

Iowa State Bystander.

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OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE AFRO-AMERICAN PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION OF IOWA.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE MOST WORK-SHIPFUL UNITED GRAND LODGE OF IOWA, A. F. & A. M.

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Send money by postoffice order, money order, express or draft, to THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER Publishing Company.

Communications must be written on one side of the paper only and be of interest to the public. "Brevity is the soul of wit," remember.

We will not return rejected manuscript unless accompanied by postage stamps.

Make the tax payers of the country responsible for the mob and if will cease.

The New York Sun says that absolute idiocy never before got control of a great government.

The national debt has increased \$100,000,000 in one year and nine months of Democratic rule.

It should have been stated that Hon. Geo. W. Murray will contest for his seat in congress against Col. Elliott, instead of that Murray was elected.

Sherman Harvey is another Afro-American who has been honored by being elected to the position of county clerk of Douglas county, Kansas, on the Republican ticket.

There have been 156 Afro-Americans killed by white murderers since last May. These are reported in the public press. What a record for American civilization.

Some American papers are devoting a great deal of space to the Armenian atrocities while they have not one word to say in condemnation of the equally disgraceful and cruel work of American citizens.

A Republican governor of Tennessee is the last surprise. It is more surprising than the election of a renegade Republican on the Democratic ticket in Iowa for a similar position.

Kansas City Messenger: THE BYSTANDER, like the rest of us, is crying for peace. The chances look slim down here in Missouri; I hope that the outlook is better in Iowa.

We have been eating pie for years and have earned it by the sweat of our own brow and expect to continue as long as we can get honest work to do.

The woman suffrage amendment to the Kansas constitution was defeated by a majority of 31,171 votes. Of the 293,324 voters who went to the polls, 202,131 expressed an opinion on the amendment. Governor-elect Morrill says he voted for it, but that Miss Anthony's alliance with the populists probably effected its defeat.

Editor Bruce, of KANSAS, published in his paper the following item under the headline, "\$100 per night to hear ranters?":

You may think we are not telling the truth, but it really costs \$100 per night to hear "Our Ida" and the Sag of Ancestoria plead the Southern colored man's cause. Come out this way, Sis, old girl, and we will willingly, since the election, give \$100 to hear the old chestnut.

We have a similar creature in Iowa who edits a Negro paper. There is a chance to reform a man who is a rascal or scoundrel, but when he is a fool it is a hopeless task. We would advise our contemporaries to give up. We know whereof we speak. We have tried it. It is necessary to use dynamite to even perforate the epidermis of such fellows.

A few Negro journals are carrying on a guerilla warfare on Miss Ida B. Wells Frederick Douglass, Judge Tourgee and many other respectable citizens because of their opposition to lynch law. These papers show no desire whatever to suppress mob violence and are evidently the enemies of the race to which the editors belong and the cause which their papers are supposed to represent. Their chief cry is that "lynch law agitation is a failure." They bear the same relation to the cause of the Afro-American that the copperheads did to the cause of the union in the late rebellion. They have lost all decency and respect either for themselves or others.

The motto of the Woman's Club of Chicago, is: "to concern nothing foreign to me which concerns humanity." The application of an Afro-American woman for admission as a member will test the fidelity of the club to its lofty motto. Miss Williams is a Chicago woman of education and refinement and has an established reputation as a literary woman of marked ability. She read a strong and interesting paper before the parliament of religions during the World's Fair, and it was reproduced in some of the leading newspapers of the country. With such a motto the club cannot consistently claim to be a social organization. The Union League of New York recently rejected a Jew because of his nationality. The club took

a long step backward. It remains to be seen what the Woman's Club of Chicago will do with the Afro-American applicant.

JUST AS COMPETENT.

The trial of some of the perpetrators of the cold-blooded butchery of some Negroes suspected of barn-burning near Memphis, Tenn., last summer, has been brought to a stop by the declaration of the principal witness for the prosecution that he is an "infidel" and does not believe in God or a future state. It seems to be an open question whether this declaration makes the witness incompetent, and the judge presiding over the trial has refused, so far, to rule to that effect. This point does not seem to have been finally decided by the Tennessee courts, and it is said that there is no statute requiring any religious belief to make witnesses competent. There is certainly no rational ground for refusing the testimony of a non-believer, who is just as competent and just as likely to tell the truth as most professed believers, and is certainly as liable to the penalties for perjury. In the Tennessee case the alleged murderers on trial will probably go free if the testimony of this "infidel" witness is excluded—which would be a misfortune, for they are probably guilty of one of the most brutal crimes which has disgraced their state.

