

TENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Commission of Home Missions to Colored People.

At the last Annual Meeting of the Board of Missions it was resolved, after free and full interchange of opinion, "that renewed interest and increased liberality were demanded by every consideration of Christian duty and national advantage, and should be given by the Church to the Missionary work among the Freedmen." Also, that the system of schools for the Colored people of the South, as established by this Commission, had earned the confidence, and was entitled to the generous support, of Churchmen. It was then felt to be a duty, that while the care of these people was our common heritage, we should not fail to push forward the advances already made; and that if ever as a Church we are to do them good, the work must be undertaken before freedom has degenerated into a still further license, and ignorance shall have still further committed them to ways that cannot be recalled.

At the establishment of this Commission, that was to be apprehended which has proved an actual fact—that they would carry into their new condition many of the evil results of their former state. Although free in one sense, they were still in bondage to superstition, and in slavery to the vices of their recent thralldom. After ten years of patient labor, of faithful self-denying effort, on the part of our Teachers and Missionaries, unsurpassed by any who are engaged in the Church's work, the whole subject is forcing itself, in forms altogether new, upon the attention of our entire people.

But, alas, we can but feel that the evil at our doors has not been met as it should have been; that we have fallen short of our duty by doing only in a limited and very restricted way the great duty before us. Human wisdom has been again at fault, and only after much fruitless discussion is the fact slowly dawning upon our fearful and unbelieving hearts, that the gloom can only be dispelled by the light of Christian charity and love; that if we are to be delivered from the position in which we are placed in relation to these perishing millions, it must be by Christian culture. Schools and churches must do their work, and prepare the way for a more general security, by establishing for this race a more permanent civilization than they ever yet have had.

Those, therefore, who have gone forth under the sanction of our

Executive Committee have aimed to secure by such culture the lasting elevation of those committed to their care—looking beyond immediate results to the time when the taught should in turn themselves be teachers, and carry instruction and the Gospel to those of their own race, who are as yet beyond its limits. As the result of their efforts, the Church has a corps of capable colored teachers of each sex, each year increasing, thirteen colored Ministers, and a proportionate addition to the number of postulants for Orders. Yet with these satisfactory results there is no addition to the meagre offerings of former years; and because of this, the Executive Committee are reluctantly compelled to decline the offers of numerous efficient applicants, willing and prepared to engage in the extension of the work. With this discouragement on the one hand, there are, nevertheless, on the other, facts of an opposite and more cheering character.

The Colored people of the South are beginning to break away from their ignorant and fanatical teachers, and are asking instruction from those around them who are competent to impart it. This is the secret of so many new Sunday-school organizations, participated in by the intelligent and respectable of our Laity, and numerously attended. While the localities are not few where apathy, prejudice, and even hostility are yielding to the spirit of an enlarged charity which yearns for the salvation of souls, and is persistent in its efforts to redeem and save the lost.

SOUTHERN PROPERTY.

The property devoted to this branch of our Missionary work was estimated last year at \$110,000, and is still increasing in value. Within the year a chapel has been purchased at New Berne, N. C., by the friends of the cause, and regular Clerical Services are soon to be commenced. In St. Louis, Mo., a valuable church edifice has been purchased and fitted up, where regular Services are held by the Rev. James E. Thompson, Missionary in charge. Repairs have been made on the properties at Raleigh, the chapel at Richmond, and the High school at Charleston, S. C., to which may be added the completion of St. Mark's Church, Wilmington, N. C.—under the care of Rev. C. O. Brady. The debt of St. Mark's Church, Savannah, has been extinguished. St. Stephen's parish of the same city, recently under the care of Rev. Mr. Atwell, has diminished the debt on its parsonage. The amount at interest in Mobile, Ala., for the erection of a chapel under the care of Rev. Dr. Massey, has been increased. The same of the amount in Jacksonville, Fla., for the contemplated chapel there. Collections have been made for a new chapel in New Orleans, in charge of Rev. Mr. McKinney, the Bishop of the Diocese contributing \$500; to which may be added additional acquisitions to the Church properties at Washington; all of which as heretofore are held in trust by responsible persons, for the benefit of the Colored people in their respective districts.

FINANCES.

The receipts for the year, including a balance from last year of \$827.22, which have passed through our Treasury have been \$14,282.45, while to this may be added the additional sum of \$14,446.75 which has been paid by individuals or congregations directly to our work—giving as the result of the year's offerings the sum of \$27,901.98. Of the former amount \$11,399.80 has been paid to teachers and Missionaries; \$1,500 as salary of Office Secretary; \$220 for rent of office; \$202.76 to Woman's Auxiliary; \$435.41 for printing and SPIRIT OF MISSIONS; and \$358.48, as office, miscellaneous, and travelling expenses; leaving in the hands of our Treasurer, on October 1, \$166.

