



REV. JOHNSON'S TROUBLES.

Wanted The Support of Revs. Payne and Lewis.

MAKES DESPERATE EFFORTS.

The Status of Mount Olivet.—Used the Editor's Case as a Stepping Stone.

STORMY SCENES IN THE SECRET MEETING.—EBENEZER BAPT. CHURCH WOULD'NT ENTER THE COMBINE.

It was generally presumed that the agitation at the First Baptist Church had ceased and inasmuch as the PLANET was silent and its editor was now a member of the Fifth St. Baptist Church that the disturbing elements would subside and permit the children of God to worship in peace.

THE CHURCH-HILL TROUBLE.

Ever since the Payne-Tancil suit whereby the Law and Equity Court of this city by way of a jury awarded Dr. R. F. Tancil, damages to the extent of about \$1500, the First Baptist Church has barred the aforesaid divine from its pulpit.

It sheltered Mt. Olivet Baptist Church whose members withdrew from the 4th Baptist Church. Finally Rev. J. Andrew Bowler, a licentiate and a deacon of the First Baptist Church was called to the pastorate of that church. It was the First Baptist Church that called a council and brought about his ordination.

BROTHER PAYNE DISGUSTED.

This was regarded by Rev. Evans Payne with disgust. He was a close personal friend of Rev. Z. D. Lewis and the latter who now apparently claims to be leader of the Co-operation Baptist Churches of Richmond, determined to humiliate the First Baptist Church from the map of the denomination.

Together they conceived the idea of calling a council. Mt. Olivet was asked to join in, the call for a Mutual Council, the day having been set by the 4th Baptist Church. Before arrangements could be made, the 4th Baptist Church, under the leadership of Lewis and Payne called an ex-parte council.

RIGID REQUIREMENTS.

It required that Mt. Olivet should send its members back to the 4th Baptist Church for their letters. Should it fail to comply, then right-hand of fellowship was to be withdrawn from it.

This was withdrawn, but the First Baptist Church recognized Rev. Bowler and nurtured the Mt. Olivet, thanks to the influence of Rev. J. H. Fannleroy, Rev. R. J. Bass and others.

BROTHER JOHNSON'S PREJUDICEMENT.

When Rev. W. T. Johnson came to the pastorate of the First Baptist Church he was in a desperate straits. He fellowshiped Mt. Olivet, but thereby won the condemnation of Revs. Lewis and Payne. They "mocked when his fears came upon him and laughed at his calamity," so to speak.

When Editor Mitchell's case came up they were outspoken concerning the blunders of the First Baptist Church.

BROTHER LEWIS' DECLARATIONS.

Rev. Lewis declared to the Editor of the PLANET that he had watched his course, that he had followed the law as laid down in the Baptist Polity and that a Baptist Council would unquestionably condemn the First Baptist Church.

Rev. Evans Payne is alleged to have remarked that he was no friend to Mitchell, but the First Baptist Church was getting what it deserved.

In the meantime, Rev. W. T. Johnson got uneasy. With Nelson Williams, Jr., T. H. Briggs and others they consulted and it was decided that an effort would be made to rescind the resolution barring Rev. Evans Payne from the pulpit.

FIVE ATTEMPTS MADE.

Five times the attempt was made and five times it failed. Finally in sheer desperation, Rev. Johnson called the members of the church together after services on Communion Sunday morning and asked that he be given entire charge of the pulpit.

WOULD PROVOKE CRITICISM.

He warned the council that such a course would be fraught with danger in that it would provoke criticism and reflect seriously upon the findings of the body. He proposed that everybody be excluded except the members of the council. After some discussion, this was agreed to, and the very people who had made the suggestion were a moment later sent marching out of the First Baptist Church, while the doors of their

own structure were shut in their faces.

A MUTUAL COUNCIL.

Had a mutual council been called the Fifth St. Baptist Church would have named one-half of the delegates and the First Baptist Church the other half.

These facts were well-known. As a result, the Fifth Baptist Church (Sydney), Rev. Joseph Perry, pastor opposed the Lewis-Payne combination.

WOULDN'T BE LED BY THEM.