HELP ONE ANOTHER.

See that your neighbor takes the IOWA STATE BYSTANDER. You should be interested in having a good paper to read in Des Moines and in subscribers alone. We can easily get 600 white subscribers.—STATE BYSTANDER.

Get the 600 my friend and let the others go. Our motto is to take what is in sight. Honesty is the best policy, get all you can and hold fast to what you have.

The Negroes will rightly appreciate our papers some day. Stick to your friends, patronize those who assist you and the world will wag on.—Omaha Enterprise.

We are working on the 600 constantly and faithfully, and feel greatly encouraged over the work actually accomplished. The fact that the Enterprise and other papers edited and owned by colored men in the state of Nebraska have been the means of having colored citizens represented in the legislative halls of that state lead us to hope that such inalienable newspaper service will be appreciated all over the country. Iowa is behind Illinois, Nebraska and Minnesota in respect to having newspapers recognized by their merits instead of by the color of their skin. We have material in this state that is not excelled by our neighbors, but it will take unity and constant work to make it a potent force in our midst. Strife and petty jealousy work sad havoc with any people. Where we have clerks in stores we should all make it our business to patronize that place. When we have men in business we should support them. When we see advertisements in colored men's newspapers we should patronize them and show that we value their efforts to gain such trade. Every state in which the Afro-American has gained ground we can point with pride to its newspaper—provided it is run upon the principle of right and justice, and not for "dough" or personal aggrandizement. We want to say right here that if our advertisers are patronized liberally we can procure more advertisements and the money which THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER receives will be put into printing material and in time will give employment to several of our young ladies and our young men. We feel thankful for the advice of the Enterprise, which has fought a good fight and won a great victory in the state of Nebraska, and so ably assisted in placing a good man in the legislature. In Iowa there are very few business men of color to assist a newspaper by advertising in it. That support is very important, and must come from another source. But all of them can assist by subscribing and paying for a colored man's paper and it is their duty. Every subscriber enhances the value of the advertising columns.

We have in our possession Frederick Douglass's Paper which was published and paid for by the father of the editor of THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER. They are curiosities to-day and some of them will soon find their way into the Aldrich collection at the state capital of Iowa. Talk will not support the newspapers of the country or keep the editor and his family (if he has one) in the best of humor and able to do yeoman service for the good of an oppressed race.

LOOKS BRIGHTER.

The country is now thoroughly aroused on the subject of lynching. Only a short time ago the people of the United States paid but little attention to the reports of mob violence that were published almost daily in the newspapers, with all the terrible details, Miss Ida B. Wells attempted to arouse the moral and Christian sentiment of the people against the disgraceful scenes that were being perpetrated on the American soil. She met with little or no encouragement. She went to England and told the plain facts about what was being done in America. Her audiences were made of the best material the kingdom possessed. They

were amazed. They sent a committee to investigate Miss Wells' statements. They found all she had said to be true, and even more terrible things were true which she did not tell. She returned to this country and her audiences are large and composed of many who turned a deaf ear to her appeals but a few brief months previous. All good people are coming to her support and now she counts among her co-workers leading men in all walks of life, in all sections of the country and among all nationalities. The Negro who attempts to pull down the banner of complete liberty and protection of the law to all citizens alike is a traitor to his race. The Negro who assails Miss Wells and Frederick Douglass for their efforts in behalf of their race deserves the contempt of all decent people.

The agitation of the question of lynch law is beginning to bear fruit. The prompt action of Gov. McKinley of Ohio in upholding the law will have a beneficial effect. His action has met with almost universal approval. Even southern papers have given their approval to the action of the officers of the law at Washington Court House.

The trial of the Memphis, Tenn., lynchers is another evidence of the onward march of civilization and the death of lynch law. There is an earnest effort on the part of the court to make a thorough investigation of the case and let the blame rest where it properly belongs.

Gov. Jones of Alabama has officially denounced lynch law and its executors and given the lie to the ministers in that country who have been making excuses for the mobs, saying that the Negroes were guilty of the crime of rape. The governor cites the fact that of nine men lynched in that state during the past two years "none of them involved the crime of rape." For the lynching of these men not a single man has been arrested nor has any grand jury in the state returned an indictment. Gov. Jones adds:

"This would indicate either that local public sentiment approved these acts of violence or was too weak to punish them, or that the officers charged with that duty were in some way lacking in their performance. The evil can not be cured or remedied by silence as to its existence. Unchecked, it will continue until it becomes a reproach to our good name as a nation."

