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BALTIMORE, OCT. 13, 1906.

Funny isn'nt it that Uncle Sam can help to keep peace everywhere but in his own country?

There is a good deal of one-sidedness in this "Land of the Free and Home of the Brave" after all.

Winter has shied his cap into the ring, and we may now look for weather of another sort than we have been having for the past few months.

Poor little Cuba gets "front page, top of column, next to pure reading matter,' while the poor Negroes' troubles have to take "too late for classification."

The platform which the Republican party in this State stands on is Federal office. For reference see Mr. Stone and Mr. Hanna. Mr. Bonaparte is only a side issue in it.

Would it not be a good idea for the President to send Secretary Taft to Georgia to take a seat on the lid? Perhaps he could hold it down a little while at least. But Georgia is not a foreign government; it belongs to the United States and the President has got very little to do with it anyway.

So far as it has come to our knowledge, no Afro-American has been asked to give his help in electing the candidates on the Republican ticket this fall. Perhaps his vote is not needed. And again perhaps he will withould that vote at sometime when it is most needed.

The Republican party in this State is becoming whiter and whiter each year. May be it will be all white in a few years. But since it has left the principals of the founders behind, perhaps it would be as well as not for it to be all white. The leaders in this State have forgotten all about those principals if ever they knew them.

A hearty welcome is extended to the conference of Episcopal Ministers which meets in this city next week. It wil be most gratifying if they can agree to meet here a little oftener. It is also to be hoped that they will agree that the thing to do is to have Negro Bishops in this country as well as in other countries and other denominations.

The Independent, published at Atlanta, Ga., is neither cold or hot. It holds with the hare while running with the hounds. It is neither for the Negro nor against him, accept so far as it affects its pocket. Speaking of the banishment of the editor of the Georgia Baptist, from Augusta, Ga., because he advocated the rights of his people, the Independent says:

"We cannot express our regret or sorrow at the unfortunate affair." Of course it cannot, it does not belong to that class. The Independent belongs to the class generally known as the "white man's nigger" and in consequence, in order to remain and make what money it can from the Negro thus carrying water on both shoulders. This class of Negroes are an abomination and positively hurtful to the race, and the sooner the race is free from them the better.

FREEDON OF THE PRESS.

There are a number of things both in the written and unwritten laws of this country which ought always be prefixed by the word white. For instance; the Declaration of Independence, and the much heralded freedom of the press. Not long since, a magistrate of this city put a very heavy fine upon a baseball player because he smashed a reporter of a newspaper in the mouth, for saying things about him which he thought unjust and hurtful to him. In placing the fine, the magistrate took the pains to state to the man that he was wrong in endeavoring to put a period to the place where he thought the newspapers ought to stop, and referred him to the fact that the newspapers must be free to say practically whatever they pleased about any and every one.

Now this only applies to white newspapers, for whenever an Afro-American newspaper says what it thinks about the white people, it will soon find out that the freedom of the press means freedom of the press when printed and managed by white men. And for just this reason Editor White of the Georgia Baptist; and the editor of the Record, published in Wilmington, N. C., were compelled to get out and get out quickly or lose their lives as well as lose their plants. As we have said before it makes much difference whose ox is gored.

WELCOME TO OUR EPISCOPAL BRETHREN.

The Afro-American Ledger heartily welcomes in our midst the Afro-American Priesthood, from all parts of the country. We are delighted in having them with us. They come to pay their respects to the venerable mother of colored Churchmen in the Southern States, St. James', this city. Old St. James has stood forth for eighty years, in this community, as a positive influence for all that is good in the history and life of our people. It, like Bethel and Sharp St. Memorial, is among the oldest race churches in this city, and the history of such congregations is, in a large measure, the history of the progress and advancement of our people.

We will not venture to give our estimate of the services of the present rector of St. James to this community during the past fifteen years. As a part of the Afro-American Ledger, modesty would forbid anything like an adequate expression of the value of his services. But, we are quite sure that we voice the sentiments of all when we say, that independent of the Episcopal church, this community, regardless of denominations, regards Rev. Dr. Bragg as one of its foremost assets, in character, intellectual energy and moral endeavor. We seriously question whether the people of St. James more highly value and appreciate their rector than do the colored people of this city honor and esteem him as a man, a Christian gentlemen and among its foremost useful citizens.

