VOL. 4.—No. 21. BALTIMORE SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1895 PRIC

Woman's Work for Mission.

Conference of Auxiliary Societies at Philadelphia.

IT IS PRONOUNCED ONE OF THE MOST NOTABLE GATHERINGS EVER HELD BY THE WOMEN OF THE RACE.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 30.—A call went forth months ago from the Parent Mite Missionary Society, composed of the women of the African Methodist Episcopal Church to the Societies auxiliary to meet in connectional conference in this city at Bethel Church, November 7 to 11, inclusive. The end in view was a stated substance in the appeal: (1) That a summary of the work accomplished in the Home and Foreign missionary fields during the twenty one years of the existence of the society may be laid before them. (2) That the parent society may become more fully informed of the condition of the work among the auxiliaries, their present needs and the obstacles to their broader success. (3) That we may confer together as to the best means of awakening a deeper interest, of engaging more heartily the energies of our sisters in Christ, to insure more concerted action and to advise as to plans and methods of carrying forward this work. Finally, that a full report of the same may be made to the General Conference of the Church, which is to be held in Wilmington, N. C., in the month of May, 1896.

In answer to the call upwards of seventy delegates appeared from almost a score of States, the most notable of whom were: Mrs. Grace P. Offer, of Pennsylvania, Mrs. Sada J. Anderson of Ohio, Mrs. Sarah Early of Tennessee, Mrs. G. A. Ratcliff of Indiana, and last, but not least, Mrs. Amanda Smith of—the world, for she has labored in four continents, America, Europe, Asia and Africa, a woman of whom Bishop A. M. Thoburn says: "I have learned more th[illegible] has been of actual value to me as [illegible] teacher of Christian truth from [illegible]a Smith than from any other [illegible]rson I ever met." In addition to the above named persons, aside from many letters, there were present Bishops Alex. W. Wayman, the senior and chairman of the board, and his good lady; Benj. W. Arnett, statistician of the church and secretary to the bishops; Benj. F. Tanner, bishop of the district in which the conference was held.

The president of the [illegible]ent Mite [illegible] S. E. Tann[illegible] was chosen presiding officer. At the conference Mrs. Tanner has been an active worker in the parent society since its organization in 1874. After the introductory usual to such assemblies, the conference at once proceeded to work. It would not be timely to enter into details, suffice it, that we give that which [illegible] the conference, one of the most [illegible]able ever held by women of African descent. It is quite natural we should begin with the president's address, a carefully prepared paper, in which was rehearsed the doings of the parent body for the past twenty-one years. In order followed reports from the auxiliaries; while many encouraging words came from the isles of the sea and from the Dark Continent.

Mrs. Mary M. Cooper, wife of a missionary who spent a year and more in the Bermudas, was present, and spoke in hopeful terms of the work women are doing in the Somer's Islands. Hayti was represented by the Rev. Solomon Porter Hood, who spent four years there and in the neighboring islands, and who received a large measure of his support from this society. The paper was full of information, showing how white the fields were to harvest, and sadly enough to be reaped almost entirely by the Roman Church. San Domingo was represented by Mrs. Alice Astwood, wife of the Rev. H. C. C. Astwood, who was United States Consul to San Domingo for six or eight years, and also officiated as superintendent of our mission work. By reason of illness the paper was read by her husband, and deeply be said that no other created a as it did impression than this, showing from out doors many and widely open falling in tones which proceeded voices "Come over and help us."

In a letter from the Rev. Reuben A. Sealy of Bridgetown, Barbadoes, he says: "We are still fighting, but things are very hard." From Sierra Leone, Africa, was read a paper from our superintendent, Rev. J. R. Fredericks, in which he says, "I must here most emphatically assure you that the only traces of what may be called mission work in our church that you will find on the west coast of Africa is in connection with this conference." How true these words are can be realized when the fact is remembered that for years the parent society has [illegible] this support annually $400, and has completed a mission house at [illegible] at a cost of almost $1,000; to [illegible] with $150 annually for the salaries of a female teacher, to [illegible] of the same. The closing address of the conference was made by Rev. Fanny J. Coppin, graduate of Oberlin and principal of the Institute for Colored Youth.—*N. Y. Age.*

Xavier Lyceum Notes.