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS.

The following is a list of the Schools and Missions which have been wholly or in part sustained by this Commission.

1. St. Augustine's Normal School at Raleigh, N. C. Principal, Rev. J. E. C. Smedes. Assistants, George A. C. Cooper, Annie Haywood, Jane Thomas. Number of pupils, 127. Boarders, 36.
2. High School at Charleston, S. C. Teachers, 4. Acting Principal, Mrs. E. Ancrum. Miss E. Johnson, Miss C. A. Dawson, Miss L. W. Peronneau. Scholars, 224.
3. Rev. J. V. Welch, Charleston, Missionary. Sunday-school, 126 Teachers, 10. Services, 283.
4. St. Barnabas School, Wilmington, N. C. Teachers, 3. Mr. Alfred B. Lind, Principal. Assistants, Miss Alice Brady, Mrs. F. S. Jackson. Scholars, 158.
5. St. Mark's Mission, Wilmington, N. C. Rev. C. O. Brady. Sunday-school, 100.
6. St. Augustine's School, New Berne, N. C. Teachers, 2. Miss S. G. Swetland, Principal. Mr. A. Bass. Scholars, 224.
7. St. Joseph's School, Fayetteville, N. C. Teachers, 2. Rev. P. T. Rogers, Principal. Miss Rogers. Scholars, 86. Sunday-school, 30. Teachers, 4.
8. Mission School at Asheville, N. C. Rev. S. V. Berry. Scholars, 120. Sunday-school, 200.
9. St. Augustine's School, Raleigh, N. C. Teacher, Miss A. L. Chapman. Scholars, 70.
10. St. Stephen's Parish and Schools. Rev. Giles B. Cooke, Rector. Assistants, Mrs. G. B. Cooke, Mrs. Caroline Bragg, Miss N. Weddell, Mr. G. C. Sutton. Teachers, 4. Scholars, 150.

11. St. Philip's Chapel and School, Richmond. Rev. Pike Powers, Rector. Teachers, J. T. Cooley, Mrs. Cooley. Scholars, 86. Sunday-school, 85. Teachers, 8.
12. McFarland's Station, Lunenburg Co., Va. Mrs. M. M. Jennings. Scholars, 56.
13. Mission School, Clover, Halifax Co., Va. Teachers, 2. Mrs. Mary E. Miles. 1 Assistant, under supervision of Rev. J. T. Clark. Scholars, 170.
14. Mission of Christ Church, Alexandria. Mr. J. J. Lloyd, Lay Reader. Day-school: Scholars, 99. Sunday-school: Teachers, 7; Scholars, 90.
15. School at Farmville. Mrs. J. P. Lawrence (lately deceased). Sunday-school, 50.
16. Savannah, Georgia, St. Stephen's parish. Rev. J. S. Atwell, Rector. Teachers, 13. Sunday-school, 91.
17. St. Augustine's Mission and School. Rev. J. R. Love, Missionary. Day-school teachers, 2. Miss E. E. Adlington, Miss F. F. Lowe. Scholars, 75. Sunday-school Teachers, 6. Scholars, 90.
18. Canfield School, Memphis, Tenn. Principal, Rev. J. B. McConnell. Scholars, 100. Sunday-school, 40.
19. Rev. G. H. Jackson, Memphis. Missionary.
20. Rev. W. K. Douglas. Sunday-schools, 3. Scholars, 300. Industrial Schools, 2, under supervision of Miss Wharton.
21. St. Louis, Missouri. Chapel and School. Rev. Jas. E. Thompson. Sunday-school, 55. Day-school Scholars, 55.
22. Mission and School at Nebraska City. Rev. W. H. Wilson. Sunday-school Teachers, 4. Scholars, 75.
23. Louisville, Ky. Ch. of Our Merciful Saviour. Missionary, Rev. J. T. Helm. Teachers, 2. Scholars, 100. Sunday-school Teachers, 6. Scholars, 75. Sustained by a Presbyter of the Diocese.
24. Hoffman School, Frankfort, Kentucky. Teacher, 1. Scholars, 41.
25. Fernandina, Fla. Rev. O. P. Thackara. Lay Reader, 1.
26. Jacksonville, Fla. Under charge of Rev. R. H. Weller.
27. New Orleans, Mission. Rev. W. G. McKinney.
28. New Orleans, Mission, Sam'l. M. Wiggins, Lay Reader.
29. Washington, D. C. Rev. A. Crummell, D. D. Missions, 3. Teacher, Alexander C. Carter. Sunday-Schools, 3. Teachers, 15. Scholars, 153.
30. Pittsburgh, Pa. St. Cyprians Mission. Rev. W. F. Floyd. Sunday-school, 26.
31. Rev. N. Badger, Fort Concho, Texas. Scholars, 40. Sunday-school, 50.

