

TRIBUTE TO OUR HEROES OF TWENTY-FOURTH INFANTRY, U. S. A.

Three cheers for our glorious heroes of the 24th U. S. A. How noble to die fighting the southern "Hun" instead of the German one. How perfectly splendid for the southern white to know that underneath the black skin flows a wealth of good red blood. How bravely they faced death on the scaffold to appease the southern despotism and autocracy, and the bourgeois and demagogues sitting in the national legislature by reason of stolen votes.

The white man has two standards of justice, one for the white man and one for the black. He was swift to exact payment from our boys, but what about the militia men in East St. Louis, who after murdering poor helpless blacks who had done nothing but wear a skin pigmented a different hue from theirs, murdered and maimed and tortured and threw little colored babies into the fire and the military general before whom the inquiry was held said, "Oh, the boys probably be boys, you know." And now to save be boys, you know." And now to save that dirty massacre and stench from being placed upon the American Negro, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has secured the best legal talent in the country to defend our people and to free the ten colored men already convicted and sent to the penitentiary. That is the American democracy that sounds so lovely on paper and in flowery speeches, but we black folks let it go in one ear and out the other.

Waco, Memphis, Lexington, Houston, East St. Louis, Chester and all along that crimsoned stain of death and slaughter and murder and ogre, black martyrs added to the 2,887 Negroes murdered by the southern "Hun" in thirty-one years. A splendid record to present to other Latin-Americans whose skin is not white and who question the seriousness of all this newspaper talk. Maybe the white faces won't be the only pro-Germans in this Pecksniff nation. One can't tell. Those murdered men's relatives may accept some of the German coin or they may help them without any coin, so intense will be their hatred. America better try to instill patriotism instead of crushing it. She will need all of that and then some to whip the greatest military power in the world.

If one was in the least doubt of the veneering of this democracy, they would but need to visit Camp Dodge and see those poor, uneducated, illiterate, half clad Negroes who don't even know who the "Kaiser" is or never heard of him.

Negro leaders and the Negro rank and file are practically united today as never before, as to what they want and how they are going to get it. There may be some difference of emphasis, according to individuals and groups, but the main basic agreement is there.

Never in any one president's administration has there been so much inhuman injustices toward the Negro as this one, for the south is in the saddle, but thank God, the day of reckoning is drawing near.

My mother, who knows something of slavery, and who is employed in a very prominent and wealthy family here, was waiting on some guests recently when one of them spoke up and said, "Well, Julia, they hung thirteen Negroes in Houston the other day." Mother, who neither reads or writes, replied, "Yes, but the Germans will avenge all that when they come through the south and on the Atlantic coast and I expect when they need the Negro the most he'll be helping the Germans. Now if that ready repartee can come from an ex-slave who can neither read or write, what do you think the educated masses of Negroes are contemplating."

It would be well for the American white man not to reckon without the host. The release of 1,500,000 Germans on the Russian front has seriously affected things and the German Hun is at our gate as well as the southern Hun on the border. None of us pay any attention to the German atrocities. In fact, they seem mild compared to what the torture and cruelties practiced on our people by the southern Hun.

December 11th will always be a holiday for all Negroes in America. Beside memorial services being held in all the colored churches and by all the secret orders, it will be a national holiday for us. God bless our brave heroes who suffered at the hands of Rufe, Daniels and Sparks, those two bully policemen who delighted in beating up colored women and forcing their obnoxious presence in their homes when they were in their bath. One of them will never answer the roll call. Too bad they didn't get old Sparks.

The 20th century Negro is alive to everything that concerns us. We are quite aware of the prejudice of Jack Newman and some of the other authors of the Daily Capital, so I am sending this to you in particular because your details of the outbreak says "white people expressed indigna-

who were slain," and hacked by bayonets," but they never cut off their heads and let it roll around on the street until some one picked it up as they recently did in Memphis to Eli Persons, nor did they cut out their tongue, or gouge out their eyes with red-hot poker, or burn them alive, or unsex them, or torture them in any way. They were disciplined men and bayonet practice is being taught in our American army.