Again we welcome all our Episcopal friends to our city, and are sure that all our people, without regard to denomination will accord them a hearty reception and a good time.

WILLIAM BENJAMIN ARNETT.

'Truly a great man has fallen in Israel."

In the death of William Benjamin Arnett, D. D., Bishop of the African Methodist Church, that church has lost one of its most prominent figures, and one whose loss will be hard to fill. For many years he has stood as a leader almost without a peer, and the work he has accomplished in bringing his church prominently before the people, not only of this country but foreign countries as well, can hardly be duplicated.

Bishop Arnett was epecially fond of young people, and his work among them is especially notable. He was one of the trustees of the Young People's Christian Endeavor Society, almost from its inception, and was also a delegate to the International Sunday School Convention, which met in the city of his boyhood and where he spent the early years of his life. During this particular convention, Bishop Arnet was the recipient of many kindly courtesies on the part of the members of the convention, especially after he had made an address, in which he said the three books the colored man needed most were the Bible, the spelling book and the bank book. Wherever he went he was stopped and very often surrounded by ladies of the convention, who wanted to shake his hand and become acquainted with him.

It was the good fortune of the writer to be present at that convention and spend most of the time in the Bishop's company, and, of conrse, had an opportunity to see and hear a great deal that passed. At times he could hardly eat his meals for the interruption of those who either at his table or were in the immediate vicinity, wanted either to talk with him, or make his acquaintance. He was the most popular man in the convention.

Some years ago he wrote for the Sunday School Union, his book, "Poor Ben." This book had a large sale, and was an history of his life. It was an incentive to the young people to make most of their lives as he had done, and was no doubt a source of inspiration to many of them. The African Methodist Church suffers a great loss in the death of Bishop William Benjamin Arnett.

Noted Prelate Passes Away.

Continued from Page 1.

vania and western solicitor, having charge of twenty-two counties; in 1865 organized a joint stock company and store, prepared the charter which passed through the legislature; in June '65, organized Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, at Brownsville, Pa. Was a member of the National Equal Rights League, Syracuse, N. Y., Oct. 4, 1865, Frederick Douglass, President; member of the Equal Rights Convention, Cleveland, Hon. J. M. Langston, President.

Was foreman of a jury, where all were white, at Toledo, 1872; also foreman of a jury composed of all colored men in the spring of 1872, at Toledo; was chairman of the Committee on Resolutions of the Congressional Convention in 1872, at Toledo, representing five counties, which nominated I. B. Sherwood. In 1874 was Grand Orator of the Good Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria for the States of Ohio and Indiana and a life member of the same; he was a member of the Corinthian Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons at Cincinnati, Ohio; raised to the Sublime Degree Master Mason, August 13th, 1875; was arched in December, '87, in Gustava Chapter, Urbana, Ohio; Knighted by the Taylor Commandery, at Columbus, Ohio, '78; was Grand Chaplain Royal Arch Chapter of the State of Ohio in '79; was Grand Orator of the Grand Lodge, '79; was a member of the Knights of Wise Men of the World, at Nashville, '82, and Grand Lecturer of the same; was Grand Lecturer of Councils of the Independent Order of Immaculates at Nashville, '83; member of the Independent Order of Good Templars, 1884. The Central Republican Club, of San Francisco, gave him a farewell meeting at the "Wigwam" October 19, '86; the Golden Gate Lodge, of San Francisco and the G. U. O. of O. F., tendered him a reception, October '86; was a member of the reception committee to welcome Hon. J. G. Blaine to Greene County, '84; was elected to the Ohio legislature to represent Greene county, 1886-87; was author of the bill abolishing the "Black Laws" of the State and to provide for the teaching of scientific temperance in all the schools.

