

THE HALE INFIRMARY.

Laying of the Corner Stone Yesterday
With Impressive Ceremonies.

Without the assistance of a brass band, or aid of civil societies or tinsel and uniforms of a military company, the corner stone of the Hale Infirmary was laid yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

About twenty colored ministers, a large number of teachers and about four hundred of the prominent colored citizens and their families were present. The services were very simple and extremely interesting. Dr. C. N. Dorsette, a son-in-law of the late James Hale, the founder of the Infirmary, and who is also a life director of it, opened the exercises by briefly stating the object of the building.

He was followed by the hymn "All hail the power of Jesus name", after which prayer was offered by Rev. Allen Hannon, who prayed earnestly for the race to be delivered from the bondage of darkness and to be clothed with light. Selections of Scripture were read by Rev. J. W. Alstock, and then a favorite hymn of Hale's was sung. Selections from the several Epistles of St. Paul on good works were read by Rev. W. G. Alexander, D. D. after which the corner stone was laid by Rev. J. A. Foster, J. W. Alstock, R. C. Bedford, and A. N. McEwen.

Rev. R. R. Morris, D. D., pastor of "Old Ship" church, then delivered an appropriate address on the character of James Hale. Among the various things said, he referred to him as a Christian man, a philanthropist, whose industry, frugality, and integrity made an impress upon those with whom he came in contact. A kind hearted and indulgent father, yet he had ever in his mind the upbuilding of his race and the alleviating of suffering among them.

The address was forcible and well written and its deliverance marked the speaker as more than an ordinary man and teacher of his race.

A photograph of Hale, his wife and children, as well as Dr. Dorsette, literature, coin, names of the Trustees and Directors, as well as a Bible given by J. M. C. Logan, was then placed in the inner box and a dedicatory prayer was offered.

Rev. Jas. A. Foster, an old friend of Hale's, then spoke of his friendship, and after singing "Sweet Bye and Bye," benediction was pronounced by Rev. R. C. Bedford.

This is the first infirmary given by a colored man to his own race in the South. It is located near the north-west corner of Highland Park, and is to be 77 feet by 120, two stories high, with a basement.

Mr. R. N. McGrath, the architect who drew the plans, and Henry Nesbett, a man who was raised by the founder, and under whom he learned his trade, has charge of the construction.

THE ADVERTISER is glad to see this evidence of the prosperity and philanthropy of the race, and under the management of Dr. Dorsette, who has entire control, and is making strenuous efforts through friends to have it endowed, there is no doubt of its ultimate success.