Why didn't the press bring out the filth and rotteness of the East St. Louis congressional investigation? Because it was so loathsome and so detrimental to the white man that it has not appeared in the daily papers, but our association, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has brought it out word for word and you might step into the library some time and get the "Crisis," our militant magazine. It would show you that nothing is being overlooked by the Negro of today.

Of all the press reports of the southern Huns, after the first report they are not square enough, not human enough to admit that the primary cause of the Houston riot was the brutality of the white police toward the colored people and the unarming of the Negro provost guard. But Miss Martha Gruening's investigation at the expense of the N. A. A. C. P. has brought out all the facts and then some.

In conclusion, allow me to say that our brave men are with their maker. They were cross bearers below, so will be crown wearers above around God's throne. None of our colored men know fear, only the untrained ones. Then, too, it is quite different from fighting those southern Huns, man to man, than it is to have a mob of 5,000 red-necks to one poor helpless human being. So their graves will have the highest monuments that 12,000,000 colored people can buy for our love and respect is with them.

We never expected justice from a white investigation of a military inquiry, especially in the Prussian south, but we did not look for execution of thirteen colored men and at a time when Germany knows so well to approach the fathers, mothers, sisters and brothers as well as a race who is as one against the southern Hun.

Never again will the Negro submit to the outrages in the future as he has in the past. The training of the southern Negro will obliterate all submission to brutal burnings and lynchings and the hanging of our heroes makes us more determined to stand for the right and it must be right, not right for the white man and wrong for the Negro to exercise his ordinary rights as an American citizen, but one standard of justice must do for all; otherwise there will be many Houstons, for we have all good red blood in our veins and the mixture of the southern white man with his Negro mistresses during slavery and up to date makes us a proud, if somewhat arrogant race.

Seventy-five thousand intelligent, educated colored women of New York have the presidential ballot and national women suffrage will enable us to send our own colored representative to Washington so we will have voice in the laws of the twelve million black folks in America, this beloved land of the free and home of the brave. We hold that a government that exacts allegiance is under obligations to return protection and to put a stop to this Prussian autocracy in the south "while prating to other nations of democracy."

Mrs. Lillian Smith, 1015 Sixth Avenue.

FORMER SLAVE NOW OWNS 6,000 ACRES.

Little Rock, Ark.—As an example of what an industrious Negro may do for himself in the south, Arkansas points to Scott Bond of Madison, former slave, who now owns 6,000 acres of the most fertile cotton land in the state, several cotton gins, storehouses, hundreds of head of live stock, and a large mercantile establishment.

Bond was born in Mississippi and moved to Arkansas at the close of the civil war. For years he has been active in the National Negro Business League, though recently age has prevented him from taking the active part he did on the organization of the society. He has given \$200 to the Red Cross and purchased \$6,000 worth of Liberty bonds.

He says he is negotiating for the sale of property which will permit him to invest \$75,000 in the next Liberty loan.

For That Dull Feeling After Eating.

I have used Chamberlain's Tablets for some time, and can testify that they have done me more good than any tablets I have ever used. My trouble was a heavy dull feeling after eating—David Freeman, Kempt, Nova Scotia. These tablets strengthen the stomach and improve the digestion. They also regulate the liver and bowels. They are far superior to pills but cost no more. For sale by all dealers.

"THE REASON."

By Chas. P. Wilson.

Is the outlook always dreary? Don't the sun shine once for you? Is your heart forever weary? Are your pleasures always few? Can't you feel a joy in living, When the earth is all abloom? And has hope gone off grieving To the door of Faith's still tomb?

Do you find each one a stranger? Don't you sometimes crave a friend? Are you missing all the brightness, As you journey to the end? Don't you get sweet peace in laughter? Don't your soul delight in song? Is the old earth turning backward? Has the universe gone wrong?

Don't you love to watch the daisies? As they smile and smirk and bow? Do not song birds ever stir you, From the depths you're treading now? Does contentment beckon grimly, Only to the opened sod? Then, if so, my friend, it's certain You have quite forgotten God.

MACON, MO., NEWS.

