



DOCTOR GRAHAM MEETS THE ISSUE.

The First Baptist Church and the Secret Council.

The Insolent Demand Considered.

Fifth Street Baptist Church and the Great Baptist Divines. A Ringing Article.

THE POSITION OF THE COMMITTEE.—THE BLUNDERERS AND THEIR CONSEQUENCES.—WILL STAND BY THE RIGHT.

On the 24th, of June, the First Baptist Church called an ex-parte advisory Baptist Council, purporting to seek information as to whether she should discontinue the Fifth St. Baptist Church. The First Church allowed herself during the excitement of a mob-like crowd to exclude John Mitchell, Jr. from church membership. Your reporter availed himself of the privilege of securing a full report by visible means. The council met and after some considerable warm words, a resolution was passed inviting, through committee, the Fifth St. Baptist Church to meet them in an adjourned session the 8th, of July, at 10 A. M., to show cause why she should not be discontinued by the First Baptist Church, for receiving John Mitchell, Jr. as a member. The following paragraph shows conclusively that this council did not have sufficient facts upon which to make a Christian decision.



THE ELOQUENT REV. W. F. GRAHAM, D. D., Pastor, Fifth St. Baptist Church.

THAT PECULIAR PARAGRAPH. Whereas peace and harmony being the chief support of all good institutions, especially that of God, and in view of the existing condition, and in view of it is evident to us from the information we have received from the proceedings of the First Baptist Church, that the said church was right in excluding Mr. John Mitchell, Jr. from its membership and the Fifth St., did wrong in taking him, but not being in possession of the facts which led them to this action, therefore, Be it resolved that we request the First Baptist Church to invite the Fifth St., Baptist Church to join in calling a mutual council to show upon what grounds she receives her member and why the right had of following wishes of the more intelligent part of the brethren reached a conclusion which they call expedient.

THE FIFTH ST., CHURCH'S POSITION. The Fifth St. Baptist Church, having been invited by a committee from the June session of the council to come before them for trial politely sent the council a message through a committee, excusing herself from being advised by Revs. Mr. Payne and Lewis. Evidently the Fifth St. Church felt that if the other churches were willing to be bullied by these two men, she could not herself submit to such an unpleasant dose. Committee-men Dr. W. F. Graham, Deacons Edinboro Archer, E. T. Coleman made the following report:

A DIPLOMATIC REPLY. Richmond, Va., July 7th, 1902. To the Ex-parte Advisory Baptist Council convened in the First Baptist Church July, the 8th, 1902. Dear Brethren:—

Having been invited by you to participate in your Council, we beg leave to submit through a committee our reasons for not attending nor acquiescing to your wishes as stated to us. First. The Council here convened is an ex-parte Council called originally by the First Baptist Church to which we have not been invited by the said church. Christian politeness, as we see it, should have constrained our sister, the First Baptist Church, to have extended to us that courtesy, and in as much as we have settled this matter in an ex-parte council, we are not willing to sit in another ex-parte council knowing that the mutual council is by custom and constitution of membership first in importance.

A CASE OF IRREGULARITY. Second. We cannot subscribe to a council called by a council since we believe that all councils in church affairs should be called by the churches. Third. We cannot see how an ex-parte council can call a mutual council

for two churches when one of the churches has had no choice in the selection of its complexion and membership.

WAS CAREFUL TO BE COURTEOUS.

Fourth. We have taken all precautions to be Christian and courteous in dealing with the case in question (1st.) our pastor visited the First Church pastor; (2nd.) Bro. John Mitchell's application came first before our deacons; (3rd.) our deacons waited on the First Church deacons and were advised to go before the regular church meeting of the said First Church. They went in quest of information seeking to know if what Mr. Mitchell, alleged in his application for membership in the Fifth St. Church was true.

EDITOR MITCHELL'S STATEMENTS VERIFIED. Upon this visit the First Church gave no information except to read the records of the church meetings which excluded Mr. Mitchell. The records in the judgment of our deacons verified Mr. Mitchell's statement.

