

THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Eight Thousand Colored People in Omaha and Vicinity, and to the Good of the Community

The Rev. JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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Colored Hero At Cleveland Disaster

Garrett A. Morgan Rescues Several Survivors of Tunnel Tragedy and Recovers Several Bodies.

INVENTOR OF SAFETY HELMET

Is Personally Complimented by Cleveland's Chief Executive for Heroic Work.

Cleveland, Ohio, August 4.—One of the greatest disasters in the history of the city of Cleveland took place in the new West Side waterworks late Tuesday night and its hero is one of Cleveland's leading Afro-American citizens, Garrett A. Morgan, the inventor of Harlem avenue.

Aroused by the prolonged ringing of the telephone bell at 4 a. m. Wednesday, Mr. Morgan was informed that a terrible disaster had taken place in the form of an explosion at the tunnel leading from crib No. 5 to form a part of the new West Side waterworks and that eleven or more men were entombed and others who had gone to the rescue endangered. The police department urged him to bring 20 or 25 of his helmets to the scene of the disaster and assist in the rescue. Calling his brother, Frank S. Morgan, and a neighbor, William Roots, also colored, Mr. Morgan filled his car with 20 helmets, his own invention, and dashed to the West Ninth street pier meeting the police patrol that had been sent to fetch him. At the pier the fire tug Wallace was waiting his arrival to hurry him to the scene.

At five o'clock, one hour after receiving the call, Morgan stood at the head of the shaft with the third rescue party composing his brother Frank and two rescuers. T. J. Clancy and Gilbert Martin. Firemen and policemen stood about helpless. Already two parties had gone down to the rescue and none returned. No one else cared to risk the journey. All feared to trust themselves to the terrible poisonous fumes that filled the death chamber below.

But Morgan, who is an expert in this line, knew the qualities of the Morgan national safety hood and also possessing a great amount of personal courage, never hesitated a moment. Harry L. Davis, mayor of the city of Cleveland, stood at the top of the shaft as Morgan and his party were lowered away. He was the last man to shake Morgan's hand before he went down, even bidding him good-bye, and the first man to congratulate him when he returned.

Morgan's first task was to break the bull's eye glass in the first trap door of the chamber where the rescue party led by Supt. Van Duzen of the tunnel construction had been entrapped. This dangerous task accomplished Morgan plunged into the deadly gases of the tunnel and began

(Continued on eighth page)

John G. Pegg, Weights and Measures Inspector, Dead

For Ten Years He Filled an Important Political Position with Satisfaction to Administration and the Public.

The wholly unexpected death Thursday afternoon of John Grant Pegg, city inspector of weights and measures, at his home, 4308 Patrick avenue, came as a distinct shock to his family and friends. Two weeks ago Mr. Pegg had what was then considered a slight paralytic stroke from heat prostration and from which he was apparently rapidly recovering, and soon expected to be about his duties. Thursday afternoon he took a turn for the worse. Twenty minutes after his death a telegram was received from his mother asking how he was.

Mr. Pegg was born in Richmond, Va., in 1868, and was raised and educated in Kansas. Being the eldest of a large family he was forced early in life to earn his own living. For a time he followed railroad life. He came to Omaha in 1899, where he has since resided. He served as messenger to Mayor Frank E. Moores from 1901 to 1906. In 1906 he was appointed by Mayor Dahlman as inspector of weights and measures, which posi-

tion he filled for ten years to the satisfaction of the administration and to the business public whom he served. He was one of the best liked men on the city pay roll. He was a thirty-second degree Mason, being a member of Rescue Lodge No. 25.

Mr. Pegg was married to Miss Mary Page of Topeka, Kansas, in 1899.

He is survived by his widow, five children, Mary, a senior, and James, a sophomore in the high school; John, Ruth and Gaitha; a mother, four brothers, James of New York City, Henry of Chicago, Charles of Oakland, Cal., and Bayliss of Omaha, and a sister, Mrs. Ida Prayther of Oklahoma City.

A brother-in-law, Prof. Gaitha Page of Kansas City, Mo., and a sister-in-law, Miss Ella Page, of Topeka, arrived in Omaha Friday morning in response to a telegram.

