

THE MONITOR

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THE BUNDY CASE

THE Monitor has received frequent inquiries from those who heard Dr. Bundy when he was here last July and made such a splendid impression as to what disposition had been made of his case. We are pleased to be able to answer that question by an article which will be found elsewhere in this issue. The Monitor has not the slightest doubt that the new trial, which has been granted, will result in Dr. Bundy's acquittal. The success achieved so far shows what can be done by intelligently-directed, united effort in a fight for justice. The Bundy case also demonstrates the fact that among our race can be found some of the ablest legal minds of the country.

FOR IRELAND'S CAUSE

WE have refrained hitherto saying anything about the struggle for independence being carried on in Ireland. Later, we shall give an analysis of the situation for our readers as we understand it. Whatever other factors may enter into it this one fact is quite apparent, it is part of the travail through which smaller nations and nationalities are passing for the right of self-determination, a right which no one who believes in democracy can deny.

FUNERALS

NO, it is not the dying year that suggests this topic; but certain things which have been forced to our attention lately and calls for comment. One of these matters is extravagance at funerals. We learned the other day of two funerals one that of a washerwoman and the other that of a laborer upon whose burials nearly \$800 each was expended. Such things are a sin and a shame! Such cases may be rare, but they demonstrate an extravagance which cries for reform. Another place for reform in funerals among our people is in the case of ceremonies which consume half a day. Make the ceremonies briefer and then at some subsequent time have memorial services with resolutions, etc., galore, but they are out of place in the funeral obsequies.

SHOULD BE FAIR

THE Monarch cabaret has been denied a license. The real reason for it, if anyone should ask you, is not that it differed one whit in its management or general patrons from many other cabarets to which licenses were granted, except that, in keeping with the civil rights bill of Nebraska, it admitted both races, while they, in violation of that law exclude Negroes, but because it did so admit the public and was drawing largely from the patronage of the less popular "garden," "cabarets," et al., not far distant from the same vicinity. There's the milk in the coconut. Those who have withheld the license should be honest enough to give the real reason. They should at least be fair.

SNYCOPATED SPASMS

CHARACTER

AMONG the old books left us by grandad is an old wornout, green-covered volume known as "The Royal Path of Life." We never read it nowadays because we figure that the book and grandad are both out of date and decaying back numbers. But in the aforesaid book there is a chapter on Character. Now some of us blossoms of garlic may think that character is out of date, but it isn't. We need character today just as much as we needed it 'steen thousand years ago. A man or woman without character is just the same as grape juice without a kick in it. If you feel that you can tamper with wrong and get away with it, you are seeing crossed-eyed and it won't be many moons before your dogs will slip and you will

go into the sack with the rest of the human wrecks and junk. Go in strong for character. Every race leader from abacus to zizard has always got a long string of puny chatter about what the race needs, but seldom do you ever hear of one planting his foot on the loud pedal and hollering character. As a rule he hasn't much of it himself and for that reason he can't quack about something he doesn't know anything about. But character is the thing. Start building a character as soon as you are knee high to a duck. If you don't know how to build one, read the Ten Commandments and the Sermon on the Mount. If they don't fix you out al humptididdy, then after you have read, digested and otherwise thoroughly eaten up the aforesaid, start on a still hunt for further information. The man or woman without a character isn't worth two whops in the warm place they call hell. They might be able to get along swimmingly for a moon or two, but after a bit the public will get hep to them and they won't have any more chance among men than a fly will have trying to explore the web of a spider. But don't imagine that our race is the only race that needs character. Only the other day the big business men of the U. S. A. decided to hold a convention next year and the keynote of it is to be the fostering of character among the business men of the whole country. Everybody needs it.

PERISCOPE

"Brunettes"

(Los Angeles (Cal.) Times)
There are 110,000 colored residents in the city of Baltimore. That forms quite a respectable group of brunettes by itself and is an increase of nearly 30 per cent in the decade. At the same time the colored population in Louisville has fallen off. Prohibition hasn't had anything to do with the movement, either.

"OUT OF DATE"

(Boston (Mass. Post))
It is about half a century since that after-clap of the civil war—Ku Klux Klan—made a noise through the southern states. To such an extent was it successful in disturbing conditions in that section, that the "Force Bill" of 1871 was passed by congress authorizing the president to make use of the army and navy to suppress it. Even the writ of habeas corpus was suspended in cases of offenders; the courts made short work with them.

