

School and College.

WHAT THE NEGRO IS DOING FOR HIMSELF.

THE EDUCATIONAL WORK OF THE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

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THE educational work carried on by Negroes is a result and outcome of that done by our great friends and organizations among the whites. We, therefore, hasten to express a lively sense of gratitude toward those who have seen our necessities, and sacrificed so largely in money and personal service to relieve them.

The African Methodist Episcopal Church was organized at Philadelphia, in 1787, and held its first General Conference in 1816. At present, its membership, including ministers, is 500,000. As might naturally be supposed, the great majority of these are in the Southern States. The operations of the Church, however, include the entire country, with considerable interests in Canada, Africa and the Islands of the Sea.

It has twelve bishops, who labor by districts, a Secretary of Missions, a Secretary of Finance, a Secretary of Sunday-schools, and a Secretary of Education; also two editors of official newspapers, and editor of the *Quarterly Review*.

The head and front of our educational work is the venerable Bishop Daniel A. Payne, D.D., LL.D. He was born in Charleston, S. C., 1811, and from childhood enjoyed good educational advantages. As early as 1829 he was a school-teacher in that city. In 1835 he entered the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Penn., to prepare himself for wider usefulness to his people, as preacher and educator. Along these lines he has always been an enthusiastic worker, and now past eighty years of age is actively engaged as Bishop and Dean of Payne Theological Seminary at Wilberforce University.

Next to Bishop Payne should be ranked the Rev. John G. Mitchell, D.D., a graduate of Oberlin College, and first principal of Wilberforce University. He is now Professor of Theology in the Payne Seminary. Next is Prof. W. S. Scarborough, LL.D., Ph.D., born a slave in Georgia, also a graduate of Oberlin, and for fifteen years Professor of Greek and Latin in the Collegiate Department of Wilberforce University. He is the author of a Greek book which is used in both white and Negro schools. At present he is Professor of Ancient Languages in Payne Seminary.

Our first attempt to plant a school was in 1847, near Columbus, O. It was named the Union Seminary, a Manual Labor School, and was the first effort by Negroes to establish an industrial institution. The Rev. John M. Brown, who had prepared himself at Wilbraham Academy and Oberlin College, was the first Principal, with Miss Francis Ellen Watkins, Assistant. Professor Brown is now Bishop, and honored with the titles D.D., D.C.L., while Miss Watkins is now Mrs. Harper, and fills one of the first places among American women as poet and worker for tem-

perance and other reforms. The work done in this school embraced agriculture with other industrial features, as well as scientific and theological training. It continued in operation till 1863, when, on account of the situation arising out of the War, the Methodist Episcopal Church, which had established Wilberforce University, near Xenia, O., for the higher education of Negroes, judged it best to place that institution under our management. Through Bishop Payne, the late Bishop James A. Shorter and others, it was purchased for \$10,000; the Union Seminary was merged into it, and Wilberforce at once commenced her difficult but successful career. Out of thirty-eight schools under our management this is the only one situated in a Northern State; and it has furnished teachers for nearly all our leading schools at the South.

The status of schools reported at our General Conference at Philadelphia, in May, 1892, was as follows:

