

HON. EDWARD H. WRIGHT.

Member Illinois State Republican Committee. Attorney at Law. Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Because they are the candidates of the Republican party— which stands for the equality of all citizens before the law, regardless of race, previous condition or place of habitation within the United States.

Because the Republican party, in its platform, favors the enforcement of the Constitution of the United States and is opposed to permitting one man's vote in the South to count as much as the three men's votes in the North and West in deciding the votes of States in the electoral college and in the election of members of the House of Representatives in Congress.

Because Theodore Roosevelt is the most conspicuous representative of the ideal American citizen; he has faith in the future of his country; he stands for right and justice for all its people; he enforces the laws impartially against the rich and the poor and he gives the protection of the laws to rich and poor alike.

Edward H. Wright, Chicago, Ill., October, 1904.

RT. REV. C. R. HARRIS, A. M., D. D. Bishop of the A. M. E. Church, Winston-Salem, N. C.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

1. The reactionary influence of pro-slavery sentiments as evinced by the establishment of peonage in certain sections of the Southern States will only be stemmed by the election of the Republican candidates.

2. If Parker should be elected, the same Democratic party which at present nullifies the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States would seek to repeal them.

C. R. Harris, Winston-Salem, N. C., October, 1904.

J. SILAS HARRIS Principal Penn School, President Afro-American State League.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Theodore Roosevelt represents the highest type of rugged American manhood. He has been the president of all of the people, making good every promise made by his party.

J. Silas Harris, Kansas City, Mo., October, 1904.

RT. REV. G. W. CLINTON, A. M., D. D. Bishop of the A. M. E. Church, Charlotte, N. C.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

1. It is the duty of every Afro-American voter to look well to the best interests of the country in general as well as his own interests in particular.

2. It is the duty of every Afro-American voter in the country to qualify such his vote for the party that has proven its ability to administer the Government for the best interests of the whole people.

3. It is the duty of every Afro-American voter, who believes that the occupant of the White House should be a man of the broadest culture, thoroughly trained in statesmanship, in harmony with every article of the Constitution, willing to do his duty to all men according to the teachings of God's Word, to cast his vote for Theodore Roosevelt.

George W. Clinton, Charlotte, N. C., October, 1904.

ALFRED B. COSEY, ESQ. Member of New Jersey State Republican Committee—Attorney-at-Law.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Because the Republican party stands for the equality of all citizens before the law, regardless of race, previous condition or place of habitation within the United States.

are the standard bearers of the party of liberty, progress, courage and equal opportunity for all humanity. Because President Roosevelt is a leader, of unflinching courage, a man of wisdom, a man of action, one who has openly announced his purpose of opening the door of hope and the door of opportunity, to all worthy American citizens, regardless of their race color or creed, and will never suffer it to be closed upon anyone, because of the color of his skin; but that character, merit and worth in their various communities shall be the only recommendation for public office.

Because the president has in every way shown his willingness and readiness to assist every worthy Afro-American.

Because he has set a precedent, for the youth of this nation, that in future manhood, nobility, activity and influence shall be the requirements to fit one for any office in the gift of the people and not race or color.

The Afro-Americans should support Senator Fairbanks for vice president of the United States, because his every act has proven him a suitable person to assist President Roosevelt in conducting the affairs of a great nation such as ours.

Because he, in a speech delivered in Freehold, New Jersey, June, 1900, said: "I seek to teach the lesson of fair dealing among all men, may the Republic of the United States ever stand majestic and powerful as the everlasting symbol of human liberty."

Because they individually and collectively represent the best type of American citizenship, because his every act has proven him a suitable person to assist President Roosevelt in conducting the affairs of a great nation such as ours.

Alfred B. Cosey, Newark, N. J., October, 1904.

HON. JUDSON W. LYONS. Register of the United States Treasury, Washington, D. C.

To the Editor of The Appeal: The Republican ticket headed by Roosevelt and Fairbanks deserves and merits the support of the American people for many and various reasons.

1. The reaction which is every day every herefore given by the opposition pales into insignificance when compared with them.

2. It makes good its platform declarations, and acknowledged utterances, in the proper administration of affairs, wherever and whenever charged with government.

3. The firm and persistent stand which President Roosevelt has made during the present administration in behalf of the equal civil and political rights of the Afro-American, especially in maintaining that the "door of hope" must not be closed to the intelligent, industrious and competent of the race, entitles him to the warmest gratitude of the oppressed race in the South and North alike.

