False Pleasure, in its center is the city of Destruction, from which Christian in Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress fled. It is a burning whirlwind of flame, filled with diseases, remorse and death. This vortex of fiery evil is hidden from the sight of those without by being surrounded with palaces of sensual delight, magnificent temples of lust, brilliant saloons of intoxicating drinks, conversation halls of lewd stories, libraries of obscene literature, debasing theaters, obscene pictures. And the flame within so light up these pleasure palaces that they seem often like the heavenly towers and golden spires of true joy, and many are attracted by them to their ruin. It is against these avenues and enticements, which lead to the awful hell unseen, within, that teachers need most to warn their scholars by this commandment.

And they should note specially that most sinful and dangerous pleasures have two sides,—one for argument, the other for practice. The argument for dancing is usually, what is the harm in moving the feet to music? Of course, there is none. But the usual practice of dancing makes it an open door to ruin. The argument for billiards is, what more harm in them than in croquet? None. But the usual practice is with gambling and drinking; and so through the list of evils.

We are forbidden, then by this commandment, all the things which tend to evil.

All evil, sensual thoughts, theaters, which arouse sensual feeling, and bring into low company; dancing, except under this simple rule, that no liberties with the person should be allowed in dancing which are not perfectly proper in general company in the presence of parents. No one is safe that allows for a moment anything more. Looking at obscene pictures, which are exposed for sale at most newsstands, bad, low reading, vulgar conversation, and many other things are forbidden in this commandment.

We are printing again this week the appeal of Dr. Clarence Dillard to the churches of Catawba Synod. Our churches and Presbyteries should do their utmost to raise their full benevolence quota before the end of the church year.

### THE STAR THAT LED THE WISE MEN.

By Rev. L. M. Onque.

When Christ was born in Judah  
Three sought Him from afar  
Three loyal-hearted wise men  
Who followed long His star.  
They came to seek the Saviour,  
Their King and Lord to be.  
The star it led the Wise Men  
And I know it leadeth me.

I sing because I've found Him,  
My King and Lord to be.  
For the Star that led the Wise Men  
Is the Star that leadeth me.

Although my heart is troubled,  
Though sorrow is my lot,  
Why should I feel discouraged,  
For God has not forgot?  
My path leads to the manger  
Where Christ my Lord I'll see;  
The Star it led the Wise Men  
And I know it leadeth me.

I sing because He loves me,  
His love has set me free.  
For the Star that led the Wise Men  
Is the Star that leadeth me.

Whenever I am lonely,  
Or tempted to despair,  
I'll turn my eyes to Heaven  
And know that Christ is there.  
I'll journey like the Wise Men  
Until His face I see.  
The Star it led the Wise Men  
And I know it leadeth me.

I sing because I've found Him  
My rod and staff to be.  
For the Star that led the Wise Men  
Is the Star that leadeth me.

Then let us all be happy,  
For Christ the Lord has come.  
And if we will receive Him,  
Some day He'll take us home.  
And through life's toilsome journey  
Our constant Friend He'll be.  
The Star it led the Wise Men,  
And I know it leadeth me.

I sing because I'm happy  
That such a Friend is He,  
And the Star that led the Wise Men  
Is the Star that leadeth me.  
Mocksville, N. C.

### A CHRISTMAS THOUGHT

Mrs. Hattie A. Russell.

We are filled with joy and gratitude when we think of the gift of the Saviour, Jesus. We are especially thankful that He is not a Saviour afar off, but linked to our nature in the manner of His birth, in childhood, in humility, in love and sympathy. In Him we are glad. With all the angels who celebrate His birth, we add our voice of joy. With the humble who inquired, what these things meant, we still search for the truth of the incarnation. May there be joy this day to all people, we earnestly pray. Bless all children, the babies of the land. Be with the poor and give to us all, and to all others, the spirit of good will and of charity. Christmas Day comes and goes; we give and we receive the tokens of friendship and love. We cannot repeat these gifts every day, but we earnestly beseech Thee that the Christmas spirit may abide in our hearts and in the hearts of mankind everywhere. May the gifts of love manifest the spirit of Jesus.

### THE ST. PAUL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LOUISBURG, N. C.

By Rev. H. T. McFadden

It has been some time since you have heard from us through the Africo-American Presbyterian, but we are not asleep by any means. We have had several deaths in our church this past summer. Some of the main pillars of the church have passed to the great beyond. We have missed them very much.

About a month ago we had steam heat installed in our church at a cost of \$1086. We have been working very hard to get the debt paid off as early as possible. Every effort put forth made very slow progress at bringing in money to cancel the debt. So about the first or second week in November we

suggested to the church the idea of a pew rally. Ten captains were chosen to head a drive to raise \$100. Each captain was asked to raise \$10 by the fourth Sunday in November.

At 3:30 on the same date we had the Rev. Duffie Lewis of the South Main Street Baptist church, of Louisburg, to preach for us from the text, John 3:16. He used as his theme, "Say it With a Gift." He brought a soul-stirring gospel message which was enjoyed by all who heard it.

The various captains made the following reports from their pews:

- Mrs. H. T. McFadden — \$75.00
- Mrs. E. N. Dent — 48.45
- Mrs. Dora Hill — 15.32
- Mrs. Menerva Parrish — 9.15
- Miss Athlee White — 31.25
- Mr. Robert Arendall — 15.00
- Mr. Jack Hayes — 10.31
- Mr. A. H. Ridley — 6.40
- Mr. Calvin Yarboro — 20.50
- Mr. M. Brown — 6.00

A donation from the Linen Shower club of \$10 brought the total collection up to \$247.38. We realized from that rally enough money to pay off the entire debt of \$1086.00. At the close of the collection we sang "Praise God from whom all Blessings Flow." The Men's Social Service Club and the Ladies' Linen Shower Club are doing a very great work in connection with our church.

Brethren, pray for the success of our work in Louisburg.

### ST. JAMES CHURCH GREENSBORO

By Mrs. G. A. Bridges

Sunday morning, December 12th, Rev. H. C. Miller spoke from Eccl. 3: 19-22: 12:17, Does Anything Come After Death? By way of introduction the speaker related some of the serious questions and problems facing the world—such as war debt to the United States and race prejudice. Any one of these may set the world aflame again, yet the question more important than these is, "Does anything come after death?"

The negative idea was discussed in which the similarity of man and beast was shown. The failure or seeming failure of personality—the mind dying before the body, etc.

The speaker took up the affirmative idea—showing the superiority of man to beast; his aspirations, seeking for better things.

As the artist constructs not to smash to pieces, why should it be thought that God would bestow so much upon man, even the gift of His Son—then splash the labor of his hands to splinters?

There was injected the old argument of whether man was the harp or harper; if harper, then the failure of both harp and harmony does not destroy the harper.

The speaker concluded by showing faith as the chief element in helping to answer the question—the testimony of Jesus Christ—closing with "Crossing the Bar." The congregation was profoundly impressed with the subject and many comments were heard.

Sunday night the Woman's Missionary Society rendered a program in connection with a pew rally. Dr. Bluford, President of A. & T. College, made the principal address. The A. & T. Quartette gave three selections from the delight of a full house. The offering was \$25.80 for the missionary society.

Mrs. L. A. Morrow, who has been confined in the Richardson hospital is home again and will soon be able to go to her work.

The Ladies' Aid met with Mrs. Gaston Meares last Thursday afternoon.

The Earnest Workers' class won the cup and also the finance banner this Sabbath. The attendance banner went to Up and Doing class.

In the Intermediate Senior Department the Sunshine Band won the finance and attendance banners.