The Ebenezer Baptist Church declined to stand under their leadership. When the final vote was taken, its pastor was not present.

A STORMY SESSION.

The referring of the matter to a committee resulted in a stormy session. Rev. Joseph Perry, pastor of the Fifth Baptist Church (Sydney) was much in evidence, and caused Brother Z. D. Lewis no end of trouble.

COULD'NT DO BETTER.

Brother Z. D. Lewis, the appointed chairman as per previous arrangement announced that he couldn't do any better. He thought at one time that no report would be gotten at all, as most of the members of the committee were in favor of not having anything to do with it.

HUMILIATING THE CHURCH.

The action of the First Baptist Church in humiliating the church and descending to the level of ward politics has disgusted the entire community. The white brethren withdrew in disgust and not one has been found to speak in favor of the unlawful procedure. In fact, the one who prayed asked God's blessing upon the Fifth St. Baptist Church.

REED—George Reed departed this life Thursday, July 18, 1902, at 822 N. 1st street in the 53rd year of his age. Funeral took place at the Third St. A. M. E. Church Sunday, July 6, 1902 at 4 o'clock. He was a kind and loving husband and father. He leaves a wife, six children and one brother and a host of friends to mourn their loss.

OUR FATHER IS SLEEPING.

So free from all pain,
Oh, wake him not,
Sweet spirit, to suffer again.

HE SLUMBERS SO SOUNDLY.

Oh, let him sleep on,
His sickness is ended
And troubles all gone.

WE TRUST OUR LOSS IS HIS ETERNAL GAIN.

God knoweth what is best. May we all meet at last again in heaven's eternal rest.

HARRIS—Died at his home, 1216 N. 2nd street, Tuesday morning at 1:30, Edward Harris, husband of Ella A. B. Harris. He leaves a sister, Mrs. Rachel Cox of Washington and a brother, Mr. Matthews Harris of New York. Funeral took place Thursday evening from the Ebenezer Church. Rev. W. T. White officiated, assisted by Revs. Johnson, Wells and Stokes.

DON'T MISS THEM.

A series of discourses on the parables of our Lord will be delivered by Rev. J. S. Mason, pastor of Manchester A. M. E. Church, commencing July 20, 1902, Sunday-school, 9:30 a. m. Divine services, 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. All are invited.

COLORED CEMETARIES.

At a special meeting of the trustees of four of the Cemeteries near Barton Heights, Tuesday evening, July 15, it was decided that improvements must commence at once on the grounds.

RESCUE FIRE CO. NO. 1.

Rescue Fire Co. No. 1 represented by Chief Scott and Cannon Ball Fire Co. No. 3, represented by Chief Cooper, Mt. Hermon Fire Co. No. 4 represented by Chief Young, Ladies of Aid of Rescue Fire Co.; No. 1, led by Mrs. Files, president arrived in the city last Tuesday.

THE CASE IN NEWTOWN.

Several months ago, the Baptist Church in Newtown called a council in the case of John Lewis, who had been excluded from the Fifth St. Baptist Church. He had not asked for a hearing or a mutual council. After hearing his statements and without consulting the Fifth St. Baptist Church, this council in which was said to be Rev. Z. D. Lewis, Rev. W. T. Johnson

and Rev. Evans Payne instructed Lewis to apply to the Fifth St. Baptist Church for membership and if it failed to hear him, he was given the right to join any Baptist Church in this community.

RECEIVED IN THE CHURCH. Lewis was finally received by the Baptist Church in Newtown on the recommendation of these same brethren who now lay down a different mode of procedure for the Fifth St. Baptist Church. The Fifth St. Baptist Church did not call a secret council, neither has it withdrawn the right-hand of fellowship from that Baptist Church in Newtown. It is a significant fact that no white minister in the secret council endorsed the action of the First Baptist Church or voted for the resolutions. The representatives from the Broadus Memorial Church who retired have since stated that they would have supported Rev. White's motion which was the submission of the entire affair to a mutual council.

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111 DEAD; 22 RESCUED

Frightful Disaster in Cambria Mine at Johnstown.

