

**The Colored American**

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**A NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER**

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Subscriptions may be sent by postoffice money order, express or by registered letter. All communications for publication should be accompanied with the name of the writer—not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

We solicit news, contributions, opinions and in fact, all matters affecting the race. We will not pay for matter, however, unless it is ordered by us. All matter intended for publication must reach this office by Wednesday of each week to insure insertion in the current issue.

Agents are wanted everywhere. Send or instructions.

For Sale by all News Dealers.

**ADVERTISING RATES.**

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**THE COLORED AMERICAN,**  
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SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17 1900.

**WOMAN SUFFRAGE.**

With women owning vast real estate holdings, immense blocks of stock in corporations, growing in intelligence and experience in public affairs and becoming factors in the professions and industries, it does seem that an anti-suffrage argument has little but an old-time and illogical sentiment to rest upon. We are not just prepared to go into the details of the subject, but we venture the prediction that the twentieth century will not be of voting age before man's monopoly of the ballot will have passed into history. Women will not be permitted suffrage all at once, but she will acquire the privilege step by step—first school elections, then municipal, until finally the state and nation will gracefully yield to the inevitable. Property restrictions, educational tests and social relations will be applied for a while, but ultimately these barriers will be burned away and woman will stand beside her brother with an equal chance in law and personality to make herself what God intended she should be. Woman suffrage may be like unto a mirage ahead, but it is coming nevertheless, because no power on earth can withstand the force of the tactful system of agitation and organization under which the brainiest women of both races are working.

Mr. Roberts' days may not be so few, but they are certainly full of trouble.

**A CASE FOR "EUPHEMIA KIRK"**

"The Iconoclast," a 2x4 sheet published by one Rev. M. C. Maxwell, at Albany, Ga., evidently "has it in" for all womankind. In a recent issue of his journal, (which he confesses at the head of his editorial column to be "a leading Negro paper," he "get off" these paragraphic thunderbolts in bad imitation of the late and unlamented Brann, of Texas:

"Some one has said, "There is no hell." This man has never had a wife."

"Marry a wife and you will have a

mother-in-law; but the verdict will be against the husband in the case."

The Colored American turns this gentleman of the cloth over to the tender mercies of our "Euphemia Kirk." We see his "finish" now.

Imitation is the unvariable compliment which mediocrity pays to merit.

The Colored American is the most widely quoted Negro journal in the world. Our exchanges know good matter when they see it, and in most cases, give due credit and hearty editorial indorsement.

Banker Isaac H. Smith has broken his long silence.

**AFRO AMERICAN COUNCIL EXTENSION.**

Afro-American Councils are being organized everywhere. That is right. Our local Council is doing excellent work, and is meeting with steady encouragement. But there should be ten auxiliary bodies in this populous District of Columbia, so as to reach all the people in the several sections.

There should be at least one Northeast, three in South Washington, one in Georgetown, one in Anacostia, and others scattered over the great North-western area, where many kinds and conditions of our people live and have their being. Those in charge of organization and Council extension should bestir themselves, and be prepared to make a report at Indianapolis that will be a credit to the 90,000 Negroes of Washington.

Come to think of it, wasn't there once a political leader out in Indiana by the name of Dr. S. A. Elbert? Is he still there? How about it gentlemen of the Hoosier press?

A man who puts a little more brains into a job and does it a little better than any one else can do it, at as reasonable a figure as any competitor will accept, will get all the work he can do.

Those who sit down and depend upon others for help will get—left. Cultivate self-reliance.

**Beautiful Pennsylvania Avenue!**

**AS TO MISINFORMATION AND CORRECTION.**

Just as accidents will happen in the best regulated families, so errors will creep into the most carefully edited newspapers. Our journals are dependent in a large degree upon the veracity of individuals for the correctness of many statements appearing in their columns. It is an ancient rule that in the absence of evidence to a man's discredit, he is presumed to speak the truth concerning the ordinary affairs of life, and is entitled to belief. The editor is thus compelled to take his chances, and sometimes he "slips up" on the character of his informant. In such a case, the unintentionally misrepresented person ought to be and usually is satisfied with a word of explanation and correction. This is The Colored American's policy, and this little lecture may be understood as covering more instances than the one recorded in this week's issue.

The birth of Abraham Lincoln was quite generally remembered in Washington's colored pulpits last Sunday.

God and the white man will help the Negro who helps himself.

It doesn't pay to be "easy." It is the aggressive, persistent, business-up-to-the-handle man who feeds first at the trough of success. Push yourself

forward—but exercise discretion and respect for the rights of others.

