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Vol. XII

JUNE, 1907

No. 6

THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE

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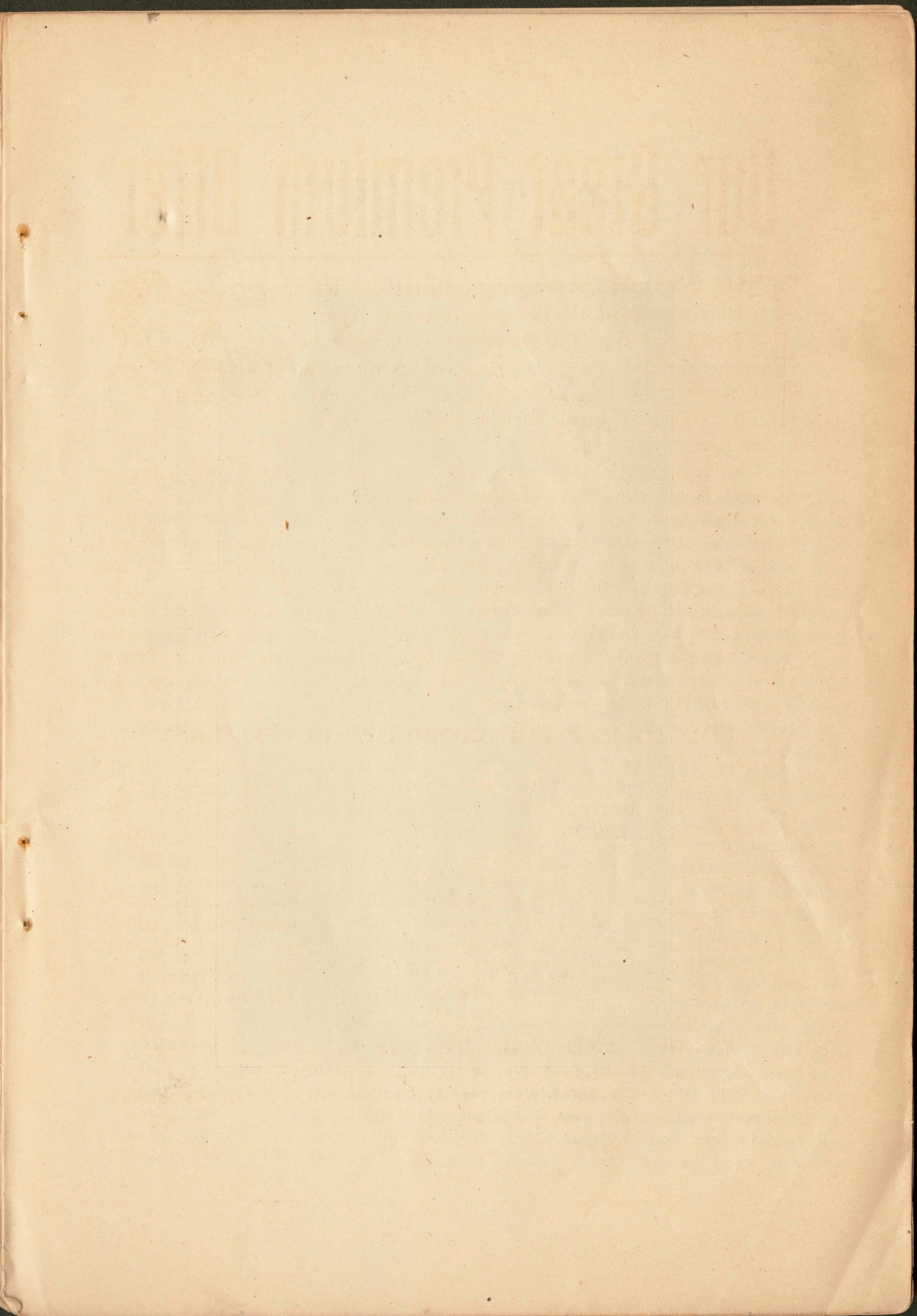
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FACULTY OF THE FORT VALLEY HIGH AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL

THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE.

VOL. XII.

JUNE, 1907.

NO. 6

THE MONTH

What Things the Race Should Emphasize



THAT the colored man's condition in this country from a political and social standpoint is bad, and seemingly growing worse, is a proposition usually admitted as true. With nearly ten million of the population, we have no representative in Congress, and in the states where we outnumber other people at a ratio of two and a half and three to one, we have no voice in the political affairs going on around us. The state officers are all white, and the courts are all controlled by white judges and white jurors. This would not be a wrong in itself if these white officers and men in control were not responsible and pliant to a public sentiment that demands one kind of treatment for a white man, and another kind for a colored man. Public sentiment in this country is higher than law. Legislatures may write any laws they please in the books, but the fact is apparent that the American people intend to govern themselves, law or no law; and when public sentiment and law meet in the road, it is usual for the law to "turn out" and give

public sentiment the right of way. These facts are necessary for colored people to know and consider. It is a condition of things that argues to us caution and foresight, and teaches that in order to have the proper enforcement of laws already on the books in our favor, or which may be put there hereafter, we must first have a radical change in public sentiment. Change public sentiment and we change the attitude of the law officers and those in authority who are but the reflection of the country's sentiment in their actions.

How can we change public sentiment? Shall it be done by high sounding resolutions passed and fostered more for the purpose of boosting the name of some notoriety seeker than for the interest of the colored people? This is the season for resolutions and denunciations galore. Should it be known that colored people were making sacrifices in giving the money they now spend foolishly, to support teachers and missionaries among the people who need intellectual and moral light, would not such uses prove more effectual in helping to mould and change public opinion in their favor than all the "windjam-

mers" and the resolutions that have been passed since the war? The fact is we are waiting too much on other people. There are many who are not, but the great mass is, and here is work for the leaders, especially the ministers, who have the best opportunity to reach the people. There are many schools for colored people in the South, but most of them are established and maintained by white people's charity, while many of the recipients of the gifts of these institutions are now contributors to such work. Contributions such as Mrs. Anna T. Jeanes's million dollars to Southern schools have saved the American Negro from peonage and degradation, and made it possible for them to boast of a proud record of progress within the last forty years. Our white friends have saved us thus far, but we are not "out of the woods," yet there are more schools needed, and more training along all lines must be inaugurated in order to change public opinion in our favor among this rising generation of white Americans who know very little of the past, and measure us by what we are to-day rather than by what we came from in the past. This is the class of white people who are coming on the stage of action as our political dictators and masters, and to them we must make a good showing, a better showing than during the last forty years. Our high per cent. of crime, our uncleanness in Negro slums and Negro localities must be made war on to the extent of extermination. There will be more required of us by our white masters than they require of their own people, but this is a condition

that must be met by us, not with bombastic resolutions and unbridled abuse, but by hard and persistent work in helping to elevate the standard of the people to the point of appreciation by those who are in control of us and oppress us in obedience to public opinion. We believe public opinion can be changed, even though at times it would seem unyielding to the logic of facts. Sooner or later the right will prevail, and it will come not through the efforts of the noisy Negro, but through those who are doing the work, though saying but little.

Race Co-operation a Sign of Progress

THE Japanese people have shown the world that race unity and co-operation count as an invaluable asset in race accomplishment. They are not a noisy, "hollering" people, but when the time arrives for action they are always ready to make any kind of sacrifice or do any deed necessary to win victory for their country and race. General Kuroki, in coming to visit this country at the Jamestown Exposition, does not take the shortest route through San Francisco that has turned the native Japanese out of her schools, but lands in New York by another route, leaving San Francisco without the honor of his distinguished presence. General Kuroki, as well as other Japanese, has not said much on the color line drawn on his people in California, but how his and their acts have spoken in thunder tones.

We note with much interest the co-operative enterprises being established by the colored people in so many different sections of the country they cannot

be mentioned here. Banks, insurance companies, building and loan associations, mercantile companies of various kinds—showing that the Negro people of America are beginning to appreciate the value of co-operation. We have learned fairly well the lesson of individual money making and individual action for individual ends, it now remains for the race to learn co-operative action for race and business purposes. It looks as if the time was fast approaching when a "point of order" will not break up all Negro gatherings and thus frustrate the good objects for which they are intended.

The Publication Crime

STATISTICS show that America leads the world in the number of criminals. This probably may be due to the freedom of the press of this country. The newspaper agents scour the country for murders, assaults and deeds of violence—the more atrocious, and the more sensational the easier the paper will sell. Psychology teaches us of the power of suggestion in the power of publication of criminal acts. Many people commit crimes after reading of a similar crime in the newspapers, that possibly would never have thought of doing so, but for the newspaper suggestion.

The lynching habit has grown and flourished through the power of suggestion as promulgated by the press. A man in a Delaware mob cries out "burn him," because he read of a burning in Texas, and forthwith the balance of the mob adopted the suggestion and the horrible deed is done.

While we do not believe in a cen-

sored press, yet we are firmly convinced that there should be a law in every state prohibiting newspapers from publishing in a sensational way the atrocities of the criminals of the country. This we urge in the interest of the Negro especially, who thus far has been made to suffer on account of such publications. Every little fight between two or three Negroes and the same number of white men is called a "race riot," when the same occurrence among whites would hardly be noticed in the papers; and thus besides suggesting violence it advertises us in the wrong way, for seldom, if ever can the newspaper reporter summon the courage to deal squarely by the Negro in a sensational write-up of this kind.

Hot Springs, Arkansas, Wants Help From Uncle Sam

THE United States Government, it appears, owns the reservation including the locus of the Hot Springs, Arkansas, but the city people in and about the place have worked up a quarrel among themselves even hotter than the water of the springs. So far they have failed to adjust their differences, and one faction is calling on the National Government to take charge of the territory and run it on the same plan as Washington City is conducted. But who would have thought that from the land of the Hon. Jeff Davis there would ever come a cry for help from the United States Government, and that too while Roosevelt is still president, who had to give the Hon. Jeff Davis a tongue lashing on the occasion of the President's trip in 1905 through that State. And where is the boasted doctrine of state

rights while all this is going on? Arkansas through the Hon. Jeff Davis is a clamorer for state rights, and especially that right which under the police economy gives it the right to regulate and "Jim Crow" Negro citizens. How can Arkansas, and Hot Springs, Arkansas, in particular, clamor for state rights on the one hand while on the other hand acknowledging itself too weak for self government by calling on the National Government for aid.

The colored citizens of Arkansas are being amused by what is going on at Hot Springs, and they are at the same time smiling further on account of the fact that the census reports are said to show that they have accumulated \$30,000,000 in this world's goods since the war, despite the "Jim Crow" system that seeks to repress them in Arkansas.

The Weight of a Negro Soul

A SENSATIONAL announcement is going the rounds of the press to the effect that certain experimentists have demonstrated the weight of the human soul by first taking the avoirdupois weight of a human body just before death, and then taking its weight again after death; and thus figuring out the difference in weight which is taken as the weight of the soul in the body thus weighed.

Just what it amounts to either in this life or the life to come to know this difference of weight between John Smith dead and John Smith living, does not seem to be a consideration worthy of notice; nor is it stated whether a bad soul weighs as much as a good one; nor is it yet shown what a Negro soul will weigh on a white man's scales, but we

may count on it that a comparison will soon be made and that it will be demonstrated beyond all possible contradiction by some such scientific demonstrators of soul weights, that a Negro's soul weighs less than a white man's, or if weight does not count for superiority in soul value, then it will be as clearly demonstrated the other way—all of which will be equally sensible and scientific to those who are fond of indulging their imaginations more perhaps to appeal to the sensational than the rational part of our nature.

To Separate the Races in the Episcopal Church in North Carolina

THE Diocesan Convention has recently voted to settle the long disputed question of the worshipping of the races together in this state by recommending separating the colored churches from the whites as to the matter of meeting together as delegates in conventions and other church gatherings. The colored parishoners now worship in colored churches usually under colored pastors, but these churches belong to the regular white state organization, and are represented in such by delegates; and the bishop of the diocese confirms the Negro applicants for church membership by the laying on of hands, etc. Hereafter this condition will be changed, if so voted by the general convention of the church which meets next year.

This may mean a Negro Episcopal Bishop; and if so, the wrath of man may be made to help the race, as it is quite sure that a long time would elapse before we might have a Negro Episcopal Bishop elected by the white conventions as at present constituted.

But at the bottom of this change appears the cunning hand of the Bourbon politician, who lets no occasion escape to "Jim Crow" the Negro race, and thus, as he thinks, drive another nail into his political coffin. The church is being used by them in this instance to further boost up the color line propaganda which, by men of the Tillman-Vardaman stripe, is the only issue brought before their people.

Henry Watterson recently said: "The South is held together under the Democratic label by the race question and the race question alone."

Mr. Watterson is good authority on Southern sentiment, and he sees the efforts of the Southern politicians to keep the Negro question to the front, in order that their power may not wane under the growing Southern sentiment, which would put before the great mass of Southern people economic questions in place of gyrating on the stump about the old saw, "Do you want your daughter to marry a nigger?" Some of the thoughtful men of the South know there is no danger along this line, and understand how the trick is played, and these men are clamoring for a change; but in this last act of the players they seek the sanction of the Church of God to impress upon the people, if possible, the righteousness of race hatred.

We are glad that the good Bishop Cheshire of the above named diocese has had the courage to stand out against the proposed separation, not because we desire to be with the whites, but because he shows by his acts that his heart is in the right place, and that there are some

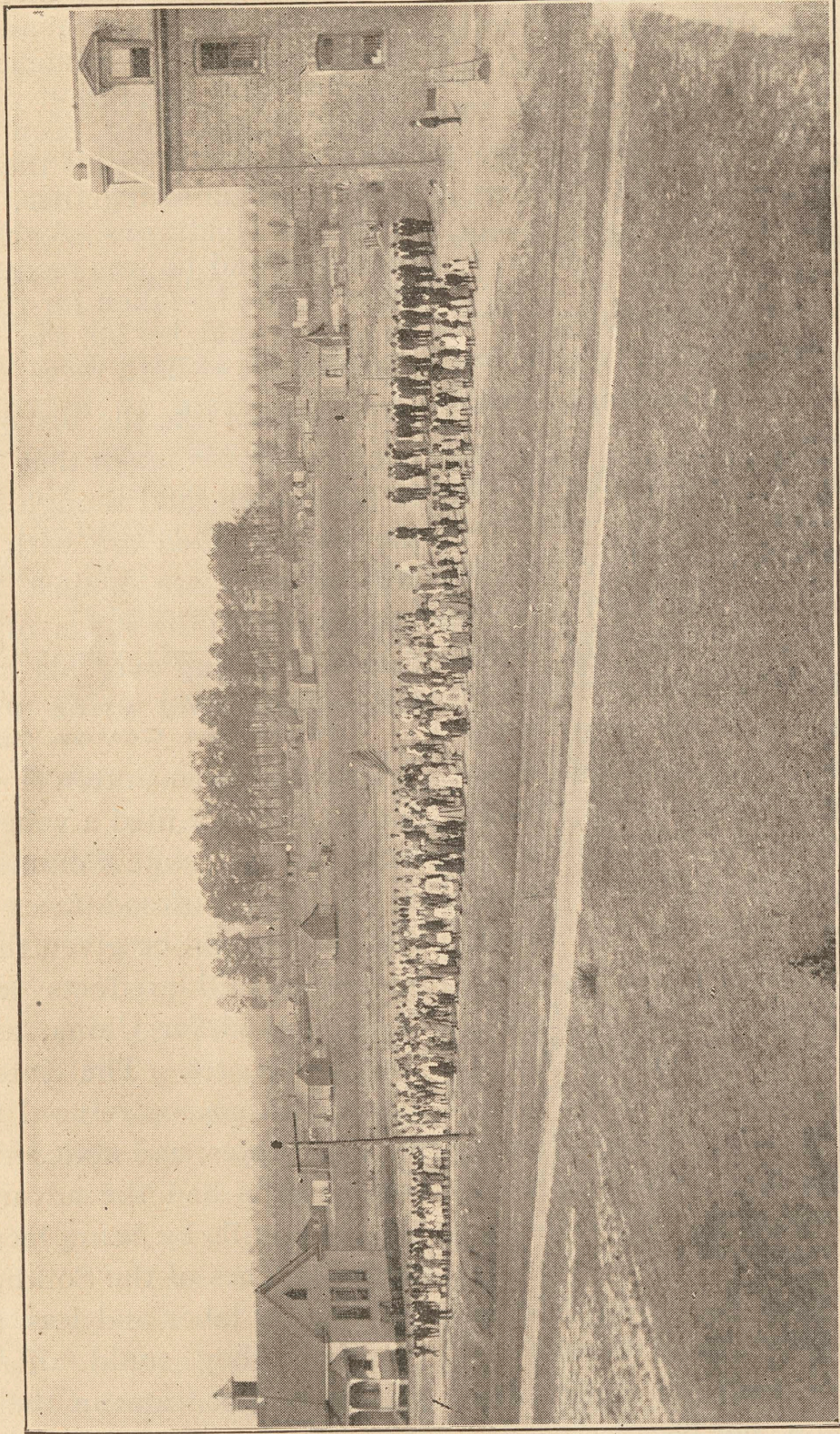
whites that do not wish to bow the knee to this political Baal. Bishop Cheshire is reported in this connection as follows:

Thursday morning Bishop Cheshire delivered an address, and most impressive was his treatment of the subject of the separation of the races. While it had long been a cherished idea and desire of his that the church should remain together, yet he said that the conditions of the times had changed and he was ready and willing that action be taken for the separation which would be for the welfare and betterment of both races.

This looks like the bishop were yielding to some vis major that has grown up in his church, and though he may know the laws of God are with him, yet the laws of man are against him, and he had to bow to the storm of race hatred that is sweeping over his denomination.

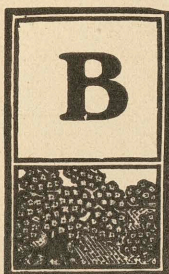
Discriminating Shoe Pinches the Southern Cotton Spinners

THE Southern Cotton Spinners' Association recently filed a vehement protest with the Interstate Commerce Commission to have railroad rates equalized so that they would be given the same rates on cotton mill products, to the Pacific Coast, bound for China, as New England mills get. The Interstate Commerce Commission refused their request for equal rates, and stated that Southern cotton mills had the advantage of New England mills by being located near the cotton patches of the South, and had to pay less for labor and less for fuel, and therefore they could afford to pay a higher freight rate on their goods, and thus it is that the Southern cotton spinner sees how discrimination feels, and he gets the pinch also in a very sore spot, to wit, his pocket.



MORNING DRILL AT FORT VALLEY HIGH AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL—See Page 447

Negro Banks and Where Located

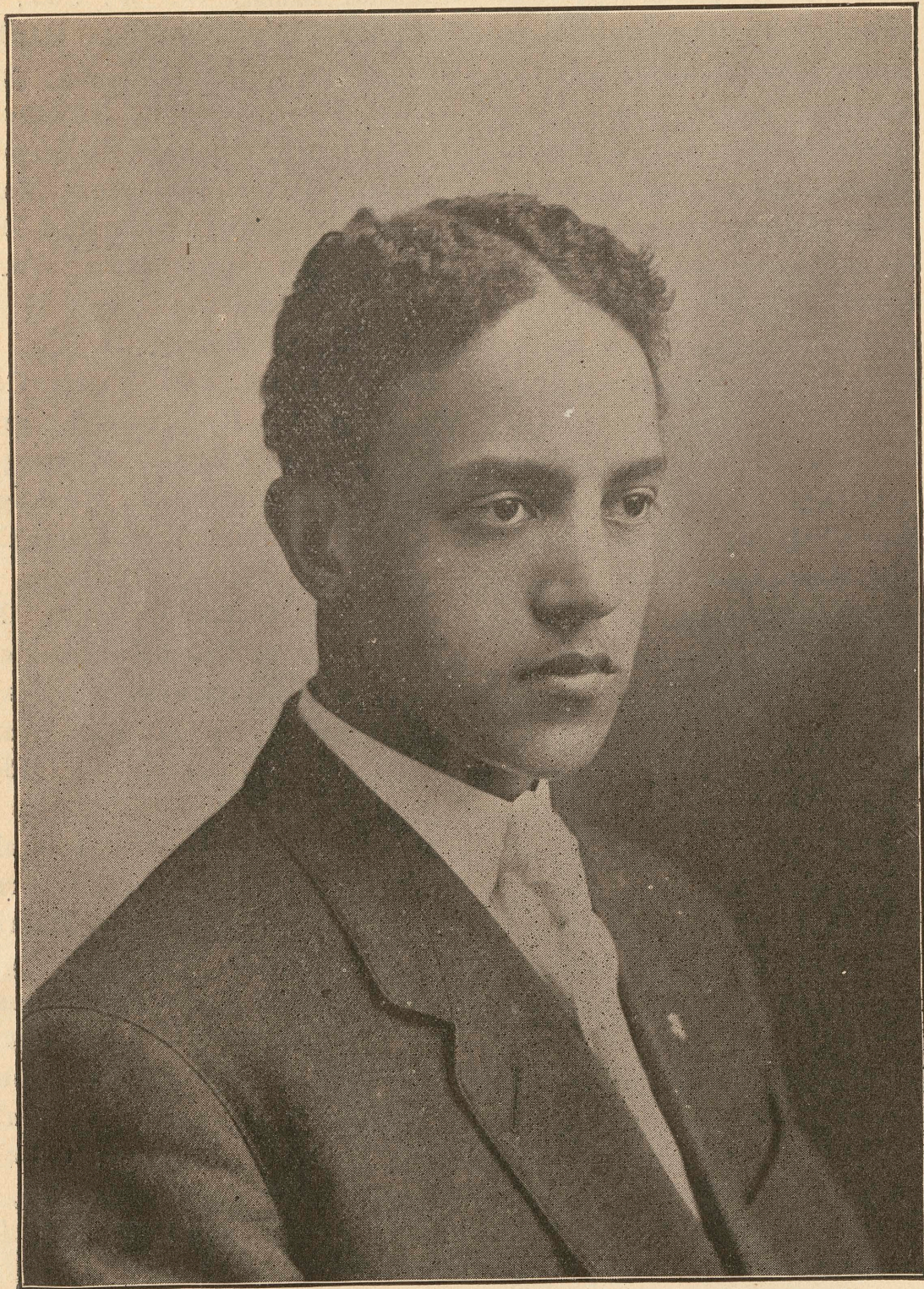


BELIEVING that it will be of interest to the public to know the location of the various Negro banks, we present herewith a list of them. Each one is doing good in its particular locality, and the management of each is along conservative lines. A number keep reserve accounts in the banks of New York City and are highly regarded:

True Reformers' Bank, Richmond, Va., R. T. Hill, cashier; Alabama Penny Savings Bank, Birmingham, Ala., W. R. Pettiford, president; Bank of Mound Bayou, Mound Bayou, Miss., Chas. Banks, cashier; Lincoln Savings Bank, Vicksburg, Miss., W. E. Molli-son, president; Union Savings Bank, Vicksburg, Miss.; One Cent Savings Bank, Nashville, Tenn., J. C. Napier, cashier; Savings Bank Knights of Honor of the World, Greenville, Miss., H. C. Wallace, cashier; Wage Earners' Bank, Savannah, Ga., Walter Scott, president; Order of St. Luke's Bank, Richmond, Va., Mrs. M. Walker, president; Mechanics' Banks, Richmond, Va.; American Trust Savings Bank, Jackson, Miss., S. D. Redmond, president; Capital City Savings Bank, Little Rock, Ark., Judge M. W. Gibbs, president; Delta Savings Bank, In-

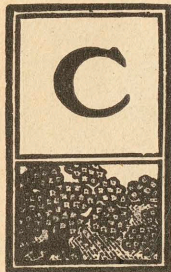
dianola, Miss., W. W. Cox, Cashier; People's Penny Savings Bank, Yazoo City, Miss., H. H. King, president; Nickel Savings Bank, Richmond, Va.; G. U. O. of Galilean Fishermen Consolidated Bank, Hampton, Va., T. H. Shorts, president; Sons and Daughters of Peace, Newport New, Va., S. A. Howell, president; Isaac H. Smith's Bank; New Berne, N. C.; Solvent Savings Bank and Trust Company, Memphis, R. R. Church, president; Creek Citizen's Bank, Muskogee, Ind. Ter.; Gold Bond Bank, Muskogee, Ind. T.; People's Bank and Trust Co., Muskogee, Ind. Ter., J. Johnson, cashier; Bluff City Savings Bank, Natchez, Miss.; Central Trust Building and Loan Association, Jacksonville, Fla.; Unity Savings and Trust Co., Pine Bluff, Ark., J. N. Donohue, president; Gideon Savings Bank, Norfolk, Va., E. J. Pur-year, president; Southern Bank, Jackson, Miss., L. K. Atwood, president; People's Savings Bank, Hattiesburg, Miss., Edw. D. Howells, president Penny Savings Bank, Columbus, Miss., W. I. Mitchell, vice-president; Loan and Trust Company, Savannah, Ga.; Metropolitan Bank, Savannah, Ga., Fred. M. Cohen, cashier; Tuskegee Institute Bank, Tuskegee, Ala., Thomas Murray, cashier; Boley, I. T., two banks.





