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THURSDAY, OCT. 17, 1929

HAD NEVER READ THE BIBLE

The Sunday School Times, of London, tells this touching story:

"A beautiful woman lay on her deathbed. Read me something new," she said impatiently to friends who were trying to divert her with interesting books. While her sister went out to search for "something new" the nurse took out her pocket Bible and began to read the Sermon on the Mount. The sick woman paid close attention to the end. "Beautiful!" she said. "That will create a new sensation. Who wrote it?" "Why," replied the astonished nurse, "that is the Sermon on the Mount—in the Bible, you know." "The Bible! Anything so good and beautiful as that in the Bible?" "Surely; what else but good did you think could be in it?" "Oh, I didn't know. I have never looked into a Bible in my life. My father wouldn't have one in the house." "But you have certainly heard the Bible read in church?" "I have never been to church. Sunday was always our holiday. We got into that way in Paris. We went to all the places of amusement, but never to church. I have never thought much about the Bible. I never supposed it contained such beautiful things. I wish I had known it before!" She begged the nurse to read again the prayer in the Sermon on the Mount that was so new to her—"Our Father which art in Heaven." She passed away, saying until her last breath, "I wish I had known it before!"

SYNOD OF CATAWBA

It was a pleasure to meet the brethren at Catawba Synod at Winston-Salem last week. Dr. L. B. West, the retiring Moderator, preached a stirring sermon on "The Task of the Church." The roll call showed a number of well known ministers absent, but with the election of Dr. G. P. Watkins as Moderator, the business of the Synod proceeded promptly according to regular order and a large amount of work was done.

The Synod of Ohio is engaged in a great evangelistic campaign which will run through November 10. The period of activities is called "Ohio Fellowship Month." The outstanding feature will be the visitation of churches throughout the Synod by pastors of other churches, city pastors going to rural and county seat churches and the country pastors later visiting city churches for a week.

WHAT HAPPENED WHEN THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BOUGHT A NEGRO SLAVE

(From The Presbyterian Standard.)

A few years before the Civil War, Rev. C. A. Stillman, D. D., then pastor of the Presbyterian church at Gainesville, Ala., came from the Synod of Alabama with a novel proposition. He urged the Synod to buy a Negro slave to be trained and sent as a missionary to Africa. His proposal met with favor and Dr. Stillman was entrusted with the training of the slave, whom he accompanied as far as New Orleans to give him Godspeed on his way.

This story is concerned not with what the Foreign Missionary did, but with what happened in America as a result of such a proposition.

The first thing that did occur happened to the mind of Dr. Stillman. When the war was over he was thoroughly convinced of the obligation of the Church to do something for the spiritual needs of the newly freed slaves. Things were bad enough when they attended the church of their owners; he readily saw that now they would attend none. There was no place to look for a Negro ministry for the much needed Negro churches. And so in 1876 we find Doctor Stillman overturning the General Assembly to establish a school for the training of colored people. In this proposal he received the earnest support of Dr. Benjamin Morgan Palmer and many other prominent leaders of the Church. The result was the founding of Tuscaloosa Institute at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where Dr. Stillman had in the meantime moved as pastor.

When the Assembly must have a superintendent for the new school, Dr. Stillman was called. For twenty years he managed the Tuscaloosa Institute with consummate tact and patience, and at the same time retained, through all that troublesome period, his popularity as pastor of the aristocratic old church at Tuscaloosa. Upon the death in 1895 of its first superintendent, the name of the school was changed to Stillman Institute in honor of this white man whose life had so richly blessed the colored race. The school has always from that time to the present had the ablest men at its head.

Stillman Institute is the chief contribution of the Southern Presbyterian Church to the uplift of the Negro race. The school is located on a plot of one hundred and ten acres of fertile land in the suburbs of Tuscaloosa, well adapted to the variety of farming operations carried on. It has substantial brick buildings for the students and good homes for the faculty. There is a Theological Department, a Boys' Department, a Girls' Department, agricultural work, training in mechanical arts, and, in addition, the new Nurses' Training School, provided for by the Birthday Gift of the Woman's Auxiliary. A very important part of the school has always been its Theological Department. In its work, this department has trained hundreds of colored preachers for the Methodist and Baptist denominations as well as all those for our own church. Stillman has helped educate approximately two thousand Negroes, some five hundred of these having graduated from the Theological Department and gone out to preach the gospel to their own people. The school is supported entirely by appropriations made from the funds of the Executive Committee of Home Missions of our Church.

