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A MODERN CINCINNATUS.

Dr. T. W. Henderson of Christian Recorder
a Bright Star in the Galaxy of Gifted
Men in the Great A. M. E. Church.

Editor Colored American—With your permission I beg to be allowed through your widely circulated paper, which by the way is one of the best published by the race, to say a few words about one of the leading clergymen of the African Methodist Episcopal church. I refer to Dr. T. W. Henderson of Indianapolis, Ind., but now in office at Philadelphia, Pa., as Business Manager of the Book Concern of his church. I desire as a member of that church to speak of Dr. Henderson as I know him. I had the honor of serving under him as a trustee for nearly three years, indeed was converted under his preaching and esteem him as my spiritual father. I was one of over nine hundred that united with Bethel church under his ministry and know him well and intimately. When the good doctor came to Indianapolis we were worshipping, or rather those who were worshipping, in old Bethel church on Vermont street, but it was soon evident that if he stayed as pastor the old structure would have to give way for a more modern one and it did. We are worshipping in one of the finest church buildings owned by the race and every time I look at it I say there is Dr. T. W. Henderson's monument. At the time of its dedication in '96, the Freeman denominated it "The Pride of Indianapolis." We think so yet. Though it is a large building seating about fourteen hundred people, it was frequently found entirely too small to hold the doctors' immense congregations. Nothing would give me and thousands of others more pleasure than to see this godly man made one of the bishops of our church and as one of the lay delegates of the Indiana conference. I shall do every honorable thing in my power to elevate him to that high and holy office and I do this and say it because I feel that no man whom I know is better fitted both by attainments and nature to fill the place. First of all he is a Christian gentleman. He is a preacher of uncommon power and eloquence. He is a friend to his race and never afraid or ashamed to speak out for his people. He is always ready and willing to help the poor and needy. He would be just as easily approached by the poor preacher as the great one. He would be useful wherever he visited in building up the work of the church. He has about him a personal magnetism that wins friends for him and draws people to him. He would always think about something else more than mere dollars and cents and no man's appointment, with him would depend upon how many dollars he could raise but how many souls could he win to Christ. While he always shows the greatest veneration for the aged he never slight the young. He would grace the office of a Bishop and would prove a blessing to his church. There is another thing about this man of God that I have always admired and that is his race feeling. He thinks and says out boldly that



REV. T. W. HENDERSON,
Business Manager of the Christian Recorder, and a Popular Candidate
for Bishop in the A. M. E. Church.

race enterprises should be fostered. That if a colored man can be found that can do the work that is wanted to be done that he ought to be employed to do it rather than the man from another race. He has often said in the presence of the writer if you have a law suit get your own lawyer, that is of our own race to attend to it for you, if sick your own doctor and if in need of an undertaker get your own. I love a man that believes in the possibilities of his own race, a man who never bows or truckles to any man but stands up like a man and proves on every occasion that there is something in the black man as well as the white one. There is one other thing I always admired in this good man and that is his strong leaning toward the spiritual side of religion. He does not believe that a Methodist preacher should try to ape the Presbyterian or the Episcopalian, but should be a true Methodist or else quit the Methodist church and go to the church with which he is nearest in agreement. In a word Doctor Henderson is a true representative of the church to which he belongs. The Doctor is blest with one of the most amiable women for a wife with whom it has ever been my pleasure to become acquainted. It matters not what work the Doctor is engaged in she can be found at his side helping him along. She has been known in this city to go out solicit money buy a load of coal in the coldest days of winter then get up on the seat with the driver and go from one poor home to another giving a bushel here and a bushel there thus finding the fuel for a fire to many poor and suffering ones. Make this man a bishop and the church will be blest.

WILLIS KERSEY.

Indianapolis, Ind., Apr. 9, '00.

THE GATE CITY (17)

Educational Work in the Black Belt—Echoes
From Easter—Pen Pictures News—
Notes and Vagaries.

Atlanta, Ga. Special.—Mr. S. F. Mansfield for some years Baptist Missionary, but now of the Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., is in the city on a visit. He addressed the Sunday School children last Sunday morning at Wheat Street Baptist Church.

Sunday was a fine Easter day and the churches were all crowded during the day. President Henderson, of Morris Brown College, preached a very fine Easter sermon at Big Bethel church in the morning.

Last Friday night at Clark University, was perhaps the greatest night ever seen in Atlanta. The occasion being the 30th anniversary of Prof. W. H. Crogman's labors in our midst as a teacher. On the platform were Bishop Gaines, presidents of the colleges and seminaries of the city and state, and other distinguished guests. In the audience were the teachers of every school in the city and a host of invited guests. Bishop Gaines on the part of a committee of citizens presented Prof. Crogman with a filled purse. Dr. J. W. E. Bowen presented him with a translation of Plato. The president of Clark presented him with a set of Downing's. Prof. Murray of Gammon Theological Seminary, presented Mrs. Crogman with a purse. There were a large number of letters read from all parts of the country and abroad congratulating Prof. Crogman upon the successful completion of his thirty years of labor in the educational field. Prof. Crogman responded to the many kind words spoken in his presence. These exercises being over the guests were invited over to the banquet hall where five long tables were appropriately decorated with becoming artistic display illustrating the feminine genius, covers being laid for 1,000. This feature was one of the most perfect ever witnessed any where. The guests' places at the tables were designated by their names being neatly written on cards and placed upon the plates. The ushers would meet the guests and conduct them to the point described. Every thing worked like a clock in good order. Dr. Bowen asked the blessing and then the eating began. Toasts were responded to by presidents Henderson of Morris Brown College and Sayles of Atlanta Baptist College. Prof. T. N. Chase of Atlanta University, Miss Abbott of Clark, Miss Hooper of Storrs, Prof. Murray of Gammon, the president of Clark, Mr. E. L. Simon of the Forging Department of Clark, Maj. S. W. Easley, Jr. Mrs. A. F. Herndon read Prof. Chase's remarks.

The idea of giving this reception to Prof. Crogman originated with Mr. E. L. Simon one of Atlanta's foremost citizens and instructor in the forging or blacksmith department of Clark University, and the matter was taken up by

(Continued on fifth page.)

Second Baptist Lyceum Anniversary.

Tomorrow afternoon at 3.30 o'clock, the Second Baptist Lyceum will celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of its organization. A rare program has been arranged by President Thompson and he hopes to see present many of the distinguished men and women who have, during all these years contributed largely to the success of this popular body. The exercises will include among other things, a short "History of the Organization, and Its Practical Achievements," by Mr. W. T. McKinney; address on "The Influence of Literary Societies Upon a Community," by Prof. H. Y. Arnett, B. S., address "What the Lyceum Means to the Second Baptist Church," by the pastor Rev. W. B. Johnson. By urgent request, Mr. Robert Harlan will recite Kipling's famous "Absent-Minded Beggar." Miss Lulu A. Hamer will render a contralto solo; Mr. Walter Franklin, tenor of Cincinnati, will make his initial appearance here; and Miss Georgia Savoy will give a piano selection. The occasion promises to be an auspicious one.

At 3.30 o'clock Sunday afternoon next Delegate W. Calvin Chase will discuss "The Absurdities and Follies of Negro Leaders" before the Congressional Lyceum at Odd Fellows' Hall 1606 M street, n. w. Mr. Chase says that he has a new 13-inch gun loaded to the muzzle and before he is through a number of would be leaders will yell, "Who hit Billy Patterson?"