CHARLES A. ISBELL, THE YOUNG SARTORIAL ARTIST

An Afro-American's Interesting Career



CHARLES A. ISBELL, a young Afro-American cutter and designer, was born in Lynchburg, Va., October 22, 1886. At a very early age in life his parents decided to live in Norfolk, and for the last seventeen years that city has been his home.

While attending the public school from which he graduated it was noticed that Isbell had a great art for sewing. He entered as an apprentice in the tailoring establishment of Chas. S. Carter, of Norfolk, Va., with a determination to master the trade which is so often misrepresented by inexperienced men—the trade from its foundation, without leaving anything undone. Mr. Isbell carried it to a high point, and in the cutting and making of garments worn by men he is proficient. Having surpassed all of his fellow workmen, Isbell entered the John J. Mitchell Cutting and Designing School, and among the

students he stood as the only representative of his race. From this institution he received a diploma of merit, finishing in fifteen days. After his graduation Mr. Isbell appeared before the leading tailors of the metropolis, but found them surprised at his request for a position as cutter. To prove his ability he accepted a position at first as coatmaker in a Fifth avenue establishment, where he made all styles of garments, being the only Negro "jur" on the avenue. Mr. Isbell's career is a most honorable one. In six years he has covered more ground than any other person known—from the start of an apprentice in a Queen street shop to a skilled mechanic in the world's greatest thoroughfare.

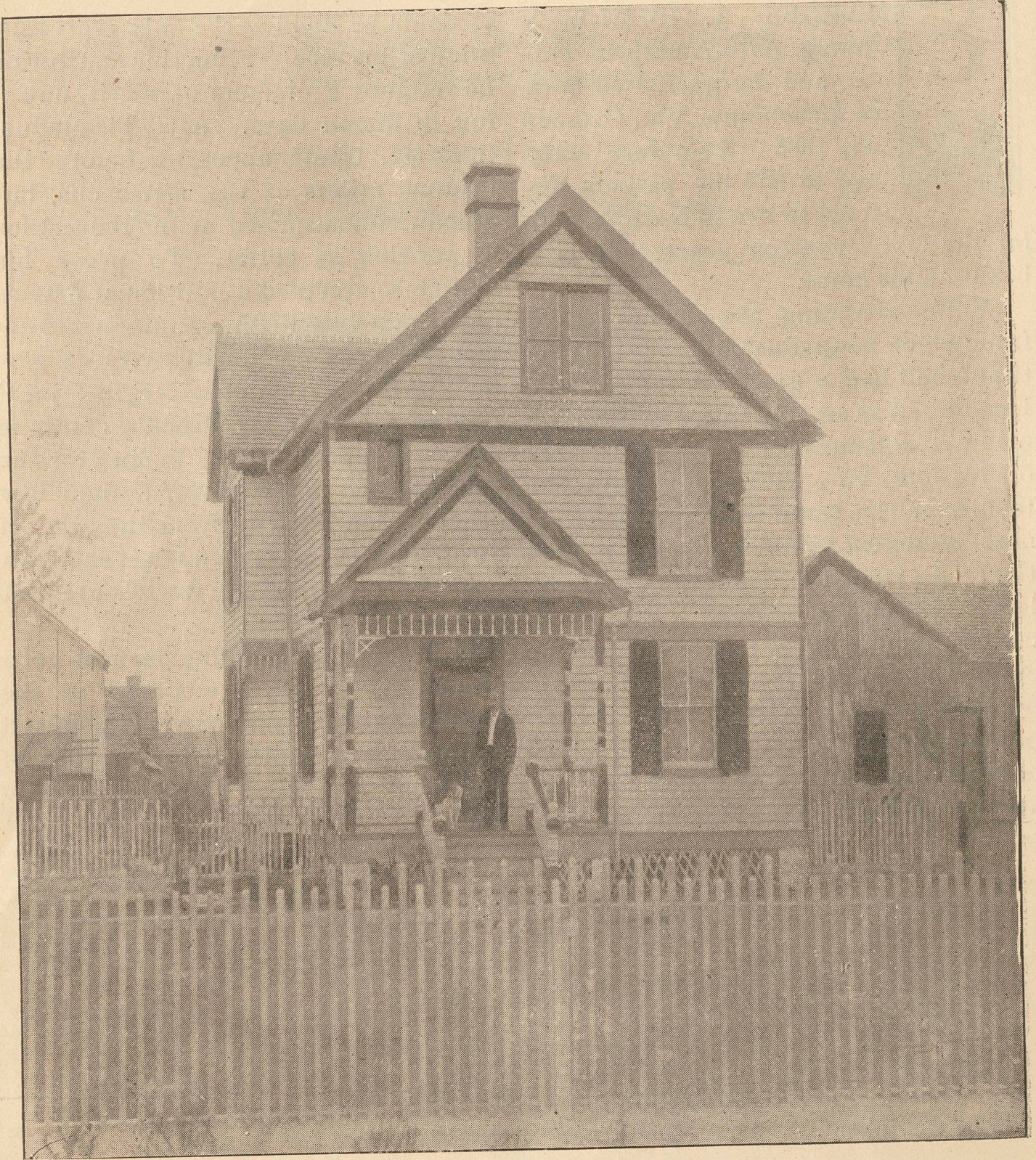
Mr. Isbell is a young man of good character. To-day he stands as the foremost promoter in his profession, and at present is employed by the firm of Ferguson & Co., Fifth avenue, New York.

AFTER MANY YEARS

From the Youth's Companion

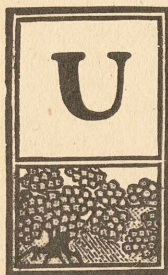
ON the Common stand the cannon,
Sullen, black and grim,
With their shiny muzzles frowning
Over flower beds trim.

In the dashing, splashing fountain
Robins bathe and play;
Green the grass grows round about them,
Moistened with the spray.



B. S. CRESWELL'S RESIDENCE, MOUND BAYOU, MISS.

Wonderful Mound Bayou



UNDER the splendid and aggressive administration of Mayor B. H. Cresswell, the new mayor of Mound Bayou, Mississippi, that Negrotown and colony is attaining to large proportions and its vicinity affords great opportunities for Negro farmers and settlers.

Since the establishment of this exclusive Negro town in 1888 by the distinguished Isaiah T. Montgomery and Benj. T. Green, its rise and progress have been wonderful, and in a strong presentation evidence the executive ability of the Negro and his capacity for the administration of complicated affairs.

Mound Bayou is located in the alluvial Mississippi Delta, in which the town is located. Although much has been written as to Mound Bayou, the story of the establishment of the town does not grow old, while the success that has marked its rise and the men who are having a part in making great and splendid the present period of its existence, are stories worthy of presentation at any time.

The things that the early settlers of the town did have frequently been told of as a memorial of them. The work that those of the present time is doing is here published that attention may be directed to highly patriotic, unselfish and aggressive men of the Negro race, who are making history for the race that shall be permanent. The men who conduct the municipal business and

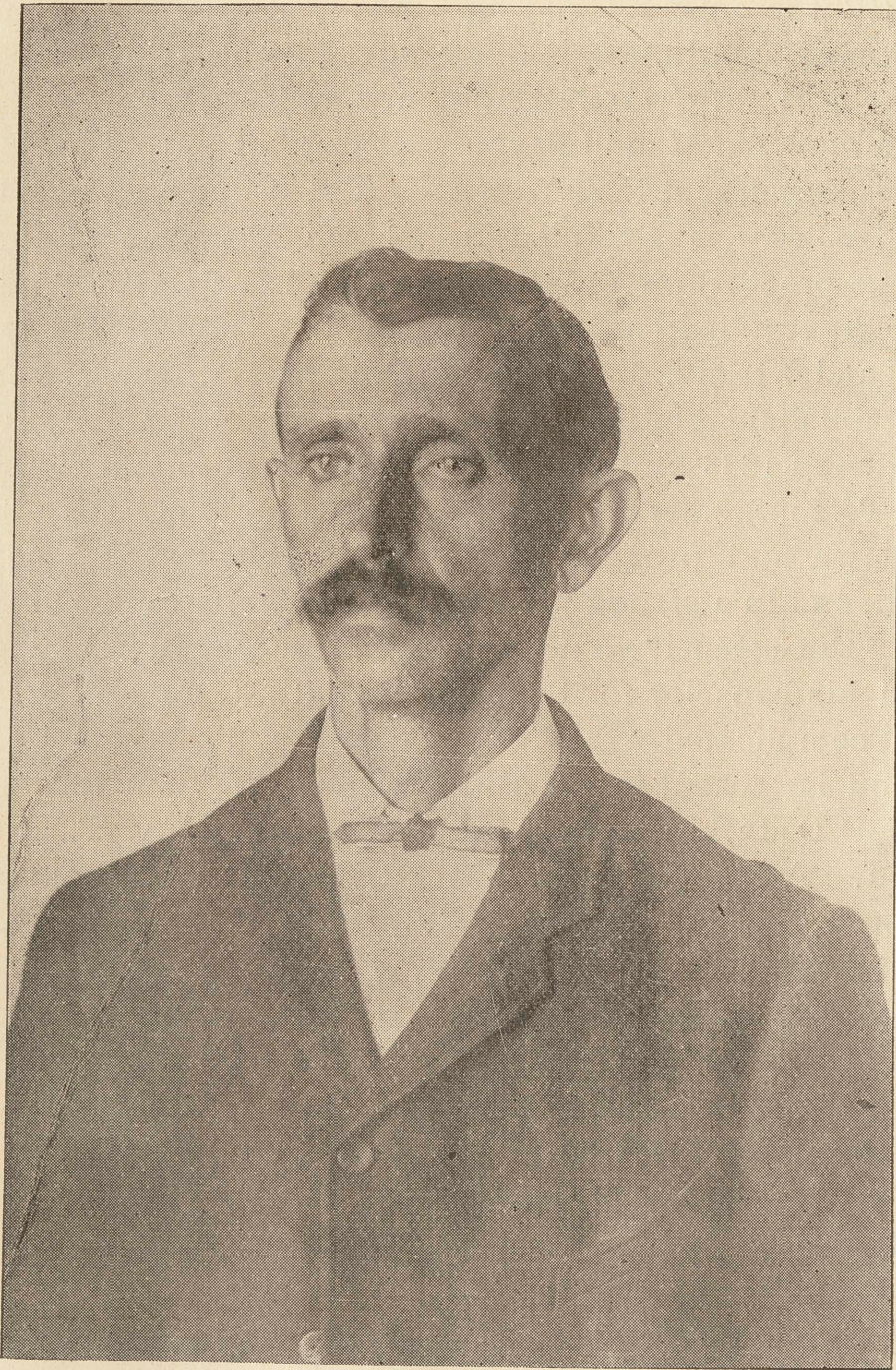
financial affairs of Mound Bayou are of rugged character, sterling worth, and are well and favorably known for their honesty of purpose.

The charter of the town of Mound Bayou was granted in 1898, and as is well known Isaiah T. Montgomery was its first mayor. He was succeeded by Prof. A. P. Hood, who was followed by John W. Cobb, whose untimely death has brought to the mayoralty the present incumbent, B. H. Creswell. Among those who have had a most conspicuous part in the development of Mound Bayou and its vicinity have been R. M. Carty, the well-known merchant and planter of the Mississippi Delta; William Lewis, Jr., Mayor B. H. Creswell, A. T. Broadwater, Jacob Parker, C. R. Stringer, Edward W. Fletcher, J. M. Marr, Perry Strong, William Harris, W. T. Montgomery, J. H. Hibbler, B. W. Hurford, Alexander Myers, C. S. Lockett, T. H. Black, B. F. Ousley, O. C. Christmas, H. A. Godbold, Israel Fisher, Alexander Wilbert, R. A. Fourshea, G. A. Lee, Rufus Williams, Rev. John Jones, Charles Williams, W. L. Grady, J. F. Brooks, Rev. E. L. Dickson, L. O. Hargrove and E. L. Johnson.

As a field for profitable opportunities for thrifty Negro farmers and settlers the lands round and about Mound Bayou are rich with possibilities and promise great harvests for the future. The soil is most fertile, and cotton, which is the chief product, yields from three-

fourths to two bales per acre. Corn crops when properly cultivated will yield abundances equal to the great grain states of the Northwest.

little book giving interesting data and statistics of his town, which gives interesting pen sketches of the various enterprises of Mound Bayou and the



MAYOR B. H. CRESWELL

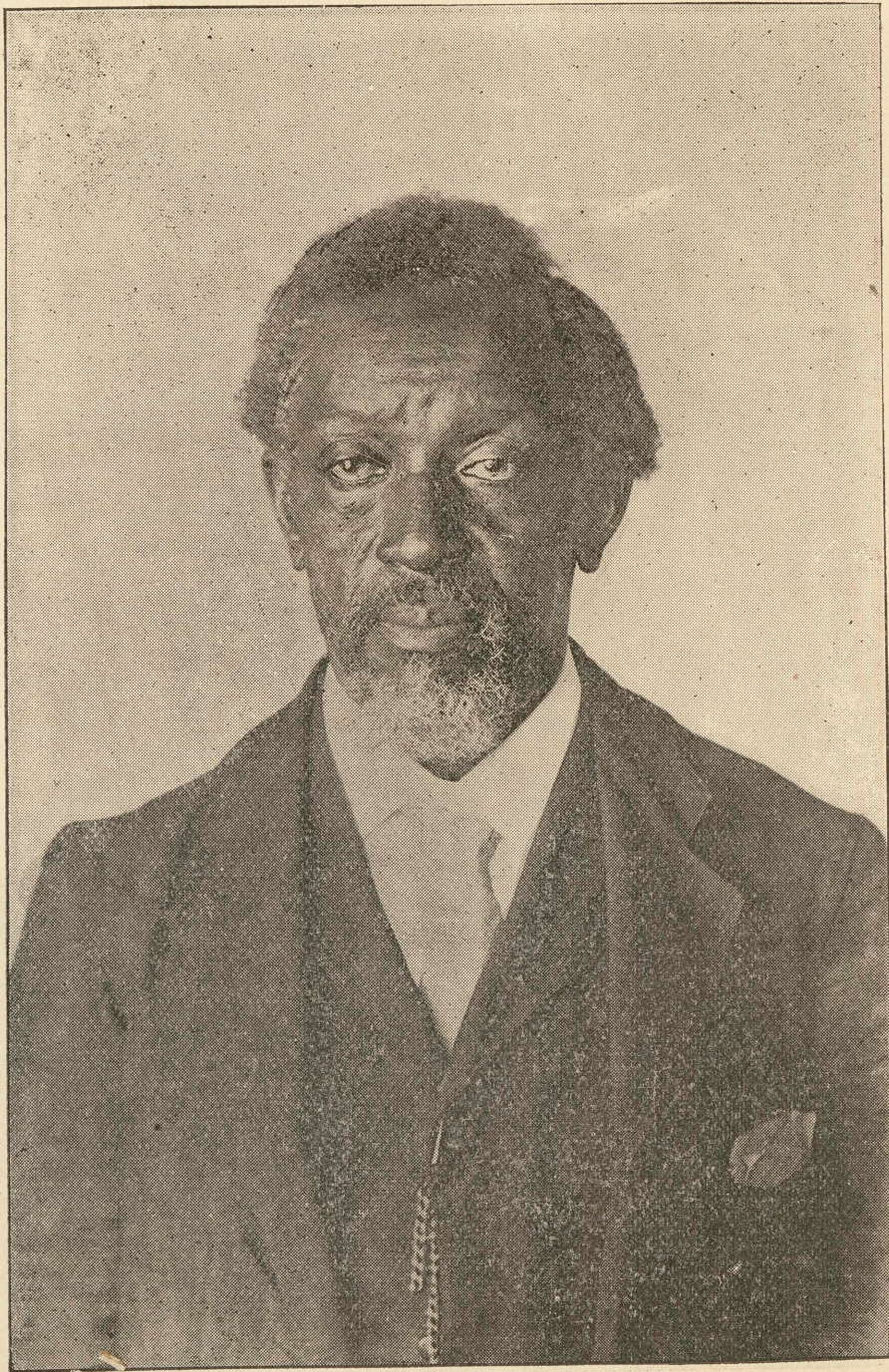
The principal business of those who are domiciled in and about Mound Bayou is agriculture, the principal feature of which is cotton raising.

Cashier Charles Banks of the Bank of Mound Bayou has compiled a valuable

persons by whom they are operated. Among the planters, cotton buyers and merchants of Mound Bayou are: Mrs. E. P. Francis, planter and dealer in general merchandise; Jake Parker, H. A. Godbold, C. R. Stringer & Co.,

George W. Creswell, Rufus Williams and P. R. McCarty, planters and general merchants, constitute the leading business houses of Mound Bayou.

of the Bank of Mound Bayou, and given in detail its status as a financial institution, but in this connection it is interesting to note here that the bank has



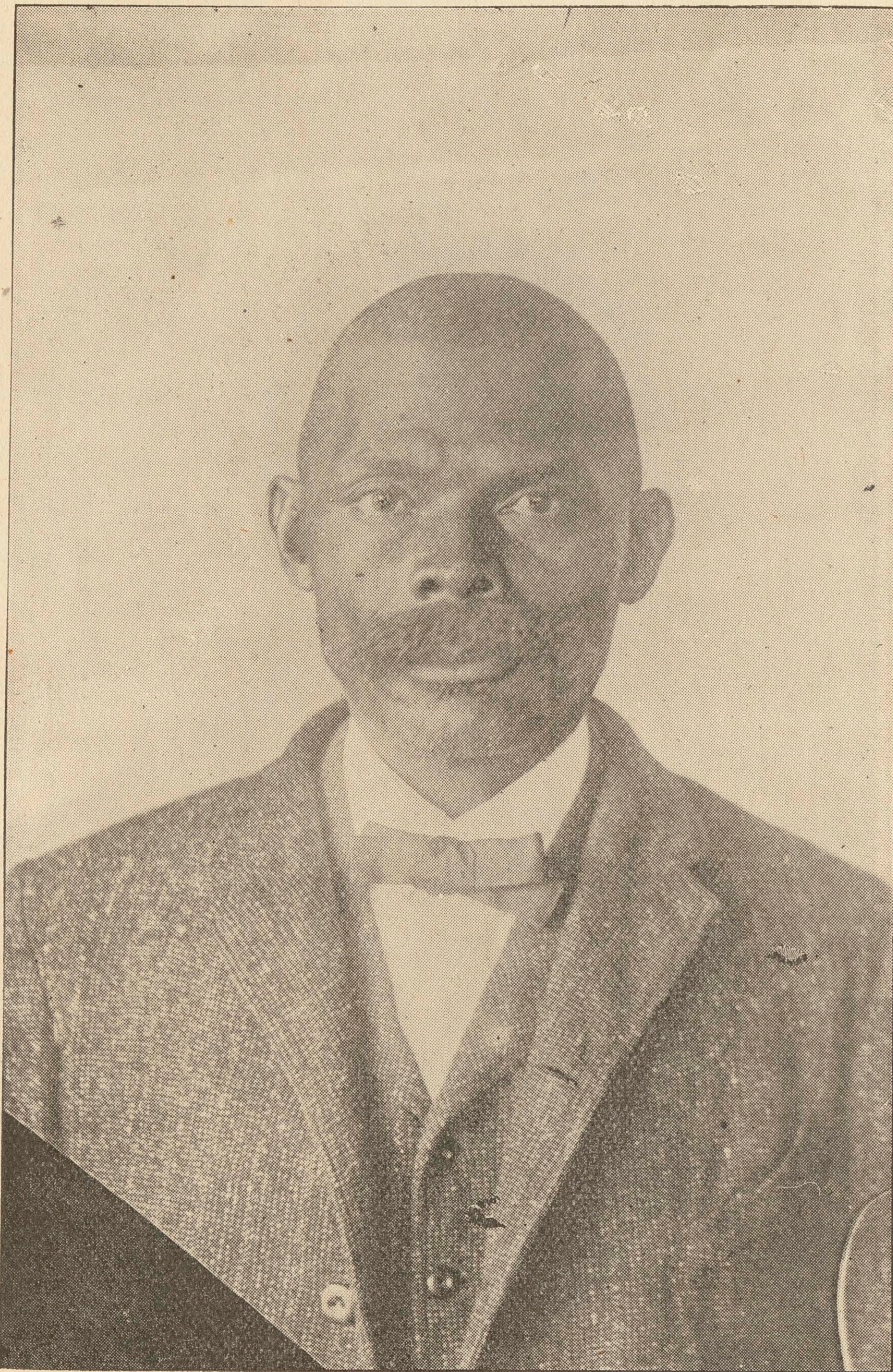
ISAIAH T. MONTGOMERY

The Montgomery Company has just completed the erection of a modern Munger System Gin, the plant costing more than \$6,000.

THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE in a previous edition has already told

completed its handsome two-story building pressed brick front at a cost of \$3,500, and the bank is capitalized at \$10,000. John W. Francis is president; W. T. Montgomery, vice president; Charles Banks, cashier; William

Warren, teller: R. M. McCarty, E. W. Grand Master is Dr. E. W. Lampton, Lampton, B. H. Creswell, A. Hays, T. financial secretary of the A. M. E. Swagen, S. M. Morgan, H. A. Godbold, Church, and Hon. E. E. Perkins is secretary and treasurer. The bank was Jake Parker, C. R. Stringer and T. S.



R. M. McCARTY

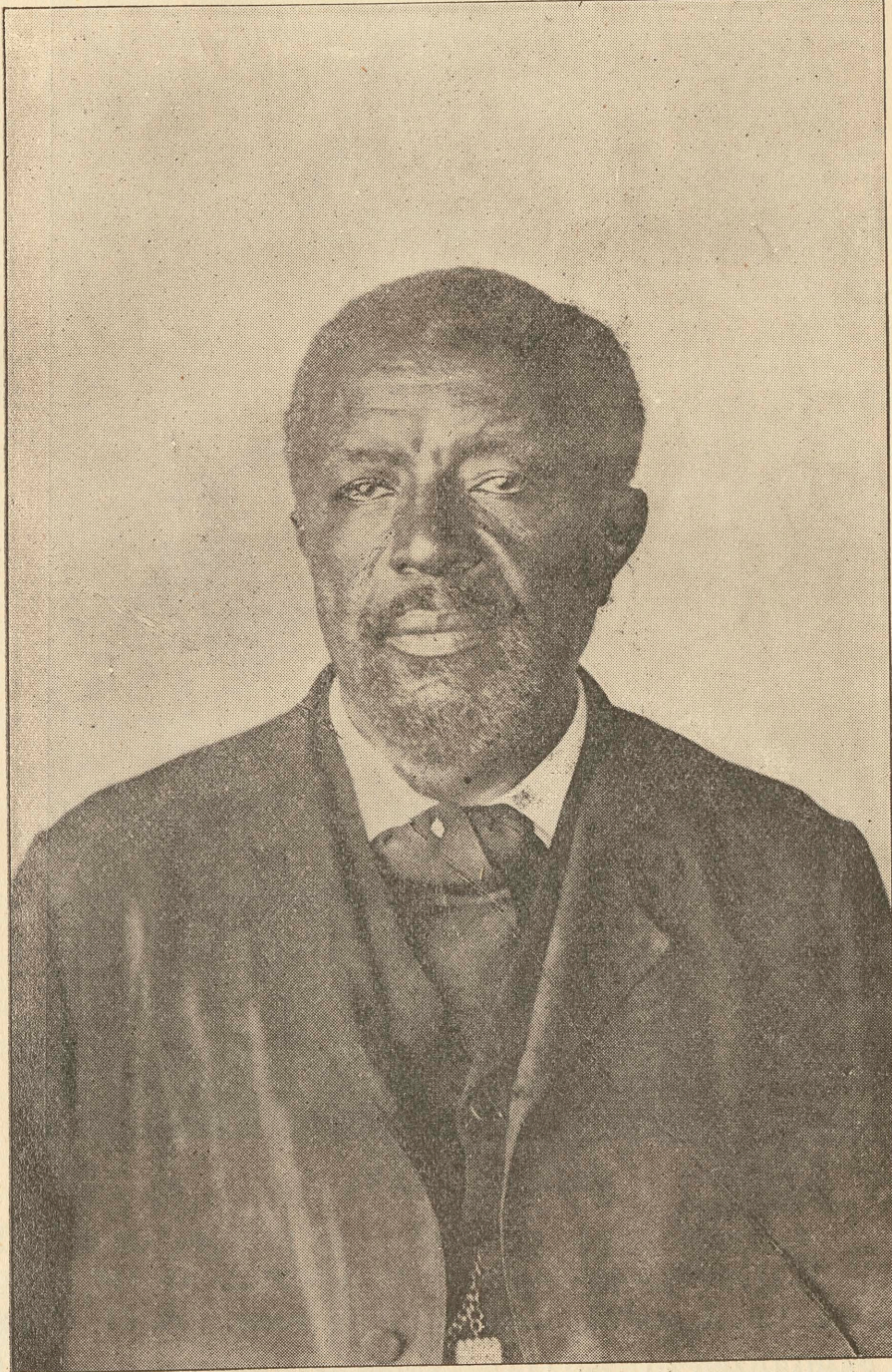
Morris constitute the Board of Directors. The bank is one of the depositories of the M. W. Stringer Grand Lodge of the jurisdiction of Mississippi, the strongest organization operated by Negroes in the United States, whose

organized in 1904.

The Demonstrator is the name of a weekly newspaper published at Mound Bayou, and is a journal of thought and opinion which is conducted by J. W. Covington.

Powell & Harrell, R. M. McCarty and the Mound Bayou Gin Company each have splendid gin plants in and near Mound Bayou which are success-

Barnes, cotton buyers; A. T. Broadwater and T. H. Black, real estate; J. W. Francis, lumber dealer and representative of the Southern Cotton Oil



W. T. MONTGOMERY

fully operated. L. O. Hargrove operates a grist and shingle mill in connection with his machine shop. Among the other business men are: R. W. Hood, blacksmith; G. A. Lee and J. P.

Company; J. F. Brooks, manager of the Mound Bayou Lumber Company; T. C. Jordan, bakery and restaurant; Robert Clopton, Jr., railroad and express agent; W. T. Montgomery is



JOHN W. FRANCIS

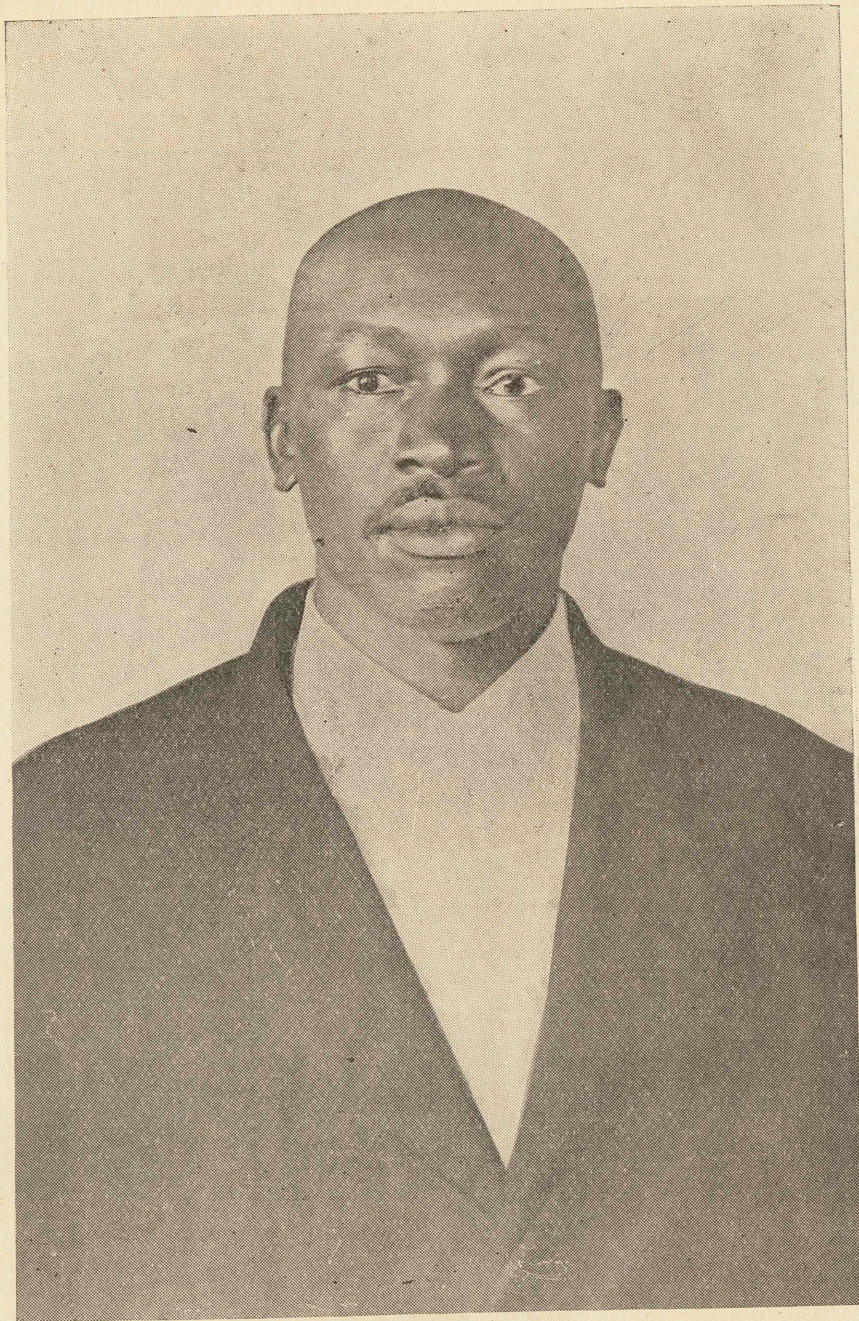
postmaster and W. B. Lewis, assistant.

The Mound Bayou Land and Investment Company, capitalized at \$50,000, has W. T. Montgomery as president and Charles Banks as secretary and treasurer.

J. P. T. Montgomery is the practicing attorney of the town, while Dr. J. H. Roby is the only medical doctor. All of the officers of the town government

are Negroes, as are the business men and women. B. H. Creswell is mayor, Chas. Williams, marshal; C. R. Stringer, treasurer; Jacob Parker, J. P. Barnes and W. H. Harris constitute the aldermanic board, and R. A. Fourshea is the commissioned deputy sheriff of the place.

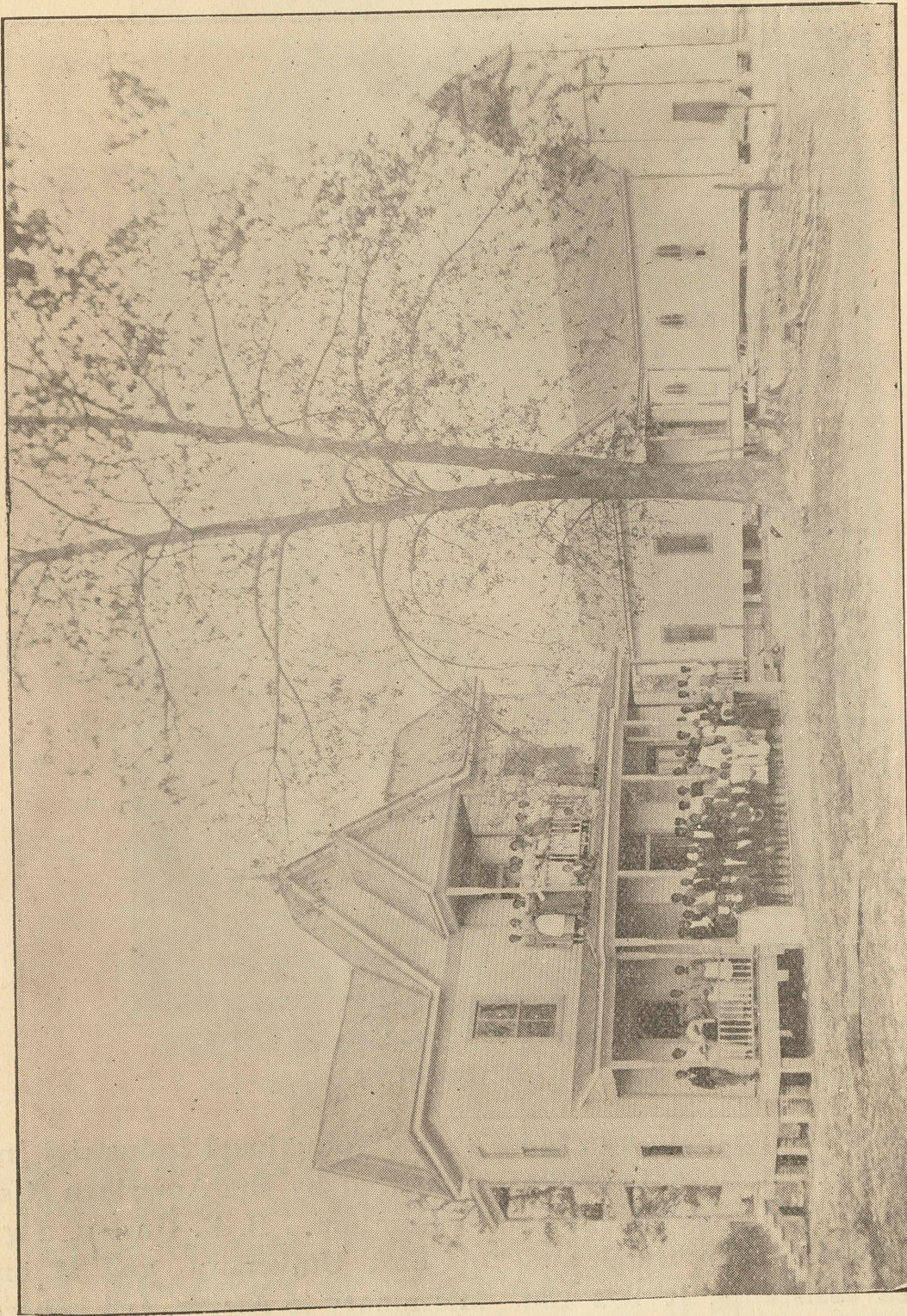
Mound Bayou very properly boasts of the best school facilities of any town its



CHARLES BANKS

size or even double its population in the State of Mississippi. Besides its public school, of which D. L. McDonald is principal and Misses Ellen Hood and Gertrude Jones assistants, it has the Mound Bayou Baptist College, supported by the Negro Baptist women of the Delta. R. McCorkle is principal of this school, with a good corps of assistants. There, also, is located the Mound

Bayou Normal and Industrial Institute, supported by the American Missionary Association. B. F. Ousley, a graduate of Fisk University, and at one time Missionary to Africa, and subsequently a teacher in Alcorn College, is principal of this school. He is assisted by his accomplished wife and Misses M. Ella Wallace and E. S. Savage, each of whom are also from Fisk University.



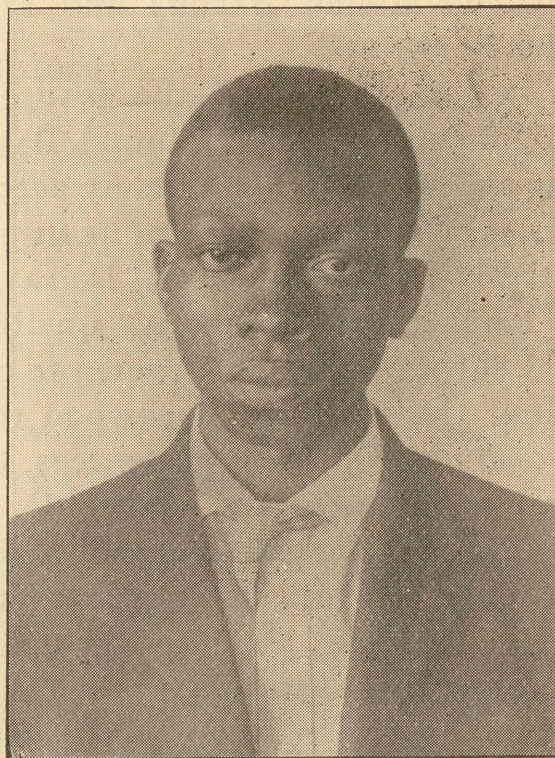
BAPTIST COLLEGE

Campbell College, located at Jackson, Mississippi, operated under the auspices of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, has 1,000 acres of land two miles east of Mound Bayou. This land was given to the school by the late Collis P. Huntington, through the influence of I. T. Montgomery, James Hill and E. W. Lampton. The land is being opened to cultivation and will in the course of a few years be a source of revenue to the school. It is thought by some that an industrial school will finally be established upon the lands.

In the number of churches and the class of church buildings, Mound Bayou easily outdistances any town between Memphis and Vicksburg, excepting Greenville—Baptists, Methodists and Cambellites or Christians each having good buildings in which to worship.

Dr. C. S. Bowman, a graduate of Walden University, is pastor of the A. M. E. Church; Rev. S. M. Morgan, P. E., is in charge of the A. M. E. Zion work; Rev. G. W. Porter is pastor of the Christian Church; Rev. A. A. Cosey is also corresponding secretary of the National Baptist Benefit Association, placing him in touch with all the Baptists of America.

"After a brief summary of what Mound Bayou has," says Mr. Banks, "it may be well to set forth what is considered among the needs of the town and colony, with a view to attracting some of the inactive wealth belonging to Negroes elsewhere to this immediate territory. While we are not so much lost to stating facts as to claim for this a new Elysian field, its promoters feel that some superior advan-



R. CLOPTON

tages exist here for the industrious upright colored man.

This being a territory in which there will be found suitable timber for some time to come, the erection of a spoke factory should be at least investigated. Such plants are operated successfully in nearby towns.

An oil mill, with sufficient capital and connections, should pay as well here as in towns having no more natural advantages than Mound Bayou. These and kindred plants, characteristic and commonly found established in the Yazoo-Mississippi Delta should fare as well here as in any other town in this section where they are now being operated successfully. The local people will be found ready to lend all encouragement and inducements necessary for the establishment of such as have been outlined."

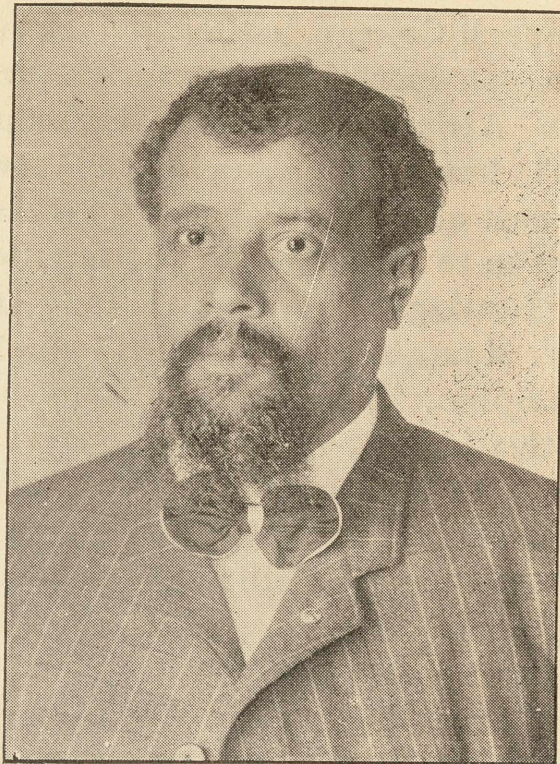
The most cordial relations exist between the whites and Negroes in the

vicinity of Mound Bayou; and says, Cashier Banks:—

“You ask, ‘What of the future of Mound Bayou?’ What Mound Bayou is now and what it has already accomplished is largely prophetic of its future. Situated in the great alluvial Delta district, lands whose productive qualities are not surpassed by any known to civilization, timbered by hardwood that finds ready sale at fabulous prices, her natural advantages are admirable indeed. No part of this great section has yet reached its full development; the beautiful, thriving, hustling towns dotted here and there throughout the Delta, with their factories, water-works, electric lights and other modern improvements have reached their present stage with the Delta only partially developed. What may we expect when practically all the lands have been cleared, properly drained and tilled and a full supply of



J. H. ROBY



T. C. JORDAN

contented and efficient labor everywhere to do the work desired?

In proportion as the whole Delta approaches these conditions, Mound Bayou will progress also. There is another distinction that is more than likely to come to Mound Bayou. As the years go by, and our schools, colleges and churches improve in power and capacity, as our streets are drained and paved, our oil lamps replaced by electric lights, the old, antiquated characteristic Delta pump is displaced by bountiful streams of pure artesian water, Negroes will begin to make this their resident home, even though they are engaged in business or make their livelihood elsewhere; there will be an atmosphere in which to raise their children and a social status for their wives and daughters very much to their liking.

There are those who ask: ‘Are you not afraid that some day the whites will

be moved to wipe out Mound Bayou by violence?' Knowing the controlling forces among the whites as I do, in this section; gathered by a stay of thirty-three years among them, I say no, we are not afraid. The Negroes who shape and control the destiny of Mound Bayou understand conditions too well to allow any radical, nonsensical and indiscreet policy to prevail here on the one hand, and there are too many white men around us or in easy reach who are our friends and willing to see that no impediment is thrown in our way or undue advantage taken of us by irresponsible parties on the other. This has been demonstrated on several occasions. Verily, the future holds much in store for Mound Bayou."

Historically, Mound Bayou has an interesting feature and the establishment of the colony may be told as follows:

Through an act of the Legislature of Mississippi the Yazoo Mississippi Delta Levee Board, and subsequently the L. N. O. & T. Railroad acquired several thousand acres of land in the Delta that they were anxious to have open for cultivation, to afford an additional source of revenue to their company and a lasting one after the timber was exhausted.

The late Hon. James Hill was employed by Major G. W. McGinnis, then Land Commissioner for the L. N. O. & T. Railroad Co., to secure desirable col-

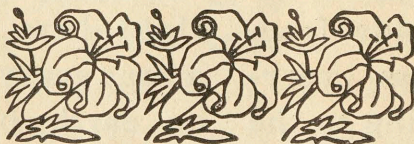
ored purchasers and settlers for this territory.