Fifth. We called a council to advise us touching the reception of Bro. John Mitchell because we deemed it prudent and respectful toward our sister church giving her an opportunity to be heard in the matter. The council was one of eminent character and ability.

A REPRESENTATIVE BODY. One hundred and two churches were invited, seventy-six responded. They were called within the bounds of the Virginia Baptist State Convention and by only one or two persons sat in the council without such bounds, and they are life members of the Virginia Baptist State Convention. Nearly every church in this city was invited—that is the colored Baptist Churches. The First Baptist Church was earnestly requested to send a committee of seven to state her side of the question. The council was invited at the time it was because of the matter of economy and convenience.

PECULIAR PASTORS. Sixth. This council, my brethren, has in it at least two prominent pastors who do not under any circumstances speak to the pastor of the Fifth St., Baptist Church and therefore we cannot understand how they can advise us without prejudice. Seventh. If there is to be a council

in which we are to participate, it ought to be called by the two churches involved, thus giving us the benefit of a mutual council. Both sides should be heard in full. The history of Mr. Mitchell's case and the developments therein we believe warranted the call of such a council.

A MUTUAL COUNCIL WARRANTED. The vote by which he was excluded from the First Baptist church warranted the call of a mutual council, and the history of his exclusion warranted the call of a mutual council.

Eighth. And now brethren, remember that we cannot participate with you in this ex-parte council which has prejudged us and then invited us to come in to your midst and show why we should not be dis-fellowshipped. Is that Christian? Is it fair? Is it just? We leave you to reflect upon these things.

Very respectfully,
Fifth St. Baptist Church.
W. F. GRAHAM,
Committee: ED. ARCHER,
E. T. COLEMAN.

EXPRESSIONS OF APPROVAL. When this report had been read, the entire council gave assent to it by expressions of approval. Indeed, so concurred with Mr. Z. D. Lewis that taking the floor, he held it for nearly three hours, not in argument, but in abuse, slang and wild aspersions against the Fifth St. Baptist Church. Anybody could see that anger, venom and the meanest hatred lay at the bottom of his heart against Dr. Graham and the Fifth St. Baptist Church. Mr. Graham had made a speech which will long be remembered by those who heard him. He told how it was possible for the First Baptist church to make some mistakes, and cited several instances.

REFUSES TO OBSERVE THE HOLY ORDINANCE. He referred to the fact that First Baptist Church had to bow in subordination to Mr. Nelson Williams, Jr., in that he refuses to take the wine in communion, not-with-standing church meetings had been held for him, he stubbornly held out and the church tolerated.

Mr. Graham also referred to the fact that First Baptist church had by vote debarred Mr. Evans Payne from their pulpit, and without ever having rescinded the act, invited him to sit in council to give them advice.

TURNED TURTLE. And then, when reference was made as to show the First church baptized for the Mt. Olivet Baptist church on a Sunday morning and then in order to secure a council with Mr. Payne and Mr. Lewis in it, voted on the very next night to disrecognize Mt. Olivet Baptist church exciting disapproval was shown by the whole council. Dr. Graham declared that he and his church belonged to the National Baptist Convention, the Virginia Baptist State Convention, and supported the educational work at Lynchburg, and therefore knowing the attitude of certain members of the council in regard to those organizations, he did not think that either the First church or the council ought to expect that his church into trial before them. He likewise stated that if the First church had made all those blunders referred to above, certainly it was possible for her to blunder in excluding Mr. John Mitchell, Jr.

AROUSING THE WORST PREJUDICE. Mr. Z. D. Lewis made a slanderous tirade against the Fifth Street Baptist Church and her pastor, charging that the Fifth St. Baptist Church was guilty from very its foundation of being disorderly and irregular. He, likewise, stated that he had some one sit in the Fifth Street Baptist Church and copy a sermon while Mr. Graham was preaching it and bring it to him, which sermon he stated he had filed away. This was unwholesome news to the brethren of the council. He quoted what he called a part of the sermon. Dr. Graham told him to his face that his quotation was absolutely false, so far as being a part of his sermon, and offered Mr. Lewis \$100.00 to produce the sermon. The gentleman failed to do it.

