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THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY

JULY, 1916



A CHURCH WHERE THERE ARE MEN—ARMENIAN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, TROY, N. Y.

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NEW SERIES
VOL. 8 No. 4

C. J. RYDER, D. D., *Managing Editor*

E. H. HAMES, *Business Manager*

THE SET OF THE SAIL

One ship sails east and another sails west
With the very same winds that blow
'Tis the set of the sails, and not the gales,
That tells them the way to go.

It is as true of churches as it is of ships. Whether a church secures the advantages of spiritual currents depends upon the way in which it relates itself to them.

The proposal for celebrating the Pilgrim Tercentenary has been received with enthusiasm. That enthusiasm constitutes a wind in the spiritual atmosphere. If a church sets its sails properly that force will send it forward, or the sails may be so trimmed as to send the church backwards and it may be possible for a church to cast anchor and remain unmoved.

Each church will do well to make its plans very definitely to take advantage of this added force. The pastor will naturally prepare to preach about the Puritan Movement, the Pilgrim principles, the outstanding characters of the pilgrimage, the early days in America, the social Pilgrim ideals, the application of those principles to our social conditions, etc. In short the pastor will prepare a definite plan to take advantage of this movement.

Then the whole church will make definite efforts to add new members. It is not improbable that at least twice as many members may be added to our churches simply because we set ourselves definitely to the task. Likewise there are young people of the finest qualities who by definite effort may be enrolled in the army of the Lord as ministers, missionaries and other Christian workers. Let the pastor and his associates select one or more of the most likely of his young people and in a natural but persistent way interest them in Christian service as a life work.

Finally, no finer spiritual service can be rendered to our people than to cultivate the Christ-like spirit of benevolence. Make definite plans to raise in your church not less than the entire apportionment, and when the call comes for the great permanent fund your people will be ready to make sacrificial gifts to this great object. Set your sails!

C. E. B.

church since the first of the year. Many of the accessions were heads of families some representing substantial citizens of the colored race.

The collection which amounted to over \$400.00 will be used to pay off the local indebtedness which totals about \$1000.00.

This First Congregational Church of Raleigh has an enthusiastic membership and Pastor DeBerry is greatly encouraged in his work. We congratulate the pastor and the people.

During the year Superintendent D. J. Flynn has visited for Evangelistic meetings almost every church in North Carolina, South Carolina

and Georgia. From eight to fifteen days was spent at each church. As a result of these meetings, a large number of persons have been added to our churches. Thirty-nine united with the church at Dudley on a single Sabbath. The churches which lead in the number of accessions are as follows:

Over two hundred persons who were formerly Methodists have been organized into what is now known as the Rush Memorial Congregational Church at Atlanta, Ga. This makes two Congregational churches in Atlanta, and marks a new era in the progress of Congregationalism in Georgia.

EVANGELISM

By Rev. Francis J. Grimke, D. D.

Pastor Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church, Washington, D. C.

I HAVE a friend who is at the head of an educational work. In the interest of his school he had occasion some time ago to travel a little in seeking to raise funds. During this tour he stopped at a certain town and called upon one of the wealthiest, if not the wealthiest man in the town, who is also a prominent member and officer in one of the churches of the town. This friend is a college graduate and an alumnus of one of the leading theological seminaries of the country; his manner and bearing are also that of a gentleman. He finally succeeded in getting an interview with this wealthy church member, and, in introducing himself said, "I am Mr. B—— of such a city," and proceeded to state the purpose of his mission. When he was through, this Christian gentleman said to him, "I must tell you frankly that I am losing my interest in your race. Most of the leaders of your people are very assertive; they want to be the social equals of the white people. You have come here, and look how you have introduced yourself to me. You said, 'I am Mr. B——.' Now what do you mean by that? You mean simply that you are my social equal, and I don't care to have anything to do with a colored man who feels that way." This friend said for a moment he was dumb with astonishment, but soon recovered himself and, although he felt at first like

telling him just what he thought of him and leaving his house, he held his temper, and finally told him that if it was more pleasing to him to have him drop the word "Mr." in speaking of himself, in the future he would do so.

The point particularly to which I want to direct attention is that this Christian gentleman who could not bear to have a colored man use the word "Mr." in speaking of himself was at that very time being considered for the chairmanship of the General Evangelistic Committee of one of the greatest denominations in the country, and was afterwards appointed its chairman. Now I am not holding the denomination responsible for that appointment, for it knew nothing of this incident of which I am speaking, but think of the man himself, feeling as he did, acting as he did, permitting himself to be considered for the chairmanship of such a committee. Before God, I ask, Was that man fit to be at the head of an evangelistic committee—a committee that sought to hold up Jesus Christ before men with a view of accepting Him, of following Him?

How can we consistently go around holding Institutes on Evangelism when at the head of our great Evangelistic Committee is a man who takes offense at a colored man, an educated, refined colored gentleman, for using the term "Mr." in speaking of himself?