

THE MONITOR

A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER DEVOTED PRIMARILY TO THE INTERESTS OF COLORED AMERICANS
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Letters From Our Readers

Short, timely letters are invited. We prefer that writers sign their names, but in all cases letters signed with a nom de plume or as "Reader," "Subscriber," etc., must be accompanied by the name and address of the author for the editor's information.

HISTORIC ASSOCIATION 1928

Omaha, Neb., Oct. 16, 1928.
 EDITOR THE MONITOR:

In your issue of The Monitor of October 5, 1928, your paper contained an article entitled "Historical Associations." I appreciate the necessity of such an association for many reasons. In this brief letter to you I will tersely show to your readers and the world-at-large the crying need for such an organization and why it should command attention and respect.

Having been born and raised amongst the Negro race near the Blue Ridge Mountains of east Tennessee, and having had the pleasure of hearing some of the brightest men of this nation express themselves upon the subject of the equality of men, I think that I am in a good position to both write and speak of the Negro and his battle for equal rights amongst all other races upon American soil, politically, morally, patriotically and from a biblical standpoint.

Reviewing the past patriotic events of the Negro, I will say it is a matter of history that Toussaint L'Ouverture, in his fight to liberate the Negroes of Hayti in the insurrection of San Domingo, a Negro defeated the Army of Napoleon, who conquered practically all Europe and was only defeated at the battle of Waterloo by the Irish Duke of Wellington. So that, standing at the bottom of the list, the Negro race is entitled, if judged by the great men of the masses, to the same recognition as the Anglo-Saxon or any other race.

In this article I shall discuss the rights of the Negro and his duties and obligations. The rights of the Negro are the same as the rights of any other child of our first parents, Adam and Eve. The significance of this statement may be appreciated when one consults the Scriptures and finds the word "man"—a generic term, including not only the sexes but including all colors in the human race, whether they be black or white, yellow or red—all embraced in the single wide term, "man".

Further let me say that at the birth of our Saviour, one of the many, including the noble wise kings from the east, who came to visit and adore the infant Jesus, was a Negro, who was received by our divine Saviour on the same footing and with equal welcome, as the white kings. Then Christ, the king, made no distinction in his worshippers. Now, how dare white men attempt to deny the Negro the inherent rights of a human being, endowed with an immortal soul? Was not the Negro received with the same kindly love at the birth of Christ Jesus as were the kings from the east? Then how dare mere men, bearing a white skin but otherwise in the same categorical sphere, deny their colored neighbors the rights and privileges of a natural, unharassed life? When Christ commissioned His apostles did he not say: "Go forth, and teach all nations!" Our dear Lord did not exclude Africa from His commission. Christ, with His arms extended to the limit on the cross of Calvary, embraced all men for whom he gave his blood and made no distinction between the souls of Ethiopians and Caucasians. He did not consider skins but souls, and His principles when rightly applied often discover white souls in black bodies, and black souls

in white bodies.

My Negro friends, I need not refer at length to Scripture to prove your God-given rights. Nature herself, in our birth and death, shows the equality of all men. I have a heart, so have you. I have a soul, so have you. I have a brain so have you. You have the same number of bones, muscles and nerves as have I. We are all doomed to death and in the end our bodies are identical in dust. So that there is no difference between your body and mine, and that of the president of the United States, when at rest in the grave.

ED F. MOREAITY.
 (To be continued.)

WORLD'S GREATEST NEGRO CITY

By Kelly Miller.

New York has become the metropolis of the Negro race. Indeed, it is the greatest Negro city in the world.

The colored population of New York City is equal to the total population of the State of Delaware. Quite a quarter of a million Negroes are focused at this great metropolitan center. They are brought into contact with the most favorable influences which civilization affords. They enjoy full political rights. The law grants them civil equality which public sentiment in the main concedes. They have the best educational facilities that money can buy and the most favorable business opportunity. Although somewhat restricted by racial prejudice at present, they will in the long run be what the capacity and energy of the people themselves create and sustain.

Harlem is a solid Negro city larger than Trenton, New Jersey. The bounds are as sharply drawn as if cut by a knife. The lingering remnant of whites tarry for a while for the sole purpose of business exploitation. Within the next half-hundred years Harlem will show the capacity of the Negro race for self-direction.

Why should not two hundred and fifty thousand Negroes in New York count for as much in the general equation of things as the corresponding number of white Americans in the State of Delaware?

According to the theory of democracy one citizen is equal to another. He has the same capacity. It is needless for two hundred thousand Americans to complain that their neighbors will not give them opportunity. In the language of President Garfield, they must capture their own opportunity.

Wherever the Negro is overshadowed by a white environment, he is apt to rely upon the whites to do things for him. He takes little interest in the primary processes of affairs. He seeks secondary pursuits after the principal lines have been already laid down. He seeks employment rather than enterprise. The government, politics, business, civil and public utility are not for him. It is his highest ambition to fit in. It is enough for the servant to be as his lord.

As long as the Negro maintains this differential attitude he will make little first rate advancement in the controlling affairs of life. Two hundred thousand white people anywhere in the world are a sufficient group for all the practical purposes of business and practical undertakings. They proceed to meet, not only their own needs and necessities, but to help furnish the requirements of other groups. The Negro must begin to ask himself seriously why it is that groups of the race however numerous are not self-sufficient. Why are there not Negro towns and cities thriving under Negro enterprise and initiative? Boley, Oklahoma, and Mound Bayou, Mississippi, are interesting and commendable exceptions.

