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We are accustomed to regarding flies merely as annoying pests. We combat flies in a half-hearted manner because we do not realize the dangers they bring into our homes. Flies are the most active of all agents in the distribution of germ diseases. If people could but see the loads of germs and filth they carry, an unrelenting war of extermination would be waged.

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Closing Days of Assembly.

JULY ELEVENTH.

The regular order as given on the program was carried out this morning, with Dr. Mahood in charge of the evangelistic service, Dr. Patten, the school of the English Bible, and the school of Junior League methods conducted by Mrs. Annie E. Smiley, National Superintendent of Junior Leagues.

At 2:00 p. m., Mrs. Cooper of Minneapolis, discussed deaconess work in the tent. At 3 o'clock, the platform entertainment began with a violin solo by Prof. Diestel, then a vocal solo by Miss Cooke; Miss Webster recited Eugene Field's "Good By, God bless you." The next number was given by Miss Frances P. Lapham, who recited "The Victor of Marengo." Miss Lapham responded to a hearty encore with a Scottish selection which delighted the audience. Rev. E. M. Mills, D. D., of New York, then entertained the audience with his famous lecture: "The Withered Hand." A condensed opinion of the lecture means that useless Christians, who profess and stand around with pious mein, are like unto a withered hand when there is work to do for both. The withered hand is likened unto a class of so-called Christians who are always pulling back, nothing suits

them and the preacher isn't good enough. The Withered Hand fits a good many so-called Christians.

At 4:15 Prof. Collins led a chorus class in the Auditorium and at the same time the juniors were in session in the Junior Work Shop, under the direction of Mrs. H. I. Farr. A lesson was given in church history by Rev. S. H. Shurtleff, and Miss Cooke sang a solo.

A number of Canton's young gentlemen imbued with a spirit of gallantry and a desire to honor the fair sex, had chartered the Sioux Queen for an excursion and at 6:30, Capt. Hanson of the steamer with his precious load of the youth and beauty of Canton and the young ladies attending the Assembly, headed away for Beloit, Iowa. Rev. Shepherd of the M. E. church went along to enjoy the brief recreation. There were 88 present. Recitations were rendered by Prof. Vernon, Miss Webster, Prof. Appleby, Miss Lapham, Miss Sylvia Fitch, Rev. Case of Alcester and Ed. Hammitt. Miss Cooke and Prof. Vernon sang and Rev. Shepherd told a ghost story. Three cheers were given for the young men of Canton and altogether it was a jolly occasion.

A great audience, some say 3000, had assembled at the auditorium at 8:30 to hear the South Africa Kaffir boy choir sing. The expectations of that magnificent audience were realized to the fullest.

Rev. Shepherd introduced Mr. Balmer, an Englishman, and Miss Clark, a real Afrikaner, or Boer, and with them their five South African natives, who compose the choir. They are nothing but children in years and represent four great tribes, the fighting Basutos, Zulus and the less warlike Kaffir and Bushman. These little Africans sing marvelously and give a wonderful illustration of life in the dark continent. Mr. Balmer and Miss Clark give entertaining side talks and tell us much about the wonders of the country where it is possible for 18000 Boers to keep an English army of 250,000 employed. The Kaffir boy choir, one of the best attractions of the many secured for the entertainment of our people, was a brilliant idea though an expensive one, but in nothing has Elder Dobson or Rev. Shepherd considered expense when securing the best talent to be had.

JULY TWELFTH.

The morning program was the same and conducted by the same persons as on the eleventh.

At 2 p. m. a deaconess school was conducted by Deaconess Cooper.

At 2:45 the platform entertainment began with a violin solo by Prof. Diestel and piano solo by Prof. Grunn. Dr. Dobson introduced Dr. West who gave a very interesting Missionary address.

At 4 p. m. the juniors were in session in their work shop, and at 4:15 Miss Lapham conducted the young women's club in the Auditorium.

At 8 o'clock, the Auditorium seemed to be as well filled as it was the previous night and there was no lack of interest in the wonderful little darkies from darkest Africa, and there is no better illustration of what may be done and what can be done in the dark continent before the present century expires. These five little savages net long ago.

The Kaffir boy choir is a high class entertainment and it was highly appreciated by all.

JULY THIRTEENTH.

The regular morning service as per program, and at 10:30, Mrs. Annie E. Smiley conducted a school of the Epworth League.

The afternoon session began with a school of Missions with Dr. West, a Malaysian Missionary, in charge.

At 3:00 o'clock the platform program began with a violin solo and concluded with a brief missionary address by Dr. West. At 4:15 the Young Woman's club was in session. These club meetings are in fact physical culture schools, and have been very interesting and instructive. The ladies speak in the highest terms of Miss Lapham's physical culture training and will organize a very large club for her next year.

At 8 p. m. the Atkins Family Band opened the evening entertainment. The band is composed of Mr. and Mrs. Atkins and five children. When the music ceased Hon. C. I. Crawford of Huron was introduced by Rev. Shepherd. Mr. Crawford spoke on the "Relation of Character to Citizenship." He was in excellent condition considering the torrid condition of the air, and delivered his address with grace, elegance and ability. Mr. Crawford is one of the best speakers in the state, a natural orator and one of the leading lawyers of the northwest. He has many friends in Canton and his reception was cordial and sincere. The Atkins band closed the evening program.