**WASHINGTON'S HAND OF FELLOWSHIP.**

Washington is the nation's great convention city. It is beautiful to look upon, convenient to reach, and its interesting features are perennial. Toward our people there are some disgraceful exhibitions of prejudice by an ill-bred element here, but this disadvantage is more than outweighed by the open handed hospitality displayed by our citizens when the stranger enters her gates. Washington is full of elegant homes, and nowhere in the country is the transient guest made more to feel that he is welcomed to the fireside as a member of the family. The contact here is closer than is true of the immense commercial centers where personal identity is lost in the wild tumult of money-making.

Bodies desirous of transacting business in quiet and deliberate fashion, amid environments suggestive of moral and intellectual culture invariably seek Washington. We have been honored by many such gatherings, and in the future we shall be no less fortunate in this respect. We have entertained within the year the National Afro American Council, the National Negro Academy, the Educational and Financial Board of the A. M. E. Church, the Baptist Association and similar organizations. Last week we had with us the Quadrennial Council of Bishops of the A. M. E. Church which brought to our city some of the ablest and most distinguished religious lights of the race. Next May we shall extend the hand of greeting to the General Conference of the A. M. E. Zion Connection. Washington is indeed the nation's intellectual Mecca. All roads lead to this modern Rome.

Welcome to all, say we. Our local life is broadened, our best impulses are quickened, and our hearts are made kinder by these frequent visitors. They bring the great outside world to our doors, and we are strengthened and invigorated by the magnetic thrill of its throbbing waves and virile intensity.

Friends, the freedom of winsome Washington is thine!

Is the esteemed Indianapolis Freeman anxious to compare files with The Colored American to settle the issue as to which originally mentioned Senator Fairbanks for the 1904 presidential nomination?

**BEAUTIFY PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.**

The Colored American is in hearty accord with the plan so soundly advocated by the Post, Star and Times, to beautify "The Avenue" by erecting thereon a series of massive public buildings. The antiquated and shabby structures that now dot the nation's greatest thoroughfare are an eyesore and a spectacle that may incite our civic pride to immediate revolt. Never is this ugliness more apparent than on inauguration day and other great festivals that fill the city with strangers.

We are in favor of condemning at once the land on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue from the Botanical Gardens to Fifteenth Street, that the government may buy it in for the purposes above specified. The new municipal building should be built on the reservation between 7th and 9th Streets, and, if it is not too late, plans for the Department of Justice should be changed and the new structure located somewhere between the Post-office and the Treasury. This would

give the system a splendid street. Washington is shaking off her provincial garments, and the people are ready for a greater municipality, that shall provide for our nation the prettiest capital in the world. Let us wake up, and go forward with this work of beautification and building for the grand future that lies before us.

In these troublous war times, when you glance at the poster type papers folded under the newsboy's arm, and you only see that there is a terrific conflict in progress at some point beginning with an L, you are in doubt whether Ladysmith or London, Ky., is meant.

Here and there the Negro is slipping through the lines and wedging his way into a federal office.

If any one is searching for the trend of public sentiment, it will pay him to keep tab on our local lyceums. The popular voice in these forums is expressed candidly and emphatically. The plain people who are hungry for bread, cannot be hypnotized into accepting a stone with thanks. The wise man heeds friendly warning, and he is not your friend who fails to put you on your guard when danger approaches.

**The Louisiana Law in the Supreme Court.**

The legality of the Louisiana Constitution of 1898 is to be tested in the Supreme Court of the United States, at Washington, D. C., at the Spring term in this year. The case comes up on a writ of error granted by Judge Charles Parlange of the United States Circuit Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, in re of Sam Wright, convicted of outrage, Anthony Leopold Gussman, Attorney. The foundation for action in the Supreme Court is so broadly laid that the Court will have to pass upon the merits of the whole Louisiana Constitution of 1898. The outcome of the matter should be of the deepest concern to the colored people of the whole country; for in it is involved their rights as citizens. The Afro-American Council has the matter in hand, and money with which to prosecute the matter is needed at once. Let everybody give something. Contributions should be sent to Jesse Lawson, Secretary of the Finance Committee, 2011 Vermont Avenue, Washington, D. C.

**"A Day With Negro Journalism."**

This is the title of a feature to be presented at Second Baptist Lyceum tomorrow afternoon at 3:30 o'clock sharp. It is not designed as a "symposium" but a running discussion of the phases of Negro journalism in brief prepared papers by recognized authorities, followed by speakers from the floor. President Thompson's idea is to arouse popular interest in an agent of our development, the power of which is not appreciated at its full worth by a large per cent of the race. The three leading speakers and their topics will be as follows:

"Latter Day Journalism: What the People Demand of It"—Mr. Edward E. Cooper, Editor of The Colored American.

"The Negro Newspaper From a Business Point of View"—Mr. W. Calvin Chase, Editor of the Washington Bee.

"The Negro Daily: Its Value and Its Difficulties"—Mr. Alex. L. Manly, Editor of the Daily Record.

The thoughtful public should not fail to turn out in large numbers. It will be a big day for race journalism and race progress. Appropriate music will be rendered by competent artists.