Some, indeed, contend that an officer is not bound in law and honor to fight in defense of his prisoner if he thereby risk the loss of his own life, or where resistance, if attempted, would prove useless. Such a standard of duty finds no support in the law of either God or man, and subverts the great law of honor, which runs through all the relations of life, that when a man becomes another's keeper he assumes relations which he cannot evade or throw off at will, no matter what the personal peril to himself. A statute declaring in terms that any officer entrusted with the custody of prisoners is bound in law and honor to fight in their defense against mobs, no matter what the peril to the officer, or the probability of successful resistance, would have a happy effect."

A MARVELOUS HAND.

Made of Aluminum, but it is Almost as Good as the One Lost.

Willard A. Lucas, the son of a great wood manufacturer at Poquonnick, Conn., wears an artificial hand made of aluminum, which is really one of the automaton wonders of the century. Young Lucas lost his hand in his father's mills, and Lucas sr., who grieved exceedingly over the results of the accident, wrote or went in person to every manufacturer of artificial limbs in this country and Europe, vainly seeking for a false hand for his son. Artificial hands could have been procured from any of them, says the New York Advertiser, but what was wanted was not to be found, viz., a hand that could perform all the functions of a real flesh and blood member.

Finally the older Lucas, who is known as a mechanical genius, took it upon himself to make his son a hand—not a mere "dummy," but one that would be useful for the manifold purposes to which such members are put. The result is a surprise to every maker of artificial limbs in the world. The automaton is of aluminum and much resembles the steel gauntlets worn by the knights of the middle ages. The fingers are all perfect and life-like, the joints in each bending as readily as those in a natural hand, making it possible for the young man to perform every kind of labor. With it he can grasp and handle all kinds of tools, pick up things from the ground, drive, handle a gun—in fact, use it skillfully at any kind of work.

Like a natural hand, the artificial one consists of a palm that is provided with a fastening by which it is attached to a cork "stump," the joints working by a ratchet, so that the fingers may be bent forward at any angle and held there. The hand may be only partly closed, or tightly shut, and only one finger or all, as the wearer desires may be closed at once or instantly by striking them against the body or other object. To release the grasp it is only necessary to touch a spring at the back of the hand. The invention is as nearly a perfect substitute for a natural hand as could be devised, and is the only thing of the kind known in the world.

It Would Help.

Taddells—Do you think the silver question will ever be settled?

Fosdick—I don't know, but it would help a little if you would pay me that dollar you borrowed a year ago.

UNUSUAL OCCURRENCES.

William Braithwaite of Shepherds-town, W. Va., was crushed to death by the falling framework of a cider press which had burst.

A cart driver in New York, while intoxicated recently, plunged an ice pick a dozen times into his horse's side, causing fatal wounds. He was sentenced to six months in prison.

A resident of England, who has been three times married, wedded a woman who has been three times a widow. Children were born in all cases, so that children of seven different parentages live under the same roof.

Landlord Goodwin of the Hotel Wellington, at Plainville, Conn., has discovered that his nine-year-old boy took \$1,600 which he supposed was stolen by burglars. The boy tried to change a \$100 bill, and during his absence a three-year-old baby burned up the \$1,500.

W. H. Sheppard, twenty years ago a poor little yellow boy in the streets of Waynesboro, Va., is, at the age of thirty, perhaps the most distinguished colored man in the Southern Presbyterian church, and the only American negro that has ever been made a Fellow of the Royal Geographical society.

Since the opening of the present century there have been several well attested instances of falls of stones from the regions of space. In the year 1803 a perfect shower of litho missiles fell in the farming country adjacent to L'Aigle, France, upward of 3,000 separate stones falling upon a wedge-shaped section of country eight miles long by about four miles wide.

"I am glad to be able to say, children," remarked the benighted old gentleman, who was addressing the Waifs' mission Sunday school, "that I never swore an oath in my life. I never drank a drop of liquor, I never took a chew of tobacco, never had a cigar in my mouth, never smoked a pipe, never went to a theater and never saw the inside of a circus tent." He stopped a moment to take breath and a boy in a front seat spoke up: "I guess you didn't come to town on the last load, didst' ye?"