JULY FOURTEENTH.

This is the last day of what has been the most successful Epworth Assembly ever held in the state and it marks a period in Canton's history as well.

Canton made the Assembly a magnificent success, and the people of Canton are gloriously proud of the event.

The Assembly will bring to Canton each year thousands where hundreds only came this year. It has already made Canton famous as a "No Saloon" town, a progressive town with a people loyal and true to every interest that stands up for Canton.

The morning service opened at 8 o'clock with a genuine Love Feast in the big tent. At 9:30 Sunday School was in session and its conclusion found the eminent and eloquent Dr. Parks of Atlanta, Georgia, on the platform, who preached to a grand congregation.

The little Africans sang sweetly and the band played the morning hour into the noon recess.

At 3 p. m. a magnificent platform entertainment began with Prof. Collins in charge. The Atkins band opened the feast. The first singer presented was Hon. C. O. Kaudson of Canton, who sang a solo. He has a magnificent voice and can use it to perfection.

Miss Webster recited from Field and Kipling following which came an assembly chorus and then one of the events of the afternoon, a song by Miss Gemmill, Mr. Wirsted and Mr. Pattee, a trio of Canton favorites. The band next entertained and the piano followed under the splendid execution of Prof. Grunn. Miss Gemmill was called upon again and sang a soprano solo. She easily proved that she was the song queen of the assembly. She was accompanied by Prof. Grunn on the piano and Prof. Diestel on the violin. The afternoon program closed with all singing, "Blest Be The Tie That Binds."

The evening service began with music by the band. All felt that the closing hour was nigh and the events which followed proved that everyone felt a joyous sadness over the occasion. Joy for the glorious success—sadness because of the pleasant associations to be so soon parted.

After the sermon by Rev. Mahood, the audience once more had the privilege of listening to "The Holy City" sung by one of the Kaffir boys, which was very appropriate after the magnificent sermon. Elder Dobson made a brief address reviewing the foundation work of the assembly and the great work required to bring success. His voice and manner showed that he was indeed a happy man, consciously proud of the good opinion of the thousands who attended the assembly, and proud of the magnificent success in the face of the hottest weather that ever curled a blade of corn in the state.

Rev. Shepherd next made a brief address praising the grand work accomplished and the loyal friendship of Canton and her grand support of all that helps elevate and ennoble. Mr. Shepherd, too, showed the evidence of victory and success in his voice and action. He spoke of the present and of the future, and what has been done, only indicates what we may expect in the future. Mr. Shepherd had reason to speak with pride and pleasure, for no man ever worked harder in a glorious cause than he. He praised all connected with the glorious undertaking and thanked all for the aid rendered. At the conclusion of his address the vast audience was instructed to assemble outside on the green grass under the star light to take part in the official closing of the first annual session. Hymns were sung and the band played and then Dr. Dobson made a few remarks and said "I praise God for the victory of this hour." Then the grand

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J. M. Lewis, M. D.

old "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" was sung and the Assembly was closed. It was a beautiful scene. There was about two thousand people out on the grass, bareheaded under bright stars, paying honor to the assembly and its glorious purpose, growing stronger year by year through the influence of that son brought into the world by a Jewish maid nineteen hundred years ago.

Response to Address of Welcome Delivered by Rev. Lachlan MacLean.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen: I am reminded of a story which seems to fit quite well in connection with this splendid movement. An Irishman and Yankee were out on a lark one day during Lent. The church bells began to ring and the Irishman true to his faith, made up his mind to attend church services. He invited the Yankee to accompany him but the Yankee did not care to go, however, by earnest effort the Irishman succeeded in getting him to go with him. When they arrived at the church they found a large congregation on their knees engaged in prayer. The Irishman immediately dropped on his knees and began to pray. The Yankee stood and looked around him in astonishment for he was not accustomed to such scenes and he burst out, "Well! this beats the Devil!" The Irishman on his knees, looked up at his comrade and said, "That's the intention." Doubtless this great enterprise which is being so successfully launched is for the same purpose and from the bottom of my heart, I pray it success.

The welcome that we have received to the City of Canton and to this splendid Auditorium and these grounds has been of a most cordial and elevated character. It would be impossible for me to express our appreciation of this magnificent greeting. While the words of welcome extended to us by these representative men, men indeed eloquent, yet according to the old saying, "Actions speak louder than words," we are not unmindful of the tangible welcome afforded us by the people of Canton in that they have presented us with these splendid grounds, following the example of that noble woman of Shumen, who had a room built on the wall of her house for the man of God; and also like the king of Gath, in giving King David and his following a town in the country. We feel indeed that our lines have fallen into pleasant places and that we have a goodly heritage, to be welcomed within the environments of this gate city, is to us a source of high appreciation, when we remember the exalted character of the city of Canton, and the security it affords us within its bounds of a city, who for the past seventeen