Schools and Missions, 31, exclusive of Night Schools and schools open only a portion of the year. Teachers, 54. Scholars, 3,000.

The result of the year's labor at our several stations is apparent from the Reports which have been furnished by the Missionaries and Teachers, from which we give the following selections :

ST. AUGUSTINE'S NORMAL SCHOOL, RALEIGH, N. C.

REV. J. E. C. SMEDES, Principal.

In the session of 1874-5, which began Oct. 1st and ended June 20th, thirty-six boarding scholars and ninety-one day scholars were registered, the number of the male scholars of either class somewhat exceeding that of the female scholars. In this number were three candidates for Holy Orders (of whom one was from this Diocese and two from Tennessee), and three young men in training for candidature (of whom, one is from this Diocese, one from Washington, D. C., and one from Tennessee). Also in this number were twelve or fifteen young men and women who are employed during the vacation in teaching in the district schools of this State. Besides the principal, three salaried assistants were employed in the work of tuition. By their faithful labors through the term, a marked advance was effected in the scholarship of our pupils. Of these, a few can now sustain themselves creditably in examinations which test familiarity with the ordinary text-books, in arithmetic, algebra, grammar, rhetoric, natural philosophy, Latin and Greek grammar, Cæsar, Virgil and Xenophon. At the close of the session, Bishop Lyman and four or five of the Clergy and laity of this Diocese and Virginia, who visited the school, and were present at a number of recitations, were greatly surprised and pleased at the proficiency of several of our students in these branches of learning. They also commended the deportment of them all, and rejoiced to find them neither restive under the yoke of the daily Morning and Evening Prayer of the Church, nor when examined upon the Catechism, giving unsatisfactory evidence of the fruit of long-continued and thorough catechising. At the Episcopal Visitation in May, *twelve* were confirmed ; and since June, 1873, *thirty* of the scholars have, by this Apostolic rite, been added to the communion of the Church.

The St. Augustine Normal School and Collegiate Institute is the only endowed Church School in the United States that receives colored children and adults as boarding or day pupils, and undertakes to give them a more advanced training than is furnished in the common schools. Its character and claims are not sufficiently known to the Church. Situated within a mile of the capital of North Carolina, it possesses a dwelling for its Principal and a group of school-buildings, erected at a cost of fifteen thousand dollars, and standing in a beautiful oak grove which belongs to its landed domain of nearly a hundred acres. It has a fund, the income of which is sufficient for insurance and repairs, and for the salaries of the Principal and assistant teachers. Its trustees are the Bishop, the Assistant Bishop, and a number of the leading Clergy and laity of North Caro-

lina. Its advantages and opportunities for furthering the work of the Church among the colored people, are limited by the very narrow means at its disposal from its own income for aiding meritorious students who seek preparation for teaching in Church Schools or for the Holy Ministry. The receipts on account of board from boarding pupils, though they have steadily increased until they have reached almost eight hundred dollars for the session, still do not nearly cover the cost of maintaining the boarding department. No charge is made for tuition, and the very low monthly rate of eight dollars for board is, in the great majority of cases, reduced one-third or one-half. The class for whose benefit the school has been established, are as yet unable to pay higher rates. No charge whatever has been made in the case of those who are preparing for the Ministry, and of a few other very deserving scholars. But I grieve to say that many worthy applicants for admission as boarding pupils were rejected during the past two sessions, because the school, from its unaided resources, could support no larger number either of beneficiaries or of half-rate boarders.

ST. MARK'S, WILMINGTON, N. C.,

REV. C. O. BRADY.

We cannot do better in connection with our work at this point, than quote from a letter, by the Rev. Dr. Watson, giving an account of the consecration of St. Mark's Church, of which the Rev. Mr. Brady is in charge.

On Friday, June 18, was consecrated by the Bishop of North Carolina—the Rt. Rev. Thos. Atkinson, D. D.—in the city of Wilmington, North Carolina, St. Mark's (colored) Church.

This being the first Church consecrated in the Diocese for colored people, a corresponding interest attached itself to the ceremony. The Bishop was assisted in the Services by the Rev. Messrs. A. A. Watson, G. Patterson and T. M. Ambler, Priests, and Chas. O. Brady and P. T. Rogers (colored), Deacons.