4. The fact that the fiercest abuse and denunciation of President Roosevelt is heaped upon him because of his invitation to the White House, should call forth the unanimous effort of the Afro-American to retain him in the presidential chair.

5. Every Afro-American who is a Christian should make it one of the special burdens of his daily prayers that God may give divine help to bring about the triumph of the Republican party both in the election of Roosevelt and Fairbanks and in the election of a Republican House of Representatives.

As an American citizen, a resident of a Southern state, where the Afro-American has been largely disfranchised, not because he is in the majority and able to dominate because of his race, I appeal to my brethren of the race everywhere, to think well, pray earnestly and vote right on November 8, 1904.

Alfred B. Cosey, Esq., Cleveland, Ohio, October, 1904.

HON. EDWARD H. MORRIS. Attorney at Law, Chicago, Member Illinois Legislature.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Roosevelt and Fairbanks stand for and represent a higher type of true American citizenship than any of the other candidates for the two highest positions in the gift of the people.

They have the courage to do the right as they see it. They can not be influenced by one section of the country to shut their eyes to the wrongs inflicted upon any citizen.

The party whose vanguards they are, comes nearer making an honest effort to make all men equal before the law, than any other party.

The party, which nominated them does not draw its life and vitality from race prejudice and hatred.

Edward H. Morris, Chicago, Ill., October, 1904.

JOHN W. THOMPSON. Treasurer National Afro-American Council.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

There is every reason why the two national Republican candidates should receive the hearty support of every Afro-American voter. I cannot see how a member of the Afro-American race with any racial pride or self respect as a citizen could support the Democratic ticket this year—a vote for that party is a vote to put the halter of prejudice, disfranchisement and proscription about their necks and their children's.

John W. Thompson, Newark, N. J., October, 1904.

ROBERT J. NELSON. President of Afro-American Republican League of Pennsylvania.

To the Editor of The Appeal: In response to your request I am pleased to briefly give a few words on "Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks."

No American citizen is interested to a greater extent in the well being of this country than is the Afro-American. His patriotism is a safe indication of his national pride.

When he considers the marvellous history of the Republic in the past half century and the conspicuous part taken in its development by the Republican party, this, for no other reason would impel him to support that matchless leader, Theodore Roosevelt, and his running mate, Senator Fairbanks.

When, however, in addition to this the Afro-American considers the indisputable fact that since the emancipation proclamation became effective, and civil and political rights were accorded him through the persistent efforts of the Republican party, the trend of his political support inclines to that party.

The Republican party stands as the champion of the Afro-American; the Democratic party stands in an attitude inimical to his interests wherever the Democratic party is in control of the discharge of the highest duty of an American citizen—the right to cast a free and untrammelled ballot—is denied him, which is virtually a nullification of the national constitution.

There is but one course for us to pursue in this regard, and that is to elect a man who honestly believes in merit regardless of color; one who, deaf to the clamor of Negro-haters believes that his duty is to administer the laws for all alike.

Robert J. Nelson, Harrisburg, Pa., October, 1904.

HON. H. T. EUBANKS. Member of Ohio Legislature.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

My views have been expressed as follows: There has never been a time in all our history when the Ballot of the colored man so near approach the sacredness—the often added expression "Sacredness"—as because Theodore Roosevelt stands for the purity, protection and free exercise of the Ballot by all men regardless of class or nationality and because the Republican party believes in the political equality of all men without reference to race or nationality, and this belief is supported by the most costly and sanguinary war in our history.

The Democratic party believes in restricting the privilege of citizenship to a particular class and has written her opinions into Statutes. Constitutions and practices of nearly every Southern State in the organic law of the land. He should be elected president because of the enemies he has made: because the lynchers and looters hate him—the traitors to the stars and stripes and their progeny who burn women at the stake, reinstitute slavery in the Cotton States and rob men of property, ballot and opportunity because their faces are darkened and they vote for the party of Lincoln and Grant and Roosevelt, if they get the chance.

He should be elected president because of the friends he has, because the patriots and the plodders, the flowers and the darers, love him—those who hold above price the privilege of liberty and opportunity won by their fathers, who wrest from the bowels of the earth the wood of the forest and the vibrant forces of the ether; the wealth which nature has given us; who patiently and effectively toil for food and family and who dare to protest against wrong and injustice to the weak and unfortunate; against sham and fraud, whether in high or low places.

Theodore Roosevelt should be elected president, and Theodore Roosevelt will be elected president, because right will vanquish wrong, justice will overcome injustice, law will curb greed, liberty will conquer the not yet dead serpent of slavery and the preservation of the high ideals and manifest destiny of the greatest Republic on earth demand it.