MINOR MISCELLANY.

Tea is cut every forty days the year around in Japan.

Buenos Ayres is building the largest opera-house in the world.

Greece stands lowest in point of wealth of all the countries in Europe.

In St. Petersburg the names of drunkards are posted in certain public places.

Chicago has twenty-two general and sixteen special hospitals, with 3,499 beds.

Elephants' skins are tanned to make carpets. They never wear out, but are expensive.

Crocodiles, like ostriches, swallow pebbles and small stones, which serve the purpose of grinding their food.

Scientists are now getting excellent direct photographs from the moon, which show mountains and craters with exactness.

The tooth of an extinct animal was recently unearthed at Uxter Park, N. Y., which weighed eleven ounces and was four inches long.

A school has been opened in Chicago for people who can hear but cannot talk, and twenty people are being taught to articulate sounds.

Search lights are such good targets for the enemy's guns that the Germans are arranging to throw the light first on a mirror and then on the enemy, thereby concealing its real source.

What promises to be an exceedingly rich gold-bearing reef has been discovered at Sudest, British New Guinea. Coal deposits have also been recently found and the island promises to develop great wealth.

There died in Washington recently a man who, in his lifetime, it is said, had handled more money than any other person in the world. He was William Barre, a clerk in the treasurer's office. In one day \$60,000,000 had passed through his hands.

ON THE OTHER SIDE.

English letter carriers get \$4.50 per week.

Toilet soap in the form of paper, but slightly larger than visiting cards, is used in France.

Two thousand frogs were recently imported into England by the duke of Bedford to clear his ponds of parasites.

Zinc is being extracted in Sweden by a new process, after the electrolytic manner, and it is claimed for it that very poor ores, which have been considered worthless, are made equal to the best.

A "tell-tale" milk jug has just been devised in England. It is a glass measure, graduated at every quart pint. Below the pint and half pint marks three lines are etched showing the thickness of cream which should appear in milk of average quality, in good and in very good milk, thus measuring both quantity and quality.

A number of military officers in Athens recently visited the office of a leading newspaper that had been demanding military reforms, the reduction of the army, etc., and, after brutally beating the editor and reporters, wrecked the place. In the absence of the king, at Copenhagen, his son, Prince George, at once dismissed in disgrace the colonels of the three regiments concerned in the attack, and the general of the division to which they belonged, and when the secretary of war attempted to side with the disgraced officers, promptly gave him the alternative of resigning his portfolio or carrying out to the letter the punishments decreed.

PROSPECTUS OF THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER

Club Rates. From this date until January 1, 1895, THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER offers the following inducements, which are for cash and cash only:

Clubs of five (5) or more, 1 year, \$1.50 each

Clubs of ten (10) or more, 6 mo., .75 each

Clubs of ten (10) or more, 1 year, \$1.00 each

Clubs of twenty (20) 6 mo., .50 each

This offer will be discontinued on January 1, 1895.

The Past Has Its Lesson.

The "idea of National Unity" was discussed long years ago by our forefathers and their words of wisdom can be repeated with as much application and force now as then. Washington warned his countrymen to defend and preserve the country which made them ONE PEOPLE. Adams, Hamilton and Webster pleaded for the same cause. To preserve American institutions our patriotism must know no county, no state, no north, no south, but instead let us have a patriotism that shall protect the flag, and all who are beneath the flag, in the peaceful and honorable pursuits of life.

IN NATIONAL UNITY will be found a great factor in the success of our people and their institutions.

The Present Has Its Duty.

One of the duties of the government is that of affording its subjects means of gaining an EDUCATION. The perpetuity of our common country rests upon its intelligence. Let this be a republic governed by right reason and free will. Ignorance impels to bad action, inspires to crimes, creates mobs, gives courage to lynchers, overtures order, tears away the bulwark of liberty and right and converts civilization into a waste. We must look to the education of the American, Afro-American and the emigrant or retrograde.

We must recognize the freedom of right to differ. We must recognize the importance of TOLERATION. The lack of TOLERATION has blackened the pages of ancient history and the pages of the history of our own country. The rack, the stake, the gibbet, the thumb screw, the sword and the pillory are all monuments to the spirit of intolerance. It remains for the United States to build a highway broad and free into every field of liberal inquiry, and to make the poorest of men who walk therein more secure in life and reputation than the soldier who sleeps behind the rampart. We must cultivate free speech, free inquiry and free thought in order that we may add to the glory of this common country.