There are six cities in the United States with over one hundred thousand Negroes. The problem before us is to see to it that these people of Negro blood figure in the activities and affairs of their several communities in proportion to their numerical strength. The old argument about race prejudice and denial of opportunity and privilege will hardly work much longer.

The Negro contingency of New York must assume leadership in business and industry as well as in intellectual and moral guidance and direction. The greatest Negro city in the world should lead the Negroes of the world in the path of progress.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912.
 Of the Monitor, published weekly at Omaha, Neb., for Oct. 1, 1928.
 State of Nebraska,
 County of Douglas, ss.

Before me, a notary public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared John Albert Williams who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of the Monitor, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
 Publisher—The Monitor Publishing Co., Omaha, Neb.
 Editor—John Albert Williams, Omaha, Neb.
 Managing Editor—John Albert Williams, Omaha, Neb.
 Business Manager—Lucinda W. Williams, Omaha, Neb.

2. That the owner is: John Albert Williams, Omaha, Neb.
 That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

(Signed) John Albert Williams
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of October, 1928.
 (SEAL) Guy B. Robbins.
 My commission expires July 18, 1928.

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ARTICLE XIV. CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES

Citizenship Rights Not to Be Abridged

1. All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

"TRADITIONS, TOO"

WE frequently hear it stated by members of our race that whenever there comes a conflict between "Southern traditions" and "Northern principles", in the matter of racial prejudice, the white people of the North always surrender to the South. We admit, with keen regret, that there is much to justify this contention. Examples of such surrender even by religious organizations which profess to exemplify the democracy and catholicity of the Divine Founder of Christianity as well as by civic bodies, political and welfare organizations and educational institutions abound in such large measure that this opinion finds justification. It is, therefore, refreshing and enheartening to be able to cite, however occasional they may be, examples which show the golden side of the shield; which prove that there are men and institutions not afraid to be just or to take the right stand. Such an example is that of President Baker of Washington and Jefferson University who positively refused to surrender to Southern tradition. His reply to Dean Campbell whose ultimatum was that unless Charles West were removed from W. & J.'s team the traditions of Washington and Lee would compel them to break their contract was manly, straight-forward and unequivocal. Commenting on his decision, which met with the unqualified approval of the student-body, townsfolk and people of Pennsylvania, President Butler said:

"I am sorry the unfortunate situation arose. I respect the tradition which Washington and Lee followed in refusing to play the game, but Wash-Jeff college is a Northern school with traditions, too. It has never made any distinction against color or creed in enrolling its students. Charles West, who was the cause of the controversy, has been one of the best students in the college for the last three years. He has been an honor to the school both as a student and as an athlete, adding to its prestige by his gentlemanly conduct and his efforts as an athlete. To have withdrawn him would have been a gross injustice."

President Baker did a service not only to the university of which he is the head in standing for its best traditions, but to the whole country. It is well to let the South and all others who stand for narrow and un-American traditions understand and, that courteously, but emphatically, that

there are sections of this country, which have "traditions, too," which are fairer and more representative of the ideals upon which America was founded than are theirs and that these traditions and principles will not be surrendered. With the North standing true to her "traditions, too," the time will come when the better sentiment of the South will realize that "traditions" which violate the principles of democracy upon which the republic was founded are unworthy of her and repudiate them. But if the North and the liberal-minded people of the South continue to surrender to narrow, unreasonable and unworthy "Southern traditions", these "traditions" will endure to the confusion of the country.

WHAT IS YOUR ANSWER?

WE have been asked the following question which we pass on to our readers and would like them to submit their answers, in brief letters, covering not more than 300 words. This is the question: "What will be the outcome of the prejudice against our race which has so largely increased since the World War: will it become so bad that it will ultimately result in good?"

Put on your "thinking cap" and let us have your answer. Write plainly on one side of the paper. We will publish weekly as many as we have space for and we are sure that they will be interesting.

ATTENDING NIGHT SCHOOL

A LARGE number of our people of various ages are availing themselves of the educational advantages offered them by the night schools. This is the right thing to do. The desire to improve oneself in every way possible is highly commendatory. We hope that all who can possibly do so, and who realize the need of further schooling, attend night school faithfully. Don't be afraid or ashamed to go.

PREPARE TO DO YOUR SHARE

THE drive for the Community Chest will be made the latter part of November. Prepare to do your share of giving when the time comes. We want our people as an integral and important part of Omaha's progressive population to go over the top.

The estimated value of the property owned by Negroes in the United States is \$1,500,000,000.

Nebraska Civil Rights Bill

Chapter Thirteen of the Revised Statutes of Nebraska, Civil Rights. Enacted in 1893.

Sec. 1. Civil rights of persons. All persons within this state shall be entitled to a full and equal enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities and privileges of inns, restaurants, public conveyances, barber shops, theatres and other places of amusement; subject only to the conditions and limitations established by law and applicable alike to every person.

Sec. 2. Penalty for Violation of Preceding Section. Any person who shall violate the foregoing section by denying to any person, except for reasons of law applicable to all persons, the full enjoyment of any of the accommodations, advantages, facilities, or privileges enumerated in the foregoing section, or by aiding or inciting such denials, shall for each offense be guilty of a misdemeanor, and be fined in any sum not less than twenty-five dollars, nor more than one hundred dollars, and pay the costs of the prosecution.

"The original act was held valid as to citizens; barber shops can not discriminate against persons on account of color. Messenger vs State, 25 Nebr. page 677. N. W. 638."

"A restaurant keeper who refuses to serve a colored person with refreshments in a certain part of his restaurant, for no other reason than that he is colored, is civilly liable, though he offers to serve him by setting a table in amore private part of the house. Ferguson vs Gies, 82 Mich. 358; N. W. 718."