

# THE MONITOR

A National Weekly Newspaper devoted to the Interests of the Colored  
America, Nebraska and the West

THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
JOHN ALBERT WILLIAMS, Editor

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## Bishop-Elect Russell Declines Episcopate

Writes Illuminating and Instructive  
Letter Giving Cogent Reasons  
For His Decision.

### GREAT EDUCATIONAL CENTER

St. Paul's Normal and Industrial In-  
stitute Grows Under His Admin-  
istration.

Under date of June 20 Archdeacon Russell has written Bishop Winchester of the Diocese of Arkansas a most interesting letter setting forth his reasons for declining his election as Bishop-Suffragan of that Diocese. The fact that Archdeacon Russell was the first Negro to be honored by the Episcopal Church by an election to the Episcopate for service in this country marks it as an event of unusual moment. Two other members of this race have been consecrated bishops, James Theodore Holly, late Bishop of Haiti; and Samuel D. Ferguson, late Bishop of Liberia. None, however, has before been chosen for work in the United States.

Archdeacon Russell's letter is as follows:

My Dear Bishop Winchester:

Your letters under date of May 12, May 18th, June 7th, June 10th and June 16th are all before me. These letters have received my most careful consideration, and notwithstanding my telegraphic message to you under date of June 16th, declining my election to the Suffragan Bishopric of your Diocese, I want to tell you how keenly I appreciate your letters and the many nice things you have written me of your opinion of my fitness and temperament for the special work to which your diocese has seen fit to call me.

Words are utterly inadequate to express my gratitude and deep appreciation for your many offers of kindness. I have, from the time I received Archdeacon Johnson's telegram informing me of my election as Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Arkansas, given this whole matter my most prayerful and serious consideration. Hence, I assure you, I have not hastily arrived at my decision.

I have labored in this one field during my whole ministry of thirty-five years and three months. Twenty-nine years of my ministry have been spent in building up the St. Paul Normal and Industrial School. This institution was founded on faith in God and the generosity of its friends; for at the time when the task was undertaken there was not a foot of ground nor a penny in sight for its support, yet through the providence of God the work has gone forward steadily each day from its founding, July 2nd, 1888, until now it is the largest institution of the Protestant Episcopal Church for the moral, spiritual, intellectual and industrial training of Colored boys and girls; and visitors from the Slater and Phelps-Stokes Funds, and the General Education Board

## WE THANK YOU MOST SINCERELY

This number closes the second year of the publication of The Monitor. We are gratified to know that we have lived up to the promise made in our first editorial to stand for the rights of our people, chronicle events that make for progress, publish special articles of an instructive nature, and contribute to the welfare of the community and the race.

The Monitor has made a place for itself among the weekly newspapers of the country. It has won a place in the hearts of a large and increasing number of readers. For the service we have been able to render we are grateful. We thank our subscribers and advertisers for their patronage. With continued support we hope to be of greater service in the future. We confidently look for the prompt renewal of hundreds of subscriptions which have now expired and the securing through the assistance of our many friends hundreds of new ones. If this is done we shall be able to serve you better.

We thank all who have in any way contributed to the success of The Monitor hitherto, and respectfully solicit their continued interest and support. We thank you most sincerely.

place it third in size of the great schools in the South for Negro education and training.

From its very insignificant beginning, the School owns 1600 acres of valuable land, over forty buildings, large and small, with a property value according to the report of our auditors, The Jones Audit Company, of New York City—June 30, 1916—of \$272,873.62. This of course puts the School well beyond its experimental stage.

Aside from the property value of the institution, there have come to us for the training of the head, the hand and the heart, pretty close to 5,000 boys and girls, and nearly one-fifth of these have completed their education in books and some useful trades and are now devoting their lives to the uplift of their less fortunate brethren. These are the school's living epistles, ministers and messengers, known and read by the thousands with whom they come in contact. Among this great army of workers are nearly twenty of the very successful clergymen in our Church.