(This Week's News.)

Rev. J. W. L. Underwood preached two excellent sermons Sunday morning and evening.

Mrs. Green and sister, Miss Bertha Grant, of Moberly, Mo., are in the city, the guests of their parents.

Miss Aleata Pleasant spent Monday the guest of friends in Mexico and Moberly, Mo.

Mrs. Clarence Carter and two children of Excelsior Springs, Mo., have returned to their home in Macon, Mo.

Miss Ella Carter, who has been spending the winter in Kirksville, Mo., is the guest of her parents.

Mr. Oscar Grant of Des Moines, Iowa, will spend the Xmas holiday the guest of his parents.

Mrs. Beatrice Saunders of Omaha, Neb., is in the city, the guest of relatives.

Quite a number of Maconites will attend the dance in Moberly on Monday night.

Mrs. C. McElroy and little daughter of Moberly, Mo., are in the city, the guests of relatives.

Mrs. O. H. McElroy, the teacher of DeWitt, Mo., school, is spending the holidays with her husband.

Mrs. Broox and little son of Lansing, Okla., are spending the holidays with her parents, President and Mrs. I. E. Page.

A wedding of the holidays which was very quiet was that of Miss Georgia Taylor of Canton, Mo., and Raymond Houston of this city. Mr. and Mrs. Houston were married Monday morning in our city. They will be in our city for a few weeks and then they will depart for Rock Island, Ill., where they will make their home. We wish for them much success.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Harris were very much surprised Monday morning when her daughter, Mrs. Andrew Hoskins, had husband arrived at home to spend the holidays.

Mrs. Mattie Major returned to her home Monday from Watertown, Ill., to spend the Xmas holidays.

The funeral of Mrs. Kissah Walker occurred Tuesday last at her home.

Mrs. C. Harris entertained at a Christmas dinner in honor of her daughter.

Miss Mabel Harris, a student of Western college, will spend the holidays with her brother in Carrolton, Mo.

During the week very interesting programs will be rendered at the church.

Mrs. Floyd Ancell has returned from a visit in Huntsville, Mo.

Mr. Oval Carter passed through Macon on Sunday en route to his home in Buxton, Iowa.

Mrs. Mattie Tolson of Jacksonville, Mo., is spending the holidays in the city with her sister.

Mrs. Mary Austin of Omaha, Neb., arrived in the city, the guest of Mrs. John Green and father.

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KIRKSVILLE, MO., NOTES.

This was homecoming week. Mrs. Valora Jackson, teacher at Nelson, Mo., passed through on her way to visit her parents at Edina, Mo.

Miss Minnie Hawkins, student at Lincoln Institute, Jefferson City, Mo., also stopped over en route home to Edina to spend Xmas.

Rev. B. C. Anderson preached at the A. M. E. church Sunday. At 3 o'clock two white brethren presented the cause of the Red Cross.

Rev. C. B. Johnson preached at the Second Baptist church Sunday morning. At the evening service Dr. Charley Still and Prof. Ziegel presented the cause of the Red Cross.

Kenneth Toles is getting along very well, after freezing his feet recently.

The following are very ill. Mrs. Maggie Clark, Mr. Thomas Henderson and Miss Laura Bush. Mrs. Inez Johnson is slowly improving.

An Xmas tree was appropriately decorated at the A. M. E. church.

Miss Gladys Cross of Oskaloosa visited her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Appleton. Likewise Mrs. Mary Richards, later joined by her husband, Mr. Eugene Richards of Os-

kaloosa, visited her parent, Mr. and Mrs. Appleton.

An interesting Christmas sermon was preached by Rev. Anderson also a program was given at night at the A. M. E. church.

Mrs. Inez Johnson was greatly surprised and most gratefully so by receiving six dinners Xmas day. She expresses thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Barnes, Bro. and Sister Harvey Baker, Mrs. Marie Jackson, Mrs. Lulu Payton, Mrs. Henry Appleton, Miss Lulu Edmonds and Mrs. Fannie Thompson.

Mrs. Emma Koerny is conducting most successfully the dining department at the Dockery hotel.