EXPLOSION DUE TO FIRE-DAMP

Accident Occurred in Section Known As Klondike, and Survivors Described Conditions As Frightful.

Johnstown, Pa., July 11.—Two hundred miners entombed by an explosion in a mine whose main shaft opens within the limits of the city, was news to check with terror the pedestrians on the streets here yesterday. At first the rumor said that all in the "rolling mill" mine of the Cambria Steel company were dead or in danger. But later reports showed that the lower figure was correct and that 400 were safe. The mine is one of the largest in the country, and yesterday 600 men were at work there.

The scenes on the hillsides were heartrending. As soon as the news of the disaster spread it was communicated from house to house where the wives, mothers and children of the miners live, and in a few moments there was a crowd of several hundred persons gathered about the mine. This was augmented with almost every second, as the awful news continued to spread. Wives of the unfortunate victims ran about wildly excited; mothers fainted, and little children wailed as the extent of the horror became known to them.

The mining officials of the Cambria Company stated that the explosion was one of fire damp. The catastrophe occurred in the section of the mines known among the miners as "Klondike." The few survivors who have escaped from the depths of the mine describe the conditions as being frightful in their nature. Outside of the "Klondike" the mines are safe and unharmed.

Miners who left the mine by way of the Mill Creek entrance brought horrible stories of crawling over the dead bodies of their comrades. Of the 600 men who entered the mine on Thursday morning 111 are dead, 22 were rescued alive and many others reported at the office of the company. Thrilling experiences attended the efforts of the 40 brave and daring fellows who went down into the bowels of the earth with a very faint hope to spur them that still they might be in time to restore to life some of those who are entombed. Death lurked everywhere around them, but undaunted they surged forward, swayed with the noblest of human purposes.

Early this afternoon cheering word came from the innermost recesses of the mine that life yet lingered in some of the bodies found. The rescuers made first for No. 4, left heading, which they had been unable to reach the night before. Falls of roof almost choked up the heading, but through and over the debris the brave men pushed their way. In the front Patrick Martin, his brother Peter, Philip White and several others made their way. Suddenly in an open space they were startled by the maniac laugh which emanated from a blackened form that rushed at them out of the darkness. The man grasped firmly a pick handle and tried in his frenzy to beat down his rescuers. He was overpowered and dragged back to the main heading to the cars. Thirteen other living men were found in this chamber and physicians were quickly taken to the spot.

The remains of some of the dead were in a terrible state, showing that there had been slow death in each case. One of the men had his mouth and nose tied about with a towel. The rest of his face was burned beyond recognition. The bodies of all were twisted in horrible shapes, most of the arms being crooked so as to shield the face.

Funerals of Victims.

Johnstown, Pa., July 14.—Saddest of all the scenes following the mine disaster of Thursday were those attending the funerals Saturday and yesterday of the 164 victims. Under the black pall of smoke that hangs over the city church bells tolled continually, and all day long the dead carts rumbled through the streets to the Slav, Creation, Greek and Roman Catholic churches, where the scenes of leaving-taking were most affecting. Nearly all the funerals took place in the cemetery where are buried the dead of the great Johnstown flood.

The burial was simplified by the digging of long trenches, in place of separate graves. In one of these 25 coffins were lowered.

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Johnstown, Pa., July 16.—The query

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Notes by the Way.

DANVILLE, Va., July 14, 1902. We are in this beautiful city by the Dan. It has been nearly two years since I was here. I preached yesterday for both the High Street and Loyal Street Baptist churches.

The work of Rev. W. T. Hall, B. D., at grand old High Street is a wonder to the world. Here, under his charge, one of the finest church buildings has been erected that may be found in the state of Virginia. We preached for his people at 11 a. m. One thousand people came out to hear the gospel. It was a fine, orderly and intelligent set of people. They love their pastor and have always great influence in Danville as well as in the state.

Rev. A. A. Galvin, B. D., was installed at the Loyal Street church at 11 a. m. Rev. Dr. Tyrrell of Lynchburg preached the sermon. Those who heard it declare that it was a masterpiece of pulpit oratory. The church was packed with an enthusiastic, intelligent people. Like High Street, Loyal Street has a most excellent choir.