R. Henri Herbert, Trenton, N. J., October, 1904.

HON. JAMES LEWIS. Surveyor of the Port of New Orleans, Louisiana.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

The Democratic party opposed the freedom of the slave, it opposed the education of the race, it has disfranchised the Afro-American people in the "Solid South" it has deprived them of all civil and political rights, it has raised the race issue in this campaign, causing an uncalculated race feeling and Democratic apathy, means peonage for the race in the South.

We have on the other hand, "The Grand Old Republican Party," the party of freedom, the friend of the oppressed, represented by that fearless leader, Theodore Roosevelt, who has the courage of his convictions, I believe that I vote the sentiment of the race in the South, in saying: No self-respecting Afro-Americans, who has the least spark of manhood burning

in his breast can vote for any other than the National Republican ticket, "ROOSEVELT AND FAIRBANKS."

James Lewis, New Orleans, La., October, 1904.

"STAND BY THE PRESIDENT." HON. J. E. BUSH. Receiver of Public Monies at Little Rock, Ark.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

1. Because Theodore Roosevelt, the nominee of the Republican party for President has shown himself to be the friend of the laboring man. Many years ago when he was a member of the New York legislature he introduced measures for the relief of the tolling classes which became law.

2. He has been an uncompromising enemy to fraud and corruption in both public and private life.

3. His experience in public life has been vast and unusually full of stirring events and trying ordeals before which he has never flinched. He has served in the Civil, Military and Naval departments of the Government, demonstrating remarkable efficiency wherever he has labored.

4. His filling out of the unexpired term of the lamented McKinley has been of great benefit to the Republic, and may be summed up in the acquisition of an Isthmian Route at Panama; laws enacted and enforced for the prevention of illegal mergers; and contracts in restraint of trade; increased respect for the United States abroad as the result of astute and sagacious diplomacy; and enhancement of the general prosperity of all classes of citizens; and has expressed himself in favor of a square deal for every man in the country white or black.

J. E. Bush, Little Rock, Ark., October, 1904.

HON. CHARLES W. FAIRBANKS. Charles W. Fairbanks, the Republican candidate for Vice President, was reared on a farm. The elder Fairbanks had an Afro-American working for him on the farm, and this man being clean and respectable, ate at the family board.

On one occasion, when harvesters were at the Fairbanks' home, one of the hands employed by a neighboring farmer refused to sit down at the table with the Afro-American. "Ah, very well," said the head of the house, "I never require any man to eat with a colored man. Mother, please set a table over near the window for Mr. —"

and the exclusive farm hand ate at the family table. This is a story Senator Fairbanks told a few years ago at a meeting presided over by Bishop Grant, of the A. M. E. Church.

HON. HENRY A. RUCKER. Collector of United States Internal Revenue, Atlanta, Georgia.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Our Afro-American citizens do not wish to dominate other people, but they do desire every right guaranteed by the Constitution and exercised by other races—Justice!

They are opposed to being ruled by ignorance, whether the color of the ruler is white or black—Reasonable! They are injured by injustice, whether the perpetrators are white people or black ones—Wrong!

They are opposed to an interpretation of the law for a white criminal and another for a black criminal—Equity!

They are opposed to paying for first class accommodations and then have second and third class fares forced on them—This is robbery!

They believe that toil, education, industry and morality, whether in the black man or the white man should rank idleness, ignorance, sluggishness and depravity in either—Merit!

They favor but one vote for each qualified elector and that one counted the equal to any other vote—Fairness!

They believe in the Federal Constitution and they have sacrificed their lives for its perpetuity—Patriotism!

Roosevelt and Fairbanks and the Republican party endorse this code of principles and colored men should endorse them with their ballots November 8th.

The Democratic party is controlled by its Southern wing—Horror! This wing feeds and fattens on race prejudice—Depravity! It's "Bible" contains but one text—"Keep the nigger down!" It stands for white supremacy and Negro degradation—Absurd!

an administration we know we have a friend who recognizes neither race, color nor creed where human liberty and human rights are concerned. It would be suicidal indeed to refuse support to the one who has strenuously asserted by word and deed that a man is a man, and that no Afro-American shall find the door of opportunity shut in his face. Roosevelt fears nothing. He is a man with positive convictions and the courage to sustain them. He has shown that he will buckle to no sentiment that would crush us because of color. As far as his power can extend we are assured of fair treatment, fair play, fair chance. No party but the Republican party has sought to accord this to us; no other party has helped us to reach what we have achieved, and the logic of events should lead us to but one decision.