It is like a leaf from ancient history that we read of the revival of an organization of the same name in the state of Virginia which is making lively demonstrations along similar lines.

Last week there was a parade through the streets of Richmond by about a hundred horsemen, masked and clad in white, whose special attention was given to the terrorizing of those sections of the city in which the Negro population is collected. On Thursday night they actually held a "mass meeting" in the municipal auditorium. It does not appear, however, that this demonstration will survive the action of local authority looking to its suppression. The times have changed. It is out of date.

LOOKING BACKWARD

As we near the close of another year we are mindful of the past twelve months. Taking a retrospective view, we are asking ourselves the question, have we lost anything, or have we gained anything?

The pessimist will cite the lost opportunities and bemoan our shortcomings. The optimist will cite our achievements and good fellowship. These are some of the things to be argued by different minds.

Let us take stock, just as a business man would of his wares. Let us be perfectly honest with ourselves. As a group, we surely can point to achievements during the past twelve months that were never before ours, but have we done our best? Have we lived up to our highest opportunities?

It is true that here and there a shining light has brilliantly shone among us, but the masses must be considered in measuring our distances.

In a political way, there were eleven race men elected to legislative offices throughout the country, which is the largest number ever before recorded in favor of the race during any one year. This to us, looks like real progress. But when we think of the opportunities that we had whereby we might have elected twice that number, it looks somewhat like climbing a notch and falling back a notch.

In looking backward, we can see our mistakes. The future is a dark veil, but we have the past upon which to look back.

Looking backward we see many battles fought, while the onlookers are asking, have we lost anything, or have we gained anything?

We all have made mistakes which are common to humankind. As we look back and see them, we note they are many. Wise are they who will profit by their mistakes.—St. Louis Argus.

ILLUSIONS

(By William Pickens)

What illusions we live by. For example, whenever anybody says "shoot 'n dice" or "seven come eleven," we all think of Negroes and we grin—we see black faces and shiny eyes.

Why? Because for generations the newspapers, the comic page and the comic writer have associated dice and colored people.

But I paid a couple of visits to Juarez, Mexico, where American white people come over to gamble and drink on absolute equality with "greasers" and "niggers." And whom do you suppose I saw "rolling the bones" with the greatest fascination and most perfect zest? American white women in high-heeled shoes and silks. Not a colored woman in sight and just a few colored men.

But would you ever suppose so, from what you read in print and picture? How would it look in our comic pages, if after showing those ragged Negro boys on their knees in an alley, and those Negro "deacons" and "elders" rolling dice on the floor of that cabin, we should put alongside of them that American white woman, dressed in the height of fashion, with diamonds on her hands and rubies in her ears, while men of all races stand around and stack their coins, throw-

ing with her jeweled hand the white-dotted, amber-colored dice, snapping her fingers like a whip and calling the game?

ABOUT THE FOURTH ESTATE

(By The Associated Negro Press)

The Tulsa Star's Christmas number is a whale. An illustrated title page and nineteen pages of solid reading and advertising matter comprise the holiday effort of our good friend Smitherman. This is enterprise with a vengeance. More power to the Star. May she live long and get out Christmas numbers until all other stars refuse to shine.

It may not be amies to note in passing that Montgomery, Ala., has been making it pleasant for Miss Mary Vaughn, the business editor of the Murfreesboro (Tenn.) Union. Miss Vaughn will be remembered by the craft as one of the able and progressive women in the South. She is making a mark in Murfreesboro, where she is held in high regard by its citizens of both races.

The Omaha (Neb.) Monitor is standing up strong in the limelight of our journalism. Father John Albert Williams is putting real life into its pages and giving us an editorial department that rings true in spirit. The Monitor's stand on the commission form of government as it operates in the city of Omaha was clear sighted and brave. It is this sort of thing that is going to give character to the Negro journals throughout the country. Long life, Brother Williams. Keep up the good work.

MAYS URGED FOR

FEDERAL POSITION

(By the Associated Negro Press)
CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—R. L. Mays of Chicago, president of the Railway Men's Industrial and Benevolent association, with headquarters in Chicago, is being urged for the position of director of the bureau of Negro economics, under the next secretary of labor.

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