Was elected delegate to the Ohio State Sunday School Convention at Norwalk, Ohio, '78, and was elected Vice-President of the same; was a delegate to the International Sunday School Union at Atlanta, Ga., 1878 and at Toronto, Canada, '81; was elected by the Sunday School Union of Ohio to represent them at Robert Raike's Centennial, London, England, '80; elected to represent the Inter-Denominational S. S. Union, of South Carolina, at the World's Convention, London, England, July 2nd, '89; May 25, '90, he responded to the welcome address of Hon. James A. Beaver Governor of Pennsylvania, at the International S. S. Convention, Pittsburg, Pa.; he was elected and was one of the Vice Presidents of the International convention until 1893.

Was one of the invited guests and delivered several addresses at the Centennial celebration of the first settlement of the Northwest Territory, April 7th, '88, at Marietta, Ohio; delivered an address in the House of Representatives in the State of Georgia, before the Colored Teachers' Association, Dec. 11, '83; was a member of the Centennial Conference of Methodists at Baltimore, Md., Dec. 24, '84 and delivered an address, "The Mission of Methodism to the Extremes of Society."

He was married May 25th, 1858, to Mary Louisa Gordon, at Brownsville, Pa. Their union has been blest with the following children: Alonzo T. A., business man; Benjamin W., Jr., presiding elder, Springfield district, North Ohio conference; Henry Y., Financial Secretary for Wilberforce University; Anna L. wife of Prof. Walter J. Mason, Galveston, Texas; Alphonso T., Washington, D. C.; Florence G., and D. A. Payne.

His funeral took place on Thursday large delegations of clergymen of both races and nearly all denominations being present.

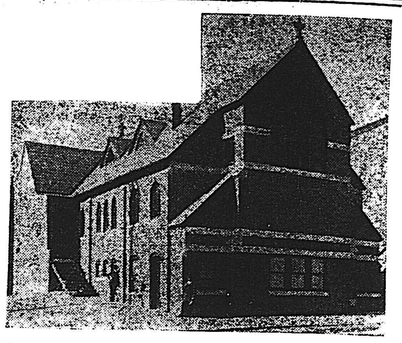
BAPTIST MINISTER DEAD—Rev. J. H. A. Hampton, a local Baptist minister, died last Friday morning after a lingering illness. His funeral took place from Shiloh Baptist Church on Monday afternoon. Interment was in Mount Zion Cemetery. Robert A. Elliott had charge of the funeral arrangements.

Mr. and Mrs. Thaddeus Copeland of 1235 Orleans street, have returned from Richmond, Va., where they attended the biennial meeting of Odd Fellows.

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE

Afro-American Priests From All Parts Of The Country Will Get Together At St. James' Next Week—Some Of The Men who Have Made Their Mark In The Church—What The Conference Will Do.

On next Tuesday evening will take place a very significant and historic occurrence in the city of Baltimore. It will be the assembling of the largest number of Episcopal priests of the Episcopal church ever convened, anywhere, in the United States. The occasion will be the 22d Annual Conference of Church Workers among Colored People. For a number of years back, the clergy of the Episcopal Church, engaged in work among our people, have met to discuss matters pertaining to their work and the welfare of the race. This year the conference meets in St.



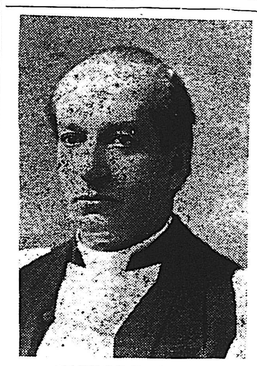
ST. JAMES PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH

REV. GEORFE F. BRAGG, JR.

James' Church, this city, Rev. Dr. George F. Bragg, jr., rector. At this time the people of St. James are celebrating the 80th anniversary of the parish, the fifth anniversary of the occupancy of the present edifice, and the fifteenth of the present rectorship.

