with their struggles and the many hardships and inconveniences that have been imposed is what has been accomplished. The success of these two institutions has been evidenced by the fact that it is possible for us to control more people in the same period of time than any other organization of the same nature. We must admit, however, that the only way to do this is through the press, and in order that the press may be able to do the work successfully, it must be in trained hands. I want to talk to you about printing as an art, for it is an art, and has been fittingly styled "Art Preservative." A man must be trained to print, as he is trained to paint, and to write newspapers, as cheaply as any other concern and at the same time make a reasonable profit.

**SUPPLEMENT NASVILLE GLOBE.**

### A Series of Articles on the Printing Interests of the Church Run in Recent Issues of the Monitor.

**By D. A. Hart**

**CHAPTER I.**

In a preceding article I stated that in this issue of the Monitor I would talk to you about the printing interests of our Church, and I did so, and I want to point out to you some of the hindrances that stand in the way and retard progress in the promotion of the truth to the millions of people who are in need of it. The fact that the Church is a commercial enterprise is an open secret. We have been told that the Church is a business enterprise, and it has been said that it is not possible to keep the doors open, but the "Book Concern" of the A. M. E. Church is still a reality in some shape, form or fashion.

The perpetuation of the church demands and demands, and more so now than ever, that a printing house be maintained. It will well be said that from a material point of view, the denominational printing press is the hub of the church, and it is an undeniable fact that religious societies the world over have prospered in proportion to the efficiency of their publishing concerns.

The church printing houses have always taken the lead in spreading truth to the masses, and the day was when they were largely looked to for everything that amounted to much in the way of books, magazines and newspapers. It is also true in this day that the only printing concerns conducted by Negroes that have reached position and enjoyed the distinction of being honored by the religious denominations. This is due to the fact that the denomination has been looking to us as a means of furthering the cause of religion in the world, and newspapers are greater among our people than the demand for commercial printing. You ask why is this so? It is simply because as a race the Negroes own more churches than commercial enterprises. There are four church printing houses conducted by Negroes in the South, and not one of them could keep open six weeks if it were not for the revenue derived from printing other than that done for their respective denominations. Fortunately, the church and Sunday school printing in any of the four concerns in mind, to the A. M. E. Church's School Board and the National Baptist Publishing Board, located in Nashville, Tenn., the C. M. E. Publishing House, in Jackson, Tenn., and the A. M. E. Zion Publishing House, in Charlotte, N. C., are all kept busy attending to the printing and binding of books and Sunday school literature for their respective denominations. And with this freedom of facilities they cannot print one-tenth of the books bought by the members of the churches that support those institutions.

The Negro of the twentieth century is fast learning that everything he reads in books, magazines and newspapers is not true, and he is learning, further, that Negroes can best write for Negroes, and will come nearer telling the truth on his brother than will those who have not that same feeling of brotherly love toward him. He reads the daily paper, and finds columns about some large Negro gathering that has been in session; but he is better satisfied after he reads the half-column in the little Negro weekly that comes to him after all the delegates have been home for several days. Another thing he learns is the difference between patent and original matter; and he is learning that some authors write books to print. In periodicals and books published to teach Christianity that would make bad reading in a paginated page. He, therefore, can't count for a wholesome literature that will enlighten him, and that he can read without being dashed by other conditions and say with assurance, "This is my authority. Dr. Solomon Northup, declared for me and not by man," for this eminently great character and ability. I can rely on what they say. They spent so much and so many years searching out this thing, and I want to be able to cope with the leaders in this race to create the sentiment of the work, and I hold that the A. M. E. Church by virtue of seniority, ought to be expected to take the lead in this race so far as the American Negro is concerned. Is there any one in the world to impede her progress? I contend that there is. What are these hindrances, and is there a remedy? I will endeavor to point them out to you between now and the first Monday in May, in order that when we meet in Norfolk we may be acquainted with the facts.

I now propose to draw in my mind an imaginary map on which you can locate the departments of our church that require an amount of printing to warrant consideration. We will start with the oldest in the connection which is the Book Concern in Philadelphia, Pa., in the eastern part of our country, and far removed from a large majority of the membership of the church. Not one in a thousand have ever seen it. Next, we will mention the Foreign Mission department, located in New York City, farther still from a central point. Then we have the Allen Christian Endeavor or Department, located in Jacksonville, Fla. Next, fix in your mind the Department of Papers and Pamphlets, located in Columbus, Ga., and, fifth, the great printing house in the connection, the A. M. E. Church Sunday School Union, located in Nashville, Tenn. These five departments use the bulk of the printing that is to be done for the church. We will study it carefully. Fix the distance between these departments. You say that we have the right to be critical of the State in the Union, but each one is res-