

The
COLORED
American
A NATIONAL NEGRO NEWSPAPER

VOL. XI, NO. 14

WASHINGTON, D. C., SEPTEMBER 3, 1904.

PRICE, FIVE CENTS



MR. JAMES H. GUY,
Attorney at Law, and prominent Leader and Race man,
Topeka, Kansas.

LET THE NEGRO ALONE.

Lawyer Guy Sounds The Tocsin from
The Sunflower State.

Give the Colored Man an Equal
Chance and He Will Solve the So-
called Problem Himself.—A strong
Plea for Equality of Rights and
Equality of Opportunity.—A Manly
Appeal.

To the Editor:—Permit me a few
questions through your columns.

Is it not now time to "pass up" the
Negro question? Has there not been
enough said pro and con with no visible
signs of a betterment of condi-
tions? Is it not potent to all good
thinkers that this continual and dis-
tinct mention of the Negro is sense-
less? Is it not evident to all sober

and unbiased thinkers that the keen
criticism so often made of him (the
Negro) and the burning complaint
equally as often made by him, accom-
plish nothing? Is it not time to let
the Negro alone as a Negro? Is he not
a part and parcel of this great com-
monwealth?

Let the press and all public speak-
ers stop long enough to ask the ques-
tion and then answer it.

"Who is this man, the Negro, about
whom we write and speak so much?"
The answer is this—He was born on
American soil; schooled in American
civilization; that he acknowledges
but one God; that he is loyal to, and
follows but one flag; that he is as in-
dustrious and law abiding as other
persons; that he is as brave in bat-
tle as any soldiers, and that, "oo,
whether he is fighting for freedom or

the acquisition of territory.

He is amenable to the same laws;
bound by the same constitution; tried
in the same courts; subject to the
same rules governing taxation. He is
a man and a citizen—some good,
some bad, as is true of every race or
nationality on the globe.

With these answers it would seem
that every rational being would say,
the Negro has a chance—let him
alone.

I have always said and tried to
maintain that there is no Negro
problem—no race problem; that every
man white and black alike, has life's
problem to solve—each for himself.
By this proposition I am prepared to
stand.

If every Negro will lend his whole
energy to make himself an industri-
ous, honest, economical and law
abiding citizen—devote his time to

pursuing mental attainments and in
the acquisition of a financial compe-
tency, the problem would be solved.

If the press and public speakers
would make the plea for individual
successes rather than the fool and
senseless "play to the galleries," (as
they do when they would have you
believe that they are in favor of that
which has never been and never will
be—a whole race a success)—the ob-
ject aimed at would, in my judgement,
be more quickly accomplished.

I am frank to admit that many dis-
cuss this question with the hope of
bringing around a more favorable
state of affairs. They are sincere. I
am equally as sincere when I say that
the condition now existing upon which
so much argument is predicated can
not be changed by the writings of any
man no matter how stilted. "Cut out"

(Continued on page 4.)



S. COLERIDGE TAYLOR,
A Noted Anglo-African Musical Composer and Song Writer,
London, E. C.

"By far the most interesting personage to me," said Mrs. Terrell,
"that I met while away was Samuel Coleridge Taylor. (Great ap-
plause.) He is most enthusiastic about his visit to Washington to
hear the great choral society named for him. He and his charming
wife, who has a beautiful voice for singing, seemed to me to live
ideal lives of happiness. You may be sure that he is coming unless
Providence prevents him."