After a consultation (in 1887) with Hon. Isaiah T. Montgomery, then located at Vicksburg, it was decided that in addition to the Delta being a good field for the Negro to buy lands on terms advantageous to himself, that the founding of a Negro town and colony, somewhere in this alluvial district, was among the possibilities also.

The plan was submitted to the railroad authorities, who heartily approved of the project and promised their support in whatever way found practicable and consistent with their regulations.

In 1888 Isaiah T. Montgomery, together with a cousin, Benjamin T. Green, also of Warren County, attempted to put into execution the idea already conceived, viz: the establishment of a Negro town and colony. Mound Bayou was selected as the name of the town, after the name of a small bayou traversing the same section and township in which the town was located.

By a systematic effort of advertising and correspondence with colored people over the state, in a few years quite a number of industrious persons were induced to settle in the town and colony. Montgomery and Green conducted their business jointly until 1892, when a division was made and each conducted his own business thereafter, but together owned all the unsold property in "The Bayou."



On Behalf of the Chamber of Commerce

Address of Welcome by Hon. Samuel D. Jones, President of the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce, Delivered before the Atlanta Session of the National Negro Business League



R. PRESIDENT AND FRIENDS:

If there is any place in the world where you ought to receive a hearty welcome, it is in Georgia! There are more people of your race in our state than in any other same-sized piece of territory on the face of the earth outside of Africa. And the state of Georgia affords to you who live here and those of you who are visiting our city, as fine opportunities for success in life as any state on the globe. And there are furnished or offered to you business men who have met here to discuss problems affecting various phases of the business world—and by the way we all have problems to solve. You will find in Atlanta a mart of commerce and trade not exceeded, for its size, by any city on the "top of the ball." Every single, solitary pulse in this city is beating with business. Every single stride that helps to vitalize our streets is quickened by the impulse of active, pressing, pushing business. Even a short stay in our midst will prove what I say is true. So I repeat that you hardly need a welcome from Georgia or from Atlanta.

I represent a body of about 500 business concerns or business men, and I know from their actions, I know from their movements, that business everywhere is crowding and pressing to the front.

Now I have been particularly struck, Mr. President, with the title of your League, and, with your permission, I want to make a remark or two on that. In the first place, I want to commend you for calling it "National." I suspect you called it that when it was born. I hope you did. And if you did you thereby said "we don't want any sectionalism in this matter." By doing that you said that we want the best thought, the wisest counsel, the most improved action and the help of the best men from this entire country to come to our aid and assistance, and thereby you acted wisely.

Now you said another thing, in choosing your name, that perhaps I ought to speak about (and those of you here who know me, know that I say whatever I please and wherever I please and don't mean any special hurt to anybody). I notice that you call this the "National Negro Business League." "NEGRO"—the word "Negro" stands for one of the most populous races on the face of the globe; you have over ten millions of them in the United States and there are many more millions elsewhere, and while I look and feel very kindly toward our Negro friends here who call themselves "colored people," I want to say to you right here and now that "colored" means everything on earth—everything on earth but white and black. Mr. Washington will tell you that down at

his school—if he were to ask one of his boys down at Tuskegee to name all of the primary colors, and that boy should name either black or white as one of those colors, he would mark him down on his report. Now what is the sense of applying a title to a class that may mean red, or yellow, or indigo, or green, mostly green? Now I just throw that out for you to think about. Now another thought. Suppose in years to come, some one should go out on one of the islands of the sea and find a great monument towering towards the heavens like the Eiffel Tower in France, or Washington's monument in Washington, and suppose one should read inscribed on that wonderful and enduring monument, erected to commemorate some practical achievement these words: "This great monument was erected by colored people!" Why what would that mean? Could not one reasonably say—the monument must have been built by four million Chinamen over there, or it must have been put up by the Indians of America or the inhabitants of British India; indeed such an indefinite term would clothe in doubt or hide forever the achievements of your race. For years you have been best known and generally understood by the term "Negro;" under that name you have suffered and endured, and if the inscription on that monument, to which I have just referred, is made to read "colored people," why don't you see how you will cut yourself out. Your race—the Negro race—is trying to build that monument; your race is building upward, and you are entitled to credit for so doing. And when you call your-

selves by your racial name as others call themselves, such as Caucasians, Malays, etc., then you will get the credit for what you do or achieve.

And then you say it is a Business League. You understand that I am no orator, I am no politician—I am just a plain business man—a busy man, as Mr. Harwell puts it, and a business man. Now I am in great danger, and you are too, for I could talk from sunrise to sundown on the subject of business; it is that in which I am perhaps most deeply interested; I wrestle with it about fourteen hours out of every twenty-four, and in my zeal to discuss this subject I might detain you beyond a reasonable limit of time. However I want to say this much to you. No business man, and yet again, No Business, was ever the result of an accident. If you are a business man you are not so by accident. If you have a good, prosperous business, you have not got it by accident; it has come as the result of earnest thought, sensible planning, good judgment and energetic action; it takes thought, and planning, and judgment and energy to build up a business. And just to the extent that you are a business man, you are removed that far from the mere accidents of life. You are not a business man because you are accidentally so. You were not born that way, and no accident in life has thrown you "upon top" in business. If you climb the business ladder, it takes all effort mental, all effort physical, all effort moral that you can muster. And the more of each you muster—the higher you climb.

Now I want to say to everyone of

you engaged in business, no man can successfully establish a business without solving three propositions; (1). He must know from whence and where the cost of his raw material. If he can get abundance of raw material, of the right kind, and at no higher cost to him than to his competitors, then he is all right. (2). Then he must solve the question of his labor. If he can secure sufficiently and readily the proper kind of labor at no greater cost to him than to his competitors, then that proposition is solved. (3). Then he must consider the place where he is going to sell his output; he must consider his market and find a sale for his products at prices equivalent if not superior to those paid his competitors. Then if he manages his business well, he will succeed. And right here let me emphasize one point; it is the management of a business which tells; it is sometimes harder to manage a business successfully than it is to build up a good business from the starting point.

There is enough difference between a well-managed business and a poorly-managed business to make a profit. Do you understand? There is just that difference! You may put two men out in business and let them handle the same articles of merchandise; let them sell in the same market and have the privilege of obtaining the same prices for their products, and I tell you that, even then, there will be a difference in results achieved unless equally good

judgement and good management be exercised. Why I have just seen a case in actual life. As between a business that is well managed and a similar business that is poorly managed, there is difference enough in the management of the business alone to make a profit. The man who manages well, profits and gets rich; the man who manages poorly loses what he has and goes into bankruptcy. I have actually seen that done. Now keep your thinking-caps on.

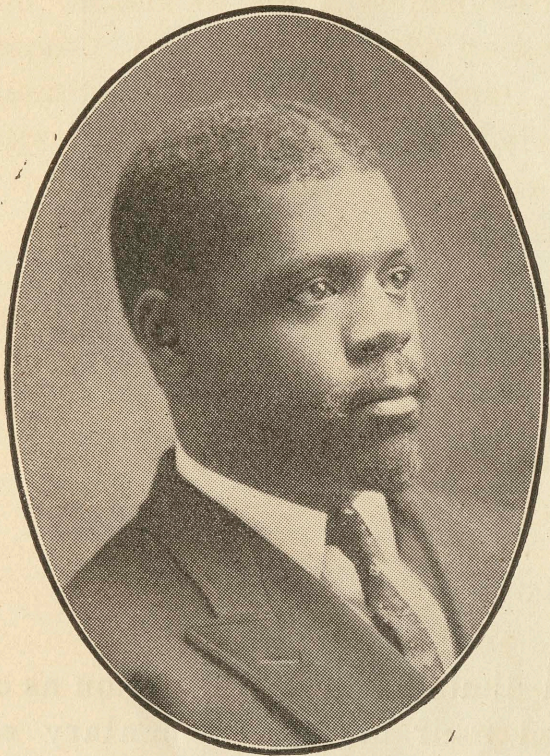
Another thing, if you are in business you have not got to have any "Hours." The business man doesn't work simply eight hours a day; he is got to work 14 or 15 hours if necessary. That is the only salvation to the business, and the only salvation to the man that runs it. And you have got to make up your mind to go back into slavery if you are going to succeed.

Now there is one other thing I would say to the organization so ably represented on this rostrum, and that is this: You call this a "League"—now there is just one thing I want to caution you against—Don't Make it a Trust!!! Everything is in a trust; everything is in a trust from the pills you take when you are sick to the coffin you occupy when dead. I tell you that the American people have run this trust business too far, and I say all praise to Mr. Roosevelt who has simply stamped his position irrevocably against Government By the Trusts."



The Work of the Friends's Freedmen's Association Among Negroes in Virginia

BY E. A. LONG



E. A. LONG

Principal Christiansburg Industrial Institute

sympathies aroused by the mass of uncared for suffering blacks thus thrown upon the charities of the world. The warm feelings of the young men of the society becoming deeply interested in this condition of affairs, prompted them to call a meeting on the fifth day of the eleventh month, 1863, for the purpose of considering how their duty in this matter could be best fulfilled. At this meeting the Friend's Freedmen's Association was organized.

Its aims were so universally recognized as necessary, and so warmly appealed to the sympathies of all Friends throughout America and Great Britain, that contributions in large sums immediately flowed into the treasury of the association. To such an extent was this true that the first five months of its existence it had received in money the sum of \$53,800, about \$10,000 of which came from abroad, besides 22,500 garments. Schools were immediately established among the colored people, both in the East and West, notably on the Peninsular of Yorktown and the vicinity of Norfolk, where about 8,000 contrabands had gathered.

The contributions in the following year amounted to \$64,615.22. The freedmen who flocked to Washington induced the association to erect a school building there at considerable outlay, in which about 300 pupils were taught. In the following years two more schools

EARLY in the War of the Rebellion, when the armies of the government began to penetrate the lines of the Southern forces, it soon resulted that the blacks, escaping from the condition of slavery and fleeing within the Union lines, made a fringe, as it were, of escaped slaves around the outskirts of the rebellion. The members of the Society of Friends, loyal to the heart in every effort to maintain the government, and anxiously desiring to do all consistent with their well-known professions of peaceful principles, had their



A CLASS IN SEWING

were opened in this district. During the early days of reconstruction of the Southern States, and before their policy of public education had been at all developed, the schools maintained by such associations formed perhaps the principal means of instruction to the blacks. The efforts of this association were therefore directed to spreading the benefits of its instruction as widely as its means allowed, and the number of schools maintained by it reached at one time forty-seven in number, with about 6,000 scholars in attendance.

This work, which was carried on so extensively during the first years of the association's existence, was continued on similar lines until 1896. The help given to the different schools varied with the necessities of the case

and diminished in proportion as others filled their place. Elementary education for the colored people came gradually to be recognized as a part of the care of the States, and colored schools came to be maintained generally in the districts in which the labors of the association had been performed. In fact, the association's own work itself had received considerable aid from the states. Thus the work narrowed more and more into a larger support of a few schools, and ultimately, in 1896, entirely to the school at Christiansburg, Virginia. This school had been founded immediately after the war by Captain Charles S. Schæffer, a devoted Christian man, who gave his life after his retirement from the army to the cause of aiding the freedmen of this section. The association first helped this school by

an appropriation of \$200 in 1869.

About 1896 the income of the association was so reduced that the work almost died out, and it was a question whether or not to go on further with it. The necessity for the work, as originally carried on, no longer existed, and Friends began to lose their interest in simply aiding elementary education. Furthermore, there were many cases of discouragement in deal-

quently drifted into the slum life of the cities and became debauched in politics and in morals; and racial hatred had developed more and more through the atrocious crimes of a few members of the race. In all this gloom, to what is certainly one of the greatest questions of this country, there seemed to come only one hopeful solution—the plan of industrial and agricultural education inaugurated at Hampton Institute by General



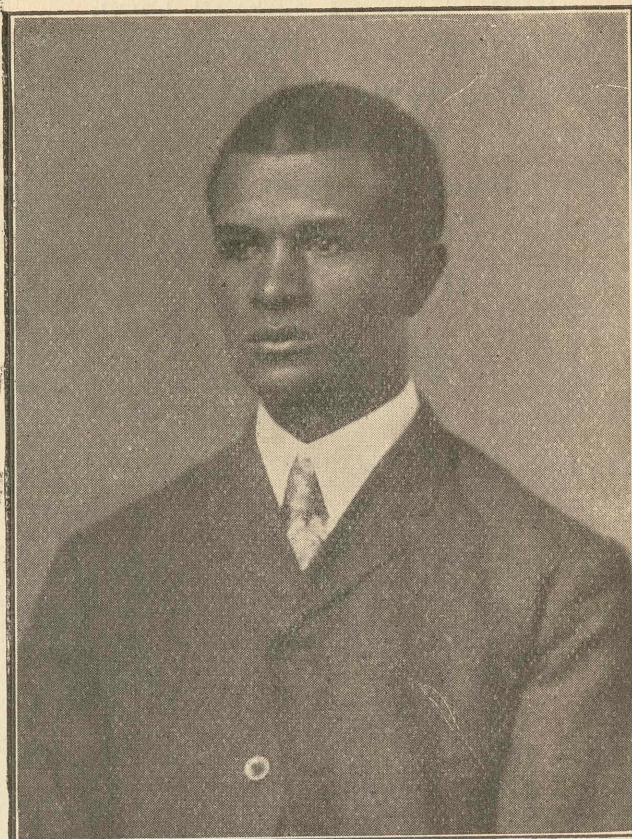
VIEW OF THE BARN, STOCKYARD AND DORMITORY IN THE DISTANCE

ing with the Negroes, so that many persons lost heart and felt that the race was incapable of responding to the efforts put forth in its behalf. Those of its members who had apparently received the greatest advantages, particularly a higher education, had often devoted their talents to unworthy objects. Those who came to the North had fre-

Armstrong, and also developed at Tuskegee by Booker T. Washington.

And it was to this plan that the association turned in attempting to solve the problem which it faced. Accordingly, the school at Christiansburg was made an industrial school, and Booker T. Washington assisted in its reorganization, recommending Charles L.

Marshall, who was one of his graduates, and who for ten years labored earnestly for the upbuilding of the work. It was largely due to his untiring efforts that the interest which is now being manifested in the work by a younger generation of Friends was awakened. He fell asleep in July, 1906, but not before, as expressed in the annual report of his successor, who had been his companion in labor for ten years, he had seen the work grow "from one-half acre of land to 185 acres; from one building to ten; from one pig to 41 head of live stock; from \$1,800 annually for teachers' salaries and general expenses to \$8,100 for the same items." The work grew, and in 1899 a 90-acre farm was purchased near Christiansburg, affording an opportunity for teaching agriculture. This was followed by the establishment of the boarding school upon the farm and by the erection of a new barn, an industrial building, a dormitory for fifty boarders and a principal's cottage, all at a total cost of over \$13,000. In 1905 95 additional acres of farm land were purchased, making the total farm 185 acres, and in 1906 our own carpentry department planned and built a teachers' cottage. The property now comprises a farm, two school houses, trade building, dormitory, barn, two teachers' cottages, out buildings, tools, equipment and live stock, all worth about \$35,000. There are 200 students, of which 50 are boarders. In 1896 the value of the plant was about \$5,000. Farming is the principle industry. Under the careful management of Mr. A. L. Burks, our instructor in agriculture,

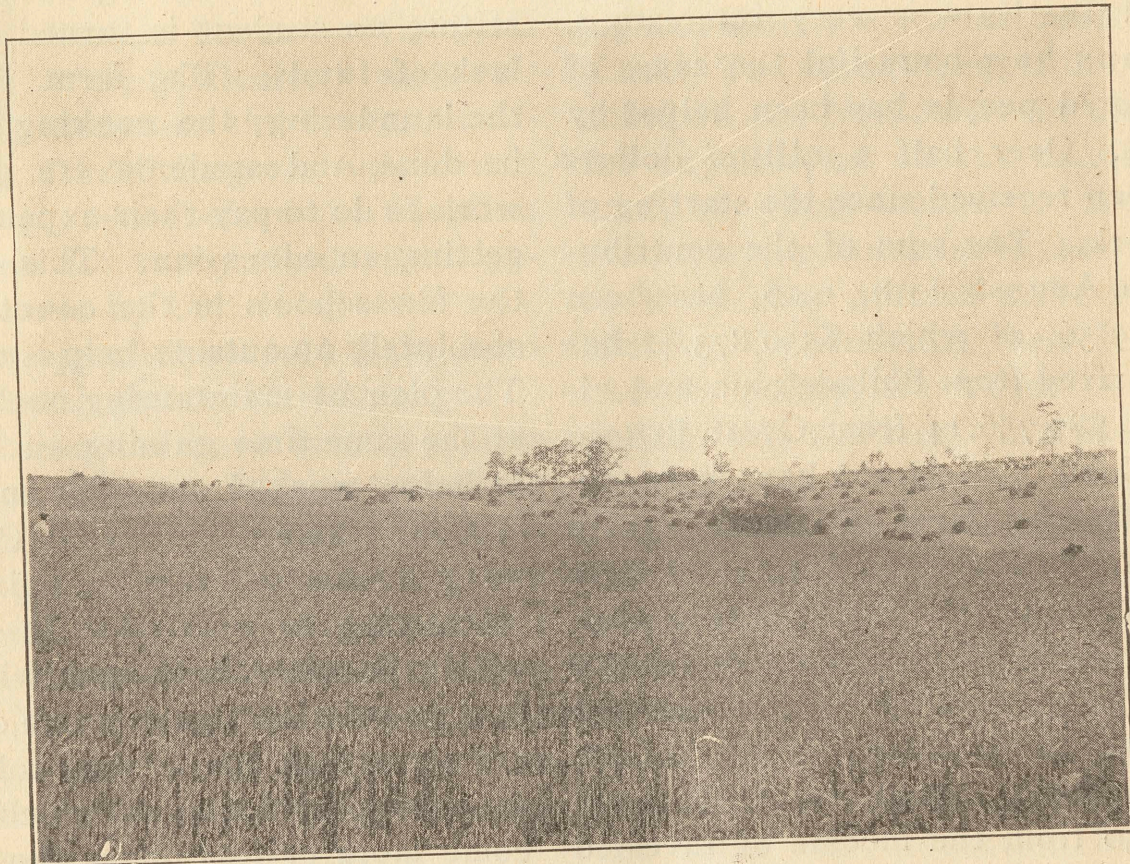


A. L. BURKS
Instructor in Agriculture

who is a graduate of Tuskegee and who was employed by the German Government to conduct experiment in cotton raising on the West Coast of Africa before coming to us, the land has been much increased in fertility. The first crop from our farm, which was an old slave plantation having been rented out for a number of years to careless tenants, yielded only six bushels of wheat to the acre. Last year we raised twenty-four bushels to the acre. This upbuilding of the land is being worked out by ploughing in nitrogeneous plants and by intelligent fertilizing together with frequent cultivation. Our care in details has caused our farm to be an object lesson to the neighborhood. It produces 30 per cent. of all boarding supplies used by the school, at the same

time giving practical education to the boys who carry on its work. Every student is given a chance to work his or her way through school. Board and tuition are charged at fixed rates and are paid in cash or in work. The students do all the work of the institution, for which they receive credit. The boys work on the farm or at some trade, and the girls do the cooking, sewing and

The aim of the present Board is two-fold: First, to maintain an agricultural and industrial school of limited size in this section of the South, where it can come in direct contact with the actual Negro problem; to make it thorough, practical and, as nearly as possible, self-supporting, so to instruct its students in character building, in simple education and in practical labor, that each



A FIELD OF RIPENED GRAIN

laundering of the school. No outside help is employed. Day and night schools are held to teach the simple English branches. Ten teachers compose the Faculty, three of whom are from Hampton, three from Tuskegee, and one each from Pittsburg Normal High School, Armstrong Manual Training School, Wilberforce University and Christiansburg Industrial Institute.

one, realizing that work is honorable and knowing how to do it, can become a useful member of the community and be able to make progress in it; and to show by the upbuilding of the whole neighborhood, through its influence, that it is worth while to do this kind of home mission work. Secondly, to keep alive the philanthropic interest in the colored race, which this society has

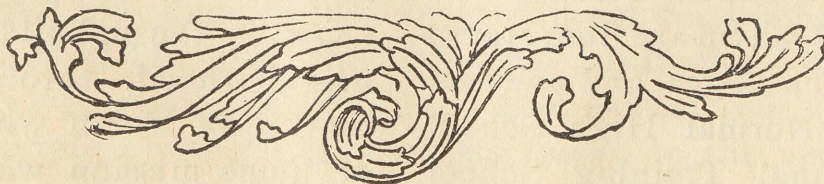
manifested since the days when it began the first fights against slavery; to arouse this interest in this great problem in the hearts of our friends, and to furnish this opportunity for its expression.

That such work is a part of the great reconstruction work of the South can not be doubted.

The financial history of the association supporting the Christiansburg Industrial Institute is very interesting, and shows how bountiful the cause of the colored people has been helped by Friends. Over half a million dollars have been received since the starting of the work. The sum of the contributions to August 20th, 1906, has been \$441,829.56, of which \$350,873.42 has been derived from Philadelphia and vicinity; \$87,756.14 from Great Britain and Ireland, and \$3,200 have been appropriated by New England Yearly Meeting, besides which \$11,211.27 were received through the old Freedmen's Bureau; \$34,168.78 from state or county funds; \$6,954.23 from tuition fees and books sold to freedmen; \$3,566.64 from Christiansburg board, farm, etc., and \$2,400.50 from the income of invested funds, making a grand total since 1863 of \$500,141.02. Of the above contributions \$45,208.40 have been contributed

in the last five years for the school at Christiansburg. In the last seven years the association has increased its annual income more than five-fold. All this indicates the renewed interest which is being felt in the solution of this problem when attempted through such a school as Christiansburg. More is now being contributed yearly than has been the case for over twenty-five years.

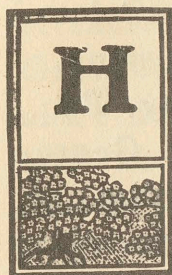
At the Christiansburg Industrial Institute no student is turned away for lack of funds. The farm, the shops, the laundering, the cooking, all must be done, and students are given this work to do to pay their expenses while getting an education. This is one of the few schools in the country where absolutely no outside help is employed. The plan of maintaining one's self and at the same time gaining an education is being worked out with entire satisfaction. No student leaves Christiansburg unable to earn his living. It is interesting to note that in the town where the school is located, where there is a population of not over 2,000, there are six stores operated by colored people, the proprietors of which have all come more or less under the influence of the school, and it is the exception rather than the rule to find a family who does not own its own home.