If we want our rights, if we want opportunity, if we want protection by legal methods, if we want to live, to be free and to be men, then we must vote for Roosevelt and Fairbanks; to vote against them is to antagonize our best interests as a race or as individuals on every hand. In the success of the Republican party lies our hope for all we hold dearest and best—our lives, our freedom, our rights, our honor and our happiness.

W. S. Scarborough, Wilberforce, Ohio, October, 1904.

HON. JOHN P. GREEN. United States Postage Stamp Agent, Washington, D. C.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Because, as the most prominent Republican in the United States, if elected President, he would govern the Republic in accordance with Republican principles, as expressed in its platform and in the laws of the land.

Wherever the Republican party is in power, life is, generally, secure; and breaches of law for the protection of life, are vindicated—punished.

The Afro-American exercises the privilege of casting his ballot and having it counted for the candidate of his choice, nowhere, in the United States, save where a robust Republican sentiment and active partisanship is found.

Wherever the Democratic party dominates and sways popular sentiment, in the absence of an active Republican minority, the Afro-American is substantially disfranchised, and the Fifteenth Amendment is denounced.

Peonage, which is another name for the enslavement of the Afro-American, is found only in the "Solid Democratic South; and its upholders are prosecuted only by our Republican Administration.

Lynching cannot, in the absence from the spot, of Government troops, be prevented by the President; because, he does not know where the next lynching will take place; and the victim is lynched before orders could be given and troops put on the train even if he has ample authority.

Our Protective Tariff, which is a Republican measure, by increasing the volume of business and the circulation of money, and travel, not only aids the manufacturer and the worker in factories, but, by increasing travel and money, it aids the merchant in his store, the barber in his shop, the porter on the Pullman car, the cook and waiter in their respective places of business.

As to the President, he is, manly, just, aggressive, resourceful and humane—the true and tried friend of the "under dog," whether white or black. Therefore, for the good of the Republic, every Afro-American should vote for him.

John P. Green, Washington, D. C., October, 1904.

HERSCHEL V. CASHIN. Receiver of Public Monies at Huntsville, Ala.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

In the shadow of great danger the duty of unity is imperative. This was the sense that impelled the Virginia patriot to warn his colleagues in the Virginia convention that they must hang together within that famous body or hang separately outside.

By a patient, persistent and insidious poisoning and embittering of the public mind with respect to the capacity of the Afro-American for the duties of citizenship and suffrage, southern democracy has been for the past forty years ingeniously exploiting every weakness and infirmity of the Afro-American; inherent with long years of slavery, where consequences would render congenial the public mind for the final act in a national drama of disfranchisement that would otherwise appear too harsh for public approbation.

When the time was favorable for the purpose the sectional disfranchisement of the race was accomplished by constitutional provisions and today few Afro-American citizens, whatever their qualifications as to character, education or property, are permitted to vote under the new constitutions of the South.

Let no Afro-American be deceived; to our enemies the times doubtlessly appear propitious to try the issue that overshadows all others in this election, to-wit, "shall the Afro-American remain a citizen of the Republic?" For the affirmative of this proposition stand Roosevelt and Fairbanks like the twin pillars of Hercules at Gibraltar.

The menace to the rights of the Afro-American is immediate, threatening and appalling. They should read necessary why they should support the Republican nominees.

Herschel V. Cashin, Huntsville, Alabama, October, 1904.

Asst. Superintendent and Auditor of Oklahoma. To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

Afro-Americans should support President Roosevelt because common sense suggests it. They should support him because any other course would be inimical to their best interest, and they should support him, because over and above all other reasons he is Honest, Clean, Capable, and absolutely fearless, having all through his public career been a man of good and sufficient reason exists, that not only Afro-Americans should support him, but, that all Americans should with one acclaim pronounce him President.

E. P. McCabe, Guthrie, Oklahoma, October, 1904.

PROF. W. SCARBOROUGH. Vice President of Wilberforce University.

To the Editor of The Appeal: Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks.

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an administration we know we have a friend who recognizes neither race, color nor creed where human liberty and human rights are concerned. It would be suicidal indeed to refuse support to the one who has strenuously asserted by word and deed that a man is a man, and that no Afro-American shall find the door of opportunity shut in his face.

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John P. Green, Washington, D. C., October, 1904.