CRITICIZED THE PASTOR. Continuing, Mr. Lewis abused Mr. Mitchell, saying that he had been excluded from church and had to go back and that here was Mr. Mitchell with a face as black as his who wanted to be as good or better than the pastor of the Fifth St. Baptist Church. This part of Mr. Lewis' speech was nauseating and made everybody in the house sick. He then turned in a tirade against all the preachers who composed the council which sat in the Fifth Street Baptist Church the 13th day, calling them irresponsible boobies.

BROTHER PAYNE ABUSIVE TOO. Mr. Evans Payne of Church Hill, benched the brethren who sat in that council, calling them a set of wild geese. Little M. H. Payne, B. H. Peyton and others, more than 100 churches are enrolled with an average attendance of 70 each Sunday. Last Sunday was Rally Day at the Mission. Dr. W. F. Graham preached to a packed house at 3:30 P. M., subject "Lift up Ye Gates." It was a wonderful service. Amount raised at this service \$32.52, at 8:30, Rev. M. E. H. H. preached a soul stirring sermon, "Immortality of the Soul" the mission was again crowded notwithstanding the threatening weather. Collection \$11:30 Total Collection; for the day, \$44:42, cards yet to come in.

A PLAIN QUESTION. The question to my mind is, are the churches of Richmond at their pastors going to submit to the leadership of Mr. Payne and Lewis? Are all the ministers afraid of them? Already Rev. Mr. Lewis and Payne have called some of the young brethren neophytes, hoppers, grasses, educated fools and sap-headed fools. In open council, they applied these epithets. How can there be peace among the Christians in Richmond with these two men bullying the churches and the young ministers? It was plain-ly seen that they have met their match when they attempted to lead Mr. Graham and the Fifth St. Baptist church around by the nose.

Revival services, at Manchester A. M. E. Church. Will be conducted by Mrs. E. Kinney Johnson. Her subject at night will be "Common Sense." Rev. J. S. Mason, Pastor.

A Charter Granted. A charter was last week granted to the Young Negro Business Association formed to create and develop industrial and agricultural enterprises and to buy and sell real estate in or out of this state. Capital not less than \$1,000 than 1 or more than \$10,000.00, divided into shares of \$10.00 each.

Officers for the first year are: J. M. Dabney, president; W. D. Turner, first vice president; A. D. Price, second vice president; Claude C. Brown, secretary; Matthew C. White, treasurer; J. E. Pollard, attorney.

The above and Henry Madison, Edward Jones, Eugene Christian, Charles B. Easton, Benjamin T. Sircus and Samuel Miller constitute the Board of Management.

Banner Day. Fifth St., Baptist S. S. is still forging to the front. Attendance last Sunday 383, collection \$15.00.

Deacon Edinboro Archer gave the school some very wholesome and timely remarks. The deacons and officers of the church seem to be highly interested in the S. S. Each Sunday, the Deacon Board is well represented in the school. Class No. 4, taught by Mr. W. W.

Fields, contributed \$7.30 capturing Banner No. 1. The following compose the class:—

Misses Florence E. Coleman, Lizzie Brown, Alice Epps, Annie Anderson, Beresene Brown, Carrie B. Fitzhugh, Alceha Ragland, Mary Jennings, Ida B. Baker, Lillian V. Taylor, Agnes Burrell, Hattie Reed, Madolin Seay, Irene Merriweather, Cora Jones, Mary Johnson, Ida Jones, Bettie Watkins, Maud Taylor, Mrs. Ella Sydney.

Dr. Graham presented banner No. 1 to class No. 4. Deacon Edward Coleman presented banner No. 2 to class 19. Sunday School, 9:30 each Sunday. All are invited to the Bee Hive.