The New York Negro a Century Ago

His Treatment and Its Bearing Upon Questions Arising Since the Civil War

BY S. R. SCOTTRON



HAD there been a more general knowledge of the history of the City of New York at the end of the Civil War, particularly with reference to the treatment afforded Negroes here over a century ago, even before the adoption of measures for the gradual emancipation of slaves by the state, some very important questions would have been discussed with greater intelligence.

There seems to have been no time since then when there were not those who seemed to believe that a Negro is most dangerous when educated. Only very recently has the primaries of a Southern State been carried, after a long and bitter campaign, in which the foregoing seemed to be the crux of the whole discussion, and it has been decided adversely to the Negro.

There is in this undoubtedly food for thought, the most profound, on the part of the student of mankind in the many phases in which man presents himself for study. What was it, experience or the reasoning of a different people, differing in their very natures, differing in religious character, in their ancestry, that has made possible such a widely different treatment of the Negro in New York from that accorded him in the South since the war? The people

of this vicinity seem never to have stopped a single moment to discuss the question, except for a brief period during and shortly after the revolution in Haiti. The fierce struggle there which ended in the freedom of the blacks and the expatriation of the master class, many of whom settled in the United States, laying the cause of their troubles to what they deemed to be their sole mistake—in educating their Negroes—had its perceptible effect here for a period, but not long. To the Quaker element, the Society of Friends, the Negroes and the State generally, since the state profited greatly by their example and advice, are much indebted. These good people never lost faith in righteousness. The woolly head and black skin of the Negro seemed not to shut him out from their sympathy, and the belief that education would have precisely the same effect in his case as in that of white men; that education was best both for him and for the state; that the strength of a Republican state lies in the general education of the whole people seemed too self-evident a proposition to require discussion. Their faith seemed to affect the whole people, and the records show that they were foremost in providing schools for the Negroes.

Long before the decree for the grad-

ual emancipation of the slaves, even while Negro slavery existed here, the churches, the only public bodies where free schools were supported, admitted Negro and Indian children along with the white.

It is recorded that "on the 25th of January, 1785, a number of gentlemen of the City of New York, who had witnessed the sufferings of the colored people and the frequent injustice done to free persons of color, organized a Society for the Manumission of the Slaves, and for the protection of such of them as have been or may be liberated."

The first meeting was held at the dwelling of John Simmons, inn-keeper. There were present Robert Bowne, Samuel Franklin, John Murray, Sr., and others. At an adjourned meeting of the same body it is noticed that there were present John Jay and Alexander Hamilton. May 11th, 1786, on the request of the Manumission Society, Trinity Church donated ground for the first colored public school, to be supported by general subscription. Cornelius Davis, a white man, left a class of white children to teach this school, at a very small salary. The school opened November 1, 1787, with but twelve scholars, and in July, 1788, the number had increased to twenty-nine, and in November, the same year, to only fifty-six scholars. The good treatment accorded colored children in the parish schools prevented the growth of this separate school, only such attending it as found its situation more convenient.

In 1791 the society sought of Trinity

Church a site for a colored school in the rear of St. George's Chapel, in Beekman street, which, however, was not obtained and opened till 1793. In August, 1792, Mrs. Davis, presumably the wife of Cornelius Davis, teacher of the first colored school, opened a school for colored girls, under the auspices of the Manumission Society. Colored schools seemed then to be prospering.

In May, 1794, Frederick Jay, Esq., presented a lot of land in Great George street, 25 x 100, for a colored school, or, to be sold and the proceeds devoted to that purpose in a more convenient situation. In November, 1795, John Murray, Jr., received a legacy of two hundred pounds from his father's estate, the interest to be a perpetual annuity for the benefit of the African free schools. In 1796, the committee reported having selected a piece of property on Cliff street, and the Jay lot was sold and the proceeds paid for the Cliff street property.

In January, 1797, William Pirsson was appointed principal and John Teasman, a colored man, was made his assistant, over boys, in one of the "African" schools, and Abigail Nicolls, girl's teacher in the same school, which registered one hundred and twenty-two pupils—sixty-three boys and fifty-nine girls. An evening school was opened at the same time.

In 1799, Pirsson retired to open a book store in Brooklyn, and Teasman conducted the school for a period, probably the first colored public school principal in the city. I say public school principal, because the records show that about that time there were many

private schools, for advanced grades, opened and taught by colored persons, who had been educated abroad, and several, in a most excellent institution situated in Brooklyn somewhere near the present site of the Howard Orphan Asylum.

Much indeed might be written of the attention given the colored schools by Governor DeWitt Clinton, John Jay, and others of the Public School Society, after its formation in 1805, and before that time, having the particular attention of the highest officials and most representative citizens. The Legislature of the State of New York nor the Common Council of the City of New York ever refused earnest consideration of every appeal by or in behalf of the colored people and the colored schools of the city.

In Brooklyn, and elsewhere on Long Island, of which we have any record, the same generous consideration was given to Negroes and Indians by the churches. Whatever public school education was afforded seemed to be entirely in the several parishes of the various denominations. The Dutch Reformed Church of Bushwick stands out very conspicuously in this respect and the same is true of the Sands Street Methodist Church and of the Washington Street Methodist Church.

The first public school in the village of Flushing was opened for colored children in 1814, and was maintained by public subscription. The Society of Friends seem to have been foremost in this school too.

The thing that we must not lose sight of is the fact that slavery actually ex-

isted here at the time and for forty years after the opening of the first public school exclusively for colored children. Public schools were opened for colored children here long before the Public School Society opened those for white children; they preceded the white schools by twenty years. Again, note the fact that they were well equipped in every particular and supported for many years entirely by voluntary subscriptions down to the year 1834, when all the school property of the Manumission Society, by consent of the Common Council, passed into the hands of the Public School Society. Seven schools passed into the hands of the latter society at that time, for which they paid \$12,130 22. The special attention which upon every hand had been given the colored, or as they were known then, the "African" schools, by rich, powerful and distinguished persons; the pride that the city took in carrying General Lafayette to visit the colored schools, was significant and had satisfied the Manumission Society that the future of the "African" schools was assured, and they then passed them over to the city.

At the solicitation of the colored people the designation "colored school" was substituted for that of "African school." The word "African" in those days became very objectionable to the colored people, public meetings were held and many protests were made, the State Legislature and the Common Council of the city being memorialized upon the subject, until finally, in 1834, the change was made as above stated. It may be noted just here that at the earnest solicitation of the colored people

between the years 1880 and 1890, the word "colored" was removed from the schools where these children were principally taught, and the principal colored newspaper of the City of New York, has invented and insisted upon hyphenating the old objectionable term so persistently, that very largely at this time the colored people the country over refer to themselves as "Afro-Americans." Before his time, however, about forty years ago, another colored newspaper and magazine editor invented the term "Anglo-African," and so named his newspaper and magazine, and stuck to it very persistently for years, but the term died with his death and was heard of no more.

The effectiveness of these old colored schools in bringing fourth able men of color, fully justified the good people by whose confidence and aid they were established. From Cornelius Davis down

to Dr. Abel Lieboldt, all were white principals, but amongst these, probably Principal Charles C. Andrews, who was appointed in 1809, and served twenty-three years, is best known and most affectionately remembered, even by the grandchildren of those whom he taught. His methods, originality, faith in and devotion to his colored pupils and the large number of able and distinguished colored men who were taught by and under him, entitle him to separate and lasting consideration.

If there be any who doubt the capacity of the Negro to thoroughly grasp, digest and assimilate all the learning that the public schools have offered, or, if there be any who doubt that education will have the same beneficial effect upon the Negro as upon other races of mankind let him study carefully the history of the Negroes in the public schools of the city of New York.

THE PROPOSAL

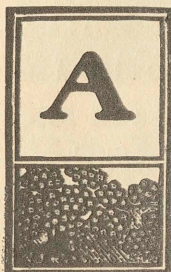
[Martha Young in The New York Times]

A VERY shy fellow was dusky Sam,
As slow of talk as a typical clam.
He couldn't talk love to his Angeline
Tho' his love grew as fast as Jonah's gourd-vine,
So he brought the telephone to his aid
To assist in wooing the modest maid.
"Miss Angeline, is dat you?" called he.
"Yas, dis is Angeline. Dis me."
"I—des wanter say dat—I—loves you—
Miss Angeline—?" "Yas." "Does you love
love me, too?"
"Yas, yas; of co's' I loves my beau—
Say, what's de reason you want to know?"
"Oh—hol' de wire. Will you marry me?
True?"
"Yas. 'Cos' I will. Say—Who is you?"

EDUCATIONAL DEPARTMENT

CONDUCTED BY JOSEPHINE S. YATES, A.M.

Professor of English and History, Lincoln Institute. Honorary President
National Association of Colored Women



FORMAL bow from us to the readers of THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE, as a preface to what in this and succeeding numbers we may eventually bring before the public through and by means of the Department of Education may seem hardly necessary; it may, furthermore, appear that in view of the great number of strictly educational journals, there is no need of race journals of such nature, nor even for such a department; but if we pause a moment to reflect upon the many and unusual problems which confront the Afro-American teacher, the Afro-American child and adult, second thought may show that only in our own race journals, possibly, shall we be able to command a full and free discussion of these special problems and of the methods by which they may be solved.

Having then been invited by Editor Moore to take charge of this department, as stated in THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE for May, we desire in this initial educational number to invite to the support and aid of the department the many friends of education, and especially educators of long and varied experience.

There are problems North, South,

East and West that are peculiar to the section, in addition to those of a more general nature; each of these problems must be met squarely and must be dealt with in a sensible manner by those who are intrusted with or interested in the care of the young, if we are to lessen in any material way the difficulties that now beset the present generation. This department shall be an open forum for such discussion and for opinions and views bearing upon educational matters.

Parents are, or should be, the first educators of the child and we shall be pleased to hear from them as well as from the teachers in the class room. Child study is one of the most valuable sources of information for the psychologist, the sociologist, the educator and the historian; and when, as a race, we are able because of well-trained parents, to give more and intelligent care to the early development of the child, when we are able to appreciate the full force of Dr. Holmes's remark to the effect that the education of a child should begin centuries before its birth, we shall find that many of the difficulties of which we now justly complain will pass away. Let us, therefore, join hands through this department of education to assist in making better the conditions to which reference has been made.

"The Ideal Teacher," in the April Atlantic contained many timely suggestions for the progressive teacher.

"How Best to Develop Character in Children," in Education for May, appeals to both parents and teachers in its very thoughtful discussion of this all important matter; for in the ultimate analysis character is all.

It is hoped that as many as possible will attend the National Association of Colored Teachers in its fourth annual session at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va., July 17th, 18th and 19th, and thus strengthen the organization, avail themselves of the opportunity to be present at the Hampton Conference which convenes in the same week, and participate in many other interesting features not always attainable.

The Summer School comes as a boon to those who are trying to teach upon an education too limited in amount; to those who desire to specialize; and

to all who desire to make progress. This should include all.

One of the best Summer Schools, exclusively for Afro-Americans, is that held at Lincoln Institute, Jefferson City, Mo. Numerous departments of work are open and each is in charge of a specialist. Tuition Free.

Dr. Benjamin F. Allen, the worthy and scholarly president of Lincoln Institute spares no pains to make each and every part of the work of the institution, like the Deacon's wonderful shay, "Uz strong uz the rest." and thus has brought Lincoln Institute to a high standard of excellence. Dr. Allen had this year the well-merited and unprecedented honor in the annals of the Institution of being re-elected several months before commencement for a term of two years.

Address all communications for the Department of Education, J. S. Yates, Lincoln Institute, Jefferson City, Mo.

THE VOICE OF JUNE

[Minna Irving in The New York Press]

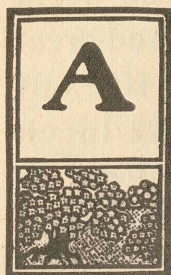
O'ER placid pool and fragrant field
 And ready river edge,
 And prim old garden, trimly set
 Behind its boxwood hedge,
 From leafy boughs too neas the sky
 For hand of man to prune
 In silver cadence sweet and clear
 I hear the voice of June.

The rose is listening in her bower,
 With parted crimson lips;
 The lily, pale with prayer, unclasps
 Her folded finger tips.

It tells a tale of dew and dreams
 Beneath the summer moon,
 And drowsy days of warm delights,
 The minstrel voice of June.

For swaying on the topmost branch,
 Where drops of recent rain
 Like rows of golden topazes
 Reflect the sun again.
 A russet thrush with a speckled breast
 Pours out his mellow tune
 In strains of rarest melody—
 The happy voice of June

The Prosperity of Kansas Negroes



REPRESENTATIVE of the Topeka, Kansas, Plaindealer has been travelling throughout the state, and in his observations of the progress being made by the people of color in the Sunflower State, writes an article which is both interesting and instructive, and is an excellent pen picture of the people of his state.

The article is not only instructive from a succinct literary standpoint, but should serve as an inspiration to those who are always taking a pessimistic view of the race. The article is a practical business directory of the Negroes of the state. The correspondent says:

"We visited Ottawa, Osawatomie, Paola and Kansas City the past week. At Ottawa, our first stop, we failed to find any colored people in business except J. H. Wilson, the blacksmith, who has all the work he can do. Several are working in the Santa Fe round house. One good feature is that the colored people own their property.

OSAWATOMIE

"Our second stop was at Osawatomie, the home of John Brown. Here we found several industrious colored people. All own their property. The Missouri Pacific employs a large number of colored men in the round house. The asylum is located at this place and several find employment there. Almost every family raises chickens and hogs. P. D. Watts, an old timer, and one of

the best fixed of any of the colored people, has chickens and hogs by the hundreds, also valuable property. D. Kemp runs a barber shop and pool hall. The white and colored people are on good terms. Mayor Remington, one of the largest lumbermen in that section of the country, is an old soldier, and believes in giving the colored man a show. We stopped with S. M. Lays, who has lived there for years and owns good property. There are several colored people who own small farms near the town.

PAOLA

"Here we found one of our leading colored men of the state, R. L. Shelly, who has charge of the grain elevator and is an expert in that line. He is a leader in politics. Not colored people alone, but the whites seek his judgment and support. He is a leader in politics. Not colored people alone, but the whites seek his judgment and support. He is Grand Commander of the Grand Lodge of Knights of Pythias, Eastern division. He will attend the joint session of the two supreme bodies, at Newberne, North Carolina, looking towards consolidation. At his beautiful home we found his devoted wife as happy as ever, and always ready to make it pleasant for the guests.

"Here is something that surprises us more than anything in all our travels: Robert Allen, the owner of one of the neatest barber shops and pool rooms in Paola, will not shave white men.

"One of the most prosperous farmers in Miami County is Mr. William Harte, R. F. D. 5, Box 68. He farms over one hundred acres of land, and grows cattle, hogs, horses, chickens, wheat, corn, oats, alfalfa, and other farm produce to his heart's content. He raised over 3,000 bushels of corn on 65 acres, tons and tons of hay and alfalfa last year. He is a Tennessean by birth, forty years of age and came to the county a few years ago without a dollar, married a good woman and his fortune began.

KANSAS CITY

"Our stay in Kansas City was longer than any since we have been visiting that city. There is no reason why the colored people of this thriving, prosperous city should not keep pace with the times. There are splendid opportunities for those who have push and energy. There is plenty of work for all and everybody. We visited the Afro-American employment office at 1005 McGee street. Messrs. F. J. Weaver and Alfred Rivers, proprietors. They employ two lady clerks. This is one of the largest employment offices in Kansas City. They find employment of all kinds, as the demand for colored help is so great that it is impossible for them to fill the orders. They also deal in real estate and rent houses. We asked if it was an easy matter to procure help. 'No,' said Mr. Weaver, 'there is a class who only want to work long enough to get money enough to pay a week's room rent, and live from hand to mouth. We can find any kind of position for men or women, although hundreds are loafing round and will not work. We are at a loss to know

why so many young people remain idle and loaf around, to our eternal disgust.'

"While in Kansas City we saw hundreds of idle young people, who seem to be happy-go-lucky, unconcerned creatures. We were told that they live out of those greasy Dago and Greek lunch wagons, and drink can beer. Four or five sleep in one dingy, dirty room. Further investigation showed that one-third of the industrious young people sleep too late in the morning from being up half the night.

This is one of the causes of such a large death rate. You can see more pale, consumptive, run down young people in Kansas City than in any other city west of the Mississippi river, and all on account of riotous living. The four colored undertakers are kept busy burying this class of people. Great opportunities await the progressive young Negro in Kansas City. Enough young men are employed in hotels and restaurants to support a shoe store, clothing and shoes—in fact, almost any kind of business, if they would just incorporate a mercantile company under the laws of Missouri, sell shares at \$10, get one experienced man, employ from their own ranks, buy from their own stores, pay the cash, then watch themselves grow. The loud talking, wide mouth, gaily fellow amounts to but little when it comes to the affairs of running this country.

"Now for the progressive colored people of Kansas City. They are getting property, going into business and saving money, working hard to keep pace with the times. There are several drug stores. Among the best is the

People's, at 18th and Paseo streets, owned by Drs. Shannon and Unthank. It has a fine soda fountain and a first-class stock of drugs. Campbell & Houston, at 2300 Vine street, has a fine fountain and a first-class stock of drugs. The finest barber shop and bath room in Kansas City is owned by D. Lucas at 815 Main street. It is a ten-chair shop and is busy all the time. Mr. Lucas owns a comfortable and pleasant home on the Paseo. He is one of the colored pioneers of Kansas City and has made good use of his time. Where can be found a man of the race competent to conduct this business when Mr. Lucas retires?

"There are scores of colored people who own fine residences and brick flats. We had the pleasure of viewing the handsome two-story pressed brick mansion of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Edwards, at 2301 14th street. This mansion is just completed at a cost of \$12,000, all modern improvements and colonial finish. In the basement you find a complete laundry, porcelain tubs, hot water furnaces. On the first floor, parlor, sitting room, dining room and reception hall, furnished with quarter sawed oak. The library and china closet are incased in the walls and the doors are of German and French plate glass. The dining room is elaborate, with electric call bells. The floors are covered with the finest Parisian rugs. The kitchen is nicely and conveniently arranged. They use both gas and electricity. Winding stairs lead to the second floor, where there are four bed rooms, a den, sewing room, toilet and bath. Another stairway leads to the dance hall and servants' rooms.

The mansion is located on three lots, 75x125 feet. Beautiful lawn, with blue grass and flowers. The vestibule and porch are modern in every particular.

Mrs. Edwards is an ideal housekeeper and a lady of high attainments. She was for years a teacher in the public schools of Kansas City and was president of the Inter-State Literary Society.

"The Arlington Theatre at 18th and Harrison streets is to be commended. Mr. H. Patton, at 936 Wyandotte street, owns it, and is booking local and foreign talent. His house is liberally patronized. There are several first-class hotels, such as Copton's, on Charlotte street, and the Afro-American, on McGee street. The Olympic Club, at 905 West 5th street, owned by A. L. Rogers, one of the finest caterers in the West, has 18 rooms, with hot and cold water connection. Seymour's Cafe, at 7th and Wyandotte streets, has just been re-opened by Mother Arnold, a noted cook. The Latonia Cafe, Jack Field, owner, is first-class.

"Among the first-class barber shops are S. M. Chandler's, 112 East 6th street; The Progress, 121 Independence street, Scott and Wendell, proprietors.

"Berry Elder has three two-story rooming houses, one at 818 West 6th street and two at 6th and Wyandotte streets.

"The class of colored people who are doing things seldom ever get much praise from the white man. Would that some enterprising colored man would open a shoe store, gents' furnishing, dry goods, 5 and 10 cents store. Get together and do more here.

"Across the Kaw the West side col-

ored people have established a reputation for push, and the many business concerns are living evidence of this fact. We visited the new firm of Claiborne & Armstrong. These young men have only been in business a few months. Their friends in Topeka will be glad to hear of their success. They carry a \$2,000 stock of groceries, and have an extensive trade. They are both single.

"We visited Western University and

found Prof. French and teachers and pupils working like bees. We attended chapel services, which are held at 11 A. M. each day, in company with Drs. J. Newsome and R. C. Hayden, recent graduates of Meharry Medical College. The song service is simply electrifying. Prof. Jackson has few equals in the musical world. We dined with Prof. French and wife. Mrs. French is a highly cultured Christian lady."

A PUNISHED PUN

BY LANGSTON ARAY

A story of the butter
And a story of the fly:
Would give you comprehension,
If someone would reply.

The fly was on the butter
And the butter on the fly:
If the butter had the wings on it
It couldn't help but fly.

They say the little woolly worm,
Or caterpillar sly—
That creeps along the trees of shade,
Make every butter-fly.

Now, if he makes the butterfly
He ought to be a fly:
But if he hasn't got the wings,
Where does the butterfly?

On buckwheat cakes, hot biscuits,
On batter cakes, in pies;
This pun is understanding
The fly in butterflies.

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The Fort Valley High and Industrial School

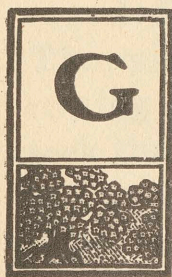
BY PROFESSOR J. H. TORBERT



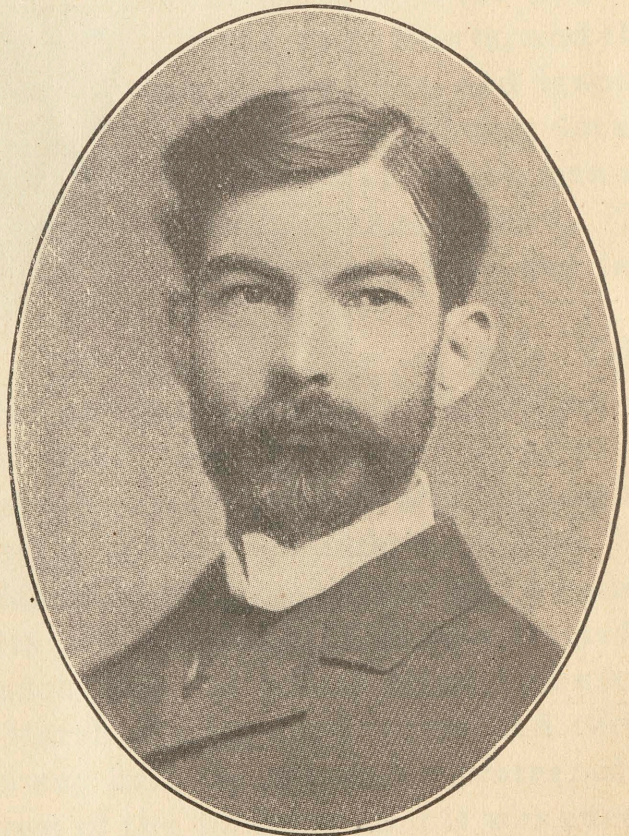
PROFESSOR J. H. TORBERT
Assistant Principal and Financial Agent

whites more than three to one. Here is the agricultural center of the state, and here slavery existed in its worst form. Save the few who worked in and around the "big house," freedom found the Negroes of this section in utter and almost indescribable ignorance of the many civilizing influences which came to those higher up in the Carolinas, in Virginia, and in the various seaport towns. Their "excursions" were from the cabin to the master's "crib" and then to the cotton fields.