Let us not forget that we have no division of the citizens of this country into the "nobility" and the "people." Always bear in mind that the laborer is the nobility, and the grand development of the United States of America is due to the laborer. Let every Afro-American recognize the value of industry as the best means of throwing off oppression and asserting his manhood and intelligence. There is no room for the sluggard in the world of industry. Idleness is the devil's workshop. Industry is a moral agency, and is conducive to happiness and comfort.

The Future Has Its Hope.

The future holds out many inducements to Afro-Americans. It is only by constant and relentless work that the best results can be obtained. The young must be looked after, cared for and educated to meet coming events. The stain of slavery and its disgrace must be wiped out. Moral honesty and unselfish devotion to the up-building of the country and the people must be kept constantly in view. Let us adopt that which is good, come from whatever source it may, and reject all that is bad, even religion as practiced and distorted by Americans. The Afro-American must throw aside many of the customs and practices of the "superior" race if he has a firm desire and belief in times to come. So long as man is anxious about the future the future is secure. "The path of the just is a shining light which shineth more and more unto the perfect day."

SUMMARY.

THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER will advocate equal justice before the law to all American citizens; the protection of the home, society and all churches from the free lance of charlatans; it will work for moral, mental, material and true religious prosperity of the people; it will do all it can to unify the Afro-Americans of Iowa and the United States—not, however, by compromising with wrong, but by combating it; it will not attempt to soil the honor and trail in the dust the characters of men or women who have advocated the cause of the Afro-American at the peril of their lives; nor will it be found questioning the sincerity of a man who has spent a lifetime advocating the same cause—it may differ with him as to method. "See that justice be done, though the heavens fall."

What Our Friends Can Do.

In the above statements and facts we have attempted to give you briefly the plans upon which THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER will work. We believe that it is the concern of all people to have a good newspaper in their midst.

We ask your support in this great cause and can assure every subscriber that this paper will keep pace with the times and its support.

Every surplus dollar above expenses will be put into a first-class printing office and the money expended for labor will help to support some worthy woman or man.

One of the best evidences we can give of our desire for more light and a better condition in life is by our giving a strong and hearty support to all honorable enterprises started, owned and conducted by Afro-Americans. The newspaper has done more for this country in the way of raising the standard of morality, truth, justice, a Christian love for a kind and just Creator than all other factors combined.

There are papers published in different languages in this country which have been well supported for years by the several nationalities. Such papers are true to the people and cause which they represent. Can we do less?

The prices of the subscription to THE IOWA STATE BYSTANDER are quoted above. They are low enough to allow every colored man and woman to take it and read it. We want all of our friends and subscribers to consider this a personal invitation to see if they cannot send us a club list before the close of the year. We will show you our appreciation by giving you a better paper.

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"Signs Of the Times."

When you see men leaving tailors they have been wedded to for years and coming to us in preference you can make up your mind we're right on the perfection line.

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We're selling lots of FINE SUITS AND OVERCOATS this season. By fine ones we mean such as you'll pay a tailor \$40 and \$50—may be \$60 for—Ready made here for \$10, \$15 and \$20.

You ought to come here if you want these fine garments—cause you won't find them elsewhere—made and trimmed in the same manner and at the price we sell them for.

Frankel Clothing Co.,

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UTICA.

WE DON'T WORRY

About things you don't want, and that is the reason we haven't said much about free-wool prices for winter overcoats. The weather has been so warm that we could not have interested you if we had tried and so we have confined our talk almost entirely during the past two weeks to the subject of free wool prices for winter suits. But now the weather is likely to make you think about overcoats, so we leave the \$8, \$10, and \$12 cassimere and cheviot suits sale, which is crowding our immense store with customers from all parts of Iowa. For \$8 you can buy an overcoat that was made to sell for \$10, \$10 and \$12 will buy one that was made to sell for \$12, \$13.50 and \$15.

Our pant sale is the heaviest we have ever had. Cassimere pants from \$1.50 to \$5.00.

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902 AND 904 CENTER ST. Death in Prairie Fires. GUTHRIE, Ok., Nov. 29.—Drouth has dried up everything in this territory and prairie fires are doing much damage. In Pawnee county a large area was swept and a number of farmers lost heavily. In Pawnee county a little child was burned to death.

Shank Bros., FUNERAL DIRECTORS.

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