The congregation was large, and the Communion full. Though upon a week-day, the Church was filled. The music, led by the regular choir, but joined in heartily by the whole congregation, was excellent and Church-like. The organist handles his instrument agreeably and judiciously, and the choir contains some very good voices.

The responses by the congregation, both in the Versicles and in the Psalter, were prompt and general; the whole Service correctly rendered, devout and hearty.

The edifice is sixty-one feet by thirty-five feet outside measurement: Height to the ridge, forty-one feet; to the eaves, twenty feet. It is of brick, and Church-like in style. The designs were furnished by Emerson and Fehmer, of Boston, Mass. The roof is sharp, the chancel recessed, the windows pointed Gothic.

Upon the north-west corner is a small tower, fifty feet in height to the base of the cross, and furnished with a bell. The plan provides for a larger tower upon the south-west corner. But that is still in the future. The chancel is toward the east, and is furnished with Altar, Credence, and Bishop's chair, all of chestnut. A suitable Lectern has not yet been obtained; that in use being only a temporary piece of furniture. Possibly this communication may meet the eye of some one who will think it a privilege to supply the want.

The corner-stone was laid March 23, 1871. Since that time, the work has been steadily carried on as the funds have come in; always upon the principle of not running into debt.

The whole amount received and expended thus far, inclusive of the cost of the ground, has been about \$6,000. Of this a part has been raised by the congregation itself; a part has been contributed by its friends among the other Churchmen of Wilmington; and we may thankfully add, a part by other friends who do not call themselves Churchmen. But, to a considerable extent, the congregation has been indebted for its success in this undertaking, to the good will and liberality of Churchmen in other parts of the country. Particular mention should be made of the very liberal contributions from New York, Boston and Washington City, from which sources about \$4,000 have been received.

In December, 1869, Rev. Charles O. Brady, the present minister, took charge of the work, and he has ever since wrought with great earnestness and success. Out of the whole amount contributed as above, about \$4,500 have been due to his exertions; the greater part, by far, of the contributions from the North having come through his hands. Meantime he has not neglected the spiritual building. Upon taking charge in 1869, he found about fifty communicants. During the five and a half years which have since elapsed, there have been added by Confirmation one hundred and thirty-seven. The present number of communicants, inclusive of seventeen confirmed since the Diocesan Convention, is one hundred and sixty-seven.

The writer of this has been deeply impressed by the attendance at the Communion at certain times, especially at the Easter celebration.

Rev. Mr. Brady has this year presented two classes for Confirmation, of seventeen each. He takes considerable pains in their preparation, teaching them, for months in advance, the nature of the step they are about to take.

The work deserves the countenance and support of the Church throughout the land. Nor, while held so thoroughly in hand by the present Bishop of North Carolina, need there be any anxiety as to its wise, conservative and thoroughly loyal management. May God continue the blessing He has hitherto so largely and manifestly bestowed upon it. May He raise up more friends to help, and above all send still larger measures of

His Blessed Spirit to make the work vital and thorough—real within as well as promising without.

DRY GROVE, MISS.

REV. W. K. DOUGLAS.

Very many things have co-operated to prevent my writing to you. Chiefly I believe the delay has arisen from having so much to say. During the past year I have maintained, with as much regularity as the circumstances admitted, three Services at points ten miles apart. At each there is a Sunday-school. I regret, however, to write concerning the Sunday-school at Raymond, which at one time seemed the most promising of all, that it has been suspended; for a time only I trust, owing to the protracted illness of the lady who had, with great energy, undertaken the work, and the departure of the Rev. Mr. Jackson who officiated to them once a month. The distance of this place prevents my doing the parochial work unassisted, necessary to keep this congregation together.

At Terry is the admirable Sunday-school so wonderfully successful under the charge of Miss Wharton. This is a model work. In connection with the Sunday-school are two Industrial Schools held Saturday, one for instructing the younger girls in plain sewing, and presided over by Miss W. herself, the other to teach shoe-making, under the superintendence of a good colored workman she has hired for the purpose. In connection with this work I have recently baptized, on different occasions, nine children and one adult. I was expected also to perform a marriage, but a sad circumstance prevented my meeting the appointment.

It was my privilege to visit a communicant of this congregation who had been severely, and it was first thought fatally, injured. I was deeply impressed with the thoroughness of the religious teaching he had received. His resignation under the trying circumstances, and patience under severe pain, were most touching. At the time of the accident he was alone, and when lying helpless on the ground, doubtful whether assistance or death would first come, he repeated the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and when found, was lifting up his voice to God in the Collects which he had been taught.