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years has been free from blighting influence of licensed saloons. We feel that we are placed on our good behavior and that it behooves us to walk soberly and Godly, while within the precincts of this noble city. This auditorium in which we are assembled, is indeed a source of comfort and just pride to us and reflects great credit on the management of those having this matter in charge. This is a matter of faith on their part, giving us a substantial and permanent place, in the interest of our Epworth Leagues, and other young people of our Sioux Falls district. The building itself is very suggestive of many things that are sacred to us; for example, the solid foundation on which it rests with its splendid pillar and corridors, with its girders and beams, its rafters and braces, and iron bars as well as its capacity, would seem to suggest the stability and strength of our Methodist theology. The symmetry and beauty of its construction is also suggestive of the twenty and four pillars supporting the outer circle of the roof and the twelve supporting the inner circle is suggestive of the four and twenty elders and also the twelve tribes of Israel. Sufficient to say, that nothing in this splendid superstructure is suggestive of anything small and narrow or mean in any sense, but on the contrary, is suggestive of that which is grand and noble, generous and permanent, and with great appreciation and hope we fondly look forward to a glorious future of practical value, not only to the city of Canton but also in an interstate sense, reaching out far beyond the environments of the Sioux Falls District.

The Junior Epworth League.

BY MRS. ANNIE E. SMILEY.

When the Epworth League, as the young people's society of the Methodist Episcopal church is called, was organized in Cleveland, Ohio, twelve years ago provision was made for a Junior Epworth League as a part of the general work.

The first Junior chapter or society was organized in the Methodist church at Hoboken in New Jersey.

There are now more than seven thousand chapters of the Junior League, with a membership of half a million.

With the beginning of the year 1901 the Junior work received a new impetus. A manual of methods, called "The Junior Worker's Quarterly" published in connection with the Epworth Herald and edited by Dr. J. F. Berry, was decided upon and this quarterly magazine is proving to unify the work, and put it upon a solid foundation.

Mrs. Annie E. Smiley, of Lowell, Massachusetts, was appointed General League Superintendent last January, and since that time she has devoted much of her time to the interests of the work, carrying on a large correspondence with Junior workers in all parts of the country, laying plans for new lines of work, and speaking in Conventions and Assemblies.

On this tour she has spoken four times in Chicago, assisted at the Huron Assembly for a week, conducted classes in Junior Methods at the Canton Assembly, and is to appear on the program at the International Convention to be held in San Francisco July 18 to 22.

Mrs. J. O. Dobson, has been in attendance during the whole period of the Canton Assembly, and has an exhibition in the tent called "The Junior supplies and appliances."

Mrs. Kennedy, the wife of Judge Kennedy of Canton, has added greatly to the interest of the Junior meetings in the small tent by her presence with her Juniors, whose knowledge of the Bible and of Methodist hymns and doctrine reveals the fact that they have received very careful instruction and training from their Superintendent Mrs. Kennedy.

The Deaconess work of the Methodist Episcopal church was inaugurated in Chicago in 1887 as a direct outgrowth of the activities of the "Chicago Training School for city home and foreign missions." The General conference in 1888 formally sanctioned this work and introduced it as a part of the formal policy of the church. At this session of the general conference three young women were consecrated as deaconesses by the beautiful service prepared for that purpose. The order of M. E. deaconesses now number about 1200, about 100 of these being in the foreign field. The institutions of the order comprise Deaconess Homes, Hospitals, Orphanages, Old Peoples' Homes, Literary Schools, etc., numbers about 75. Schools for the training of young women for this as well as other forms of Christian work have been established in various parts of the country so that no considerable section is without one. Among the more prominent of the schools are those at New York, Boston, Washington, D. C., Chicago and San Francisco. It thus follows that a deaconess is first, a trained Christian worker, going out, not with untried powers but after one or more years of careful study and practical preparation. She is costumed for her work, wearing a neat black dress and small black bonnet with the white ties which have come to be the distinguish-

ing feature of the garb. The costume is worn for economy, protection and recognition; for economy because she is an unalarmed worker receiving merely a support in the work; for protection, because her work often carries her into doubtful and even dangerous places; for recognition, because a recognized garb often serves as an introduction to the church in general to those among whom she works and to her sister deaconesses. The district and evangelistic features of the deaconess are assuming prominence and there are many more demands for those qualified for these lines of work than can be met. The growth and development of the order has been phenomenal and yet only a beginning has been made. The deaconess movement is regarded by many in the M. E. church as one of the most important and significant of modern lines of Christian effort. It is peculiarly adapted to meet the conditions of city evangelization as it touches the city problem at its most vital point, the home life and the child life of the city; while it is equally available for the needs and demands of the smaller towns and villages. It is one of the "many open doors" for christian service and many more of our christian young women should be pressing their way into its white harvest fields.

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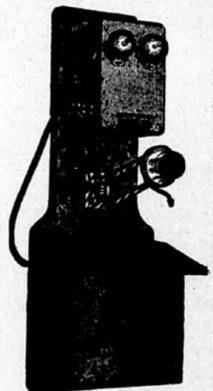
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