PARIS, MO.

We had a great meeting yesterday, Sunday. Sunday school doing nicely, with Mrs. Carrie Ragland as superintendent. We went right out of our Sunday school right into 11 o'clock service and I talked to the people thirty minutes on the doings of the church, which seemed to be enjoyed by all present. At 3 o'clock I baptized eleven, which was the greatest feature of the day, six boys and five girls, all young people. We closed last night with the hand of fellowship and the church court. The collection was \$15.10. Last Saturday night week ago I was surprised by the church members and friends.

OSKALOOSA, IOWA.

Mrs. Art Brown, who has been quite sick the past few weeks, is recovering.

The churches are making preparations for Christmas.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodie Thompson are enjoying a visit with Mrs. T's mother in their home.

Mrs. Harry Walker (nee Miss Victoria Kiner), who has been suffering with a slight attack of the la grippe, is much improved.

The Knitting club met Tuesday afternoon, December 18th, at the home of Mrs. Mabram Stewart. Light refreshments were served by the hostess, which all enjoyed. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Gertrude Oliphant, Evans, Iowa, January 3, 1918.

Ether chapter, No. 6, O. E. S., met Tuesday, December 11th, at the usual hour. The regular routine of business was carried on, after which the election and installation of officers for the year 1918 took place. W. M., Cora Moore, W. P., Harry Dunlap; A. M., Mollie Ringo; conductress, Mabel Crowder; treasurer, Mima Johnson; secretary, Marie Thompson.

Many are suffering with colds.

MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA.

(Special to The Bystander.)

The Second Baptist Sunday school held its Christmas tree Monday evening. The program by the scholars was excellent and the audience was appreciative. Treats were given to all the scholars and many presents were put on the tree for others. Mrs. F. C. Abner had charge of the music and the pastor, Dr. B. F. Abner, acted as master of ceremonies. The occasion will be gladly remembered in the spirit of Him who was the world's greatest gift.

Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Gilmore left for Toledo on Tuesday morning, where they will spend Christmas day.

Mrs. Hattie Johnson left Sunday evening for Hiawatha, Kans., to spend Christmas with her mother.

Mr. John Spencer and Mr. Morrow, who are in the government war service, are visiting their parents.

Mrs. Sellers, Mrs. Green, Mr. Jackson, Mrs. Rosana Jackson, Mrs. Williams, Rev. and Mrs. B. F. Abner were entertained at luncheon Christmas day at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford.

DAVENPORT, IOWA.

(Last Week.)

Mr. and Mrs. Ensy Green have returned from a visit in Chicago, Ill., and St. Louis, Mo., and have opened their restaurant again. They will be glad to meet all their old patrons and many new ones.

Mrs. J. F. Harris has been confined to her bed for some time and is yet very sick.

Mrs. Louis Fuqua had quite a severe attack last week but is slowly recovering.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Martin and daughter, Fern, of Savannah, Ill., en route to Chicago, stopped off and visited Mr. and Mrs. Ensy Green several days.

Mrs. Gentry of Washington spent several days in the city visiting her husband—Bystander—

Last Sunday was quarterly meeting at Bethel A. M. E. church. Rev. N. J. McCracken, P. E., was in attendance and preached morning and evening.

Mr. S. S. Furr passed through today en route for his home in Newport News, Va.

Hang the Expense!

As George folded the fair young creature to his heart a dull, cracking sound smote his ear. "Ah! It's good-bye to those cigars in my vest pocket," he said grimly; "but hang the expense at a moment like this!"

Extraordinary Xmas Gift

A CHRISTMAS GIFT THAT WILL BE OF LASTING BENEFIT.

We will make this Holiday Combination offer for anyone sending us \$2.00: Can get the Bystander for 1 year, also a copy of the new book, entitled "History and Views of the Fort Des Moines Officers' Training Camp," which gives a brief history of our colored commissioned officers in the U. S. This offer will last about thirty days, beginning December 15. So send in to this office at once.

This is a good opportunity to get a useful and valuable book for one-half the regular price.

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