The funeral will be held Sunday afternoon from Zion Baptist Church, the Rev. W. F. Botts officiating. Jones and Chiles will have charge of the burial.

Only Colored Bishop of Episcopal Church Dies

New York, Aug. 3.—The death of Rt. Rev. S. D. Ferguson, for the last thirty-five years bishop of the Episcopal church, in Liberia, was announced today in a cable dispatch received by the Domestic and Foreign Missions society.

Bishop Ferguson was born in Charleston, S. C., January 1, 1842, and was taken when three years old by his parents to Liberia, where he was educated in the Mission schools of the Episcopal church. He was ordained to the diaconate at Cape Palmas in 1865 and to the priesthood at Monrovia in 1866. He was consecrated bishop June 24, 1885, in Grace church, New York. His episcopate has been marked by great growth in his Diocese. His death removes the only Colored member of the house of Bishops of the Episcopal Church.

Bishop Ferguson visited Omaha several years ago as the guest of Bishop Worthington, at which time he preached in Trinity Cathedral and the Church of St. Philip the Deacon. In the latter church he also baptized Amelia, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Singleton.

There will be no early service Sunday at St. Philip's Church. The usual services at 11.

Woman Adopts St. Paul, Minn., Priest

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 4.—Father Stephen L. Theobald, pastor of St. Peter Claver's Roman Catholic Church, was adopted as her son by Mrs. Mary E. Falihee, white, a wealthy and pioneer resident July 28. District Judge H. R. Brill signed the decree of adoption after a brief hearing of Mrs. Falihee's petition.

Mrs. Falihee, who lives at 135 St. Peter's street, has been a resident of St. Paul 40 years. She is 61 years old and is a widow with no children. Father Theobald is 41 years old. He is an orphan, formerly was a Montreal newspaper man and is a graduate of St. Thomas College.

"I do not see that it is anyone's business," said Mrs. Falihee, "and as it is very unusual I do not care to have the adoption given publicity. I am a zealous worker in the Catholic Church and am deeply interested in the work which Father Theobald has been doing. I have some property and when the time comes I want him to benefit by it and further his work."

Father Theobald lives at 319 Fuller street. He has been a priest four years. The petition did not ask for a change of name, as it would be difficult to alter all of Father Theobald's papers, some of which would have to be sent to the Vatican in Rome.

A Little More About the Krutown People

The Natives are Particularly Proud of Their Canoes Which They Handle With Great Skill.

GREAT SWIMMERS AND DIVERS

Guy B. Robbins Continues Some of His Interesting Articles on Liberia and Her People.

The Krutown beach is lined with canoes on racks about two feet high. The natives love their canoes and spend a great deal of time in taking care of them. They scrub them with sand to keep them smooth and patch the cracks that come with age. Generally these canoes are small, made to hold two to three people, yet they go out to sea in them to fish and to visit the nearby towns. The Krus are so skilled in operating their canoes that if one capsizes at sea they can right it, shoot the water out, limb back in it and resume their journey.

Many times they go out to fish in the evening and do not get back until the next day. They catch quite a number of good fish including snappers, cavalla, and "bonies." "Bonies" are so called for the number of bones they contain. The natives' mouths being like threshing machines, the bones don't bother them. These and many other species they sell to the civilized people. The remainder of the catch which consists of such fish as sharks they keep for their own consumption.

They have been on the beach many times and have seen fifteen or twenty canoes go out at one time on a fishing expedition. Seemingly the Krus regard this as great sport.

There is always a crowd to greet the home coming fishermen similar to a crowd that would gather to see the finish of a race in this country except his crowd is rushing and fighting to get the pick of the fish which are to be sold.

Teaching Children to Swim.

The Krus love to swim and bathe in the ocean, and take great pains in teaching even the small children how to swim. A father will take his son out in a canoe to deep water and throw him overboard to "fight water" as they call this method of teaching. This is a very severe lesson but it generally results well and the child soon becomes an expert. I saw a young boy dive in about 18 feet of water for a gun spring four inches long and one-half inch in diameter. The fourth time he brought it up and handed it to the amazed owner who never expected to see it again.

We imagine these crude people would feel discontented when brought in contact with civilization and what it offers. But on the contrary, they seem happier with little to do and plenty to eat. And if we compare their condition with that of some of

(Continued on Page 8)