THE JOURNAL OF THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER

Volume IX

Spring 1982

Number 2



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The following correction should be made in the article "Father Peter Spencer: Portrait of An Unknown Pioneer African Methodist Leader" by Dr. Lewis V. Baldwin which appeared in THE JOURNAL OF THE INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER, Vol. IX, No. 1 (Fall 1981).

LINES 3-14 IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH ON PAGE 42 SHOULD HAVE READ: "Isaac Barney, the elder minister from New York, remained as the only active leader. James Hill and Ralph Gilmore became replacements for Spencer and Anderson. In 1846, Ellis Saunders of Christiana, Delaware was set apart as an elder minister. By 1851 Hill had passed and Gilmore had retired, leaving only Barney and Saunders as elder ministers. Internal bickering surfaced in the church when Saunders claimed the right to exercise pastoral charge over the Mother Union Church of Africans in Wilmington.

LINES 2-9 IN THE LAST PARAGRAPH ON PAGE 43 SHOULD HAVE READ: "Saunders and Isaac Barney broke away with 30 congregations, leaving only the mother church in Wilmington. They eventually formed the Union American Methodist Episcopal Church (U.A.M.E.). At least five of those congregations later returned to the parent body, which continued as the African Union Church until 1866. In that year this church merged with several congregations of the First Colored Methodist Protestant Church, and the resulting body became the African Union First Colored Methodist Protestant Church in the United States of America or Elsewhere, or simply the African Union Methodist Protestant Church (A.U.M.P.)."

The staff of THE JOURNAL OF INTERDENOMINATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTER as well as the ITC faculty, heartily welcomes Riggins R. Earl, Jr. as Guest Editor. Dr. Earl, who comes to ITC from the faculty of The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, is a frequent contributor to academic journals and is presently at work on a book-length manuscript: The Genesis of Theology and Ethics in Afro-American Consciousness-An Interpretation. JITC looks forward to a continuing editorial relationship with him.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

This number of The JITC celebrates the following: a) The recent contributions made to our journal and to the Presbyterian Church by Dr. James H. Costen, Dean of Johnson C. Smith Seminary; b) The acquisition and utilization of Computer Equipment for JITC; c) The appointment of Mrs. Josephine J. Smith as Executive Secretary for JITC.

a) Recently, Dean Costen and the Johnson C. Smith Seminary sponsored at The Center a lecture series devoted to the theory of preaching and the practical application of such theory by an illustrative sermon. The materials by Wilson and Newbold, both of whom are Presbyterians, are products of this event. Ralph G. Clingan, Professor of Homiletics at The Center, rounds out the Presbyterian contribution to this number.

JITC, further, celebrates the task of splendor performed by Dr. Costen as Moderator of the Presbyterian Church for 1982-83. As is now well known, Dr. Costen played a great role in the recent reunion of the north and south wings of the Presbyterian Church. Throughout this process of reunion, the ITC family feels it was symbolically present with Dr. Costen.

- b) One of the major accomplishments of the administration of Dr. J. Deotis Roberts was his leadership in the computerization of various ITC components. Thus, JITC now does by computer practically all of its own editorial and managerial functions, including the telephone transmission of copy to our printer.
- c) Those of us associated with the journal are delighted to have the timely assistance of Mrs. Josephine J. Smith. She brings both an uncanny capacity for mastering difficult assignments and a rare spiritual disposition for coping with the ridiculous. Mrs. Smith is assisted in the journal office for the summer by the energetic and resourceful Renal L. Earl, son of our guest editor, Dr. Earl.