

TO FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS

Eternal Vigilance and Aggressive Action the Negro's Protection Against Wrong.

Carry Violators of Suffrage and Civil Rights Laws into the Courts—The Race Should Pay the Expense—How the Polltax, Chase, Can be Brought to His Knees—Booker Washington in Boston—A Noble Woman's Words—Expansion and the Negro.

Boston Mass., Special.—The Negroes of Georgia are estimated at \$15,196,885 in real and personal property. The defeat of the infamous Hardwick bill shows that the intelligent white men of that state are not in favor of taxation without representation, and also that the colored brethren know how to get together down South, when their rights are invaded.

Now if the Negroes of the entire country would chip in 50 cents apiece and raise a big fund to employ the ablest legal talent in the United States, to bring action in the U. S. Supreme Court against the states of Louisiana, South Carolina and Mississippi, which have passed laws similar to that killed in the Georgia legislature the other day, I have no doubt but that the Supreme Court will decide against them.

A similar fund raised by popular subscription among the colored people of Washington city to secure an array of legal talent to fight such fellows as Chase of the Grand Opera to a finish, would make that sort of pro-crispation in the Capital City mighty unfashionable. One good case fought from Dan to Beersheba would tame the Negro hating Chase and all others of his kidney who make their living off the public. This seems to me to be a matter which concerns every intelligent Negro in Washington. Of course the gentlemen who have brought suit against Chase are abundantly able to defray their own expenses, but they ought not to be required to do so, for this is a case which appeals, or ought to, to the pride of every Negro who is a man. Five hundred or a thousand Negroes arrayed against this man Chase in a legal battle royal to compel him to break down the barriers of caste and proscription in his theatrical joint, and to treat all the public alike, would do more to convince him that the Negro is very much in earnest in this matter, than any effort of a single complainant. He can be, and he ought to be made to treat Negro patrons of his theater decently, or driven out of the business. If he is gone at right, he'll change his tune and his opinion of the fighting capacity of the Negroes of the District. The way to go at him is to have him up in court every other day if necessary, civilly and criminally, and stay with him. If the brethren in the District would chip in twenty-five cents a head to employ three or five of the very best legal talent of both races, they could turn the trick and chase all the prejudice out of Chase. But Chase has studied niggerology, and as Mr. C. R. Douglass has well said in effect, has reduced the art of bluffing the brethren to a positive science. He knows or believes that there isn't any fight in the Negro. If one would fight him till there was a skin of ice over the heated head, he wouldn't be so brash. I will subscribe a hundred pennies to assist in settling once for all the question as to whether or not Negroes in the District of Columbia have any rights in theaters which white men are bound to respect. Make Mr. Daniel Murray treasurer and start due music.

Mr. Booker T. Washington was given a reception by the colored citizens of Boston Friday night December 1, at Charles Street A. M. E. church and received quite an ovation. The church was not crowded and the program as originally announced was not carried out. None of the distinguished invited guests (white) materialized or sent letters of regret or explanation. Nor did the chairman, who had a weak voice offer any explanation. Mr. Washington was welcomed on behalf of the colored citizens of Boston by Lawyer E. A. Armistead, who spoke in a conversational tone (I guess that's Boston style) for fifteen or twenty minutes and sat down. The Orion Orchestra played a piece, after which the chairman Mr. Clifford introduced the "Wizard," who spoke fully an hour. His speech, which was interlarded with jokes about "po me," aroused the risibilities of the cultured Boston Negro and he laughed right out in church "des as loud as he could." The buckras who were present joined in the hilarity of the moment and "laughed" till they grew red in the face. Mr. Washington concluded that the need of the hour is industrial education for the Negro; that brick-masons, carpenters, barbers, bootblacks among us should put more skill, dignity and brains in their vocations or the white man would run them out of these fields of industry. He said that the Negro should in every honorable manly way, make friends with the white men of the South who are their next door neighbors. That the white men of the South were the best friends

the Negro had and the Negro should do nothing to alienate the friendly feeling which happily is growing stronger between the races in that section. He alluded to the defeat of the Hardwick bill in Georgia as a signal victory for the race and a happy augury for better times ahead in the South. Its defeat was significant in more ways than one. At the conclusion of Mr. Washington's address, the congregation was invited to come forward and shake his hand, which it did. I went through the performance with a number of old friends and acquaintances, myself, and I can't say that I am particularly enamored of the pump handle act. I pinned my shoulder with liniment when I got to my room, and I am feeling better to-night, thank you. Met Bob Teasoh, of the Boston Globe, Prof. Taylor of Tuskegee, Mrs. Jewell, president of the John Brown League of Cambridge, who is a daughter of Robert Hamilton, who published the first Negro magazine in America—the Anglo American, John R. Bonner, formerly of Washington, and a whole raft of people whose names I have forgotten.