It was Stillman Institute that in 1880 overturned the General Assembly to establish a permanent mission in Africa, stating that one of the graduates was preparing to go, and that a consecrated young white man from Alabama was ready to go with him. As a result, the next year Samuel N. Lapsley, the white man, and William H. Sheppard, the Negro, went

to the Congo to found what has since grown to be one of the great foreign mission projects of the world. Little did the Synod of Alabama realize what a mighty thing it was beginning when it bought a Negro slave to make a missionary for the Congo.

NEW DORMITORY DEDICATED AT GILLESPIE ACADEMY, CORDELE, GA.

By Mrs. Esther T. Holley

In the quiet little town of Cordele a group of faithful Presbyterian workers were gathered together on Tuesday, October 8th. Black and white, rich and poor, the learned and the unlearned were there. You ask me why this unusual assemblage. Because our Father who has watched over Gillespie School for over 25 years saw fit to bless this school in a larger way. For 25 years his eye has been upon the school and the two faithful workers, Dr. and Mrs. Clark, who have presided over it. So he touched the heart of a woman of wealth in Pittsburgh and influenced her to give of her wealth to this worthy cause. So this Christian woman of means, Miss Gillespie, heard his pleading. Last spring she visited the school and returned home with the conviction that the girls of this school must have a new dormitory. So sixty thousand dollars were given for the erection of a new dormitory and three thousand dollars for furnishings.

The program for the dedication service was most simple yet most impressive. The exercises were presided over by Rev. A. B. McCoy, D. D. Dr. McCoy first introduced Dr. Gaston, of Pittsburgh, head of the Negro Division of the Board of National Missions. Dr. Gaston responded in his usual whole-hearted fashion. He expressed his joy at seeing the work at Cordele prosper and told of his love for the colored work. Dr. Gaston in turn introduced Dr. McEwan, of the Third Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, who preached the dedicatory sermon. Dr. McEwan is the pastor of Miss Gillespie's church in Pittsburgh, and since she could not attend on account of illness, Dr. McEwan came as her representative.

Dr. McEwan said in part: "I have always had an interest in the Christian work among the Negroes in the South. In fact, the old Board of Missions for Freedmen was organized in the Third church of Pittsburgh. "I am very happy tonight at being able to be in this gathering. I am glad to represent that noble, Christian woman, Miss Gillespie. But just before leaving she said to me, 'Please don't say anything about me.' I am glad to be here to show my respect and sympathy for Dr. and Mrs. Clark.

"Boys and girls, what have you to contribute toward making Gillespie a greater school? I shall take for my text Mark 6:38, 'How many loaves have you? Go and see.' I want to picture to you Christ moving and living among the poor. His great love for all was most beautifully manifested when He said, 'Come unto me all ye that labor and are heavy laden and I will give you rest.' He was divine in His humility and so many flocked around Him that He had not time to rest. It was truly as He said, 'The Son of man hath no place to lay His head.'

"We now have a mental picture of Christ feeding the five thousand with five cakes and two fishes. He did not feed the multitude by Himself but He called in His disciples and they assisted in breaking the bread of life, for it was they who would have to carry on after Christ was gone. Just as Christ blessed the loaves and fishes He will bless what you have if you will but bring it to Him.

"Again, I ask you, how many loaves have you? Some will answer none. But everybody has something; everybody has citizenship and everybody, though humble, can keep the law. Pub-

lic morals are made up of the morals of individuals. If we but learn to bring ourselves to Him we will be lifted up. Joshua put his trust in God, brought all to Him and he won his great battle. David won with only a sling shot, but he had faith in duty.