The subject of the Negro and the Episcopal Church being now prominently before the people, it is interesting to note some little part Afro-Americans of Maryland have taken in connection with the early history of that church among the race. St. James is the oldest of all the colored Episcopal churches in the Southern States, as well as the only parish of colored Episcopalians in this State. The corner-stone of the first church was laid on the corner of North and Saratoga streets, on the 10th of October 10th, 1826. Soon after, it was duly incorporated, and thus the members of its vestry were the first men of color, in the Southern States to hold such office in the Episcopal church.

The first Negro, anywhere in the



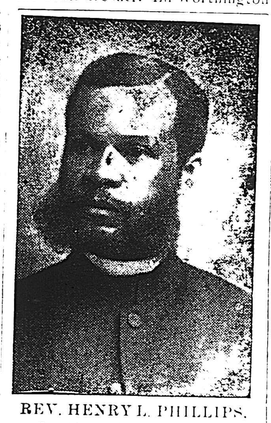
BISHCP PARET.

South, to be ordained to the ministry of the Episcopal Church, was the late Rev. William Douglass of this State. He was so ordained by the late Bishop Stone in the year 1834. Mr. Douglass spent his whole ministry in the diocese of Pennsylvania, as rector of St. Thomas Church, Philadelphia. He was an exceptionally bright and talented man in those days. Bishop Potter in 1862, in speaking to his Convention with respect to his late demise, said of him: "It has pleased the Lord to call away from the Church Militant, the Rev. William Douglass, rector of St. Thomas African Church, in this city, where he has ministered for the past twenty-seven years—a man of great modesty, of ripe scholarship, and of much more than ordinary talents and prudence. He is, as far as I am informed, the only clergyman of unmixed African descent, who in this country has published works of considerable magnitude. In two volumes, one of sermons, and one a history of St. Thomas Church, he has vindicated his right to appear among our respected divines. As a reader of Liturgy he was unsurpassed."

The first Negro to be made a Bishop, by the Episcopal Bishops of this country, was also born within the territory embraced in the old undivided diocese of Maryland. The Rt. Rev. Dr Holly, the present Bishop of Hayti, is that man. His parents were from St. Mary's county, this state, and he first saw daylight in the city of Washington. Upon arriving at manhood he left the Roman Catholic Church and connected himself with the Episcopal. In 1874, in the city of New York, he was consecrated the first Bishop of Hayti.

Possibly no man in this country has been more generally and favorably known, for his intellectual breadth and culture than the late Rev. Dr. Alexander Crummell. Dr. Crummell was the founder and first rector of St. Luke's Church, Washington, and was the first colored clergyman of the Episcopal Church to be a member of the Diocesan Convention of this Diocese. His best days were given to work in this diocese, and among his own people.

Early in the last century, there were two prominent colored men in this city by the name of Stokes. One was Darius Stokes a member of Bethel Church, and a local preacher; the other brother, Eli Worthington



REV. HENRY L. PHILLIPS,
President of the Conference.

Stokes was the first colored man ever ordained in St. James' Church. He was so ordained by the late Bishop Whittington in the month of October 1843. He went from Baltimore to New Haven, Conn., and on the first of the following June, in that city, he organized St. Luke's Church. Mr. Stokes, some years later, left the country as a missionary to Africa, in the Republic of Liberia. He died in Africa in 1867. A clergyman writing from that country with respect to his death during the same year, said of him:

"Though Mr. Stokes was not a strong and able bodied man, he was full of faith and abounded in charity to the poor. How often he has divided his last crust of bread, God only knows. It appeared to us on these points he never calculated his own interests. He was reduced more by want of the real necessities of life at last than by sickness, is the opinion of the doctor and all who saw and attended him. Nourishment could not rally his exhausted

REV. WM. DOULASS.

strength. The people of his own parish were very poor, and Eli W. Stokes was not the man to look upon this and not act. The people of Crozerville had already learned to love and respect him. His work told that he was on the ground. He had established day and Sabbath schools at Crozerville and Carysburg. He was found in a hut, lying on a mat, and an old blanket under his head. He was brought in almost a dying state to his house. Friends did all that could be done, but he sank until the 26th of February and died. Nearly all his talk, as long as he could talk, and when he could not be understood, seemed to be of the Missionary work here and the many troubles that retarded it. He was buried at Woodland, by a brook under a Palm tree."