In the afternoon, Rev. W. T. Hall, B. D., administered the Lord's Supper for Rev. Galvin. Here was a meeting that will be long remembered in Danville. High Street and Loyal met together and kissed each other; the Lord was there. High Street welcomed her sister back to the Virginia Baptist State Convention. With these two grand churches standing up for our State work, these parts are safe and have no need to fear.

At night, Loyal Street was over-run to hear their ex-pastor preach a special sermon to the church from the subject, "The Gates of Hell." The great congregation was warm in its appreciation.

We find the colored people of Danville energetic, thrifty and progressive. They believe in the Negro doing something for himself and this is seen by them being largely engaged in business of various kinds. Since this is one of the cardinal doctrines of the Virginia Baptist State Convention, the High Street and Loyal Street churches are popular with the business men of Danville.

The Revs. Mr. Hall and Galvin are both honored graduates of the Virginia Seminary.

Rev. Hall has recently built himself a fine cottage home near his church. It is indeed a handsome home, and the cultured Mrs. Hall knows how to be the queen of it. We made that happy home our headquarters.

We stopped Monday night with Rev. Galvin in their pleasant home on South Main St. Mrs. Galvin is a charming lady of the house. She knows how to get along with all the members of the church.

The Richmond Beneficial Insurance Co. has the right of way here. Managers Howard and Miller are business men of stirring qualities. We left no stones unturned in advocating the interest of the "Old Reliable."

Everybody in these parts is with the Fifth Street church and the PLANET. We go from here to Lynchburg, but will be in my pulpit Sunday morning.

W. F. GRAHAM.

The National Baptist S. S. Union.

Owing to the immense crowd that is expected to attend the Union on next Sunday, July 20th, 1902, at 3:30 p. m., the meeting will be held at the Fifth Street Baptist Church, instead of the Macedonia. Excellent programme. Special address by Rev. A. A. Mathis of Atlanta, Ga., representing the National Baptist Publishing Board of Nashville, Tenn. All are invited. Rare treat in store.

E. H. PEYTON, President; E. J. JOHNSON, Ass't Sec.

Do You Know Them?

DANVILLE, Ga., July 12th, 1902. I desire to know the whereabouts of my relatives of James Harvey. She was a slave owned by Beverly Caesar. At the time I was sold I was 19 years of age. My mother was Rhody Harvey, and was owned by Erasmus Gary. My uncle's name was Allen Harvey. I nursed two boys for Mr. and Mrs. Beverly Caesar, Samuel and Edward Caesar, and Joseph Edward Murrell. Mr. Caesar had two daughters, Miss Sarah married Mr. Erasmus Gary, and Miss Josephine married Mr. James Murrell. I had one sister, Malinda, and two brothers, Jerry and Samuel Harvey. Any information will be thankfully received by

Jane Coles, Dawson, Ga.

Richmond, July 15th, 1902. Mrs. Harriet E. Thompson and Miss Bertha, are sojourning at Atlantic City, N. J. They are the guests of Mr. C. C. Thompson, Steward at Hotel Rannymede.

Miss Hattie Moore from New York is spending her vacation with her nephew, Mr. Judson Jackson of Bell Honor, Ave., South Side and her Aunts are making it very pleasant for her with tea parties and parlor entertainments.

Richmond, July 15th, 1902. Mr. Editor: Maceo Lodge, No. 35, is doing a great work, we were favored with the presence of Grand District Deputy, Wyatt, who, with knowledge unsurpassed installed its officers for current term. Sir S. S. Baker Grand Master at Arms, preformed his duty without delay. We the officers and members of Maceo Lodge feel that Sir Baker is a jewel in our midst, after installation of officers we proceeded to initiate eight candidates. After which we adjourned to another room where a table was graced with a heavy burden. After doing justice to the inner man we bid adieu. We were favored with the presence of many officers from various lodges, we thank them for their presence and services, and invite them to call again. H. F. JOHNSON, C. O. R. D. Granderson, K. of R. & S.

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