"An old Scotch mechanic served for seven years as a blacksmith's apprentice in Scotland. He came to America and started to work in a blacksmith's shop. Here he found that he was not as quick in his manipulations as were the other workmen. They could make eleven links in their chain every day but he could make only seven. Finally, the old Scotchman died and was buried in a New England cemetery. Not long after his death a ship was sinking off the coast and the captain called to his men to let down the anchor. The anchor had been made by the men who made eleven links for their chains each day. Unfortunately the links were weak; they would not hold and the anchor broke. Then the anchor that was made by the dead Scotchman was let down and the anchor held. The patient, painstaking work of the dead man had saved the lives of a thousand persons. Thus the lesson we may draw is, that if we bring to the Lord what we have, He will bless it and it will be sufficient for accomplishing His will."

At the close of Dr. McEwan's sermon, Dr. McArthur, a practicing physician of Cordele, spoke briefly. Dr. McArthur spoke most highly of the splendid work being done by Gillespie School and of the school's influence in the community. He stated that success would surely come to this school because of the fact that the undertakings were actuated by the right spirit. Dr. McArthur also spoke of the great necessity of developing the hospital and nurse training unit connected with the school. He paid a most beautiful tribute to the Christian fidelity of both Dr. and Mrs. Clark.

Dr. J. W. Holley, of the State Normal School at Albany, expressed his joy at being able to be present and share in the joys of the occasion. Dr. Holley spoke of the great need of better educational facilities for the Negro boys and girls over the entire Southland. He compared the need in the South and the need in Africa. He mentioned some of the splendid achievements in African education.

Mr. Anderson, of Cordele, a representative graduate of Gillespie, paid a most beautiful tribute to his alma mater. He said that the reason for Gillespie's growth were that she believed in character training first and then service. She did not know the meaning of the word stagnation.

After the service in the little chapel was conducted the audience gathered on the steps of the new dormitory. There in the little peaceful, quiet village, with the stars looking down on the assemblage, Dr. Gaston turned over the keys of the dormitory to Dr. Clark.

October 8, 1929, another milestone in Christian education for the Negro Presbyterian youth of the South was passed.

THE LEGION QUINTETTE SINGS AT WHITE CHURCH

While in Louisville, Ky., attending the National Convention of the American Legion the Quintet, composed of members of the Chas. Young Drum and Bugle Corps, furnished all the music. Sunday, Sept. 30, for the evening service of the First A. R. P. church (white), of that city. The Rev. J. Calvin Reid is pastor.

Both pastor and congregation were pleased at the music rendered. The Quintette is composed of Messrs. W. G. Lino, G. W. Murray, G. T. Butler, Paul H. Richardson and Jas. Maxwell. Mr. S. B. Harris also helped with the chorus work. Refreshments were served at the parsonage after the service.

TEACHERS' CORNER
Conducted by Miss Marjorie E. W. Smith

POEMS SUGGESTED FOR USE IN SCHOOLS IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER AND OCTOBER

African Proverb: Anger does nobody good, but patience is the father of kindness.

There are few books that can be put to more forms of profitable use in our schools than the complete poems of Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Dodd, Mead and Company, New York City, price \$2.25. In it there are poems for all occasions, for all seasons, for all moods, for all ages. Not filed a way on the shelves for occasional reference, but at the right hand of every teacher it should be found. For use in the Assembly period, for formal programs, for blackboard and bulletin work it is of especial value. For instance, in the observance of Columbus Day, October 12, Dunbar's "Columbian Ode" is valuable both for formal services and for further detailed study in history classes. It is rather dramatic mood and patriotic climax made it excellent material as a reading.

In this volume poems which are of special use for the month of October are the poems, "October," and "Robert Gould Shaw." Judging from the weather reports that come to us from the South I gather that another of his poems, "Rain Songs," might be appropriately used at this time also, while "The Corn-Stalk Fiddle" reminds one of fun to be had on Halloween.

In preparation for the November schedule Paul Lawrence Dunbar furnishes us with a gay Nutting Song and with a

very tender Thanksgiving Poem full of simple feeling. In "Merry Autumn" Dunbar interprets Fall as "the climax of the year" which "just melts into thanksgiving." "The Forest Greeting" teaches a decided lesson regarding the sport of hunting. "The Gourd" emphasizes true values and man's love for simple nature.

In addition to the works of Dunbar, "Thanksgiving," by William Stanley Braithwaite, and "A Song of Thanks" will afford further material for the observance of Thanksgiving Day. "Turn Me To My Yellow Leaves," by William Stanley Braithwaite, would appeal to the more thoughtful boy or girl, while "Winter Is Coming," by Waverly Turner Carmichael will appeal to all.