The Anniversary services, proper, at St. James, will be on Sunday. The Holy Communion will be celebrated at 7 a. m., Morning Prayer and sermon at 11 a. m., and evening prayer and sermon at 8 o'clock.

The opening session of the Conference will be on Tuesday evening at 8 o'clock. Special music has been prepared for this occasion, and the choir which has been augmented by a number of prominent singers, will be accompanied by an orchestra. Mr. Nelson Tunstall will be the soloist at the offertory. Addresses of welcome will be delivered by the rector of the church, and Bishop Paret of this diocese. The Rev. Henry L. Phillips, rector of the Church of the Crucifixion, Philadelphia, and president of the Conference will make the address of response. There will be daily sessions of the Conference beginning at ten o'clock each day, to which the public are invited. All the services and sessions of the Conference are open to the public.

As is thought by very many, unacquainted with conditions in the Episcopal Church, it is a mistake to conclude that the Conference of Church Workers is in favor of drawing out from the wites, and having "colored Bishops" in the various dioceses. Such a view is far from being correct. What the Conference really desires, is, the enactment of a law by the General Convention of the Episcopal Church whereby in any two or more dioceses, where our people are or can not be reached by the diocesan machinery, such may have a convention of their own and a colored Bishop to advance their interests. Where there is no trouble or difficulty, no change at all is desired. In this issue we give a few "cuts" of prominent Afro-American churchmen.

ST. JOHN'S COMMANDERY No. 3 Knights Templar, at their last meeting last week elected the following officers: John H. Robinson, Eminent Commander; James H. A. Hill, Generalisimo; Richard Green, Captain General; W. E. Richardson, Senior Warden; Caleb Robinson, Junior Warden; Andrew Thompson, Treasurer; Thoman A. Dodd, Recorder; Columbus Gordon, Representative to the Masonic Joint Stock Company; Caleb Robinson, Isaac Howard and James Taylor, Banking Committee; Geo. W. Bishop, Captain of the Guard, Nicholas Webster Warden; I. H. Howard Standard Bearer; and John H. Keen, Sword Bearer.

NEW HOME FOR ASYLUM—A tract of land has been purchased in Baltimore county consisting of 92 acres of land on Taylor avenue, near the Hillen Road, in the northeastern suburbs, upon which it is intended to locate the School for the Blind, which is now located on West Saratoga street. The property now occupied by the school has been sold and as soon as the new buildings are completed the school will be removed to the new location. The school is doing a good work for the colored blind, deaf and dumb children of the State and city and a new location will no doubt be of greater help to them than the present building which is inadequate for the purposes intended.

PRESIDING ELDER SURPRISED—At the recent session of the Annapolis District, Washington Conference, M. E. Church, Rev. W. H. Gaines, presiding elder of the District, was presented a purse of $10. Rev. Dr. N. M Carroll, of Annapolis, made the presentation speech, in which he spoke of the successful work of Rev. Gaines, who followed with a few well chosen remarks. The purse was the gift of members and friends of the Conference.

MIDNIGHT'S MUSINGS

Continued from Page 1.

Lodge of United Brotherhood of Friendship, and I saw some of the leading men in the Grand Lodge disgrace themselves by going into a Jim Crow saloon and drinking whiskey. It is not a good impression for the Negro and the white people was inclined to look down on them until Grant's army arrived, and these men came to elevate, to throw the best Negro on the canvas and to let the white men see that all Negroes are not alike, and I am indeed glad that I am here to testify to these things, for all means so much to us as a people. I am glad that they can see that there are Negroes who will not go into their dirty saloons and drink.

I have said that I am going to tell you about Bishop Grant and his work out here, but I will wait until next week. You may look for the letter next week.

