

THE NEGRO EXHIBIT REVIEWED.

Prof. Calloway Entertains a Large and Cultured Audience With Stereoptican Views of the American Negro Exhibit at the Paris Exposition—Startling Facts and Figures of Race Progress and Development.

Prof. Thos. J. Calloway, the Special Agent of the United States Commission to the Paris Exposition on Negro Education, delivered a lecture on the Negro exhibit at Paris before the Bethel Literary and Historical Association on Tuesday evening January 8th. The large auditorium of the church was densely packed, and many Senators and Congressmen and other public officials came out in large numbers. The mere fact that an offering was asked at the door, did not once retard the long line of people who literally poured into the church. The lecture was il-



MR THOMAS J. CALLOWAY.

lustrated by means of slides, and this new feature made the lecture more interesting. The economic value of the lecture was indeed worth the seeing. Mr. Calloway brought out some interesting facts and figures; some that a certain Mr. Hoffman, who wrote a book "some time," ought to read and study. By an interesting table, Mr. Calloway, showed the increase of the Negro population, and its relative importance. The population of the man of color in 1750 was scientifically estimated at 220,000; in 1790 it was 757,208; in 1860, we were 4,441,830 strong, the census of ten years ago placed our numerical strength at 7,470,040. These are interesting figures and is an education in a smaller measure. The corresponding increase of population of the blacks and white is all out of proportion. And the rate as Mr. Calloway happily stated of gain among the Negroes, need put no one, even a North Carolinian in fear of Negro domination. But the number of Negroes who are citizens of the United States is twice as large as the population of Australia; nearly half that of Spain, one fourth that of England, and as large as the whole population of Norway and Sweden combined.

The population of total Negro children of school age, as shown by Mr. Calloway who are enrolled in the public schools in the United States has increased from 37.59 per cent in 1876 to 56.66 per cent in 1886, and to 57.29 per cent in 1896. The enrollment in the Negro common schools of the former slave states was in 1876-7, 571,506; in 1880 81, 802,374, 1885-6, 1,048,659, in 1890 91, 1,329,549, and in 1895 6, the enrollment was 1,429,718. Taking Georgia as an economic basis, since it has the largest Negro population, Mr. Calloway found that in the matter of education there were twelve t king business courses; 98 classical; 152 professional; 161 scientific; 383 normal; and

2,252 industrial pursuits. The pictures of the exhibit as a whole, and then in detail was most interesting. The Tuskegee Institute's exhibit was taken as a basis for detail work, and the reproductions were good indeed. The northern school teachers who so generously came South after the war, and sacrificed themselves to the cause of Negro education, came in for their part of hearty applause on the part of a grateful audience. The books collected by Mr. Calloway could be seen distinctively on the canvass. This especially attracted attention, for the reason that so few people knew the race had produced so many books.

Mr. Calloway had found that 350 patents had been issued to Negroes in the United States, notwithstanding that a Boston lawyer said he never knew of a Negro "inventing anything but lies" and a Washington lawyer said he never heard of one, neither had his cook. The Washington High School was well represented, and Prof. Hunster who made the models which attracted so much attention at Paris was especially complimented. Mr. Calloway has made a special study of the work in hand and dealt with it familiarly. This exhibit attracted more attention than anything the American people sent to Paris. It is very likely that Mr. Calloway will present this exhibit at Buffalo and Charleston, only in a much larger form. In his closing remarks, Mr. Calloway fittingly said, "To the people of the North, to the people of the South, to those of the East and those of the West, our message is that if you will give us our schools, and legally punish our criminals, you may depend upon it, that no foreign bullets will ever chase us from the flag, whether it be carried up San Juan hill, or flung in defiance across the Nicaragua Canal."

Mr. W. C. Coleman of Concord, N. C.

Mr. Warren C. Coleman, Treasurer and Manager of the Coleman Cotton Mills at Concord, N. C., passed through the city one day last week en route from New York. Mr. Coleman speaks in the highest terms of the prospects of the cotton mill and says that the stock is being sold rapidly. In order to have working capital sufficient to conduct the factory as it should be, the capital stock of the Company has been raised from fifty thousand to one hundred thousand dollars and a plot of a quarter section of land has been set aside adjoining the factory for the erection of tenement houses for the employees of the factory. Mr. Coleman is not an old man by any means and is full of energy, pluck and to his credit it may be said that he has conducted his own business in a way to make a fortune for himself.

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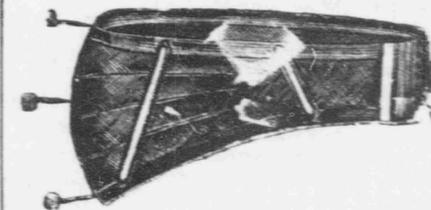
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