At Dry Grove the Sunday-school which has not been interrupted for five years is now carried on by two of our candidates for Holy Orders. Since the departure of Rev. Mr. Jackson I have endeavored to hold, myself, a monthly Service, but there has been too many interruptions to achieve anything. I have baptized one child and officiated at six marriages. The adult population are universally Baptists of the strongest type.

This Sunday-school was commenced by a member of my family. On the arrival of Mr. Jackson it was transferred to his care. When the public school building was erected, which was also used by him in conjunction

with the Baptist preachers as a meeting house, the Sunday-school was removed there, still superintended by him. On his removal I gave it in charge of one of the young men here. It has continued to increase both in numbers and efficiency. Last week, however, was the time for electing the Trustees of the Public Schools, and the evening before a colored man of the neighborhood called on me and said, that in connection with the meeting for that election the people would decide who should carry on the Sunday-school. There had recently been a very powerful Baptist revival, and I had become aware that the colored Baptist ministers were jealous of our school. I knew human nature and how light the memory of past benefits weighed against present interests and future expectations. I saw nothing before us but the removal, if any could be found faithful, to our own buildings. But I thought it best not to slight the invitation, and went at the hour appointed. The school-house was crowded, and myself the sole white man there except our superintendent, who came with me, was called to the chair. A leading colored man, a Justice of the Peace and a Baptist preacher too, though not the minister of this congregation, was chosen Secretary. I stated calmly what I understood to be the position, told them I knew they were all Baptists, that I had found when I came there neither Sunday nor any other school, that what I had done all knew, for it had been open to the sight of all. A leading Baptist then arose, and with the fluency of his race, proceeded in a strain of compliment to myself, but went on to say that they were all Baptists, and it was only right that their children should be brought up in their way. And that it was important for their Sunday-school to belong to the Baptist Sunday-school Association. Some little discussion ensued, when I turned to the Secretary, who had shown himself kindly disposed, and said I would ask him a question, "Have you ever known, disconnected with political movements, a white congregation (of any denomination) to be addressed by a colored minister?" "I never knew but one, the Church of the Holy Comforter, Dry Grove." "Did you ever see a white minister of any denomination, not engaged in politics, seat a colored minister by his side, and call upon him to assist in the Services?" "Yes, I have seen one, Bishop Green of the Episcopal Church."

"Setting aside those movements which are obviously political, what religious body is most active in the welfare of the colored race?"

"The Episcopal Church."

I then said that as the question was an important one, I would, lest there should be any mistake, put it by a rising vote, "Shall the Sunday-school go on as it has done?" As one man the whole crowd rose to their feet. The circumstances had all conspired to make me look for a different result, and I felt that it was the strongest possible testimony to the good our school is doing. I have now in my mind two or three young

men who will, I think, do to be encouraged to become Candidates for Holy Orders.

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

REV. THOS. G. THOMPSON.

Please pardon my long silence. I ought to have given you an account of my work in this city long since, but, knowing as I did that our Rt. Rev. Father in God (the Bishop of the Diocese) kept you constantly informed of its progress, I have refrained to do so until now. I was ordained Trinity Sunday, May 31, 1874, and commenced the work assigned me about the 2d Sunday after Trinity.

The field was altogether a new one, and the prejudice against the work was very strong, our people being mostly Methodists, Baptists or attendants on those churches; but, however, after many efforts I succeeded in getting quite a number of persons to attend our Sunday-school and afternoon Services in the chapel of Trinity Church, where (through the kindness of the rector and vestry of said church) we have held our Sunday-school and Services almost regularly ever since. Much interest has been manifested by those who attend; many persons, old and young, have learned to find the places and go through the Services readily. The music of the church has been conducted principally by our own people, ably assisted by the Rev. Edwin Coan, rector of Trinity.

The Sunday-school numbers between sixty and seventy scholars. I have baptized sixteen persons and presented three classes to the Bishop for Confirmation. Our day-school has been a success, numbering over fifty pupils, but for the want of proper accommodations, has failed to benefit the numbers it would otherwise have benefitted. The room now used is entirely too small for the purpose, is poorly lighted, and illy ventilated. The prejudice which manifested itself so strongly at first, I am happy to say, is fast dying out, and a more kindly feeling for the Mission prevails. I feel that the Lord blesses and sustains me in my efforts, and I am encouraged to continue His holy work. This letter would be incomplete if I did not make mention collectively of those associated with me in this field of labor; all have cheerfully assisted in making the Mission a success, and also the Rev. Clergy of this city, and many generous Church people of this and other cities, have in many ways given substantial aid and encouragement to the work. I am more than gratified to be able (in this my first year's report) to say, that through the assiduous efforts of our much beloved Bishop, we are about to secure a church building of our own, where we can have Sunday morning and evening Service, being hours more convenient than the afternoon Services now held. Also where our day-school will be properly accommodated, thereby assuring the success of the Mission.