Maud Mitchell Coles. Maud Mitchell Coles the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Coles died at their residence, 235 W. South, St., Charlottesville, Va., July 1st, at 7:30 o'clock; age 10 years and 20 days.

HARDAWAY—Died at her home in Amelia Co., Va., Ellen Hardaway, the beloved wife of Richard Hardaway, July 1, 1902. She leaves a beloved husband, 7 children, 4 sisters, 2 brothers and a host of grand-children and friends to mourn their loss.

Her funeral will be held Wednesday, July 2nd, from Liberty Baptist Church, of which she was a consistent member for many years. She was a loving wife, devoted mother and a consistent member. No one knew her but to love her.

Dearest mother, thou hast left us, We our loss most deeply feel, But 'tis God who has bereft us, He call all our sorrows heal.

One precious to our heart has gone, The voice we loved is still, The place made vacant in our home, Can never more be filled.

Her daughter, HANNAH L. JOHNSON, 516 Harrison St., Richmond, Va.

COLLINS—LAWRENCE—The marriage of Miss Mary Collins to Mr. Taylor Lawrence took place at the residence of his aunt, Miss Bessie L. Wilson Thursday morning, July 10th, 1902, at eight o'clock in New York.

\$44.42 Raised. Fifth St., Mission, 17th, & Richard Sts., Fifth St., Mission organized three months ago under the leadership of Rev. M. H. Payne, B. H. Peyton and others, is progressing wonderfully. More than 100 churches are enrolled with an average attendance of 70 each Sunday.

Y. M. C. A. Notes. Sunday was a very hot day yet the men did not lose interest.

The work in the jail and alms house accomplished many good results. Master Thomas W. Smith conducted the boys meeting last Sunday assisted by Master Wiley Ferguson. Each boy who was present took apart.

The hot weather did not cause the men last Sunday to neglect the mass meeting at the True Reformer's Hall. About 150 were present. All were benefited by the able address which was delivered to them by Rev. J. E. Jones, D. D., Subject: "Nothing but Leaves." The solos which were rendered by Mr. Christopher Jackson and the selections by the Peerless Quartette of the Second Baptist Church Choir, gave much life to the meeting. At this meeting the men decided to have a rally for the purpose of raising \$1000.00 in order that the Y. M. C. A. may be relieved of all indebtedness.

Their interest was plainly shown by their subscriptions. Mr. Geo. W. Bragg one of our leading business men made some very encouraging remarks which had an effect. Much interest is being manifested in this move by the young men. Watch for the date of the next meeting. Rev. W. F. Graham, D. D., pastor of the 5th St., Baptist Church will address the next meeting. In August.

Jail and alms house work Sunday 10 A. M., be on time. Meeting at the rooms for boys Sunday 4 P. M., Special address. Men's Meeting at the rooms Sunday 5:30 P. M. Come and enjoy yourself and use our fans. Be on time.

Have you heard the latest? Mass meeting for women only under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. At the Third St., Methodist Church Sunday August 3rd, 4 P. M. A special address will be delivered by Rev. D. Webster Davis. Special music will be rendered. Admission Free. Find the other woman.

Get His Letter. Rev. J. Andrew Bowler, pastor of the Mt. Olivet Baptist Church has applied for his letter as a member of the First Baptist Church. It was granted last Monday night and it has been deposited with the Fifth Street Baptist Church, of which body he will become a member.

The Richmond Beneficial Insurance Company gave and out to the agents and friends on July 4th, at their farm, about 4 1/2 miles from the city. A very pleasant day was spent. In the afternoon the large gathering assembled on the green and listened to soul stirring speeches. Pres. W. F. Graham, presiding. The following programme was executed. Short Address by Deacon A. T. Grimes.

Address, "Advancement of the Negro" by Mr. Abraham Beverly. Our Success as a Race by Prof. B. H. Peyton. Song, My Country 'Tis of Thee, led by Cap't. T. M. Crump, Sec., and Gen. M'g'r. of the Southern Aid Insurance, Co. He also gave a very timely address.