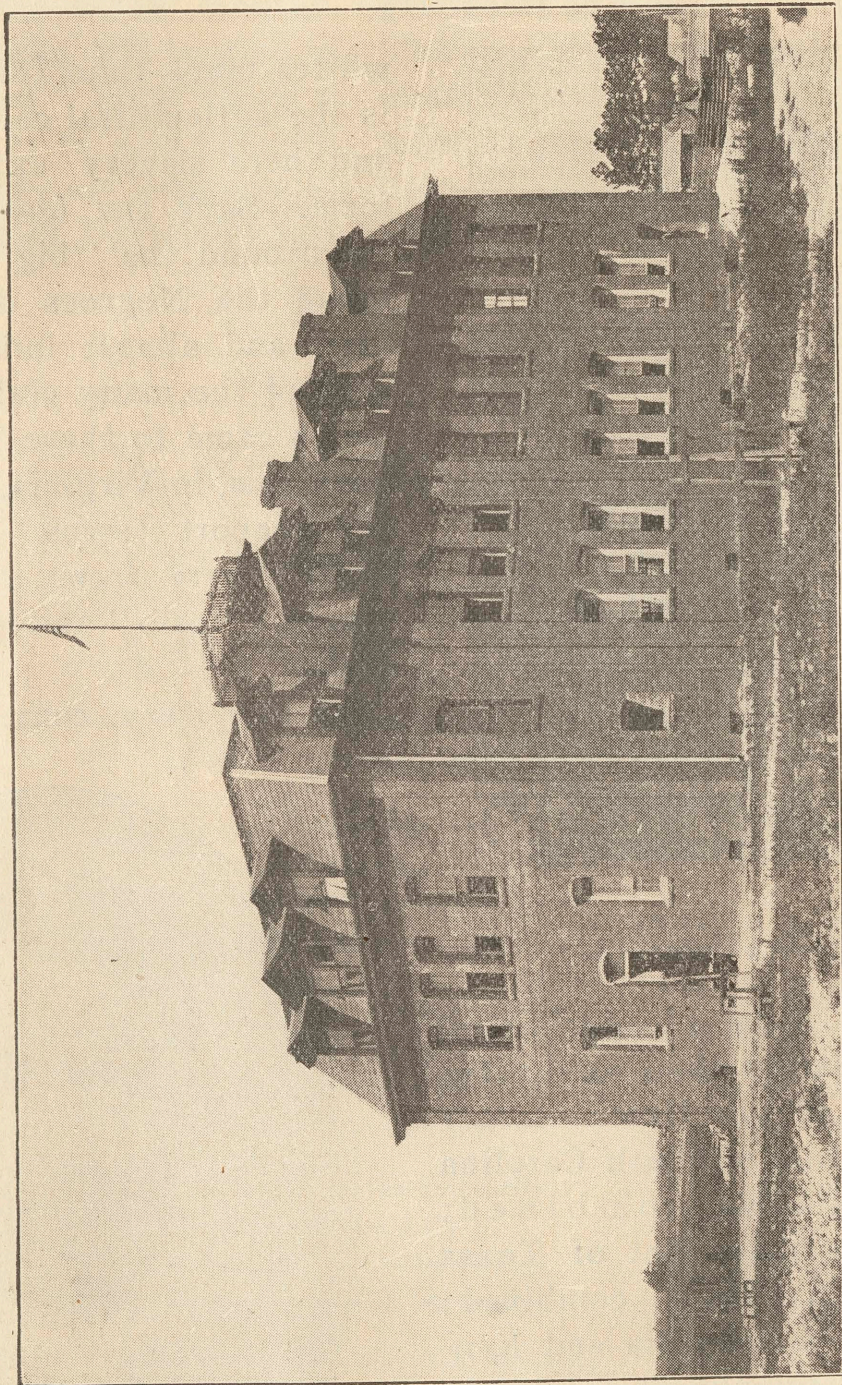
At the very center of this great



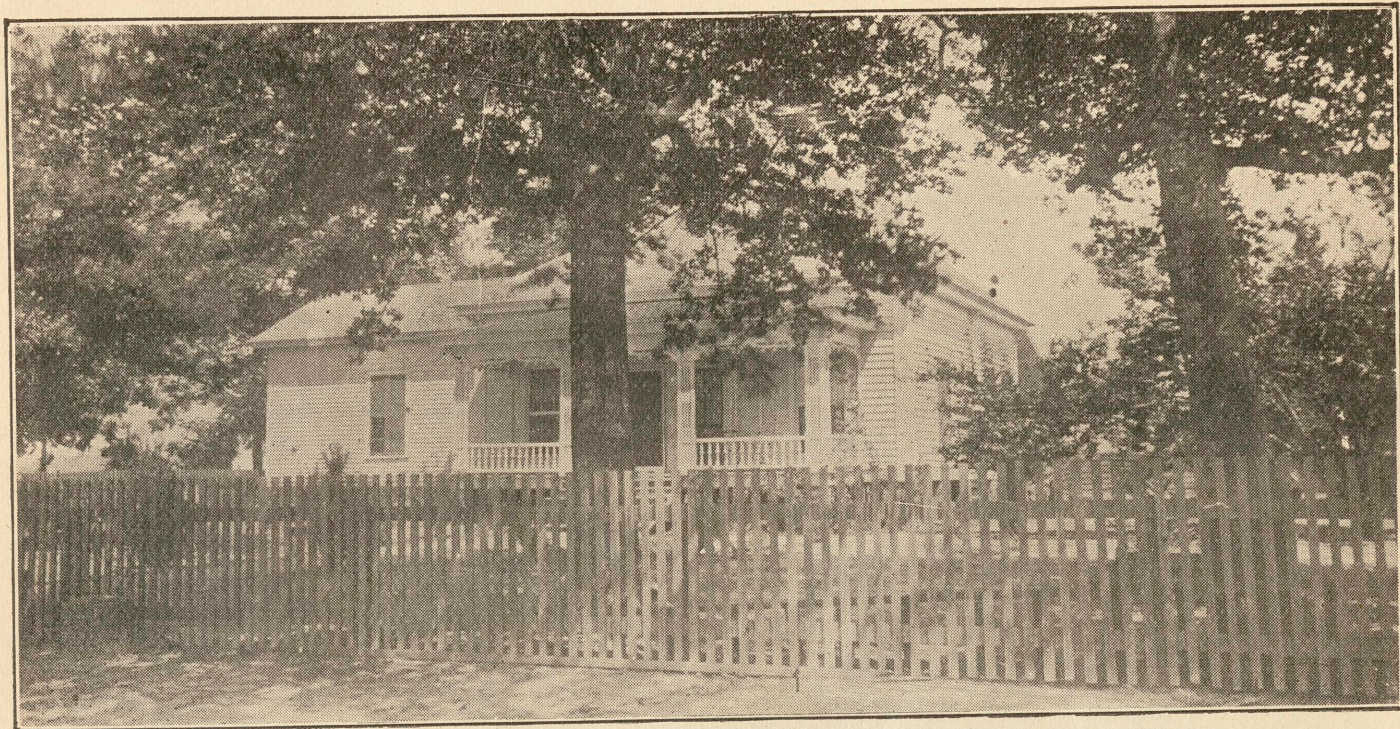
GEORGIA has a larger Negro population than any other state in the Union—larger than that of South Carolina and Florida combined; larger than that of Texas and Arkansas combined; larger than that of Virginia and Kentucky combined, and almost as large as the combined population of Alabama and Florida. The million and more of Negroes in Georgia are centered for the most part about the central and southwestern portions of the state, and in many counties they outnumber the



PROFESSOR H. A. HUNT
Principal



CHAPEL HALL, ERECTED LARGELY BY STUDENT LABOR



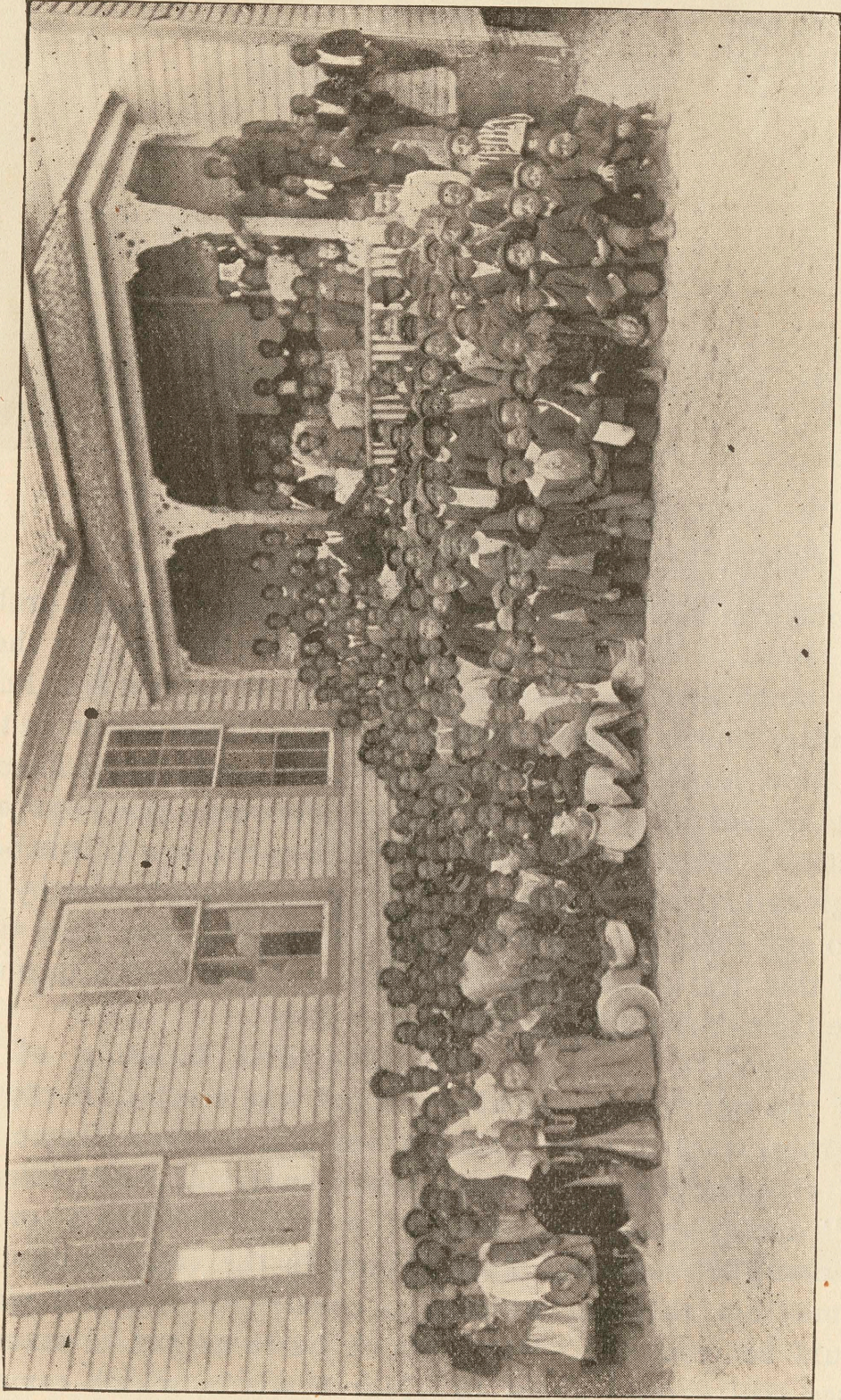
PRINCIPAL'S HOME

"black belt," one hundred and twenty miles south of Atlanta, one hundred and sixty miles southwest of Augusta, two hundred miles and more west of Savannah, and one hundred and ten miles east of Tuskegee, grappling with the above described conditions, is the Fort Valley High and Industrial School, founded in 1890 and chartered in 1896. The mission of this institution is, borrowing a phrase from Dr. DuBois, "to seek the seldom sought."

The work of the first schools established for Negroes was to take hold largely of the city Negroes and the "favored few," and prepare them for the work of teaching the masses. This was the only medium through which the masses could be reached. Meanwhile the masses still groped about in darkness, becoming, as a mass, less and less important as an equation in the solution of the Negro as well as the South's

economic and industrial problems. This was unavoidably so, but the tide is now turning. It is meet for those trained in the parent institutions of the South to turn their heads, their hearts, and their hands, towards the poor and ignorant of their race; and this is being done in a most remarkable way by the men and women of the race thus trained. The Fort Valley field is a unique and large one.

The first building of Fort Valley School was erected in 1895. This was a small two-story frame structure of cheap material, built after the fashion of a country church or lodge hall. Many in the community had a hand in its construction, and it was erected in such haste as not to stand against the March winds, which came and carried away half the top and so careened the rest of the building that it was exceedingly difficult to prop it up again. For



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT



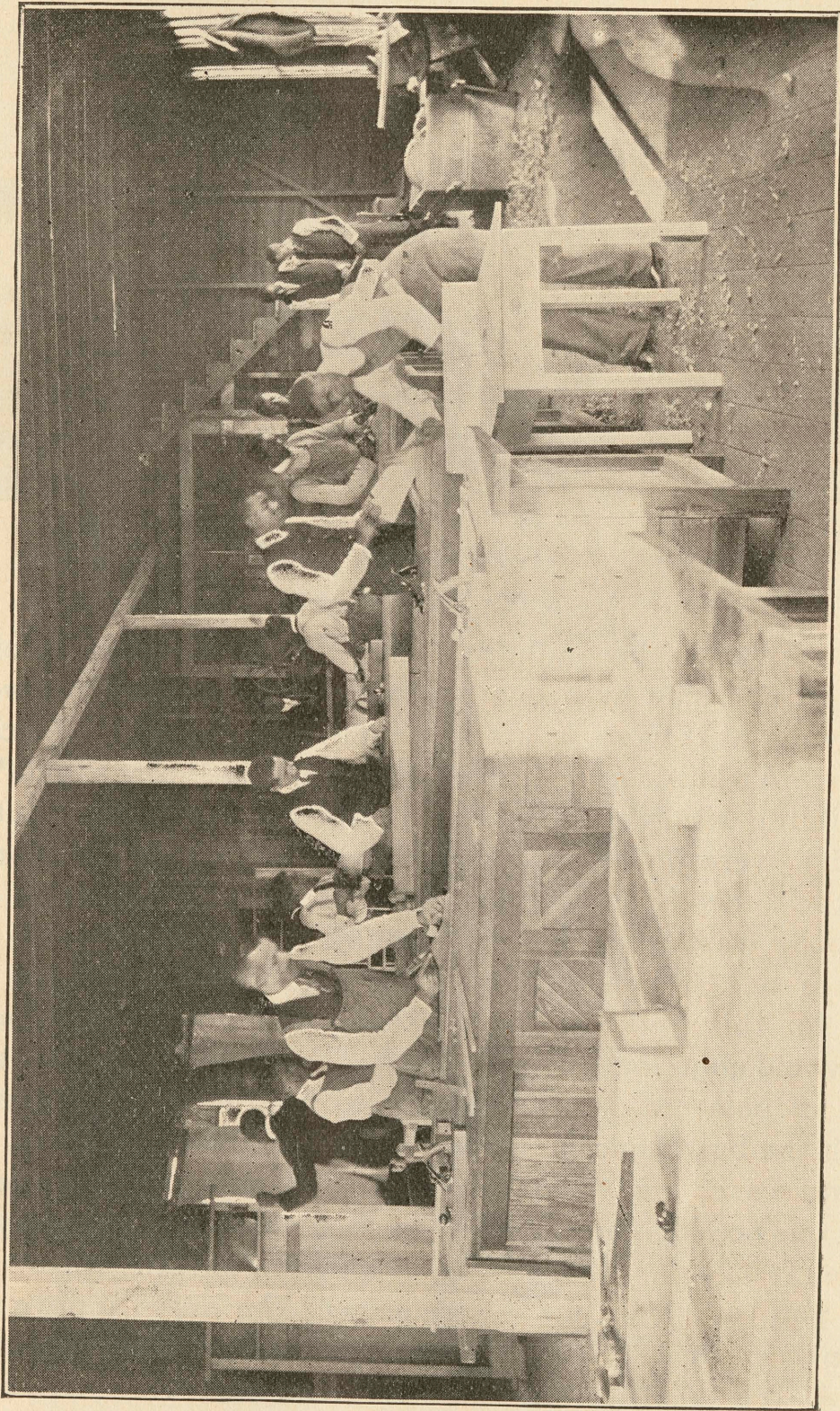
CHILDREN OF MODEL SCHOOL WORKING GARDENS

a long time afterwards this building stood propped on one side by a dozen pine poles, defying, as it were, another western wind. Awkard and crude though the building was, the Negroes in the community were proud of it, for it represented the dimes and the quarters of many poor washer-women and half paid men of toil. In making appeal for funds for this building, many of the farmers would contribute a bushel of corn, a peck of potatoes or a pound of butter, which the building committee would turn into cash, and then into boards. Upon one occasion an old man brought three eggs as a donation to the school. Mind you, at that time eggs were worth only eight cents a dozen "in trade." A few years later this building was totally destroyed by fire, and we were compelled to "start from the stump" again.

A school was a brand new thing

here, and it was and is often referred to as "de college." It would be quite impossible for a small school to exist here in this "black belt" without an overflow of students, if but one-third of those of school age in the community should attend. So, from the very beginning, the number of students was altogether too great for the teaching force, and for the first two years two teachers were compelled to attempt to give instruction to from 250 to 300 students. More teachers, better teachers, and money to pay them, constitute a problem of much anxiety and concern. To look toward the "rising sun" seemed the only hope, and a house to house canvass was made in parts of New England and New York with results not any too encouraging.

At times, it was exceedingly difficult to get money with which to pay teachers and meet other legitimate expenses.



A CLASS IN WOOD-WORKING

Several times I was compelled to mortgage my horse and buggy, and twice my house and farm, for small sums of money to meet our demands, paying banks 12 per cent., and in case of some individual lenders as much as 20 per cent. for the use of money. In negotiating the first loan of \$150 not a man in the town of Fort Valley was willing to trust us without collateral. The school property, then valued at \$2,000 was already mortgaged for a sum beyond its value, and the principal seemed much worried over the threat to foreclose this mortgage and sell the school to the highest bidder. A few of the trustees had some property and could have commanded the money the school needed, but they had already put their names to the mortgage note against the school, and they were "afraid" to go further in this direction. I knew a wealthy white man who had a strong weakness for nice horses, and I owned a fine bay mare that could "clean up for them" on the road. I went home (to my farm) and drove this horse fifty miles through the country to Fort Valley, and offered her and the buggy in pawn for the money. This proud Southern Captain, who often refers to the fact that he got his commission from Jeff Davis, looked the horse up, down, and around, and said: "I should like to own that horse; I'll let you have the money on sixty days' time, at the end of which, if the note is not paid, the horse and buggy are mine." I reluctantly agreed to this. I half doubted if I should ever own my horse again, but I did not for one moment doubt the righteousness of

my cause and its ultimate triumph. On the fifty-ninth day thereafter, by the grace of God and the help of a few Northern friends, I redeemed my horse and buggy. It was never difficult afterwards to get money on this horse and buggy.

My first trip North in the interest of the school gave me hope, and I made a second one—this time to Chicago. I had never spent a winter in the North, and I was anything but prepared for a Chicago winter. I had to begin to re-clad myself from socks to overcoat. This took what personal money I had. Money for board and lodging had been exhausted before I had raised a dollar for the school. I pawned my watch and my dress suit case until I could hear from home. Soon the money came from home to redeem these, but there was not enough left for a day's lodging and board in advance. I called on various ministers, but was alike turned down by all, until finally I succeeded, through the Rev. Dr. R. C. Ransom, in getting before the Men's Club of the Bethel A. M. E. Church, where I spoke. Five collections were taken up at this meeting. The regular collection came first, then a penny collection for the poor, one for a crippled woman and another for a blind man, when I was commissioned to stand at the door and hold out my hat for anything that friends might choose to give. Some \$3.00 were put into my hat and I went away rejoicing.