Through the courtesy of Mrs. Addie H. Jewell, president of the John Brown League of Cambridge and a lady of splendid literary talent and abilities, I am permitted, with the consent of the writer, a wealthy and philanthropic white lady of Framingham, Mass., to quote extracts from several letters addressed by her to Mrs. Jewell. Under date of August 24, after commenting upon the brutal and cowardly murder of Postmaster Baker and the pitiable condition in which the tragedy left his family, she writes: "As much as I pity her, it is the whole system of lawless cruelty and murder we should attack. Something in the very soil and air of our land makes the people partake of the wild Indian type to which there is constant tendency to revert. Every people is in entire harmony with the other animal life around it, and while the alligator type prevails in the South, the rough barked pine tree, the Palmetto, the people are all stamped with the same rough nature. As long as South Carolina adopts the Rattlesnake for its emblem, so long will her men partake of its nature; we all go up or down together; even the grass becomes finer and more delicate, when the men and women that raise it become finer and softer in heart; for all the earth is bound up together and we can no more injure our fellowmen, than we can hurt the members of our body without the same result of ill to every part of us. Even our amusements are ferocious. Football and prize fights, so fully reported in our papers are the delight of the ignorant people as well as of the Universities! Misery is the flower of civilization, and the American people are still savages in nature, with their love of finery and display and their propensity to torture and murder any and all they consider enemies. We have well chosen our emblem, also—the Eagle, red in beak and claw, a powerful vulture, glaring into the distance for his prey. So we have the nature of the Eagle, strong and powerful keen of eye, quick of sight, rending on prey without mercy. We cannot expect anything better of our people for years to come, but in God's good time, little by little, the spirit of Christianity will spread, and instead of church religion, we shall realize the meaning of the words, 'Whatsoever ye would men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them,' also 'Doth no man condemn thee? Neither do I condemn thee. Go in peace, and sin no more.' It is to help my fellow creatures upward, I would stop lynching, which is worse for those who do the cruel work, than the martyrs themselves." The letter is signed, "Frances L. Wilson."

These are the sentiments of a noble, God-fearing woman, whose great heart goes out in sympathy to the victims of the Rattlesnake and the Eagle all over this country. The former fastens his poisonous fangs into the Negro and does him to death in the South and the latter both at home and abroad reddens his beak and talons in the gore of the helpless black and brown peoples of the earth, in the name of liberty and freedom. (God save the mark.) The savages of America have written their record in the bloody book, have smeared the proud escutcheon of the nation within the past year with the innocent blood of a race which has yielded to the strength and ferocity of the Eagle, in the struggle to be free. "Earth can never forget, man will never forget them."

In the culmination of the conquest in the Philippines, soon to occur, the Eagle will scream and flap its wings and liberty will be assassinated in the name of Freedom. Expansion will expand and American ideas and customs will be transplanted beyond the seas and we shall be a world power with a vengeance. The Negroes who think expansion is going to benefit the race and that its opportunities for more and larger development will be greater, are very greatly mistaken. There will be nothing in the new possessions for the Negroes except those things which are of no possible use or benefit to the whites, who will develop the resources of these new countries. Since we haven't the money to compete with white men in these countries, I do not

know as there is any particular harm in a few of us painting pictures and building air castles in our minds and the Philippines. As soon as the war there is over, millions of American money is going there. Some is already on the way. How much will the Negro carry with him when he goes there, and what will he do with it? Does anybody know? BRUCE GRIT.

The Ninth U. S. Cavalry. Whilst the interesting war narrative "Under Fire" necessarily hovers around the Tenth U. S. Cavalry, that publication is nevertheless equally devoted to the exploitation of the valorous deeds of the other three colored regiments that added lustre to the record of American arms in the world renowned Cuban campaign. We quote the following account related by Capt. Geo. W. Pringle of the Ninth U. S. Cavalry:

"About 8 a. m., a restless and breathless courier rode into Siboney with the intelligence that Gen. Young had struck the enemy, was having a hard time of it and needed help. Without waiting for orders, and within ten minutes of the time the courier arrived, Captain E. D. Dimmick, Ninth Cavalry with Troops C, Capt. Taylor commanding; D, Capt. McBlain and H, First Lieut. McNamee, was on his way to the support of the troops engaged at Las Guasimas. Their hard march failed to get them there in time in this the first fight of the war; but they tried and their coming was hailed with joy by the tired troops who had driven the spaniards from their chosen and strong position."