Rev. Ralph V. Peyton of 6th, Mt. Zion church was next introduced and gave a very pointed and brilliant address imploring the Negro to move forward.

Rev. A. C. Hughes of the Leigh, St., M. E. Church was listened to with much earnestness as he proceeded to pour out the rugged pathways of the region and his wonderful advancement. Mrs. Benj. Jackson made a short and timely speech, saying that we want more true and tried leaders to lead us as Dr. W. F. Graham.

Cashier E. A. Washington spoke very encouragingly. The Pres. W. F. Graham then delivered one of his finest addresses, setting forth the progress of the Company and their future course. As the words fell from his lips, they sunk deep into the hearts of his hearers and on the next day of July, D. V., even greater results will be accomplished.

All present expressed themselves as highly pleased with the farm and desired to return next 4th. Sec'y and Gen'l M'g'r. Taylor and Cashier J. J. Carter were busy all day entertaining the guests. Sec'y Taylor named the Capt. while Capt. Carter presided at the ice cream freezer and the Lemon-ade Bar.

Among the many visitors were, Sup't R. W. Whiting, D. J. Chavers, Sup't W. P. Epps, Sup't S. P. Robinson, Mr. William Sheppard, Mr. Joseph Wilkerson, Misses R. Y. Peyton, Olivia Bolden, Benj. Jackson, Isabele Wilkerson, W. F. Graham and many others.

Notice. To the members of Maceo lodge No. 35. You are requested to be present at your next meeting, Tuesday, July 15th, 1902. Business of importance to be present at 8:30 o'clock sharp, by order of Maceo Lodge. J. F. Brown, C. C., R. D. Granderson, K. of R. & S.

Token of Esteem. At the financial meeting of Jordan Lodge, No. 40, Independent Order of Good Samaritans, last Tuesday night, were treated with the presence of Sister Grand Lodge, No. 8, as D. G. O. Secretary of the Independent Order of St. Lukes. Bro. Jos. N. Myers presided.

He introduced sister Walker as a member of Mary Magdalene Lodge, No. 80, Independent Order of Good Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria. She in her brief remarks complimented the lodge on its fine showing and noble work it is doing. She said her mission there was to make a presentation. In her very excellent manner, portraying the service of Brother J. W. Thompson in the lodge, having been a member for 24 years, secretary 22 years, served Grand Lodge, No. 8, as D. G. O. 4 years, Grand Chief 3 years, is a member of National Grand Lodge and now serving State Grand Lodge as Grand Secretary. In keeping with the wishes of Brother P. G. C. Wm. I. Johnson of 516 Harrison street and the members of the lodge who contributed the fund, she presented Brother Thompson with an emerald jewel of gold.

Accepting the token of esteem, at first, Brother Thompson seemed at a loss to know what to say, having taken him by surprise, but in a few choice words, he accepted the present, saying he would wear it with high appreciation for those who gave it and hoped the day would never come when it would be less appreciated.

Sister H. L. Johnson, associate to Past Grand Chief made a few remarks of encouragement to the new members. A vote of thanks was tendered the speakers and visitors.

This lodge has initiated 35 candidates within the last three months. WITNESS.

Samaritan Endowment. J. W. Thompson, General Manager and Secretary, visited Drake's Branch Friday, July 4th and paid to the beneficiary of Brother Colter Powell, deceased, a member of Morning Star Lodge, No. 161, in full for policy, No. 826 in the B. E. Association.

This is to certify that I, Colter Powell, Jr., son of the deceased, received of J. W. Thompson full payment of policy of my father, Colter Powell. Signed: COLTER POWELL, JR.

Rev. Edward Daniel, Alex. Harris.

Mrs. Nancy Anderson continues ill at the residence of her sister, Mrs. Ellen Scott, 117 South Foshee St.

Mrs. W. Cary Truheart, after spending several months in Philadelphia returned home this week.

