

# THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper devoted to the civic, social and religious interests of the Colored People of Nebraska and the West, with the desire to contribute something to the general good and upbuilding of the community and of the race.

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## RACE PRIDE

Race pride is an intangible something that makes and raises people and nations. Without it men are mere clay; with it no power in heaven or earth can hinder the on-sweep of its potent force. Collectively speaking, we are not a race-proud people. It is not our fault. For three hundred years our tutelage at the hands of a fairer race has dammed up the well-springs of our self love. They taught our fathers and us that our race was a hewer of wood and a drawer of water, and we have believed. But the rose tint dawn of truth is chasing away the pall of the selfish lie.

Despite the vigorous protests of prejudiced American historians we have always had a suspicion that the great races of northern Africa and hither Asia had a large strain of our blood, but now we know it. The great scientists of Europe who prefer truth to error have fairly startled the world with the facts they are hurling at the false ethnical claims of pseudo-historians. Old Rawlinson and Ridpath must be fairly shaking in their graves as proof after proof is produced, showing that the Grecian and Roman civilizations owe their rise to African blood. The pill is so bitter that American historians and journals refuse to swallow it. It hurts their pride to the choking point. It will be a long day before they accept the new facts, but time and tide wait not. Truth will establish her claims despite the puny prejudices of Americans.

Let us take heart and ponder the meanings of these wonderful truths. To know that our ancestors ruled the world and gave birth to human civilization is worth more than all the jewels and gold and silver in the world. It gives us the basis for a pride of race that none can equal. The day will yet come when a child of our dusky race may say with truth, "To claim relation with Africa's children is greater than to be born a king!"

## PORTO RICO AND THE SOUTH

W. E. B. contributes an article to the Boston Transcript severely scoring Congress for its action upon the Porto Rican franchise bill. He says: "The Porto Rican bill probably would pass Congress without much objection or debate, had not the color question unfortunately been injected into it. As the measure passed the House last July, it imposed an educational and property test upon all citizen voters—this a device of Southern statesmen to prevent the Negro from securing equal rights in the Island. Some of the senators proposed to broaden the bill but the Southern idea, as represented by Hoke Smith of Georgia in the committee, constituted an obstacle. The Negro element in the Island is only twelve per cent, but that is enough to make a vital difference in

the character of the legislation the United States Congress is willing to enact for the benefit of its ward. President Wilson, it is understood, is satisfied with the compromise."

## SONG OF SOLOMON

P. C.

1. Harken, O my son, whilst I thrum for thee a plaintif thrum upon my trusty lyre.
2. Ye have called for a song upon a Colored man's favorite dish and I have gone the gamut from start off to finish.
3. Ye have heard it said that chicken was a Colored man's middle name, but son of my heart, it isn't so.
4. So, too, hath it been rumored that a red ripe juicy watermelon was better than a comp to the golden streets, yet it seemeth to me a libel of levity.
5. And there clingeth a legend that possum with sweet potatoes was a platter decoration plenipotentiary, yet history produceth no proofs of preference.
6. Nor have mine ears been deaf to the faint call for 'chitlins' but on a vote it lost in its own precinct.
7. Then I hied myself to the market place to watch Colored folks shopping. Mine eyes did spy yellow legged chicken, mouth compelling ham, sleek possum, and what not, but the Colored folk saw them not.
8. They formed a line like gallery gods and the first one whispered "Pork Chops."
9. And behold when he hath slipped the butcher his thin dime, the next whispered pork chops. And thusly the third, and so on until the last little son of Ham raised to his tip toes and piped, "Pork Chops."
10. And then, O my son, I felt in my jeans and found two bits and leaning over the marble counter, I caroled into the ear of the fat butcher, "Pork Chops."

## PRESS COMMENTS

### People Who Miscalculate.

Most people do not think beyond today or look beyond tomorrow. As a result they are constantly miscalculating in the affairs of life and become a drain upon society and a worry to their friends.—The Richmond (Va.) Planet.

### Gratitude.

Our gratitude is best expressed in actions. To speak of opportunities and blessings which come to us as a result of the emancipation proclamation and then to neglect to make the best use of them is a paradox. Let us show our appreciation of freedom by making the best use of the advantages afforded us. Good homes, schools, churches and worthy business enterprises will be the best commentaries in our citizenship.—The Torchlight, Danville, Ky.

## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

### An Humble Tribute to the Late Dr. M. O. Ricketts.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 22, 1917.

Editor Monitor:

In the last issue of The Monitor I read with much regret of the death of Dr. M. O. Ricketts, of St. Joseph, Mo., formerly of Omaha.