Why Afro-Americans should support Roosevelt and Fairbanks. Not discounting in the least the fact that in many of the Afro-American hating sections of the country it is expected that the "lid might fly off" should Roosevelt be defeated, and lynching and burning Afro-Americans become almost a pastime, still the main and paramount argument from the Afro-American standpoint for the election of Theodore Roosevelt as President lies in the fact that if he is defeated it will probably be because some of the doubtful states in which Afro-Americans have the balance of power, will go against him—in which case the balance will be charged up to the Afro-American race. We will be denounced as ingrates and political plotters who failed to stand up for the man in the White House, who has laid down the rule of equality to all men before the law and lived squarely up to it. And just here is where the shoe is pinching.

If Roosevelt is defeated in such a manner as to leave open the possibility of charging his defeat up to the Afro-Americans of the doubtful states, hereafter it will be useless and futile for any white man to take a bold and decided stand for equal treatment of Afro-Americans as equal citizens of the country, and the Afro-American will fall to find those champions in the ranks of the white race which so much needs, especially at this crucial period of his history in this country. For such a thing to happen would be nothing short of a calamity!

A vote for Roosevelt is a chance to strike a blow for freedom. He represents the principles of the Golden Rule, he represents the spirit of the forefathers of the republic, and would restrict the blessings of liberty to neither white man nor black man; but standing by the declarations of independence, he would emphasize the words of that immortal document, "that all men are created free and equal and endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, and among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Let no Afro-American or white man who believes in the fundamental principles of his government, make the fatal blunder of his life of voting against this man in November next.

E. A. JOHNSON, Raleigh, N. C., October, 1904.

POLITICAL POINTERS.

The Afro-American cannot afford to break his serried forces, consecrated to liberty and equality before the law, until every man everywhere in his broad land has every right that he is entitled to. The Afro-American's mission as a soldier of liberty will not be ended until every Populist, Prohibitionist and Republican enjoys his civil and political rights as simply as a Democrat. Today no Democrat can complain that he is denied perfect equality before the law in any section of this country. He is as free in Vermont or Iowa as in Mississippi or Georgia, and wherever the opposite party rules he has sought to mark the difference. He is not true as to Populists, Prohibitionists and Republicans. In some sections of the country, in at least one-fourth of the States of the Union, if they would live unmoored, they must smother their convictions, and vote with the ruling side, although to do so may undermine their business and be against the interest of the government. This is an inequality of right; it must be corrected. The men of opposite faith to the favored son of America must be enabled to stand upon the same plane as he does in every section of this country.

"I am opposed to the nigger's voting, it matters not what his advertised moral and mental qualifications may be. I am just as much opposed to Booker Washington's, with all his Anglo-Saxon reinforcements, voting as I am to voting by the cocoanut headed, chocolate colored, typical little coon, Andy Dotson, who blacks my shoes every morning. Neither one is fit to perform the supreme functions of citizenship."—Governor Vardaman, Democratic Governor of Mississippi.

Under the Roosevelt administration, there are in the civil service of the United States, in the city of New Orleans, 108 Afro-Americans, drawing nearly \$100,000 every year in salaries. No Afro-Americans are employed by the Democratic state and city governments.

The spectacle of Parker weeping and wailing over the Philippines and demanding their independence, while his party disfranchises hundreds of thousands of American citizens, is a spectacle of hypocrisy which all history may be searched in vain to equal.

Some woman's club has proposed separate cars for women. If the system were adopted in the Southern Democratic states, where the Jim Crow car plan has been established by law, four kinds, of course, would be necessary to transport the people.

The old saying about consistency being a jewel is a proverb which does not appeal to Parker and Tillman. They continue to yell about the love for liberty in the Philippines, but refuse to grant civil and political rights to the Afro-Americans of the South.

If the adoption of "social equality" which the Southern fraternal claim is one of the important issues of the campaign, means that decent Afro-Americans would be compelled to associate with such thugs as Tillman, we certainly are opposed to it.

The Hon. Mr. Davis ought to make his speeches chime in tune. It will not do to assert in one speech that the Afro-Americans, in certain states elect the President, and in the next to claim that this is a white man's country.

It cost a million lives and a billion dollars to rid this country of the curse of slavery. The Democratic party hopes to take away the manhood rights of the Afro-American and reduce them to a state of vassalage.

Senator Fairbanks, Republican candidate for Vice President takes great pride in relating that his first employer was an Afro-American contractor, and that his fellow workmen were all Afro-Americans.

The bugles have sounded the charge! Up, boys, and rout them; chase them from the hills, from the woods, from the fence corners, from every cologne of vantage they may possess.

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