Finding myself stranded again a few days later, I strolled into the office of a firm of bankers, and introduced myself to two members of the firm, producing



A GROUP OF NORMAL SCHOOL PUPILS

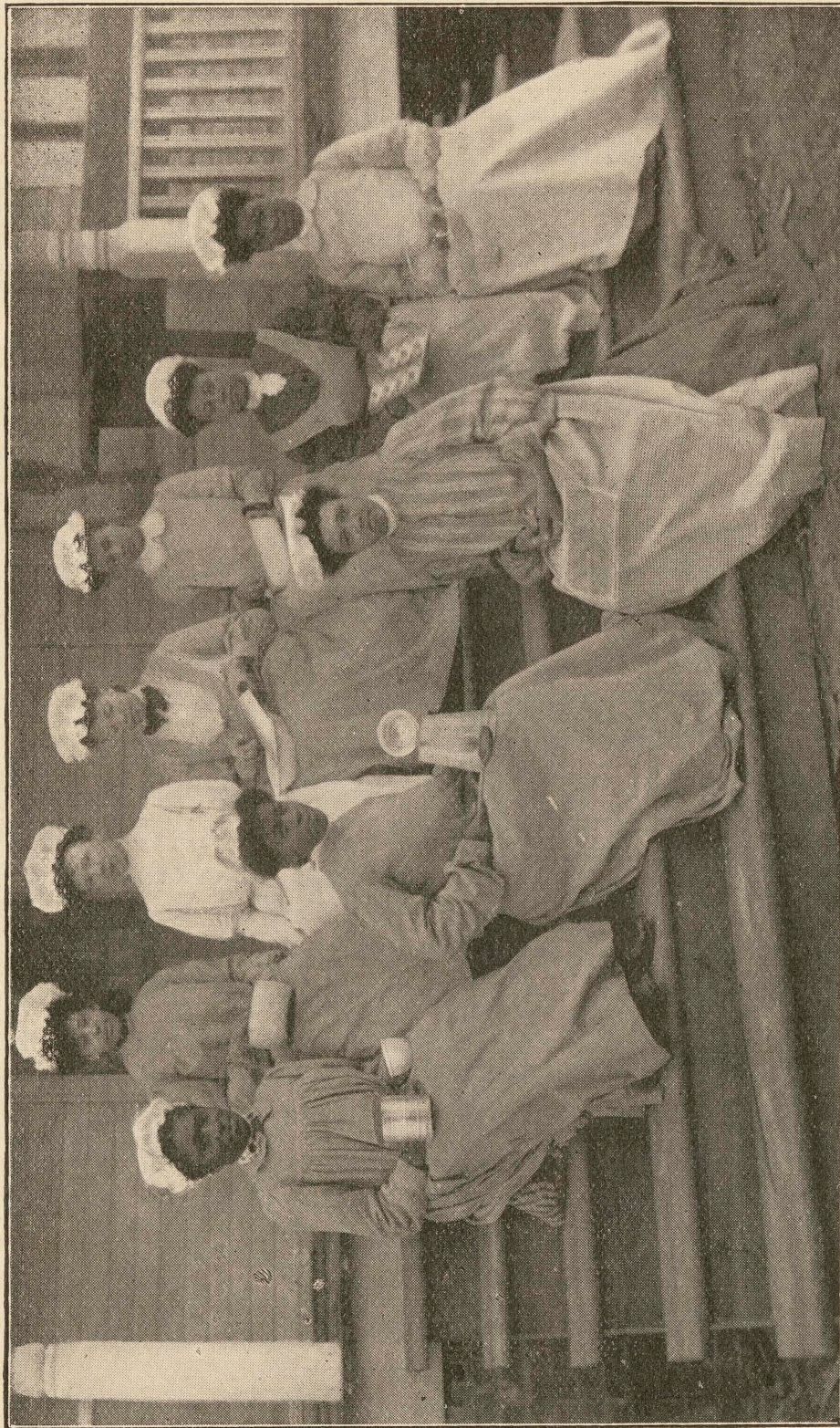
a letter of recommendation from Governor Atkinson of my state. These men heard my story and promised to look into the matter. This cheered somewhat, but did not satisfy. I had not enough money to pay my carfare, and was compelled to walk back to my lodging place, some thirty-five blocks away. The next morning I went again to the office of this firm, and told them that I was without money even to pay for my breakfast. One member of the firm made me a loan of \$5.00, and I felt once more like a man.

On the following day (Sunday) I started down to the Armour Mission in the hope of getting a chance to speak there. By special Providence, as it were, I met one of the members of the firm spoken of. He stopped me, and after quizzing me somewhat invited me to come to his office the next morning, promising to give me \$30, the price of a scholarship at Fort Valley. These were to me the sweetest words I had heard in a long time. I was up before "sun up" the next morning, and I was down to the office before anyone had arrived. I sat in the doorway confident in the moments which awaited me, only to be rendered speechless when the banker came and merely put down his name for \$30, saying: "I will send my check for this amount in January." It was then the middle of November.

During the week I had been fortunate to arrange with the minister of the Unitarian Church to sing a solo during the offertory, the minister promising to commend me and my cause to his congregation, giving me permission to stand at the door with my hat at the close of

the services, but warning me particularly to be there at 10:30 sharp. Not being acquainted with the city, and miscalculating the time it was required to reach the church, I was five minutes late, and the minister would not allow me to sing; but I showed such penitence and pressed my claim so persistently and earnestly that he agreed to allow me to "try again" the following Sunday. My recollection is that I arrived at the church the next Sunday about 9 o'clock, an hour and a half before "church time." I sang a solo, and the people were so well pleased with it that I was invited to sing again, and also to speak. A collection of some \$20 was given me for the school.

My experience in Chicago was extremely bitter from start to finish, and I was soon well nigh worn out. In January I decided to come home. I could not wait, I thought, until a remittance could come from Fort Valley. I went to Mr. Charles Fargo, the head of the American Express Company, with whom I had a slight acquaintance, and told him that I was unwell and desired to go home at once, and that I was unable to buy a ticket. He called in a colored man, Richard Moore, who had lived with him for twenty odd years, and said: "Richard, here is a good friend of mine from Georgia. He is interested in a school for his people, but is a little homesick and hasn't the money to purchase a ticket." Handing Mr. Moore a twenty-dollar bill he said: "Take this and buy him a ticket to his destination." Mr. Moore bought the ticket and returned. Mr. Fargo thereupon handed me an extra five



A CLASS IN COOKING

dollar bill and said: "Take this: you may need a little money along the road, and when you get home write me a letter about your school." I thanked him and took the first train for Georgia. I have thought many times since that it was pretty hard to have been compelled to be sent home from Chicago "by express." When I arrived at home I told my story to the trustees and \$25 was at once sent to Mr. Faigo, who in turn sent it back as a contribution to the school.

These are a few experiences of my first two years at Fort Valley. There are others, such as being chased by dogs, sleeping in barns and under the broad canopy of heaven, in my endeavor not to give up until I had won friends for the school. It has been very much like one lifting himself up by his own boot-straps. This experience has been mine year after year, without the spur and tonic of an occasional great success, except during the very recent years of the school's history.

The school now consists of seven buildings, sixteen teachers, and nearly five hundred students, the present value of the property approximating \$50,000. This property is entirely unencumbered by debt. It is the policy of the trustees to make Fort Valley a good, rather than a large, work.

Three and a half years ago the school called to it as principal Prof. H. A. Hunt, a graduate of the Atlanta University, class of '90, and for many

years superintendent of the Industrial Department of Biddle University, Charlotte, North Carolina. Prof. Hunt is a practical man, and believes in a high moral, intellectual and industrial standard for his race. An old colored woman once said of him, after he had addressed an audience of colored people, it being hard to convince her that he was a colored man, "He's white, but he's got a mighty black heart." It is the consensus of opinion by those who know the Fort Valley history and the Fort Valley field, that pulling together as we ought and must from within, the future will see the grand, good work at Fort Valley springing up, as it were, a fountain in a great desert.

It is the hope that friends may be found among the Negroes, as well as the whites, who will be willing to lend a helping hand to this work. It would be especially encouraging and helpful if associations among the colored people might be organized here and there whose aim and purpose would be to contribute a small amount each year for the running expenses of this work, thus proving, as the race must prove, to our friends of the white race that we are arriving at the point where we can help ourselves.

The most pressing need of the institution is \$10,000 for the annual current expenses. Other needs are \$8,000 to better equip the Agricultural Department, and \$3,000 for two cottages for teachers.





DR. WILLIAM JAY SCHIEFFELIN

Work of the Committee for Improving the Industrial Condition of Negroes in New York

IN THE work of the above committee this city for the first time realizes the desire of the late Wm. H. Baldwin, who, as a few of us remember, had under consideration plans for the betterment of the conditions of the Negro population, at that time numbering 66,000, and now estimated at fully 80,000 souls, second only to one other city in the United States. Mr. Baldwin appeared to be among the first to recognize the fact that the many Negroes who had for one cause or another settled in these parts were meeting conditions such as made it desirable to extend toward them a helping hand.

In his effort to get at the facts he called together at St. Mark's Church, quite five years ago, several men of prominence of both races. Besides the pastor of that church, Rev. William H. Brooks, if my memory serves me correctly, there were present Dr. Felix Adler, Mr. Wallace Buttrick, Prof. W. E. B. DuBois, Dr. Wm. L. Bulkley, D. Macon Webster, Wm. H. Baldwin, Jr., James E. Garner, S. R. Scottron, and possibly one or two more whose names I do not recall. Twice Mr. Baldwin brought the aforesaid committee together and discussed quite freely what were the conditions surrounding the New York Negro. Opinions differed

widely. The only statistics produced were those gathered by Prof. DuBois from the last census, and they were very meagre and faulty in so many respects, as to be regarded as unreliable.

We were expecting hourly almost to hear of some move made by Mr. Baldwin, possibly in the direction of a "Settlement House" on the lines of the Jewish Settlement on the East Side, or, of the building of an industrial school. In the meantime, and suddenly, like a stroke from the sky, this great man, friend of the Negro, friend of all human kind, whose heart was large enough to admit a whole world to his sympathies, was stricken down with a lingering, painful and fatal illness. In his death it seemed as though the hopes of a race were blasted. How strong and hopeful we were when Baldwin lived can only be measured by the gloom, hopelessness and despair which seized us at his death. It was certainly a sad day that, in January, 1905, when we met to pay the last tribute of respect at the bier of our friend. A whole race mourned, believing that its advancement, which had been so steady and fast, had now been checked, possibly indefinitely. But it seemed that the seed which he had sown was to come up in an unexpected direction. One of the men present at the two conferences already referred to, Dr. William L. Bulkley, seemed carried

along by force of circumstances in the direct line which was to open the road to the betterment of the Negro's condition hereabout. Principal of the only school in the city in which colored children largely predominated, he conceived the idea of the Summer School to keep his scholars from an unprofitable season of idleness, and from that, by sheer progression, conceived the idea of the Night Industrial School for adults, going at it with a vim and confidence that commanded and won success. From that point its application was easy and natural to the progressive mind in its application to a whole city, and hence, April 4th, 1906, there went forth from him who had caught a soulful of the inspiration of Baldwin, an invitation to about twenty persons, of both races, to meet at Public School No. 80, where on the evening of April 20th was formed this committee destined to be the largest factor for the uplift of its Negro population that New York has ever been favored with. All those familiar with the effort made in the South for the education of the whole people will readily recognize the name of Dr. William Jay Schieffelin, who was chosen chairman. That simple announcement is sufficient assurance that there is nothing visionary in the conception, nor likelihood of misdirected effort, nor absence of that economy that produces the maximum of good at the minimum of cost. His six years as president of the Armstrong Association and his longer devotion to the cause of education, of liberty, and the spread of the feeling of human brotherhood and kindness among all mankind is, and

must be, of the highest interest and assurance to all, that a committee is formed having a definite thing to accomplish, supplied with all the life and energy necessary to success. To scan the list and note the names of those forming the general committee, the officers and executive committee, the sub-committees and their chairmen, is but to be assured that the doctor has been surrounded by men noted for their philanthropy and energy, ably seconding all his efforts.

A single year is but a short space in the life of such an organization, and yet its annual meeting, April 25th, 1907, brought forth reports that show full well that the work has not been allowed to languish in any direction. The Committee on Public Meetings, Rev. W. H. Brooks, chairman, reports the holding of a meeting once each month since organization, at which times large audiences have greeted many of New York's best speakers. At these meetings the committee's efforts have been specially directed toward calling the attention of the people to already existing free industrial and technical schools. The Manhattan Trade School, Evening Industrial School, No. 67, Young Women's Christian Association, Brooklyn; Grace Institute, Young Women's Christian Association, New York; Lincoln Home and Hospital, Charity Organization Industrial School, New York Trade School, Young Men's Christian Association, College of the City of New York, and all places, free or pay schools where adults may learn trades, become proficient in domestic service, or the elementary studies of the public school

system. For be it known that notwithstanding the doors of all these institutions are open alike to all races, the colored people do not attend them to any appreciable extent while all other races, especially the children of foreign parentage, patronize them freely. The feeling largely prevailing among the colored people, especially those from the South, that they are not welcome in these schools on account of indifference, or where the notion prevails that the time spent in acquiring the knowledge or skill in a trade will not later on be of service to them, is being largely overcome and dispelled by the work of the Committee on Public Meetings quietly, surely, effectively.

The very first efforts of the General Committee were directed toward sustaining the great work that Dr. Bulkley had started in the establishment of an evening industrial school. The people responded to the invitation of the doctor much more readily than many had anticipated—more than surprising to those who had from frequent disappointment in the past thought it quite impossible to gather the colored people into an industrial school and hold them there in sufficient numbers to make it worth while to continue it. Dr. Bulkley's school, either owing to his forceful, persuasive and untiring energy, or to the more intelligent grasp had by the New York Negro, or to the combination of both these forces, developed immensely, and many of us were well pleased when Dr. Bulkley was enabled to call public attention to the fact that on the very block, next door in fact, to where Thomas Dixon had chosen to in-

roduce for the first time to a New York audience his play of "The Clansman," he had in training above seven hundred and fifty of these same Negroes, assembled in Public School No. 80, many of them above sixty years of age all working as no people ever before had worked, to learn not only how to read and write, but to become proficient in the industries, hopeful of the future, fully convinced that the American people are a just people, and determined to give all a "fair chance and equal opportunity."

The colored people were so attentive that first winter, punctual and untiring, so enthusiastic and hopeful of their future, the fame of the school had gone so far that it became necessary to more than double the school room the next winter, and the latter was filled to overflowing with an eager and capable crowd, making a record at the end of the season, a percentage of attendance unequalled by any other night school in this great city. If only those anxious for the uplift of the New York Negro could have seen the work of that school as exhibited on the last Wednesday night in April just past, have seen not only the most excellent exhibition of proficiency in the arts, sciences and elementary school work, but happy faces above all, many of them beaming with delight from a surrounding of gray hair, they would have cast aside all doubt as to our having found at last the true solution of this life problem and have learned how he is to sustain himself in these ever increasing numbers soon, possibly, to reach the 100,000 mark. We saw a whole class in flower-

making that had become so proficient that they were offered profitable employment by more than one manufacturing and jobbing house. In millinery girls were instructed from the very beginning of their trade, making the wire frames, to the end, the finished product. The most excellent designs and original conceptions were shown. Waist-making, shirtmaking, embroidery, dress-making, all unsurpassed. Domestic science, cooking, bookkeeping, typewriting, stenography, carpentry for men, practical electricity, to the point of graduating men well fitted to hang out their signs as bell-hangers and general electricians, care of boilers, janitor-engineers, steamfitters, mechanical drawing, architectural drawing and common school branches. One who has had the oversight of school work for many years hereabout confesses that at times it has seemed very discouraging, but says the enthusiasm displayed, as well as the mechanical ability, by the pupils of Dr. Bulkley's school far excels anything he has ever seen.

The promotion of work, like that conducted in Dr. Bulkley's school, is under the charge of the Sub-Committee on Social Centres and Trade Schools, of which Dr. Seth T. Stewart is chairman. This committee has much work on its hands, largely owing to the renown of Dr. Bulkley's Evening Industrial School. Citizens of Brooklyn to the number of nearly two thousand have asked the committee's aid in establishing a like school in that borough.

The Sub-Committee on Tradesmen, the chairmanship of which has just been assumed by Mr. Jacob W. Mack, ex-

Commissioner of Education in this city, is fast being brought into useful activity. The last meeting of this committee, April 23d, was held in joint conference with the leading colored ministers of the city, and a policy then decided upon of holding meetings of the colored storekeepers and tradesmen of the city, indulging in a general discussion of the subject generally, not only of how to begin business but how to keep it healthy and growing—holding up the mirror before the man who may be failing because he is slow to rise in the morning, unclean in habit, or perhaps living beyond his means, endeavoring to fully discuss these things and to print tracts wherein excellent advice is given and which may warrant such expenditure. This committee has now ready for the printer the MSS. of Mr. James E. Garner, most severely but justly criticising the race for general delinquency, and offering sound prescriptions for the cure thereof.

The Sub-Committee on Neighborhood Work, Miss Mary W. Ovington, long known in this city for the identical work which the name of this committee indicates, is chairman. The whole committee is, in fact, formed of persons of experience in that line, each infused with that spirit which will not rest so long as want, deprivation or suffering exists as the result of bad social conditions. The April report of this committee, on its own recommendation, and in its desire to accomplish more, notwithstanding its accomplishments had been marvelous, was "enlarged to include persons engaged in neighborhood work in various parts of the city,

so that the different lines of social work among Negroes of all localities may be brought into co-operation through the agency of this committee."

The Sub Committee on Employment, Mr. John W. T. Nichols, chairman, is a very important and useful committee. New York might be searched very closely without finding another person more interested in the work for which this committee has been appointed than Mr. Nichols. With true philanthropic spirit every phase of the work is a subject of inquiry by him, and, as the means are put at the committee's command, will be prosecuted most effectively. "The work of this committee is divided into two parts: one the placing of individuals in positions for which they are suited, and the other the searching out of fields of employment for which Negroes might prove to be fitted, but which they have not hitherto occupied."

The chief difficulty that this committee has met with has been in finding reliable men and women to recommend for places offered. This committee will enroll the dressmakers and seamstresses, particularly those graduating from our own trade schools, or who come with the very highest recommendation, and will endeavor to find them suitable employment. Where girls cannot bring suitable recommendation of proficiency in their trade this Committee on Employment will have such persons examined at the Manhattan Trade School and get a report as to their accomplishments. Large employers of labor, such as the owners and managers of department stores and kindred places, are be-

ing appealed to by this committee, and the probability of good results are encouraging and will be persisted in until a breach is made in the solid wall that has hitherto obstructed the Negro's entrance into the trades and industries of the city.

Possibly the most exciting work just now of any one of these committees is that undertaken by the Committee on Craftsmen. Mr. W. Franklin Brush, chairman, and with Miss Helen A. Tucker, possibly the most unceasing and painstaking worker in that particular field that it is possible to find as a member. Statisticians as well as statesmen must be born. Miss Tucker seems by nature adapted to the work—no, not work, it isn't work to such as she, it is a pleasure, we are sure. Think of that lady alone and unaided in hours snatched away from school work, finding hundreds of colored craftsmen, of whom sixty-two were carpenters, in the territory bounded by 45th street, 135th street, Madison avenue and the Riverside. Not one of us could lay our hands upon more than two, possibly three, colored carpenters before this, but the fact is now we have sixty-two of such craftsmen, and shall soon very likely be able to write a two in front of the six, at the rate Miss Tucker is unearthing them.

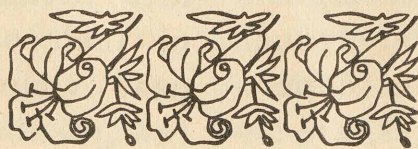
A meeting of these colored carpenters was called by the Committee on Craftsmen, a most interesting meeting indeed, many of these men having no idea themselves of the large number of their own color in the trade, and near vicinity to each other. Only a few of these men were found to be

depending upon their trade for a living. There were nine of the number assembled, union men, and even these complained of the fact that while they were allowed to work at their trade by the whites, yet the fact remained they were the last men put upon a job and the first to be discharged. Some of the committee had thought well of the formation of a lodge or local union of these colored men by themselves, but Mr. James L. Wallace, one of the members of the Craftsmen Committee, himself holding high office in the Central Federation Union, advised against segregation, or anything like drawing a color line in labor organization, told of his experience and of the willingness of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners to receive the colored men in the unions in the districts where each man lived, holding himself personally responsible for each man receiving equal and exact justice in the discharge of his duty. And thus it seemed that, by a single stroke, the committee has the good fortune to place the Negro carpenters of the City of New York on an equal footing with all other races, which fact of itself must surely result in both prestige and power that will direct the steps of other craftsmen toward the committee, and it may confidently expect that it shall be able to serve the painters, decorators, paperhangers, plasterers, bricklayers, stainers, cabinetmakers, and the

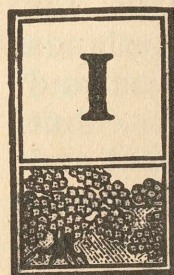
almost innumerable colored craftsmen who come here from the South and from the West Indies and find themselves shut out of their trade employment.

Affiliated with the Armstrong Association of New York, and with the New York League for the protection of Negro women, and, on the petition of its supporters about to assume the direction of the affairs of the White Rose Mission, founded by the late Mrs. Victoria Earle Matthews, the Committee for Improving the Industrial Condition of Negroes in New York has undoubtedly abundant work before it from which it will not shrink, keeping in mind, however, that its particular work is that of connecting the Negroes with the various industries, that they may be self-supporting, measurably independent and self-respecting.

The Executive Committee are: Chas. W. Anderson, Rev. W. H. Brooks, W. Franklin Brush, William Lewis Bulkley, May Hurlburt, Paul U. Kellogg, Jacob W. Mack, George McAneny, Mary W. Ovington, Wm. Jay Schieffelin, Samuel R. Scottron, Wilford H. Smith, Seth T. Stewart, J. W. T. Nichols. Officers—William Jay Schieffelin, Chairman, 5 East 66th street; Wm. Lewis Bulkley and Seth T. Stewart, Vice-Chairmen; George McAneny, Treasurer, 128 Broadway; Samuel R. Scottron, Secretary, 39 East 42nd street, Room 16, Telephone 1786-38tb.



WHAT NEGRO EDITORS SAY



IN THE current editions of the Negro newspapers, their editors deal with the fight that is being waged between the Foraker and Taft factions in Ohio. With but a few exceptions the leading Negro journals are taking the Foraker end of the proposition.

Editor Smith, of the Cleveland Gazette, declares that he has traveled from one end of the State to the other, and that nine out of every ten Negroes are for Foraker. He takes a most optimistic view of the Foraker fight and says that the senior Ohio Senator will win out.

Editor W. H. Melton of the Colored Citizen of Memphis, Tennessee, urges that the colored people ought to give more enthusiastic and earnest support to the various publications that are being produced by the race, and says:

We give, if anything, a beggarly support to our colored papers. We must be willing to let some of our number be great before we can get to be a great people; we must furnish the capital so that some one can get on his feet. We too often expect the Negro newspaper man to equal the wealthy corporation with their electric printing presses, and whose meanest reporters receive greater compensation than the best Negro editors. In order to put our cause before the people we have to speak with the millions instead of the hundreds. Shall we have a strong Negro press,

made so by your support, or continue to stand around and cry?

In big letters at the top of his paper the Topeka Plaindealer, Editor Nick Chiles says:

After Senator Foraker's visit, the Taft boom will never be heard of again among its Sunflower Republicans.

Editor E. W. Brown, of The True Reformer, hit some of the "best people" of his city, Richmond, Virginia, hard in the following editorial:

Too often do we see many of our best people who poise as potent lights, stepping stones for the young race, spending too much time with unscrupulous, almost totally strangers, in our midst, simply because they dress neatly, ride in good vehicles, and is reputed to have accumulated a goodly amount of money. Whether these hail from the State prison, or some other den, who knows?

