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THE COLORED PIONEERS.

An Interesting Lecture Delivered by

William H. Carter on the Pioneers of His Race.

William H. Carter, a colored man, delivered an interesting lecture last night on the colored pioneers and the past, present and future of the colored race in California, in Bethel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The audience was not as large as the lecturer deserved to have.

He prefaced his lecture by reading a long list of names of those who were here in the early days, and he asserted that Charles Eppes, who is still living, and Sally Cox, who has been dead for some time, were the pioneers, having come here on the 18th of July, 1849.

Among other pioneers he named James Brown, George W. Dennis, D. W. Ruggles, R. C. Francis, James E. Brown, who was the first colored notary public; G. W. Gordon, who was murdered in his place of business, but whose murderer was found guilty only of manslaughter because the principal witness whose testimony would have fixed the higher crime could not at that time testify because he was colored; Ezra S. Johnson, who bought a lot on Fourth street, near Bryant, for \$4000, which after his death his widow sold for \$300,000; Daniel Seals, who accumulated a fortune of \$150,000; Peter Anderson of the Appeal, P. A. Bell of the Elevator, J. P. Dyer and Mary E. Pleasants, "a woman loved by all and feared by many."

The lecturer, after exhibiting a copy of the Mirror of the Times, the first organ

of the colored race in San Francisco, published for the first time September 19, 1857, said that one of the pioneer colored women was Mrs. E. J. Seth, who kept a millinery-store on Stockton street, "but," he added, "we have no colored milliner now." He then read over a list of those of his color who came here long ago and settled in the interior, and gave the names of the pioneer preachers, and among those named was Bishop Ward, once pastor of the Bethel Church, and of whom he said: "The Bishop, who weighed 300 pounds, bought a cabin ticket in 1866 to go to Sacramento, but the purser, whose name was Palmer, refused to honor it, telling him that his place was not in the cabin but on the deck, and if he did not go below he would put him down. He told him to try it, but after consultation, during which the Bishop was feeling for a rail, they concluded to let him remain in the cabin."

He spoke of buildings that had been occupied by the colored race, of businesses they had started, of the several churches and of the military companies, the first of which was the Moore Cadets, commanded by Captain Smith; another was the Brannan Guard, Captain Alex Dennison, attired in uniforms that cost \$1000 and donated by Sam Brannan. He described the visit of the colored people to Sacramento in 1870 to take part in the celebration in honor of the emancipation of the slaves.

He told of the effort of one Stonewall

of Kentucky to recapture one Archie, a fugitive slave who had fled to this City; of the determined fight of the colored people to take him away from his former master, during which heads were split and arms broken; of his final rescue by the police and his restoration to liberty by Judge Pratt. This occurred in 1856. He then explained the successful struggle to get the children in the public schools.

He told of the struggles of his people to obtain admission to the theaters and the streetcars, and of the latter he said Mrs. Jane Turner recovered \$10,000 for having been ejected from a car of the Omnibus line. When she got through with the

lawyers she did not get much, and the grave of this pioneer for colored people's rights is now unmarked. He said that a colored man could not enter a saloon without taking off his hat, and if he did not do so, twenty-five or thirty glasses or as many pistol bullets would be sent at his head.

He said that at present there is a want of unity among the colored people, and urged them to get money, as it is that which commands respect. He told them that if they want to succeed in the world, they must work more in harmony. He said that the objection had been raised that the colored people have no flag, but he said they had one, the American, the most noble one the sun ever shone on. He closed by reciting a poem.

His lecture was received with marks of approval.

A history of the Vatican archives by Don Gregorio Palmieri is nearly ready and will be published before the end of the year.

The growth of wealth between 1880 and 1890 was more steady and uniform than during any other period of our history.

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