

## Letters from Our Readers

### MEMBER OF "GET ONE CLUB"

Beatrice, Neb., Mar. 21, 1917.  
Rev. John Albert Williams,  
1119 No. 21st St., Omaha.  
Editor Monitor: Enclosed please find money order for three dollars (\$3.00) for which please send The Monitor for one year to Mrs. John Casmon, 1113 Elk street, and my own renewal.

Mrs. L. J. Gordon,  
1111 High Street.

### FROM CALIFORNIA

Oroville, Cal., March 17, 1917.  
The Rev. John Albert Williams,  
Dear Sir: Enclosed please find one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) for one year's subscription for The Monitor. Thanking you for the same. I remain,  
Respectfully,  
Mr. A. Cannon,  
711 Bridge Street.

### FROM NEW MEXICO

Fort Bayard, New Mexico,  
March 14, 1917.  
Rev. John Albert Williams, Editor  
Monitor, Omaha, Neb.  
Dear Sir: Please find enclosed herewith money order for \$1.50 to pay my subscription for The Monitor for one year.  
We look forward for Monitor day (Mondays) with much interest, as there is almost sure to be something of interest to us that we do not see in the dailies that we take. Wishing you continued success in the excellent work that you are doing, I am, as ever, a willing helper in my humble way, that is as a subscriber.  
Mrs. Ralph Myers.

### JUSTICE IN SOUTH CAROLINA

(Continued From First Page)

gent, will make a success and become prosperous. Such a man is apt to think that he has solved his individual problem. It is a mere delusion; the slightest crisis may come along and knock the props from under him and he wakes up to find that he is only a "nigger."

The great lesson to be drawn from the Anthony Crawford case is that no Colored man in the entire country, no matter how successful and prosperous, is really free and independent or even safe, so long as the humblest and most ignorant Negro may be deprived of his rights and oppressed simply because he is a Negro.

The only safety for the progressive individuals of the race lies in their organizing for the purpose of securing and maintaining the essential manhood and citizenship rights of the race as a whole.

The second paragraph of the clipping reproduced above is an expected sequel. Failing to punish white men for crimes against Negroes is only a step from failing to punish white men for crimes against white men.

So much for law and justice in South Carolina'

### THE GET ONE CLUB"

The first member of "The Get One Club" is Mrs. L. J. Gordon of Beatrice, Neb., who renewed her own subscription and got us one new subscriber.

If all our subscribers will do this we will soon double our subscription list.

Who'll be the next member?

Dan Desdunes' Orchestra, Webster 710, 2516 Burdette St.—Adv.

## SIDELIGHTS ON ALEXANDER DUMAS.

(Continued From First Page)

ist, has become one of the most honored names in the world's chronicles," "Dumas' first public triumph is also characteristic of the man and his metal. It was customary for an artist to secure the patronage of some great personage in order to command public applause. The greatest man of the day was the Duc'd'Orleans. Dumas had just completed a play called Charles VII, which was about to be presented. He made bold to ask the Duke to be present and to rise in his box and start clapping at a certain moment. The Duke, amused at the young man's confidence, promised, but later remembered that he had a previous engagement to dinner upon that evening. He wrote Dumas, expressing his regret. Dumas replied that if the Duke would kindly make his appointment a little earlier, he would make the performance a little later and thus secure his wish. The Duke acquiesced and was present. At the moment arranged for he rose in his box and began clapping loudly. The audience looked up, recognized France's greatest man, and went wild over the play which Dumas later said wasn't very much after all. His fame was secured and from that moment he became one of the greatest men of France.

"Once Dumas asked the famous Lamartine to criticize one of his manuscripts. 'I cannot criticize miracles,' wrote back the gracious Frenchman. The two were great friends and in their correspondence Dumas asked if Lamartine would write to him. 'I cannot write to you, my dear Dumas, because I am unworthy; but I shall be happy to read what you will write.' Dumas also wielded much influence with other great men of France.

When Napoleon III ordered all theatres closed and by the order brought woe to French genius, Dumas wrote him that he, Napoleon, had already exiled Hugo, the thinker; had ruined Lamartine, the dreamer; and was about to ruin him, the vulgarizer. The letter caused Napoleon to lift the ban and genius came once more into its own.

"Dumas once contemplated coming to America. He was visited by Motley, diplomat to the Netherlands and author of the famous 'Rise of the Dutch Republic.' Dumas stated to Motley his desire and the latter dissuaded him by reason of the civil conditions in the United States and because of the prejudice current against men of color. 'It was my intention,' said Dumas, 'to write a novel about America, in fact I have already written one,' and before the astonished diplomat had a chance to answer Dumas opened a drawer and produced a ponderous manuscript. Motley read it and praised it highly, but for some reason Dumas never published it.

"Nor was Dumas ever ashamed of his African blood. He was proud of it and never let slip a chance to enforce the idea that his genius came from the African rather than from the other side. When the Roman prelate, Ferrand, was appointed to the bishopric of Africa and asked for contributions, Dumas was among the first to respond. In his note accompanying his liberal offering he wrote, 'I donate this money with pleasure. I need only go back two generations to find that I had an African parent chained upon the deck of a slave ship.' Dumas married a Russian woman who belonged to one of the noblest families of the Muscovite empire."

Mr. Desdunes also gave me a poem

of Dumas which I would like to give now, but you might not understand it. It was dictated in French and written in as near French as I could master. Some rainy evening I shall gather together a regiment of French dictionaries and grammars and try to make this French poem look like English or else I'll turn it over to the French scholar of the staff—oh, yes The Monitor has one—to translate it for you. I am sure that it carries with it a great sentiment that should warm the heart of every one of our race, at least Mr. Desdunes has told me that it does and I respect his authority.

Mr. Desdunes is himself an author of several valuable books, one, a study of Louisiana Creoles, being an authority on this subject. The Monitor thanks this distinguished man for this offering and hopes that his affliction, which is blindness, may be removed and that he may finish out his span of life in browsing amidst the literature of France, the country that he loves so well.

### CARD OF THANKS

We desire to thank our friends for their many highly appreciated kindnesses to us during the illness and death of our mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Johnson.  
Omaha, March 20.

## Classified Advertising

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For dressmaking, call Miss Alexander, 1403 North 18th St. Web. 4745.

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