The building spoken of is a Jewish synagogue, corner of 6th and Cere

Streets, which cost \$9,000 when built, and is completely furnished with sittings for three hundred and fifty persons on main floor and gallery. The basement is divided into two school-rooms, and contains an excellent furnace, gas-fixtures, etc. The lot on which the building stands is seventy feet front and seventy-five feet deep.

LATER.—We are happy to state that the purchase of the building alluded to was consummated by the Bishop, and which he reports “as a complete property in every way suited for the Mission, and all that was needed to secure its rapid growth,” to quote his own words. The church thus acquired is named the Church of the Good Samaritan, and is a memorial of the late Robert Minturn of New York. The first payment has been made on the property, and a portion of the money is on hand towards the second. If any friends of Christian work among the colored people are willing to help in this critical effort of our Church among the 25,000 colored people of this city, I should be rejoiced and relieved in receiving and acknowledging such assistance. We will do all that is possible to help the Mission here, and the colored people are straining themselves to the utmost to secure such a property, but they are few and poor, and so can do little.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S MISSION SCHOOL, SAVANNAH, GA.

REV. J. R. LOVE.

The third year of the existence of this school expired on the 30th June last. If the moral and spiritual good, of which it has been the medium during that period, could be estimated by dollars and cents, *thousands* would be set down to its credit.

The imparting of secular and religious instruction to the Freedmen in a decidedly Church Institution, and in a city affording so many facilities for *free* education as this, is an onerous task.

Added to this, the habits of the colored people themselves, are as yet against their progress. One of these is the habit of floating about from one place to another, ever changing their schools, their churches and their homes. The natural consequence of these frequent changes is the difficulty of retaining possession of the pupils long enough to make a lasting impression on their minds; and when the effort is made in the face of the city free schools (as is the case with us), the operations of a parish school are sometimes so encumbered as to render the results incommensurate with the labor expended.

St. Augustine's Mission School, however, under the blessing of a kind Providence, has held its way during the last school year. Its number of pupils has not decreased. Their proficiency in the studies prescribed them is marked and general; and their attachment to the Church and her Services is evidenced by their presence in the Sunday-school every

Lord's Day morning, although the day-school is closed for vacation.

Seventy-five (75) is the number of pupils in the day-school, ninety (90) being the number in the Sunday-school, with a staff of six teachers. One of these taught here, is now very helpful to us in the working of the school, and with a little encouragement will make a good teacher.

The great *desideratum* now is a school-house. We have none. A part of my own hired house is used (and has been nearly a year and a half, much to my personal and domestic inconvenience) for school purposes. The disadvantage to Church work arising out of this deficiency may easily be realized, if one set against it two large public (city) schools with every necessary requisite in the shape of furniture, etc., etc.

The occupancy of our new chapel (large and commodious as it is) has materially helped to make strong our stakes, to increase our number of worshippers, to make our Services interesting, and to win for us acknowledgment by the numerous Sectarian congregations by which we are surrounded. If this work is not abandoned for want of means to support the Missionary and teachers, the next school year, God willing, ought to yield us a rich harvest. Such is our prayer.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, SAVANNAH, GA.

REV. J. S. ATWELL.

After having been engaged in Missionary labors in the South during the whole of my ministerial life—a period of more than eight years—I have, by Divine guidance I hope, changed my field of labor for a northern clime. This does not signify, however, that I have lost faith, or am at all discouraged as regards planting the Cross, or inculcating the doctrines of the Church, among my less favored brethren in the South. Far from it; for having been the first Missionary ordained in a southern Diocese for that special work, *i. e.*, among free and freedmen, I could not easily forget the object of "my first love," or be indifferent to the cause in which my first efforts were enlisted.

I have from time to time, ere this, given a minute report of all the work in which I have been engaged, and at this time I feel that only a general review is necessary.

Commencing in Kentucky with about *five or six* communicants, I left after a year and a half of labor, about *twenty-six*, and two Church schools in connection with the Mission—one in Louisville and the other in a village adjoining called Limerick. How far the truth of the passage "Cast thy bread upon the waters," etc., is confirmed, may now be seen in the result accruing from the philanthropic and liberal spirit of Rev. Dr. Norton, in that field in which my first Mission was inaugurated. Beside my labors in Louisville, I also collected funds abroad for the erection of the Hoffman School-house in Frankfort. The good resulting from this effort is better learned through the reports of that school.