I have met a woman here who is a wonder, and who is truly a representative of her people. I did not tell you about Mrs. Anna Fisher when I was here the last time, because I did not get an opportunity to see her at her work, but this time I have noted her work, and have seen her work her fertile brains. She is doing in Columbia what no other person is doing and in this she is making something. She is a caterer. I do not know myself what that is, and it you have a dictionary you will have to look that big word up, "caterer," but it is something good. When the white people here are going to have a big party, big wedding, big dinner or anything like that they send for her, and she makes out what they should have to eat and how they should eat it, and then goes to work and prepares it, and feeds them till they want no more.

In her work she is assisted by Miss Luceil Smith, her daughter. Miss Smith has been well educated through the public school here, and then got the finishing touch at Jefferson City, which is a fine institution and I have told you about it before. She then settled down to help her mother. She can hitch up the horse, clean him off, feed him, take out orders, for Mrs. Fisher receives many orders for cakes, ice cream, biscuits, bread, sandwiches, and other things things to eat. She deals in eating matters, and I am inclined to think that is the meaning of the word which I have used. Her daughter keeps her books, collects her money, while Mrs. Fisher steps out and pays the bills.

I had the pleasure of seeing her prepare for a big wedding and serve it, while I could not be one of the guest, yet I found that I could see by going along with her to wash dishes, so I did go. Miss Luceil Smith was the head waiter, and she understands her business I am here to tell you. They had several other waiters, and the house where the wedding was served had its own help to wash the dishes, so I did just simply look on. Mrs. Fisher served or dished up, while the waiters toted the grub in, and I wish you could have seen them white folks eat. They acted just like they were in heaven. All enjoyed the good cooking, and seemed happy. The next day all the things were cleaned up, and mother and daughter entertained themselves. It is a great thing to see a young women, well educated, can make a piano talk, sing a literary, yet can roll up her sleeves and go to work. She is a fine woman. Her mother can sing and she can do the same thing. Side by side they have worked and have purchased some real good property. Three houses in town, a farm of forty acres, and it doth not yet appear all it shall be. I am going to have more to say to you about these things when I write to you the next time. I will leave the letter now until I get back to it. Lookout for me.

I will not write a long letter this week, because of the funny feeling, and then I may not be here all the time. If you desire to send me a letter, send it to Osceola, Ark. I will be there next week. I have not given my address for a long time.

Kindly let me hear from you at an early date.

But befors I close it would be out of place for me to tell you that I have seen W. W. Allen, who is representing his father, editor of the Southern Christian Recorder. This paper is doing fine work. I told you about young Allen last year, but since that time he has grown the men. He is a whole man now. He married Miss Nellie E. Prince, of Columbus, a graduate from Atlanta University, and a fine woman in every respect. They have entered life together, and are now working to solve the problems in the world which confronts husband and wife. They are purchasing their home, and now he is working to pay for it. I am always proud to see our young men struggling to be something in life.

Long may Mrs. Nellie Allen live and do something for the country. The world is not to become depopulated.

J. O. MIDNIGHT

HOME FOR AGED MINISTERS.

Michigan Annual Conference Holds An Interesting Session—Woman's Mite Missionary Society Provides For Aged Ministers—Reports Far Ahead Of Last Year.

(Special to The Afro-American Ledger.)

Pontiac, Mich., Oct. 2.—The Michigan Annual Conference has just closed a very pleasant session. Bishop Handy, D. D., was assisted by Bishop C. S. Smith, D. D., of Detroit.

Our Dollar Money report ran $90 00 ahead of last year.

The Mite Missionary Society has a home and expects to buy a home for the aged ministers, their wives and any aged worthy African Methodist of Michigan. The white M. E. Church, of this city, opened its doors Sunday afternoon and evening, and worship with us.

Several of the brethren were entertained in the homes of six of the white families.

Nearly all of the appointments we judge were satisfactory.

Rev. W. H. Heard, D. D., of Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. R. D. Stinson, D. D., of Atlanta, Ga.; Rev. B. F. Watson, D. D., of Philadelphia; Dr. Geo. F. Woodson, D-an of Payne Theological Seminary, Wilberforce, Ohio; Prof. Dooley, principal of a school of Pass Christian, Miss., also attended.

Dr. Heard and Stinson, also Prof