For Armistice Day the memory of the soldiers who fought in the World War may be brought to mind by "The Negro Soldiers," by Roscoe C. Jamison; "Facts," by Raymond G. Dandridge; "The Potent Hour," by Georgia Douglass Johnson; "The Black Regiment," by George Henry Bokser, and "Homing Braves," by Georgia Douglass Johnson.

In the observance of Armistice Day it is well to remember that this is a day of Peace and that Goodwill, Brotherhood and Cooperative Leadership should be emphasized rather than militaristic achievements. "Liberty and Peace," by Phillis Wheatley, and the two poems, "Peace," and "Brotherhood," by Georgia Douglass Johnson, together with "The New Day," by Fenton Johnson create a sincere desire for constructive Peace.

DR. BAKER HONORED BY BIRMINGHAM CHURCH

Through the kindness and thoughtfulness of Rev. Wm. Sample, pastor of Miller Memorial church, Birmingham, Alabama, it was my happy privilege to close out my work as District Secretary of the General Council on September 29th and 30th in services in this church which I was serving as Stated Supply ten years ago when the call to the promotional work came.

Sunday, the 29th, I had the pleasure of preaching, morning and night, to large and appreciative audiences and to greet many friends of years standing as well as many whose friendship is of more recent origin. It was a very happy day for me, as everyone, led by this very unselfish pastor, seemed bent on making the day a great occasion for me, a sort of "home-coming."

Monday night the church auditorium was almost crowded with members and friends of the church who had assembled for the purpose of tendering me a reception in appreciation of my work of ten years on the field. An excellent program of select music, papers, and addresses by the pastor, an elder and other members and friends was executed. Churches of nearly every persuasion were represented in the personnel of the audience, some of these friends taking part on the well arranged program. As the addresses and papers were so freighted with praise and commendation of myself and my labors, I can not say much, but as I sat and listened, I thanked God for such gracious friends and wished I was only half deserving of the high encomiums they honored me with, expressions, as I knew, from their hearts. The program came to a climax with the presentation of a beautiful, large size silver Lovig Cup and a purse.

I can never give expression to the thanks of my very soul for this great testimonial of a people whom I once served and for the very great service and for the brotherly attitude of Rev. Sample, who, out of the bigness of his heart, planned this glorious closing of my

work on the field, right back where it was started ten years ago. Like the Apostle Paul, "I thanked God and took courage" for my new tasks as I returned to the pastorate.

C. J. BAKER.
Atlanta, Ga.

MRS. SABRA JINES GRIGG, OF MONROE, N. C., PASSES

News received of the death of Mrs. Sabra Jines Grigg, Saturday, October 5th, was indeed a shock to the relatives and friends, of Atlanta, Ga. Her death was received with true sympathy and deep sorrow by those who knew her.

Her funeral was largely attended, Wednesday, in Atlanta, from St. Paul A. M. E. church of which she had been a member from childhood, serving as both Sunday school teacher and organist during the days before her marriage to Dr. H. R. Grigg. She was also a student of Atlanta University.

Mrs. Grigg lived a life that will ever stay with those who knew her. She always carried joy and gentleness to everybody and everything. She never tried to harm anyone, but would constantly heal the wound of the suffering. God has plucked a most beautiful flower from Atlanta's garden, but we feel that inasmuch as it was His work, we should rejoice and so conduct our lives that we also shall be called beautiful when plucked.

She was also very musical, and her tender, sweet echoes shall linger around the altar of St. Paul and other places for years.

Surviving her are her husband, Dr. H. B. Grigg, a brother, Mr. Henry Jines, grandfather, aunt, cousins and a host of friends.

Dr. D. P. Babcock officiated at the funeral, assisted by Rev. S. M. Miller, of Warren Memorial M. E. church, Rev. J. W. McQueen, of Central M. E. church, and Dr. C. J. Baker, of the Presbyterian church.

Solos were rendered by Mrs. M. F. Hatton and Mr. Percy Moore.

Telegrams and other communications were read by Mrs. Mayme Turner Mobley.

A FRIEND.