

African Expositor.

"ETHIOPIA SHALL SOON STRETCH OUT HER HANDS UNTO GOD."

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GOD REIGNS.

BY MRS. E. B. BROWNING.

God reigns above, He reigns alone;
Systems burn out and leave His throne,
And still His years roll on,
Mists of creation melt and fall
Around Him changeless amid all,
Whose ages still roll on.

By anguish which made pale the sun,
I hear Him charge His saints that none
While still Time's years roll on,
Among His creatures anywhere,
Blaspheam against Him in despair,
Though darkly days go on.

For us whatever's undergone,
Thou knowest, willest what is done,
Though our dark days go on,
Perhaps the cup was bitter,
Thy hand, how wine might show me,
Thy hand, how wine might show me.

I hope thee while my days go on,
I hope thee while my days go on;
The day-spring cometh on,
Through dark and dearth, through fire and frost,
With emeralds and treasures lost,
Thy hand, how wine might show me.

INTEREST IN MEDICAL EDUCATION.

Among the colored people there is evidence of increased interest in medical education. Twice as many students as ever before are seeking information in reference to pursuing a medical course of study.

To the young medical student there are some difficult questions for him to settle. If he intends to practice in North Carolina or Virginia he will be compelled to prepare himself thoroughly. The examinations before the State Medical Boards in both of these States are very severe. A large number of the faculty are practical physicians.

Everyone who has seen a medical student in the South knows that the colored medical student will not be allowed to creep into the profession or to practice until he has passed an examination before a State Medical Board.

There is no man in the South that has a better forecast of the future or more fully understands the wants of the colored people than Dr. A. G. Haygood, of Oxford, Ga. In a recent letter he says: "I have one anxiety about making colored doctors—that it will be too easy."

Without doubt, the danger is in imposing upon the colored people half-educated physicians—those who are not willing to give the time or

make the effort to prepare themselves to become safe and successful practitioners. Our counsel to medical students is to take plenty of time and make such sacrifices and effort as will insure success and eminence in the profession. Colored students have proven themselves equal to the most rigid requirements. So can you, who are already in a course of study or are planning to enter a medical school.

BIBLE TRAINING AND MORAL CULTURE OF GIRLS.

The following paper was read by Miss Belle L. Pettigrew, of Shaw University, Raleigh, at the annual meeting of the Women's Baptist Home Mission Society, held at Asbury Park.

When I first entered Shaw University as a missionary teacher, the conditions were favorable for carrying out the wishes of the Society in regard to the Bible and moral culture of the girls. I was placed in charge of the building occupied solely by the girls, and assumed at once the responsibility of training them in the way they should go. Every year I have a crude mass of new material, and must patiently begin at the bottom again, and step by step develop the meaning of a Christian life. There is much truth in the remark I have often heard, that the religion and the daily life of the colored people have not advanced with each other, and cannot advance when we consider the present state of the Bible and moral culture of the girls. The Bible and moral culture of the girls is a great part of the work of the missionary teacher. Just as much of the work as possible must be crowded into the school life of these young women, limited only in many instances by the mother's neglect. The Bible may have the girls learn a verse when they are in the morning school, and furnish a text for a little talk when I meet the class in the fourth hour. In this way several chapters have been committed to memory during the past year.

After the verse, a few minutes of study must be given to the Sunday school lesson, and by Thursday evening the 20 teachers must be prepared to teach the lesson to the class. One student gave a lesson on the Old Testament, and the Department selected subjects, and the emphasis on the observance of the Sabbath, the sins of the tongue, and many of the Chautauque lessons for study quite helpful. When the young people are learning these lessons from the Word of God, it is of the utmost importance that they should enter upon the activities of a useful Christian life. To facilitate this purpose, I organized two years and a half ago, a Young Women's Christian Association. I did not know at the time that such

an organization existed in any school for young women, but I thought if such Associations were good for the young men, they must be good for the girls also; so we organized. Our meetings have continued weekly, until the present time with unflinching interest. Fifty-five of the 87 girls in Estey are voluntary members, and willingly give an hour of time from their recreation.