"First Lieut. W. S. Wood, Sergeant Wall and Private Turner were wounded almost at the first fire. Captains Taylor and McBlain, in order to get their men out of this fire, pushed their troops forward to a road that was in front of them and got some shelter from the timber skirting it. After remaining in this position for some time until the men got restless under the heavy fire that they were subjected to, Troop C got out into the open; seeing which, Captain McBlain called to Captain Dimmick, 'Troop C is in the open and should be supported,' and got orders, 'go in,' which he did with his troop D. This was the initiation of the assault on San Juan Hill."

This claim by the authors of "Under Fire" that the Ninth Cavalry really initiated the assault on San Juan Hill is not only supported by the officers of that regiment who graphically tell the story of that battle, but Col. Roosevelt in his Scribner article (April) says: "Out of my sight over the right, Captains McBlain and Taylor, of the Ninth, made up their minds independently to charge just at this time, and almost at the same moment Colonels Carroll and Hamilton (of the Ninth) gave the order to advance."

The evidence is authentic and cumulative in "Under Fire" that the Black Regiment were the real heroes at Santiago.

No home should be without a copy of this creditable race production. Send to H. V. Cashin & Co., Huntsville, Ala. Capital City Orchestra at Zion. The concerts given Monday and Tuesday evenings of last week at Zion Baptist church by the Capital City Orchestra, assisted by the Zion choir, were all that could be desired artistically, and came out winner financially. The audiences were of excellent grade and size both evenings, and enjoyed the musical and literary offerings. Prof. B. T. Holmes acquitted himself well as conductor of the orchestra, and the soloists showed themselves to be skilled in the playing of their various instruments. Messrs. Felder and Trimmer came in for much praise. Among the performers worthy of especial mention were Misses Georgia Makell, Beatrice Jones, Lillian V. Greene, Georgia Smith, Mary Marshall, and F. A. Coley, Dr. R. F. Plummer, R. J. Daniels, J. T. Walker. Prof. Holmes should repeat his entertainment at a northside church.

Not Walter B. Hayson. Mr. Walter B. Hayson, for many years a highly respected resident of this city, was married on Thanksgiving night at the parsonage of the Metropolitan church by Rev. J. A. Johnson. On account of the similarity in names rumor had it that our esteemed friend and highly efficient educator, Mr. Walter B. Hayson, of the High School, was going to take unto himself a wife. Because of Mr. Hayson's popularity as a man and a teacher, the matter was generally talked of throughout the city. Mr. Hayson accepted it as a huge joke. It is to be regretted that the report as to Mr. Hayson was not true. It is certain that a man of his splendid intellectual attainments and great usefulness in the community would make an ideal benedict. The Colored American indulges the hope that it will not be long before it will have the privilege of announcing to the country that Mr. Hayson has left the realms of bachelorhood.

Mind Your Own Business. The colored man who lives uprightly, deals honestly, works industriously and attends to his own business, will command the respect and good will of all people whose good opinion is to be prized.—Exchange.

"Always Reliable." Editor Cooper, of the Colored American, is considered one of the ablest defenders of the race, whose judgment is always reliable.—The Reformer.

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THE GRAND FOUNTAIN United Order of True Reformers. ORGANIZED JANUARY 1, 1881. Offices: 604, 606 and 608 N. 2d St., Richmond, Va. The Strongest Financial Organization the Negro Has Produced in This Country. Read and learn for yourself what it has done and how to become a Member.

Subordinate Fountains. Subordinate Fountains are composed of males and females, sound in health and mind and of good moral character. Conventions.—When joining the Order through Conventions, persons are taken in from 14 to 50 years of age; when joining the Fountain by application persons are taken from 14 to 60 years of age complete. Joining or Benefit Fees.—From 14 to 45 years of age \$4.60, at 50, \$6.10, at 55, \$5.60, at 60, \$6.60. Death Benefits.—\$75.00 and \$125.00. Should death occur within the first year, \$75.00; after the first year, \$125.00 will be paid to the heirs, assigns or legal representatives. Sick Benefits.—From \$6.00 to \$9.00 per month, paid weekly. Monthly Dues.—Are 35 or 50 cents per month. Taxes are 80 cents annually paid semi-annually, January and July. The highest monthly dues secure the highest weekly sick benefits. Life Membership.—Ten shares of Bank Stock costing each member \$5.00 a share, make said member a life member. After paying dues and owning the stock one year, the fruits of the stock will pay the member's dues, and leave a handsome little balance each year. Just calculate. Monthly dues 50 cents per month, and taxes 80 cents per year, amount to \$6.80, and a dividend on ten shares of stock at 20 per cent. on the dollar, or \$1.00 per share, amounts to \$10.00 annually, which will pay the member's dues, \$6.80, and leave a balance of \$3.20. Should the dues be 35 cents per month, and 80 cents taxes per year, the monthly dues and taxes will amount to \$5.00 per year. The dividend of \$1.00 would pay the monthly dues and taxes and leave a balance of \$5.00. Additional Benefits of Life Membership.—Should adverse circumstances befall a member, said member may take his ten shares of stock and Fountain policy and secure a loan from \$1.00 to \$88.00, which will enable said member to tide over the misfortune, pay up the loan, redeem his policy and stock, and go on his way rejoicing.