It was my pleasure to have known Dr. Ricketts intimately and well from 1882 to the day of his departure from Omaha. I watched his career as a citizen, a professional man and a public servant, and during that period of time I knew of no man possessed of nobler traits of character. He was honest and conscientious, a firm adherent to that noble principle of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. I readily recall a little incident in his life which illustrated and showed the estimation in which he was held by others as well as myself. It was in 1894 when he sought his second term in the legislature.

A few days after the republicans had named a ticket, the democrats did likewise. The tickets being before the people I asked the late Paddy Ford, ex-Councilman of the 3rd ward of Omaha, if he was going to vote the straight democratic ticket, and his reply was, "indeed, I am not. I am going to vote for my neighbor, Dr. Ricketts, as I believe he is the brightest man on either ticket."

I was present in the House of Representatives when in joint session in February, 1895, and I heard Dr. Ricketts make that eloquent speech placing John M. Thurston in nomination for the United States Senate. It was a masterpiece of eloquence.

Ed. F. Morearty.

## OBVIOUS OBSERVATIONS

The election is over and the new officials have taken office, but the Colored voter still stands on the outside looking in. How long, voter, how long?

Japan has paid millions of dollars on her national debt and will try to pay it all if the war lasts much longer. The world nations don't like it, but Japan keeps smiling—and planning.

Tom Lawson said he didn't want to squeal, but they made him and now the democrats from Woody down are hunting for cyclone cellars. SOME ADMINISTRATION.

The whole of Canada has jumped onto the water wagon and the prediction is that in ten years there will not be enough whiskey in the U. S. to float a tooth pick. Well, we never cared for whiskey anyway.

The troops are leaving Mexico, according to the latest reports. Let us see, what the dickens did they go down there for, can you remember?

It snowed Saturday night, rained at midnight, snowed some more and then froze up tight. Some class to this weather.

Thanking you for your kind attention, ye editor will now put a padlock on the typewriter and start out collecting on the subscriptions.

## AWARDED DAMAGES FOR DEATH OF HUSBAND

Mrs. Oneida Jackson, of Omaha, whose husband was killed last summer by falling down an elevator shaft at Yonker Bros.' store at Des Moines, Ia., has been awarded compensation in the sum of \$2196.49 by Judge C. A. Dudley. The widow has been receiving \$5 a week, but has been now awarded the above sum.

## CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP THE DEACON

Rev. John Albert Williams, Priest.

The church is never over-crowded, except on rare and special occasions; so worshippers who desire to come are reasonably sure of being able to find a seat.

The hours of the Sunday services are 7:30 a. m.; (a little too early, it is admitted, for the saints who rejoice in their beds); 10:00 a. m., Sunday School; 11 a. m., (even this is too early for some, or else their clocks are slow); and 5 p. m. (this generally interferes with the dinner hour, afternoon nap, or Sunday callers.) However, these are the hours of service. You will notice that they have been carefully planned to interfere as little as possible with the usual hours set for the "movies."

The Woman's Auxiliary met Thursday with Mrs. Irvine Gray, 2610 Seward street. Next Thursday the usual monthly missionary tea, with a silver offering will be held at the residence of Mrs. C. H. Hicks, 2020 Clark street, Mrs. Hicks and Mrs. Silas Johnson being the hostesses.

The parish paper of St. Luke's Church, Lincoln, contains this significant item: "The churches are full of women; the penitentiaries are full of men."

## KENTUCKY GOVERNOR PREVENTS LYNCHING

(Continued From First Page)

honor and responsibility with which he regards his office. Here is the letter:

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
Frankfort, Ky., January 20, 1917.

Mr. W. H. Gray,  
1322 Ave. A, Co. Bluffs, Ia.

My Dear Sir:

Your kind and generous words of commendation and approval came duly to hand. I regret my inability to express my profound appreciation.

As I see it, it is the prime duty of a Chief Executive to maintain the law in its majesty and to enforce it without fear or favor. A lawless mob, defiantly attempting to overthrow courts and to take into its own bloody hands the administration of alleged justice, is not guilty merely of a murder in which hundreds participate without provocation or excuse: It is a kind of treason and insurrection against constituted authority—an effort to demolish those sacred and established institutions upon which civilization itself is based.

It is, however, very gratifying to know that my good and generous friends are so hearty in their approval of what, to my mind, was the simple discharge of a plain duty.

Most sincerely yours,  
A. O. Stanley.

## MADAM DEMBY A FAVORITE IN SOUTHERN SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

Madam Demby, who is to give a recital at Grove M. E. Church, next Thursday night, under the auspices of the Women's Home Missionary Society, is said to be an artist in her line and is a great favorite at many of the Southern colleges and schools where she has frequently sung.

Weeping Willow Lodge No. 9596, G. U. O. of O. F., meets second and fourth Thursdays of each month at U. B. F. Hall, 24th and Charles. M. H. Hazzard, N. G.; T. H. Gaskins, P. S.