Now, my dear Bishop, I have cited the above simply to give you some further idea of the many ties which bind me so closely to the work which has claimed the best and largest number of the years of my life.

Then, too, my friends of both races are here by the thousands, and while they have not directly persuaded me not to leave St. Paul's, they have advanced almost every conceivable reason why I should remain. The relations between the races are no where I think, so cordial as here in Brunswick county, just thirty miles from my birthplace.

Apart from the educational work to which I have referred, I should mention the further fact that I have had the pleasure of seeing the Church work among my people grow from one congregation and less than two hundred communicants to thirty-seven churches and organized Missions and over two thousand communicants, and a band of twelve faithful, consecrated Colored clergymen giving their whole time to this work, together with the aid of four devoted white priests, to say nothing of Bishop Randolph and Bishop Tucker, whose hearts are



J. ANDREW SINGLETON  
Tenor Soloist—July 6th

wrapped up with this work. These ties are very close and my heart is bound up with them and my friends, of both races, whom I know and love most dearly.

Notwithstanding all of the above, which in no sense is simple sentimentalism, I have tried very hard not to be swayed by my friends, my family, nor even my love for the great work which has grown up under my eyes, but to be guided by the Spirit of the Master in my final decision in response to the action of your Diocesan Council in electing me to the Suffragan Bishopric of the Diocese of Arkansas.

I am sorry, finally, that I could not see my way clear to accept the gracious call from your diocese, to serve my people in the great Southwest.

I pray that God may raise up the right man to carry forward this work among my brethren in your diocese.

Again thanking you and your Council from the depth of my heart for the honor that you and they have conferred upon me.

Believe me, my dear Bishop,

Your humble and most grateful  
servant,

JAMES S. RUSSELL,  
Archdeacon for Colored Work, Diocese of Southern Virginia.

## Military Demands Opening Doors

The Baltimore Afro-American Opti-  
mistic Over Opportunities Of-  
fered to Race.

### SURGEONS NEEDED FOR ARMY

Artillery, Aviation Corps and Other  
Arms of Service Will Eventually  
Admit Negroes.

The opening of the camp for the training of Colored officers at Fort Des Moines, Iowa, appears to be the first step in utilizing Colored men for the war. The registration of all citizens of whatever race for conscription is an indication that a proportionate number of men from 21 to 31 will comprise the Army sent to France. During the past week, a third step growing out of the former two, was inaugurated by the Medical Society, (white) of the District of Columbia.

At a meeting held at the Central High School under the auspices of this society, to which Colored members are not eligible, Colored physicians were invited. Speakers included Vice President Marshall, Representative Kahn, of California, author of the draft bill, and Col. T. J. Godwin, of the English Royal Medical Corps. Application cards for commissions in the Medical Reserve Corps of the United States were handed out and both white and Colored urged to sign them and return them to the War Department. Those accepted will be commissioned first lieutenants in the service with a salary of \$2,000 per year. An unofficial word from the War Department states that two hundred Colored physicians will be needed to accompany the Colored troops.

Until this year there have been no Colored surgeons commissioned in the United States Army. The reason therefore has been purely social. Some statistics of the British physicians activity in the war as given by Colonel Godwin at the meeting above referred to are enlightening as to the present anxiety to push the social bar aside and accept Colored doctors.

According to the Colonel, 60,000 medical officers have been lost by Great Britain since the war began. Twelve per cent of those who left England have been killed. There is now in England only one doctor for every 5,000 of population. Both England and France are seriously embarrassed in their care of the sick and wounded, and would be in an even more critical situation were it not for the surgical units that the American Red Cross has been sending the Allies since the beginning of the war. The Allies are looking to America to furnish her quota of medical men as well as soldiers for cannon fodder.

So it goes. The artillery corps and the aeroplane corps are yet closed to Colored applicants. As the war goes on and losses begin to increase, these branches will fall into line and start recruiting in the Colored sections.—Baltimore Afro-American.