Little Mayme Loving in company with her brothers, Joseph and Warren left Saturday for Goodland Co. to spend the summer with their grand father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt Allen. We hope them a pleasant stay.

CORONATION IN AUGUST

It is Announced That King Edward Will be Crowned Next Month.

CEREMONY TO BE CURTAILED

His Majesty's Recovery Has Been So Rapid and Satisfactory That It Was Decided to Crown Him Before August 15.

London, July 8.—King Edward will be crowned between August 11 and August 15. His recovery has been so rapid and satisfactory that the above decision was arrived at yesterday. No official announcement of the fact has yet been made. The pageant through the streets and the ceremony at Westminster Abbey will be much curtailed from the original plan. Their majesties will drive from Buckingham Palace to the Abbey through the Mall to Whitehall and thence to the Abbey, the same route as taken at the opening of parliament.

King Edward passed a favorable day yesterday, and the verbal report given out last night was that his majesty is still doing well. The use by the Prince of Wales of the word "recovery" when he referred to the king's progress at the inauguration of the Raphael Nurses' Home of Guy's Hospital yesterday afternoon is regarded in many quarters as indicating that the royal family considers the king's case most hopefully.

Replying to a question on the subject of the coronation stands, the first commissioner of works, A. Akers-Douglas, said it was not proposed to remove them, as it was hoped the stands would still be required for the purpose for which they were constructed.

JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN HURT Colonial Secretary's Head Crashed Through Glass in Cab. London, July 8.—The colonial secretary, Joseph Chamberlain, was severely cut on the head yesterday afternoon as the result of a cab accident in Whitehall. The secretary's handsome was passing the Canadian arch, when the horse slipped. Mr. Chamberlain was hurled forward with great violence. His head struck and shattered the glass front of the cab.

When extricated it was seen that Mr. Chamberlain's head was bleeding profusely. A policeman helped the secretary into a cab and accompanied him to a Charing Cross hospital. Just after the accident Mr. Chamberlain was asked if he felt faint. "No," he replied; "but I am losing a lot of blood."

Mr. Chamberlain was returning from his review of the West African Volunteers. Large crowds viewed the manoeuvres, despite the heat. Though Mr. Chamberlain's wounds bled a good deal, they were not serious.

The conference of the colonial premiers, which was to have been held today to discuss the question of imperial defense has been postponed in consequence of the accident to Mr. Chamberlain.

Y. P. S. C. E. CONVENTION Delegates of Pennsylvania Societies Opened Session at Pittsburg. Pittsburg, Pa., July 9.—The first annual and the first biennial convention of the Pennsylvania State Christian Endeavor Union opened yesterday, more than 2,000 delegates from every section of the state being in attendance. The first meeting in the "Endeavor" was held last night, when the address of welcome was delivered and the convention got well under way. President Yates presided and Percy R. Foster conducted the song service. Rev. L. C. Barnes, D. D., pastor of the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church, was in charge of the devotional exercises, and Rev. John Weldley welcomed the delegates to the city. Rev. W. W. Williamson, of Altoona, made the response. The audience was large and sympathetic and its mood was earnest, it seemed, of what the future sessions would be.

Mrs. Nancy Anderson continues ill at the residence of her sister, Mrs. Ellen Scott, 117 South Foshee St.

Mrs. W. Cary Truheart, after spending several months in Philadelphia returned home this week.

Mrs. Maggie Logan who has been visiting her mother left Friday July 4th for Atlantic City N. J.

Little Mayme Loving in company with her brothers, Joseph and Warren left Saturday for Goodland Co. to spend the summer with their grand father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Wyatt Allen. We hope them a pleasant stay.

Mrs. R. Elmore Wesley left Monday for Charlottesville, Va., where she will have care of a sick child.

Vocal and Graphophone Concert, by benefit Baptist State Missions at Secoza Baptist Church. Tuesday night July 15th, at 8:47 sharp. Admission Free. Given by Normal Department of Second Baptist Sunday School.