2. Rosebud Fountains (For the Children). Rosebud Fountains are composed for children, male and female, from 3 to 14 years of age. Joining or Benefit Fees, \$1.50; paid spot cash or by instalments. Death Benefits.—\$24.50 and \$37.00. Should death occur within the first year, \$24.50; after the first year \$37 will be paid to the parents or guardians. Sick Benefits.—From \$1.50 to \$4.00 per month paid weekly; 50 cents, 75 cents and \$1.00 per week respectively. The highest monthly dues purchase the highest weekly sick benefits. Monthly Dues and Taxes.—The monthly dues are 10 cents, 15 cents or 20 cents respectively, just as the Fountain may decide. Taxes, 10 cents annually, paid semi-annually: January and July. The child is allowed to purchase 5 shares of Bank Stock, which makes his policy self-supporting, with a balance each year.

3. The Regalia. This Department furnishes all Regalia that is worn by the members of the Order. For style and prices write for price list.

4. Classes. B and E Classes admit a membership, male and female, and secure life and death benefits. B Class Policies are as follows:

CLASS B. TABLE. Table with columns: Age, Joining Fee, Value of certificate, Annual Dues, Paid Quarterly. Rows for age groups: 14 to 25 years, 25 to 35 years, 35 to 45 years, 45 to 50 years, 50 to 55 years, 55 to 60 years, 60 to 65 years.

E Class Policies are as follows:

CLASS E. TABLE. Table with columns: Age, Joining Fee, Value of certificate, Annual Dues, Paid Quarterly. Rows for age groups: 14 to 25 years, 25 to 35 years, 35 to 45 years, 45 to 50 years, 50 to 55 years, 55 to 60 years, 60 to 65 years (Complete).

The ages are reckoned from the last birthday. Remember that the applicant is benefited as soon as his policy is issued. The annuities of either of the above named Classes may be divided into quarterly payments of three months each, payable the 1st of January, April, July and October. The balance of annual dues remaining to the credit of each member after paying expenses will go to the purchase of bank stock for said member. Dues are paid annually in advance, the member gets 5 per cent. draw back in cash, and his full proportion of annual dues. By the latter mode of payment each member is made his own collector, thereby making the membership independent of the agent and self-supporting, and the member receiving the percentage that would be paid to the agent to collect. You will readily see that the members of either one of these classes are only required to meet once or four times a year, while the Fountains and Rosebuds meet twice a month.

LIFE BENEFITS.—The members of B Class are allowed to purchase 15 shares of bank stock, and two shares for each year of their membership. The stock yields a dividend of 20 per cent., or one dollar per share. Should misfortune befall them on their pathway of life, they may take their stock certificates and policies, and secure a loan after a given period of time. Members of Class E can purchase 25 shares of bank stock, and two shares for each year of their membership, likewise they may take their policies and certificates of bank stock, and secure a loan after a given period of time. You will readily see that the membership, in either one of these Classes, like the Fountains and the Rosebuds, benefits the member in health, as well as his family in death.

5. The True Reformers' Bank. THE SAVINGS BANK of the G. F. U. O. T. R. was chartered March, 1888. Its capital stock is \$100,000.00. It commenced business April 3, 1889. The amount of business done to March 1, 1893, is \$3,458,100.00. The stock of this bank is sold to the membership of the Fountains, Rosebuds, B and E classes, and pays a dividend of 20 per cent. on the dollar. Persons can deposit their moneys on time or demand. The bank pays 4 per cent. interest on all time deposits. Moneys on demand are held subject to the orders of the depositors. Deposits are received from 10 cents and upwards. Special attention is given to the collection of notes and drafts. In 1893 this was the only bank in Richmond which continued to pay cash money to its depositors during the financial stringency, while the other banks were using scrip.

6. Real Estate of the U. O. T. R. THIS DEPARTMENT manages and controls the property of the organization. It grew out of the necessity of having offices and buildings in which to carry on the business of the organization, and to furnish halls for the Subordinate Lodges. Buildings now owned, 12, farms, 3, dwellings, 2, hotels, 1, with a total value of \$104,000.00. Buildings leased, 13.

7. THE REFORMER, the Organ of the Order. THE REFORMER is the Beacon-Light, the Head-Light, the General Messenger and the General Agent of the Brotherhood. It is a race journal, with a circulation of 6,000. It is the medium of the Order, and its columns teem with all its doings and achievements. Send for sample copies. It is published weekly in The Reformer Printing office, Richmond, Va., having a first class job department and makes a specialty of high class work.