At this meeting the Sunday school teachers report from their classes in the three Baptist churches, in one of which one of our girls is superintendent. Then we hear from the four mission schools, composed of children gathered in from the streets, and taught by our students. Nearly one hundred children are reached in this way, who, from the poverty and indifference of the parents, do not go to church or to Sunday school, and would otherwise be wholly without instruction.

After these reports, the visiting committee, numbering twenty-five, give an account of their visits to the aged, the sick, and to others who wish to hear the Bible read. They often find a family without food or fuel, one woman depending on us almost wholly for food. Such are always relieved from our treasury, our members giving systematically five cents a month. If at any time a member has not the money, she earns it by sewing, so that it is possible for all to have a place in this Society. Many of the members go out to teach during the year, and on their return report the Christian work they have engaged in, the Sunday school temperance work, attention to the sick and aged, etc.

The whole amount of the membership fees for the year is \$21. Nine dollars has been expended on the field, and twelve dollars have been put into the treasury of the Young Ladies' Missionary Society. It is my aim to make every girl in Estey a temperance worker, and, truly, the need is great. The habit of using tobacco and snuff is almost universal, and I think this accounts largely for the drinking, especially among the women. Little boys begin to use tobacco, at five and six years of age, and the girls of the same age to dip snuff. I have carefully collected facts from many teachers, and find this habit prevails everywhere.

A few weeks ago one of my girls wrote this: "All the girls in my school dip snuff, except one." Unless the children can be saved from this degrading habit, they have very little hope for the colored race. We have not only to consider the physical harm it inflicts, but that it also blunts the intellect, and the moral susceptibility, and degrades in every way. How can the otherwise when associated from early childhood with such degrading habits? My girls recite every week from the temperance catechism, and are becoming familiar with the effects of tobacco and alcohol upon all the organs of the body.

All the young ladies except two have signed the pledge. They have practical lessons in conducting temperance work, as well as the theory. I have a temperance school in the city numbering nearly 300 members. This school is graded and arranged in twenty-two classes, according to their

ability to read. I depend largely upon my girls for teachers. The classes are taught from the primary temperance catechism, in which many have passed examination and taken a higher book. By the help of charts, black-board lessons, short talks from pastors and others, and the blessing of God, we feel perfectly confident that many of these poor children will be saved from the curse of tobacco and rum.

Our girls can see daily the cruel effects of alcohol, in the case of little Willie, only five years old, a child driven from home by a brutal and drunken father and an indifferent step-mother. He came to us for protection three months ago, and has received the best of care since then, the girls making, washing, and mending his clothes, and caring for him in a way he has never known before. He takes his place in the dining hall with the students at meal time, but is being taught to read in the "Home School." I am sure all of the Baby Band who are here will be interested in Willie, and be glad to know that the Home School is caring for many little neglected souls who are not much better off than he.

While our girls are learning to care for the souls and bodies of their fellow men in the neighborhood of Estey, they are also learning of the wants and woes of the whole world. This knowledge is gained mainly through the Young Ladies' Missionary Society, organized nearly four years ago. The Society has never failed to meet once a month up to the present time. Our circle is auxiliary to both the Woman's Baptist Home Mission Society and the Women's Baptist Foreign Missionary Society of the West.

We make a study of our best foreign mission fields. To Africa, in which our students have been especially interested. At the Home Society, twenty dollars were later the same and a few Foreign Society, designated sent ten dollars to our noble American Baptist Home Mission Society, feeling that we, as a Society, in addition to what has been done by our school, would like to help in lifting the debt. The whole amount contributed by these two Societies of the girls, the Young Women's Christian Association and the Missionary Society, for the school year of eight months, is fifty-nine dollars. This money has all been raised by membership fees and contributions. It has come easily and naturally, as the outgrowth of missionary teaching. Africa is even now stretching out her hands to our girls and saying, "Come over and help us." A letter just received from the corresponding secretary of the Women's Foreign Society of the West, asks if I can recommend two of our girls to go to the Congo field next fall. We have no one in the school at present who answers the requirements in regard to age and color, but I can recommend a young lady who graduated a year ago, and I think the Lord has been preparing her for this work.

As I stand before my class day after day, which, with the city pupils, numbers one hundred members, I keep