From Kentucky "my lot was cast" in Petersburg, Va. Here "the lines were in more pleasant places;" but still a good deal of uphill work. The result after four and a half years' labor is as follows: a regularly organized Sunday-school; a Church school numbering one hundred pupils; sixty-six communicants; the Church edifice improved, a rectory built and other improvements greatly enhancing the value of the church lot. My successor there had the opportunity of adding his "Normal School" to this Mission, the way being paved for a successful work beyond anything that I ever enjoyed in my ministerial experience, for it has always been my lot to lay the foundation. May the work continue to prosper, and to God be the praise. During my ministry in this field I frequently held Services and preached in Norfolk and Richmond, in the latter city for a longer period.

From Petersburg, I accepted a call to Savannah, Ga. The parish—St. Stephen's—is a respectable one of many years standing. After two years, I left with many fond regrets, for St. Philip's, N. Y. During my ministry in Savannah, 75 were added by Baptism—15 of these being adults; 39 were added by Confirmation, so that the number of communicants increased to 138; Sunday-school pupils, 91; Sunday-school teachers, 13. The Church property enhanced in value; for I was enabled by appeals at home and abroad to repair the roof of the edifice, stucco the outer walls, put a new fence around the lot, and make the rectory tenable. Value of Church building, \$7,000; value of Rectory, \$3,500. This brings to a close my record in the southern field; and I venture to express the opinion, that what has been accomplished under adverse circumstances in the past, is an earnest of what may yet be done.

ST. STEPHEN'S CHURCH, PETERSBURG, VA.

REV. GILES B. COOKE.

The schools under my charge opened on the 1st of October, 1874, and closed on the 30th of June, 1875. During this past session of nine months, the corps of teachers consisted of myself, Miss Hettie Weddell, Mrs. Giles B. Cooke, Mr. G. C. Sutton, and Mrs. C. W. Bragg. The number of scholars taught in the four schools was one hundred and fifty (150). The schools are divided off into four departments, as follows, viz., Normal, presided over by myself, assisted by Miss Weddell; High School, in charge of Mrs. Cooke; Intermediate Department, taught by Mr. Sutton for one half session; and the Parish School, in charge of Mrs. C. W. Bragg. In addition to these teachers, I required some of the Normal scholars to teach in the Parish School, so that they might have some experience in teaching, before they were employed as regular teachers. More than that, some of the teachers are engaged in the Public Schools only for five months; these return to my Normal department about March, take a more extended course until the end of

the session, and also practice teaching under my supervision ; thus thoroughly preparing them for their duties as teachers when they return to take charge of their respective public schools in the following fall. Last fall I procured situations for, and sent out as teachers, ten of the graduating class of 1873-'74, named John Pollard, ten months to Fauquier Co. ; Julia Morgan, five months to Roanoke Co. ; Eliza Mahood, five months to Roanoke Co. ; Margaret Cook, five months to Surry Co. ; Ellen Parker, five months to Pittsylvania Co. ; Flora Davis, five months to Pittsylvania Co. ; Luvania Layton, five months to Pittsylvania Co. ; Florence Stewart, five months to Pittsylvania Co. ; Mary West, five months to Pittsylvania Co. ; Nannie Hill, Westmoreland Co., ten months. Average age of these scholars, nineteen. Before last fall I had sent out seven teachers, making seventeen in all to the present time. I have already engaged positions for four of the graduating class of 1874-'75, in Matthews County, to begin their career as teachers next fall, and expect to send out several more at the same time. I am gratified to be able to say that the children in all the departments have, generally speaking, made great improvement since last session. Besides the regular English course and mathematics, in the Normal department older scholars have advanced considerably in Latin and French. The parish scholars, the little children, are thoroughly taught, and are quite proficient in the catechism. In connection with my every day schools, I have a large and flourishing Sunday-school, numbering one hundred and four scholars at the close of the past session. These children are catechised regularly every first Sunday in the month. At present I have two Sunday-schools, one in the morning under the superintendence of Mr. Paulus Moort, a Normal scholar and Lay Reader, and the other in the afternoon under Mr. Peter A. Morgan, Lay Reader also, and a student at the Divinity school in West Philadelphia. Both of these young men are doing a good work here at present. Mr. Morgan returns to the Divinity School next fall. Though the times are hard and the scholars are poor, yet they keep up a custom that began with my Normal school, viz., of contributing to the cause of their race, both in Africa and at home. Besides, they have given something towards the Christmas tree of last December, and the annual picnic held 30th of June last. The Christmas tree and the annual picnic at the close of the session are mostly provided by friends, and are always looked forward to by the children with pleasurable anxiety. The final examinations were satisfactory to myself, the teachers, and to Rev. Pike Powers, Honorary Secretary for Virginia to your Committee. He was also present at the closing exercises on Monday night, 28th of June, when I presented a gold star medal for *punctuality* to one of the scholars, named Carrie Anderson, who had not been *late or absent* from the beginning to the end of the session, 1874-'75. In my class of *eleven*

