

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

\$1.00 a Year. 5c a Copy.

Omaha, Nebraska, July 31, 1915

Volume I. Number 5

THE LOGIC OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE

By Rev. Francis J. Grimke.

I am heartily in favor of woman suffrage. I did not use to be, but it was simply because I had not given the subject due consideration. The moment I began to think seriously about it, I became convinced that I was wrong, and swung over on the other side, and have been on that side ever since. I do not see how any one who stops to think, who takes a common sense view of things, can be opposed to the franchise for women. What is this right to vote, after all? Is it not simply the right to form an opinion or judgment as to the character and fitness of those who are to be entrusted with the high and responsible duty of making laws and administering them after they are made, and of having that judgment count in the selection of public officials? The ballot is simply the expression of the individual judgment in regard to such matters. Such being the case three things are perfectly clear in my mind: (1). The interests of women are just as much involved in the enactment of laws, and in the administration of laws, as are the interests of men. In some respects they are even more so. In many things, such as the liquor traffic, the social evil, and other demoralizing influences, which directly affect the peace and happiness of the home, the kind of laws that are enacted, and the character of the men who are to enforce them, have for women a peculiar, a special interest.

(2). The average woman is just as well qualified to form an opinion as to the character and qualifications of those who are to be entrusted with power as the average man. The average man is in no sense superior to the average woman, either in point of intelligence, or of character. The average woman, in point of character, is superior to the average man; and, in so far as she is, she is better fitted to share in the selection of public officials.

(3). To deprive her of the right to vote is to govern her without her consent, which is contrary to the fundamental principle of democracy. That principle is clearly expressed in the Declaration of Independence, where we read: "Governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed." Under this principle, which is a just principle, women have the same right to vote as men have. Are they not governed? And being governed, can the government imposed upon them be justly imposed upon them without their consent? It is simply to treat them as minors and inferiors, which every self-respecting woman should resent, and continue to resent until this stigma is removed from her sex. The time is certainly coming, and coming soon, I believe, when this just claim on the part of women will be fully recognized in all truly civilized countries.—In August Crisis.)

Think on These Things

"FOR anything worth having, one must pay the price, and the price is always work, patience, love, sacrifice—no paper currency, no promises to pay, but the gold of real service."



JESSE HOWARD HUTTEN, M. D.

One of Omaha's Most Skillful and Successful Physicians.

CHARACTER, NOT COLOR, COUNTS IN BRAZIL

(The Chicago Evening Post.)

It certainly is a great eye-opener to white people who come here from our southern states to see how this mixture of races is encouraged. There is no color line in Brazil. All men and women are judged by their earning capacity, irrespective of color. Moreover, instead of branding one "colored" because he is one-eighth black—as is customary in the southern states of North America—the reverse system is used. One who has an eighth or one-sixteenth part white blood is branded as "white."

But notwithstanding the Brazilian system of intermarriage and its apparent good results, the development of the country has been due to Europeans.

Readers who know the Portuguese appreciate their good qualities of thrift, good nature and apparent ambition.

CINCINNATI CHARITIES EMPLOY COLORED INVESTIGATOR

A new position was created at the Associated Charities in Cincinnati recently when a colored woman was appointed to investigate and care for the colored cases that come to the institution for aid. Miss Martha Fletcher was given the place by Secretary Edmonds.

"We have a great number of cases among the colored people," he said, "and I believe that a colored assistant can more successfully investigate them than a white person. About 20 per cent of our cases are among the colored people. Miss Fletcher can not handle all of them, of course, but she will be able to care for a great many of them."

"We will endeavor to co-operate with the colored schools and churches along this line and believe they will aid us greatly in the new way of handling the cases that affect their class."

CLAIM \$68,000,000 BELONGING TO SLAVES HELD BY U. S.

Suit Seeking Its Distribution Filed in the Supreme Court.

Washington, D. C., July 26.—Claiming that Secretary McAdoo of the treasury department is the custodian of a fund of \$68,072,388, gathered into the treasury as the fruit of the labor of slaves in the southern states between the years 1859 and 1868, H. N. Johnson of Louisiana, R. Bowers of Texas, C. B. Williams of Mississippi and Mamie Thompson of Tennessee have filed suit in the supreme court of the District of Columbia for discovery and establishment of a lien on the fund for their alleged share and for such others as may be entitled.

Government Collects Fund.

The court is told that the claimants were subject to a system of involuntary servitude in the Southern states, and performed work in the production of cotton and in its preparation for market, and that the fund was collected by the government as internal revenue on raw cotton.

The title of the United States is questioned by the plaintiffs, who say that this sum is not the legitimate property of the United States and it should be distributed among those by whose labor the cotton yielding the revenue was produced.

Noted Attorneys in Case.

The plaintiffs further declare that the system of involuntary servitude by which plaintiffs were dominated forced them and their ancestors against their will to render the labor while in justifiable fear of bodily harm or destruction.

Through Attorney E. M. Hewlett of the local bar, Cornelius J. Jones of Muskogee, Okla., and H. A. Guess the plaintiffs ask that the matter be referred to a master in chancery to take proof of their claims.

MAYOR INVITES COLORED CITIZENS TO BRYAN BANQUET

Los Angeles, Cal., July 23.—Mayor Charles E. Sebastian, recently elected mayor of Los Angeles, Cal., named four prominent citizens of the race, along with other representative citizens, to receive and lunch with William Jennings Bryan on his visit to the "city of angels" last week. Following is a list of citizens named: Rev. E. W. Kinchen, pastor of Wesley chapel; Rev. J. D. Gordon, pastor of Friendship Baptist church; Prof. T. A. Greene, secretary of the Y. M. C. A., and Noah D. Thompson, a former Chicagoan. The new mayor of Los Angeles is a thorough westerner and pays no attention to color or creed when looking for men or women to aid him in performing his duties as chief executive of the metropolis of the Pacific coast.

A census report, relating to the Negro Church, says there are four colored priests in the Roman Catholic church in the United States and one colored priest in the Greek church.