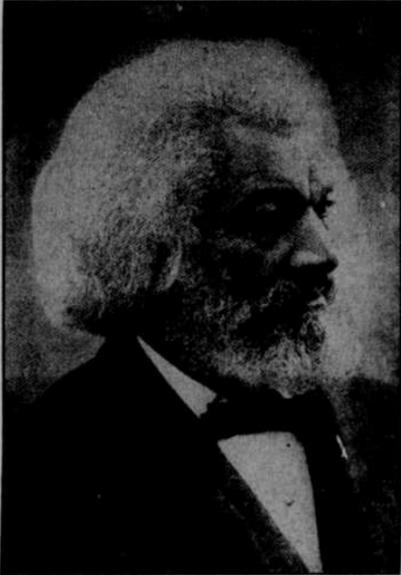


Our Women and Children

Conducted by Lucille Skaggs Edwards.



HON. FREDERICK DOUGLASS,
Orator-Statesman

"LEST WE FORGET."

Frederick Douglass, unquestionably the most remarkable Afro-American yet produced, was born February 14, 1817.

American history records no greater orator, and while his seventy-eight years were spent during a period which tried men's souls and produced great orators, yet he was an equally great statesman. Much did he contribute to Freedom's cause by his untiring effort, his matchless eloquence.

Mr. Douglass seemed to possess inherent greatness—to reflect a culture so natural that you could have scarcely conceived of him without it, so that if you had been told that he was the product of six generations of Anglo-Saxon culture instead of the slave pen, you would not have expressed surprise or wonder. More than six feet tall, of majestic mein and presence, when you stood before him, it was natural to reflect on what Sidney Smith said of Daniel Webster, "He was a living lie, for no man could be as great as he looked." The charm of his conversation was as pleasing as the gracious personality of his manner.

He delighted you with stories of his rich and varied experience, or inspired you to activity by his prophecies of the wonderful possibilities of the future.

What greater incentive can the Negro youth of this generation have than is contained in the life of Mr. Douglass? What better evidence have we than is shown in his life that there is rich reward for him who can labor and who can wait?

As the years go by, let the 14th day of February be sacred to the memory of our "Grand Old Man" and let his name be familiar to every child, for our own heroes are their greatest inspiration. Contemplating his life, we will be lifted to a higher conception of duty of life. Well may it be said of him:

"As some divinely gifted man
Whose life in low estate began
And on a simple village green;
Who breaks his birth's invidious bar,
And grasps the skirts of happy chance,
And breasts the blows of circumstance,
And grapples with his evil star;

Who makes his force by merit known,
And lives to clutch the golden keys,
To mould a mighty state's decrees,
And shape the whisper of the throne;
And moving on from high to higher,
Becomes on Fortune's crowning slope
The pillar of a people's hopes,
The center of a world's desire."

Fresh in our minds, honored in our hearts be his memory throughout the ages.
L. S. E.

A TALK WITH MY PARENTS.

(By A Child in "N. Y. World.")

If there is one word in the English language that I hate with all the fervor of my little heart, it is that word "Don't"

If I should tell you how many times a day my mother uses that word you would not think she had time to do anything except say "Don't."

The peculiar thing about the word "Don't" is that it does not mean anything. At least to me. If I am pulling sister's hair and mother says, "Don't," what does it mean? Why she does not use the word "Stop!" is beyond comprehension.

When I am doing something which I should not do it is worse than useless to say "Don't" without telling me what to do instead of what I am doing.

When I am writing on the walls with a pencil would it not be better to give me a piece of paper to write on than to say, "Don't" and leave me there with a pencil poised in the air, not knowing what to do next?

What I want is to be told what to do. When I see my mother sitting comfortably in a chair, the first thing that enters my head is to make her pay some attention to me. It is just human nature to want to see her get up or say that terrible word, "Don't."

AN OLD FAVORITE.

Little Boy Blue—Eugene Field.
The little toy dog is covered with dust,
But sturdy and stanch he stands;
And the little toy soldier is red with rust,

And his musket molds in his hands.
Time was when the little toy dog was new,

And the soldier was passing fair;
And that was the time when our Little Boy Blue

Kissed them and put them there.

"Now, don't you go till I come," he said,

"And don't you make any noise!"
So, toddling off to his trundle bed,
He dreamt of the pretty toys;
And as he was deaming, an angel song

Awakened our Little Boy Blue—
O, the years are many, the years are long,

But the little toy friends are true!

Aye, faithful to Little Boy Blue they stand,

Each in the same old place—
Awaiting the touch of a little hand,
The smile of a little face.

And they wonder, as waiting the long years through

In the dust of that little chair,
What has become of our Little Boy Blue

Since he kissed them and put them there.



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