Persons who have the right kind of material in them, will assert their personality and rights in spite of a thousand adversed circumstances.

It is hard for anyone to make a mark in life who tries to master all things. In order to succeed, one must have some objective point in view, some supreme aim, a faltering purpose, will have little standing room in the 20th century.

In reply to Dr. Bean of Philadelphia, who has been asserting that there is such a difference between the brains of white and colored men as to preclude them from living on terms of equality before

the law, Editor John C. Asbury of the Odd Fellows' Journal, in concluding his learned article, says :

It may be remarked that the inferior brain did not keep a Philadelphia Negro from winning the Rhode's Scholarship to Oxford over fifty of the brightest white brains in Pennsylvania and that it did not prevent the colored lad Wootem from winning first honor in the graduating class at Braddock, Pennsylvania, where the white boys refused to attend commencement. These white boys don't claim to have better brains, but complain because the best brain in the class is black.

Southern whites do not claim to have better brains than Locke ; but fear that he will take higher rank than they at Oxford and seek to prevent his going there to demonstrate his superiority.

The Detroit Informer of which Francis H. Warren is editor, which is enthusiastic for African colonization, publishes an interesting letter from the Hon. J. H. Green of Grand Bassa, Liberia, who has been a judge of one of the higher courts of Liberia, and makes it the basis of an editorial, as follows :

Hedged in as we are here with limitations upon opportunities for development, continually fighting against a further reduction in the scale of degradation by a large and seemingly growing class of those found in power the wonder is that we succeed as well as we do.

The same effort put forth in a country like Liberia where one may aspire to the highest and best there is in the land would, no doubt, work wonders for the moral and commercial development of our people, and it is our present purpose to land in

Liberia no later than the middle of October of this year.

We have met with so much opposition from powerful Afro-Americans some of whom have been to Liberia, that our trip there this year may be preliminary to our final plans for populating the beautiful hinterlands of Liberia with some of our best and most talented Afro-Americans, but we are satisfied now that a great and progressive Republic in Liberia would have a most beneficial effect upon the great problem in America. It would at once create a high self-respect in all Afro-Americans and bring us a corresponding degree of tolerance and justice from the ruling class of this country.

The Charleston Messenger, published in the industrial department of the Jenkins Orphanage Institute, at Charleston, South Carolina, is engaged in an effort to raise at once \$3,000 in aid of the Orphanage's rebuilding fund.

The Star of Newport News, Virginia, is after the political scalp of W. E. Barrett, "the patron saint of the 'Jim Crow' car law," as it terms him, of Newport News, and says:

It (the law) was conceived and designed only to humiliate the better class of Negroes, and the man who has in his heart such feeling toward a class of Virginia citizens who do all in their power to respect the law and the rights of all its citizens, irrespective of creed or color, owe it to themselves to do all in their power to see that their rights and interests are not again misrepresented in the Legislature.

It is true that we may not be able to prevent Mr. Barrett's nomination in a Democratic primary, but we can do our best to beat him should he get the nomination. The same influences

which operated to make his election uncertain will be in the fighting again this fall, and if we can encourage them to a more determined effort we may get the few votes which we lacked in the last election to encompass his defeat. We owe it to ourselves, colored men, to pay our taxes to day, in order that every one of us may be entitled to vote at the coming legislative election. We must learn to make sacrifices to meet these emergencies, for we can't be in position to protect our rights unless we fully qualify ourselves, and we certainly can't protect our rights unless we are qualified to vote.

The Pilot, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in enumerating the worth of Professor R. R. Wright's Jr., article in a Philadelphia journal on the Negro, says:

Professor R. R. Wright, Jr., who holds a chair in sociology at the University of Pennsylvania, has written an illuminating article for the Philadelphia Public Ledger on "The Negroes of Philadelphia." Professor Wright brings out the fact that of the total population of Philadelphia, five per cent., or about 80,000, are colored, which per cent. is two and one-half times greater than that of either New York or Chicago. The Seventh Ward has the largest Negro population, which in 1900 was 10,462, and the Eighteenth Ward the smallest, with a population of 18.

Professor Wright finds that conditions among Philadelphia Negroes have gradually become better for the past twenty years, and that there is a disposition on their part to leave the congested districts in search of better homes. Their chief drawback with reference to home life, he finds to be in the heartlessness of landlords and agents, who invariably charge Negroes

extortionate prices for ramshackle buildings, and usually refuse to rent them respectable houses in good neighborhoods at any price.

The Afro American Ledger of Baltimore, Maryland, in discussing the frequency with which rape is being committed in that state by white men, says:

Assaults upon women and children by white men are becoming altogether too numerous lately, nearly a dozen of such cases in Maryland have been recently reported through the press of this state. Our white friends, however, do not seem to mind them very much, as they make very little to do over them, save to report them, and that generally ends it. They get very little space in the newspapers. Why is this? What a howl there would be if just one such case should occur and the assaulter be a black man! Such big black headlines, "Negro Brute," "Black Fiend," "Blood Hounds After Him," and all such stuff to excite the people. But when a white man commits these nameless crimes the whole matter is soon shut up. Consistency, thou art a jewel."

The Industrial Era, the official organ of the General Bowen Association and the Negro Law and Order League of Texas, like The Colored Citizen of Memphis, Tennessee, is after the colored people also because they refuse to support Negro journals, and says:

The colored press shapes and molds public sentiment in the Negro's behalf and every family should consider it indispensable. Better do without some of the necessaries of life than be without a colored paper. It is paving the way for the future of our race. We should support a colored paper in order that the good deeds of our race may be published, that our girls and

boys may have first-class employment. We believe in the doctrine that 'God helps those alone who help themselves.' We believe that so long as the color of a man's skin prevents his getting employment in white print-shops, leading colored people should spend their money with Negro shops, which will give colored men and women of character and ability employment on their merit. We must try to help ourselves as we see the white man doing.

The Southwestern Christian Advocate says in commenting on the attitude of the Methodist Episcopal church towards the Negro race:

One of the strongest assets of the Negro problem of this country is the sympathy and Christian helpfulness of the Methodist Episcopal Church. This church has been sensitive to the cries of the oppressed everywhere and particularly has it been friendly disposed towards the cause of the Negro. Representing this church, the Advocates with rare exceptions have been faithful pleaders for our cause and ever on the alert to withstand the onslaughts of the enemy. No less faithful than the others has been the Pittsburg Christian Advocate, whose editor is one of the strongest men of the church.

The Advocate then quotes at length a leading editorial from the Pittsburg Christian Advocate, which caustically condemns Senator Tillman for his attacks upon the Negro race.

The Colored World of Columbus, Ohio, of which E. A. Shanklin is editor, has the following to say on the sub-

ject of "The Importance of Business:"

Business is the foundation of society. It is the one thing that binds communities together and holds them solid, active, eager and strong. Interfere with business and you touch the vital interest of each man.

By business the individual acquires what he could not produce, and is relieved of what he can not use. By business the best fruits of a skill possessed by one alone is distributed throughout the community. The one thus making and distributing an article, it matters not what it may be, thus serving the community, is advancing himself. By this method individual is linked to individual and nation to nation in a thousand beneficial ways. By this system of exchange, the dissimilar products of climates and races and countries lying wide apart meet in a single home. It is business that makes trade and gives it international importance.

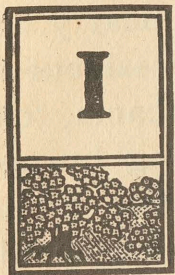
The Torch Light, of Danville, Kentucky, Rev. J. E. Wood, editor, moralizes as follows upon the question of our duty towards each other.

The person who imposes a wrong upon another is injured by the act more than the one upon whom the act is imposed. Let us be careful not to wrong others, no matter how much we may be imposed upon. We can not afford to degrade ourselves by cultivating and nursing the spirit of hate and spite and revenge. Jesus abrogated the doctrine of "an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" by the more exalted and lovable gospel: "Whatsoever ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so to them." Let us live up to this glorious precept.

A Most Encouraging Convention

BY BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, LL.D.

Principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute



IF I were asked to name what, in my opinion, was the most interesting and encouraging body of Negroes that I have ever seen assembled in the last twenty years, I think I should be tempted strongly to name the National Negro Bankers' Association, which held its first meeting in Atlanta a few days ago, in connection with the National Negro Business League. I confess that I had never expected to live to see the day when such a strong, stable, intelligent body of men representing what these men do, should assemble in our Southern States. At the meeting referred to there were present fourteen bank officials, most of them being either the cashiers or presidents of Negro banks.

The growth of the Negro in commercial and business directions is indicated by the growth of banks under the control of Negroes. It will surprise, I think, the most of your readers to note the rapidity with which these banks have increased. So far as I can get the facts, fifteen years ago there were only two banks in America under the control of Negroes—one in Richmond, Virginia, and one in Birmingham, Alabama. At the present time there are thirty one banks operated and controlled by Negroes, and others are being organized each year.

There have been very few failures of Negro banks; in fact, I only know of the failure of one.

Up until our last meeting, the bankers had been meeting in connection with the regular session of the National Negro Business League. This year it was thought advisable that, while retaining their membership in the National Negro Business League, they should have a separate organization within the League, which was readily consented to.

An entire session of the League meeting was devoted to hearing reports from these bank officials, and I wish that every white man in America, especially those that doubt the capacity and honesty of the Negro, might have been present to have heard these simple, strong statements, describing the struggles and successes of these men, who, in many cases, had worked themselves up from slavery and poverty to the point where they were either presidents or cashiers or directors in a Negro bank.

Of the thirty-one banks, fourteen were represented at the Atlanta meeting. It may sound strange, but nevertheless it is true, that eleven of these banks are in the State of Mississippi, and practically all of them have been organized since Governor Vardaman became Governor.

Your readers will likely recall the stir that was created some months ago because President Roosevelt sought to retain a colored woman, Mrs. Minnie Cox, as postmistress at Indianola Mississippi. So much disturbance was created that the President finally closed the post office and Mrs. Cox withdrew from the office. In the meantime, her husband, Mr. W. W. Cox, was a railway postal clerk. Because of the disturbance Mr. Cox later gave up his position on the railroad, and for a while both of them lived out of Indianola. Some months ago, however, Mr. Cox determined to open a Negro bank in Indianola, and I can indicate the progress and success of this bank in no better manner than to quote the following sentences which have just come to me from a reliable business man in Mississippi:

Now with reference to Mr. W. W. Cox, of Indianola, Mississippi, I beg to advise that no man of color is as highly regarded and respected by the white people of his town and county as he. It is true that he organized and is cashier of the Delta Penny Savings Bank, domiciled there. I visited Indianola during the spring of 1905 and was very much surprised to note the esteem in which he was held by the bankers and business men (white) of that place. He is a good, clean man and above the average in intelligence, and knows how to handle the typical southern white man. In the last statement furnished by his bank to the State Auditor, his bank showed total resources of \$46,000. He owns and lives in one of the best resident houses in Indianola, regardless of race, and located in a part of the town where other colored men seem to be not desired.

Not only this, a bank has recently been organized in Greenwood, Governor Vardaman's own home. In telling about their experiences and struggles, in nearly every case these men gave examples of how the white bank officials in their communities had been of service to them and worked in hearty cooperation with them. The president of the bank in Birmingham, Alabama, told how, when his bank building burned some months ago, two of the white banks, without any suggestion on his part, fearing that the safe could not be opened in time for business next morning, sent messages to the effect that if cash was wanted with which to begin business, the colored banker had only to call on the white bankers for assistance.

I think it will be of further interest to note that one of the directors of the bank in Mound Bayou, Mississippi at one time was a slave of Jefferson Davis, and at the present time Mrs. Davis, the widow of the former President of the Southern Confederacy, looks upon him as being one of the most faithful of men.

In closing his address, the president of the American Trust and Savings Bank in Jackson Mississippi, called attention to the fact that it was the habit about forty years ago in Mississippi for white people to use slaves as security when borrowing money from a bank, and at the present time in Mississippi this property which was once used as security is now itself engaged in the banking business.

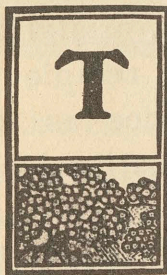
I think without exception it was reported that each one of these banks had a few white depositors, and each one

reported that they had white borrowers also.

It was also interesting and encouraging to hear the evidence that these bankers gave in the direction of showing that the colored people are learning to save their nickels and dimes as well as

dollars in a larger degree where these banks are located. Further than that, the existence of these banks shows that the colored people have an increasing degree of confidence in members of their own race in the direction of trusting them in financial matters.

ITEMS OF INTEREST



THE accompanying cut is a splendid likeness of J. J. Frick, our very proficient and aggressive agent at New Orleans, La. Mr. Frick is doing a splendid work for THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE in his city and the territory



J. J. FRICK

to which he is assigned. He is most conscientious in the discharge of his duties and is always prompt in making his financial returns. He is not only interested in THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE, but in all worthy Negro business enterprises. Mr. Frick stands high in fraternal circles and enjoys the respect and esteem of his neighbors and fellow citizens, and has the appreciation of THE MAGAZINE for his labors in its behalf.

THE National Negro Business League will convene at Topeka, Kansas, August 14th, 15th and 16th. The sessions will be held in the Hall of Representatives. The most direct route to Topeka will be by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad. Undoubtedly the fare will be one and one-third the regular fare. Delegates and other persons intending to go will communicate at once with Mr. Cyrus Field Adams, 934 S street, N. W., Washington, D. C., who is the transportation agent. For accommodations at Topeka, communicate with Ira O. Guy.

NINETEEN hundred and seven is the Whittier Centennial Year. The Whittier Home Association of Amesbury, Massachusetts, has in money and subscriptions \$5400, to be used for the erection of a statue of Whittier, to be placed in Amesbury, of which town he was for over 50 years a citizen, and where the greater part of his life's work was done. It is hoped by December 17, 1907, the one hundredth birthday of the poet, that the desired sum of \$10,000 may be secured. The Association asks all lovers of Whittier to assist in this effort to give concrete expression to the national feeling for the man who, as poet and patriot, is so widely honored. Contributions may be sent to Mr. Edwin D. Mead, 20 Beacon street, Boston, Massachusetts, or to the treasurer, Miss Emma C. Woolfenden, 62 Market street, Amesbury, Massachusetts. Whether large or small, they will be gratefully received by the Association, and at once acknowledged.

THE date of the fourth annual session of the National Association of Negro Teachers has been changed by local request from July to August 1 and 2. Great crowds of teachers are preparing to attend this meeting. The local committee is getting ready and has named Captain Allen Washington as chairman of the Entertainment Committee, who will answer all questions as to board, lodging, etc. He should be addressed at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va. The program is in preparation and will be issued June 1.

THE thirty-first annual convention of

the South Carolina Baptist Association, which was held during the past month at Aiken, South Carolina, was attended by over 500 delegates, and one of the principal matters considered by the convention was that of the establishment of a college for the higher education of the Negroes of South Carolina.

THE new building for the Colored Y. M. C. A. of Washington, D. C., is now assured, as over \$25,000 have been raised by the colored people of Washington, which was necessary to secure \$25,000 from John D. Rockefeller. The Colored Women's Y. W. C. A. of Baltimore, Md., has been also the recipient of sufficient financial assistance as to assure its permanency as an institution.

THE annual conference of the Colored Methodist Church, at the session held in Washington, D. C., put itself on record as endorsing the candidacy of Senator J. B. Foraker of Ohio for the Presidency, while the Union American M. E. Church at its convention of the Philadelphia Conference adopted resolutions of endorsement of President Roosevelt.

THE colored people of Newport News, Va., are not allowed the use of the skating rinks of that city which are operated by the whites, so they have established one of their own with many interesting features.

TWELVE of the twenty-four jurors to try Jefferson Davis in May, 1867, who was held a prisoner at Fortress Monroe, were Negroes.

PUBLISHER'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

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509 EIGHTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

FRED R. MOORE, Editor and Publisher

IDA MAY MOORE, Secretary and Treasurer

The Future of The Colored American Magazine



WITH this issue of THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE the publication enters upon the third year of its issuance under the present management. THE MAGAZINE has run well since its establishment in this city. It has grown in interest, popularity and circulation and takes front rank among all publications of its kind. Wherever it has gone, it has made friends for itself among both white and colored.

Publicists, clergymen and statesmen have all united in speaking words of praise and commendation of THE MAGAZINE. While the publication has done well along all lines in the past, the management does not flatter itself with the idea that it is all that it can or should be.

For this reason we have established at 509 Eighth avenue our new home, an entirely new plant, which will afford us ample facilities for doing our own printing and other work incidental to the publication of a first-class magazine. While this has been done to improve THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE from a mechanical standpoint, other steps have been taken that will make literary improvements. Besides

the highly literary articles that will be contributed by our corps of special correspondents along their special lines of thought, there will be featured articles which will not only interest those who are domiciled in New York, but will prove of valuable interest and information to all who are interested in the continued rise and progress of the race.

The articles that shall be contributed by our special writers will not be long, and be labored efforts and tiresome in their perusal, but will be brief and entertaining.

The various organizations and societies that are locally extant among our people shall be told of from month to month, and the work that they are doing exploited. There are many institutions and many enterprises in various parts of the country that are accomplishing great results for the race, humanity and God, but whose work is unknown. It will be our purpose during the present year to make these organizations known to the world by publishing illustrated stories of them.

In order to do the many things that THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE has in mind, it will require the aid and co-operation of all of our many friends everywhere. This we most kindly and earnestly solicit and shall prove ourselves worthy of the same.

THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE must be the best. It is the duty of our subscribers to themselves to keep to this end. Urge your friends to our support. The one dollar a year subscription is a small contribution to the spread of such race literature as THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE produces. With a renewal of our appreciation of the past support given us, and urging for a continuation of the same by our friends, we seek new readers and friends, with the pledge that THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE shall be all that it should be.

THIS is to warn all persons not to pay any money to Thomas H. Bridges, of Plainfield, New Jersey. He is dishonest and unworthy of confidence. He has received and not accounted for money for this magazine. There are others who, if they do not pay, we shall publish.

CIRCUMSTANCES of an unavoidable character will, for the present time, necessitate the abandonment of the work of Professor E. A. Johnson on THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE as editor of "The Month." This very interesting and important feature of the publication has been entrusted to other hands and "The Month" will, as in the past, be of a high literary and journalistic order.

WE are in receipt of an interesting article from Mr. William H. Henderson of Bakersfield, California, in which he avails himself of our invitation to discuss the article appearing recently from the pen of our very able writer, Mrs. Carrie W. Clifford. To publish Mr. Henderson's article in its entirety would consume more space than we can allow for the discussion of the subject. To publish it in part would be an injustice to the logical and very intelligent deductions of the author. In his article he takes high grounds on the discussion of various phases of the race problem, and concludes that the only sure hope of the race is in God. Mr. Henderson is one of our most valued friends, and is interested in the extensive circulation of THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE in his state. He and his wife are doing a splendid work in California in spreading their religious tenets.

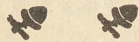
ALL of the firms whose advertisements appear in THE COLORED AMERICAN MAGAZINE are reliable, and they are worthy of the patronage of our readers. No advertisements of a questionable character are accepted by this magazine.

IN the July number we shall publish the proceedings of the first convention ever held by Negroes in the State of Virginia.

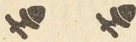


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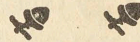
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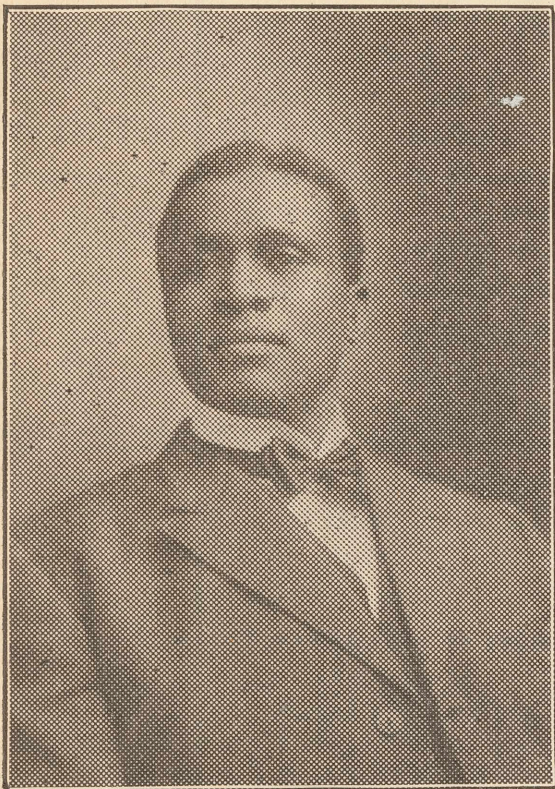
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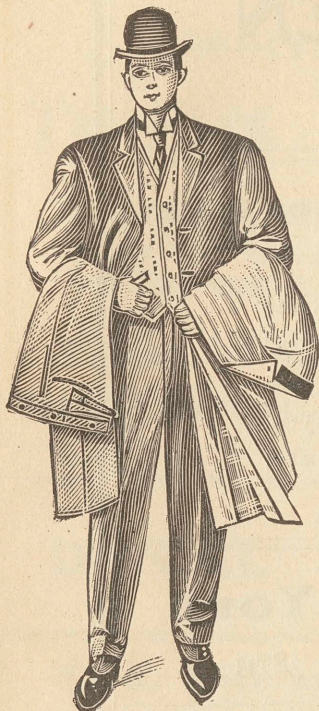
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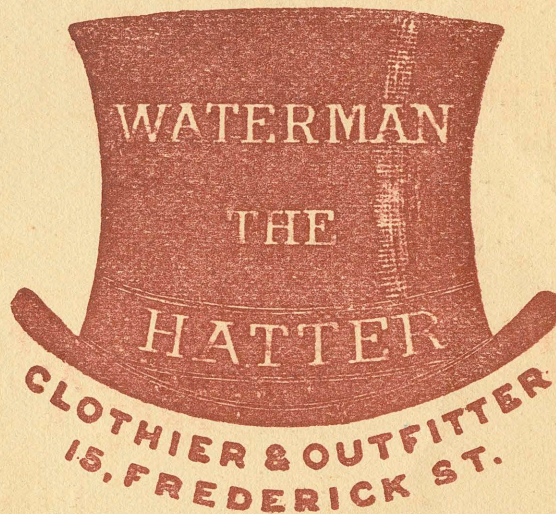
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