NAME.	LOCATION.	Teachers.	Students.	Graduates.	Value of Property.
Wilberforce University	Wilberforce, O.....	16	215	146	\$121,000
Allen University.....	Columbia, S. C.....	14	498	136	50,000
Morris Brown College.....	Atlanta, Ga.....	7	450	1	75,000
Paul Quinn College.....	Waco, Tex.....	12	215	14	60,000
Edward Waters College	Jacksonville, Fla...	7	167	5	25,000
Kittrell <i>Sclen. and Indus. Inst.</i>	Kittrells, N. C.....	4	78	7	8,500
Bethel University.....	Arkadelphia, Ark..	2	100	5	4,000
Payne University.....	Selma, Ala.....	5	85	.....	2,000
J. P. Campbell College.	Vicksburg, Miss...	3	75	.....	30,000
Western University.....	Kansas City, Kan..	.....	.....	.....	100,000
Slater College.....	Memphis, Tenn.....	3	47	.....	1,500
Turner Institute.....	Shelbyville, Tenn..	5	117	49	900
Payne High School.....	Cuthbert, Ga.....	3	143	4	2,000
McIntosh Institute.....	McIntosh, Ga.....	3	88	.....	800
Dossell School.....	P't au Prince, Hayti	5	100	.....	3,000
Mickerson Institute.....	Cartersville, Ga.....	.....	.....	.....	400
Shorter Institute.....	Stephens, Ark.....	3	120	.....	1,000
Delhi Agricultural Inst.	Delhi, La.....	3	75	3	6,000
Wayman Institute.....	Harrodsburg, Ky...	5	62	.....	1,500
Flegler High School.....	Marion, S. C.....	3	166	.....	1,500
Ward Institute.....	Natchez, Miss.....	3	95	.....	1,500
Nassau School.....	New Providence, Bahama Islands..	1	150	.....	.....
St. James' Academy...	New Orleans, La...	1	40	.....	5,000
Harper Institute.....	Baton Rouge, La...	2	70	.....	6,000
Shorter High School...	Millen, Ga.....	2	120	.....	1,500
Macon Institute.....	Macon, Ga.....	1	63	.....	400
Cornelius Sampson Inst	Wilmington, N. C..	4	106	.....	250
Zion Institute.....	Freetown, S. Leone, W.C.A.....	3	263	.....	1,000
Sarles' School.....	Africa.....	1	19	.....	.....
Magbelley School.....	Africa.....	1	39	.....	.....
School.....	Muskogee, Ind. Ter.	2	38	.....	650
School.....	Vinita, Ind. Ter....	1	30	.....	500
School.....	Eufaula, Ind. Ter..	1	25	.....	.....
School.....	Blue Cr'k, Ind. Ter.	2	40	.....	3,075
School.....	Blue Jacket, I. Ter.	1	25	.....	75
School.....	Wagner, Ind. Ter..	1	20	.....	100
Collegiate Institute...	Hamilton, Bermuda Islands.....	2	60	.....	600
Payne Theo. Seminary.	Wilberforce, O.....	3	10	.....	10,000
Total.....	Schools, 38.....	134	4,014	370	\$502,600

The lands belonging to these schools range from one to sixty acres each. Some of these are extremely valuable on account of fertility, beauty of scenery, healthful situation and mineral wealth. The buildings, in many cases, are substantial brick structures with modern improvements, while those schools in extreme poverty are nobly struggling and praying for relief.

The courses of study in our schools reach from the primary to the professional branches, including Normal Work, Music, Law, Theology, Mechanical and Agricultural training for boys, with Domestic and Household instruction for girls. These departments are made more efficient as, from year to year, we become more able to meet the demands for modern appliances.

In 1884 the Educational Department was reorganized by the General Conference at Baltimore, and the educational office was placed at Athens, Ga. Since that, a majority of the schools have come into existence, and more healthful life has been infused into all our educational efforts.

One feature of the educational provision of 1884 was the setting apart of the third Sunday in September each year as Endowment Day, when all the churches and Sabbath-schools take collections for education. The income from this source has now reached an average of a little more than \$10,000 a year.

At the reorganization the management of the educational interests of the African Methodist Episcopal Church started out to raise one million dollars for education. This was done to afford ample rallying ground to our members and friends, as well as to fix a point for study in seeing how long it will take us to reach that amount. We began eight years ago. Since then the combined collections for education in the African Methodist Episcopal Church amount to \$388,499.73, the average receipts at present being upward of \$60,000 a year.

Considerable amounts have been given by whites to Wilberforce University, and Professor Hawkins, of Kittrell, N. C., has met with some encouragement among them; but with these two exceptions, I believe that \$10,000 will cover the entire amount given, in eight years, by whites to all our other schools. These institutions are right in the South, and they are sustained, managed and controlled by Negroes.

Bishop Arnett says that besides these cash collections, our patrons have an additional expense of at least \$75 per year, for each of our 4,014 students, which for eight years will foot up \$2,408,400. Add to this the amount in cash, \$388,499.73, and we have as the total expended by the African Methodist Episcopal Church for education, in eight years, the sum of \$2,796,899.73, a tolerable showing of what the Negro in this Church is doing for himself.

ATHENS, GA.