confirmed in March last, *eight* of the candidates were from the older scholars of the schools. Surely these schools are doing great good, when it is considered that in two years *they* have given seventeen well qualified teachers to the colored schools in Virginia, and have contributed thirteen communicants to St. Stephen's in the same length of time. But for my schools, the Church work under my charge would have gone down long ago, under the difficulties with which it has always been laboring. Those of my congregation who stand fast amid persecution from their own race, and the indifference of the whites as to their cause, even among our own communion, surely deserve the sympathy of all good men everywhere, and will surely be rewarded by Him who is no respecter of persons. J

The foregoing annual statements from our Teachers and Missionaries, from which we only have quoted in part, show conclusively what our Commission might accomplish were more liberal means placed at our disposal. We cannot enlarge without great financial risk, which, in view of our past experience, would not be wise. We strive to owe no man, and to do the best with the means placed at our disposal.

CLOTHING AND BOOKS.

Twenty-one donations in clothing have been received and forwarded to our various stations, all useful, and much of it valuable. Its value is always appreciated, as the weather for brief intervals is very inclement in the South. Our teachers can always dispose of any articles that may be furnished, and we again appeal to the liberal of our communion to continue their gifts to these destitute ones. Several packages of books and reading matter have been forwarded to the various stations where they were as always most gratefully received. One large package of books from Rev. Dr. Dyer for Rev. Mr. Crummell of Washington; from the American Bible Society five hundred copies of the New Testament; two hundred and fifty Prayer Books from New York Bible and Common Prayer Book Society; also package of the same for Miss A. G. Swetland, of New Berne, N. C.

CONCLUSION.

A more extended experience and an enlarged study of the field, while they tend materially to encourage us, also tend to check that disposition to generalization which in the past has been so prolific of evil, both in regard to people and sections. When therefore it is rumored that the African race has no friends in certain large areas of our common country, or that in areas of equal extent all the colored people are merged in Fetichism, and so hopelessly superstitious as to be beyond the reach of Christian effort, we are to remember, that while it may be sadly true of neighborhoods or individuals, it is not true of all; but that even in the

region where the worst condition of things in this respect prevails, there are many who have never bowed the knee to Baal, and who desire the more perfect way. Also, that when the statement reaches us that the negroes are barbarous or lawless; that the whites are unreasonable and unjust—we shall do well to remember as an offset, that those who have really visited the South and seen the two races in their own homes, cannot fail to recall within the range of their personal observation, a catalogue of kind and tender deeds on the part of the white man; and many of pure gratitude, honest dealing, grateful consideration, and intelligent piety on the part of the black.

We are willing to concede that the piety of the recent slave has more emotion than that of the educated Caucasian, and that very likely he has an intellectual plane of his own, which being dissimilar to ours, cannot well be compared, and this may be why in some things to the stranger he is at times so hard to understand. Yet in regard to the expression of our duty towards him, we feel that we cannot do better than to quote the language of one of our Rev. Fathers, now gone to his rest, who in his life time made his needs a favorite and special study—the venerable Bishop Meade of Virginia: “I consider it, he says, to be our duty to meliorate the condition of this portion of our fellow-beings, afflicted, degenerate, but highly gifted; capable of improvement, and as capable of intense suffering and highest joy. Is not this nation indebted to that unhappy race, and to that unhappy country from which they or their ancestors are torn, and which now lies lacerated and bleeding at every pore?”

Before the nations of the earth, our conduct in this matter of their Christian culture, is regarded as an index of our own religious character; while, if ignorance is to be regarded as the parent of crime with races that have lived under influences favorable to their highest development, how much more in those whose opportunities have been less, and who are by some supposed to be inferior in all moral and Christian impulses. “Whoso hath this world’s goods, and seeth his brother have need, and shutteth up his compassion from him, how dwelleth the love of God in him!”

Respectfully submitted, by order of the Executive Committee :

CHAS. H. HALL,

Chairman.

C. C. TIFFANY,

Corresponding Secretary.

WELLINGTON E. WEBB,

Office Secretary.