[illegible]day night an election of officers was held, with the following results: President, Chas. Woodland; Vice President, Wm. H. Murphy; Sec. [illegible] Treasurer, T. J. Wood[illegible] Assistant Secretary, Thomas H. [illegible]. After the election quite a discussion took place on the [illegible] Progress of the 19th [illegible] Messrs. Sperley, Boone, [illegible] and Johnson were the par[illegible] that the Literary held [illegible]

INTERESTING NEWS

GATHERED HERE AND THERE BY OUR CORRESPONDENTS.

CENTREVILLE.

[Special to the Afro-American.]

CENTREVILLE, Md., December 16.—Thanksgiving was quite a joyful time here. At Mt. Zion M. E. Church we celebrated the occasion with a Live Pigeon Pie entertainment, which proved to be a grand success. The pigeon was caught by Miss Henrietta Hutchins, teacher of the No. 3 Public School, to whom a delightful prize was awarded. We netted a handsome [illegible] by the delivery of an up-to-date lecture on "Education" by Mr. James Tyler. Many other interesting exercises were beautifully accomplished.

Now we are making things warm among the Chocolate Drops, carefully equipping them for the coming event of '96.

Our political Club is organized under the name of the Excelsior League Republican Club. It did a grand part in the recent election of Nov. 5, proving a surprising victory for Uncle Abe's party. They also gave a special collection to the church.

Mr. John A. Mitchell and others are preparing to have a Gold Dollar Biscuit entertainment during the X'mas entertainment.

Miss E. Jane Tyler of Morgan College will accompany her sister down to spend the college vacation.

Rev. A. W. Lowber, pastor of this circuit, preached a very eloquent sermon to a crowded house Sunday, explaining the connection of "The Promised Church of the Messiah with the Christian Era."

We wish a long life to the AFRO-AMERICAN, the Martyr of Baltimore.

HAGERSTOWN.

[Special to the Afro-American.]

HAGERSTOWN, Md., Dec. 12, 1895.

A series of Friday evenings' teas will be given during the winter by the ladies of the Ebenezer Church for the benefit of the trustees. The initial tea was given on Friday evening, at the residence of Mr. Henry Thompson, and was well patronized by our prominent citizens. The next will be given at the residence of Mrs. Chas. W. Trusty, North street.

The Committee of Fifteen appointed at the mass meeting held December 5th to devise some plans to [illegible] have already [illegible] the colored [illegible] of their work. The power [illegible]

Court is in session here. The criminal docket is very large. The colored citizens are very much disappointed because not one of their number is found on the jury, although a long and stubborn fight was made to secure such recognition.

State's Attorney Little, in his address to the jury on Tuesday, Dec. in a case in which a colored man involved, stated that it was almost impossible to distinguish one colored man from another.

A plan is on foot to have the Hon. John M. Langston visit our city and deliver an address. This will be a rare treat to all, as there are few our public men who have had a [illegible] experience and filled greater positions than the scholarly and eloquent ex-Congressman.

Local politicians are exchanging politics for bedticks and firesticks, and talking wood, bread and rent for the winter. They hope, however, that our law-makers will hasten on the good times that were so earnestly promised.

Memorial exercises in recognition of the distinguished life and character of the late Bishop Wayman will be held shortly in the Ebenezer Church.

Rev. Matthew W. Traverse, who went to Baltimore to assist at the funeral of the Bishop, returned Friday.

Rev. J. W. Dansbury of the Asbury Church went to Baltimore Tuesday on business.

The McKinley Club met Wednesday evening.

Miss Carrie Barnum of Linwood Farm, who has been sick for two weeks, is now convalescing.

Miss Zora Nelson has entered Storer College.

[illegible] visiting her mother in Mercersburg.

The Disciple Church, Rev. Joseph Collins, pastor, is holding a fair.

WESTMINSTER.

[Special to the Afro-American.]

WESTMINSTER, Md., Dec. 16.—What is puzzling your correspondent at present is why so many of the colored population of Westminster will patronize such a saloon keeper as Strasburger, why they will give him nearly all of their scanty wages for the cheap whiskey, rum, etc., that he dispenses to them. We rarely pass his saloon but that we see a lot of colored men loafing thereabouts, patronizing the man whose wife brags that her piano was bought with the whisky barrels that the "niggers" emptied, that the "niggers" bought her horse and buggy, etc. And what is the result of the generosity of the "niggers?" Their homes are neglected, their wives neglected, their children not suffi[illegible] [illegible] their health [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]