

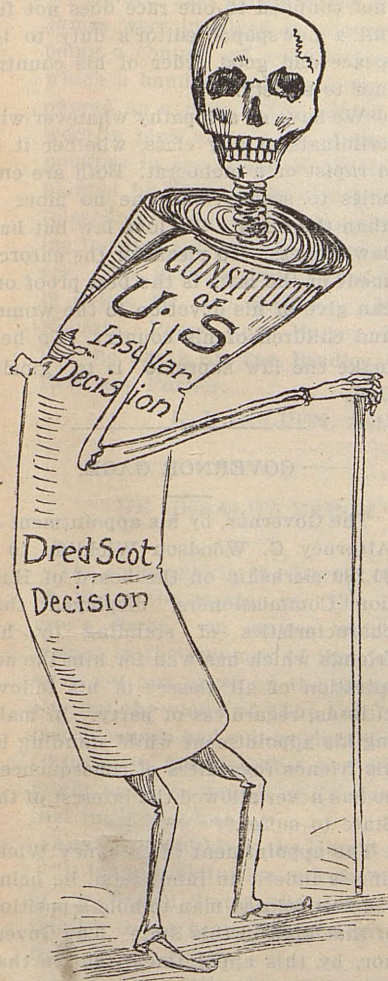
The Liberator

Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the Afro-American.

VOL. II.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., JUNE, 1901.

No. 21.



Bending to suit emergencies,
according to the idea of the
Los Angeles Times.

A Monstrosity Burned at the Stake by Monstrosities.

The outrage and murder of Mrs.
Rena Taggart by Fred. Rochelle at

Barstow, Fla., on May 28, and burning him at the stake by the white citizens of that unfortunate town on the 29th proved him to be the legitimate offspring of the community in which he lived. He was a monster in a community of monsters. His crime was fiendish and deserved death at the hands of the law, which certainly would have been the case had the law had its course. Burning him at the stake was an atrocity that only the lowest order of savages could have perpetrated. It was a disgrace to this age. It is a blot on the civilization of the twentieth century. Where else under the sun, moon and stars would such an outrage be allowed? What an awful sight for the children of that town to witness? What good will the church and Sunday school do them? When will they unlearn the lesson of lawlessness taught by that dastardly deed? The Golden Rule as practiced toward the Negroes by a large body of the white Christians of this country, and silently acquiesced in by the others is: "Whatsoever ye would that white men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." There are of course exceptions but the majority rules. Truly the mothers of Bartow, Fla., are to be pitied, for that day's deed doomed them to be the mothers of prenatal murderers who will strike down without mercy the members of their own households. The youth of this country need our sincere sympathy, they are to be the sufferers for the injustice and hypocrisy of today. They will receive as a legacy the crimes of this generation. The men who are responsible for this bitter persecution of the defenseless Negroes with fire and blood, the officers of the law from the President down, the managers of the Associated Press, who have done so much to scatter the lawlessness abroad, like the numbers of the infamous Ke Klux Klan, will in

a few short years have passed beyond the power to longer trample upon the rights of men because their skins are black. Like bad books, while their bodies are rotting in the grave the influence of their lives will still lead men from the path of virtue into the meshes of sin and sorrow. THE NEGRO CAN STAND IT, for though he has been made the white's scape goat and the victim of a bitter persecution ever since by force he was landed upon this continent, he was never stronger mentally, morally, physically and financially than he is today. The Negro need have no fear of the outcome of his bitter persecution, it is the white man who needs to fear. It is the white man's civilization that is threatened. Whether the white men of this country are capable of self government or not is now in the balance. Whether we are to be ruled by the constitution or the mob is a question that demands an early settlement. To have every Negro who violates the laws punished according to the law is the sentiment of ninety-nine one-hundredths of the Negroes of this country, but they are unalterably opposed to having one law for them and one for the whites. We believe that the intelligent white man who commits murder or rape is as guilty as the ignorant Negro who commits the same offense. Whether this country is to be ruled by the constitution or the mob is entirely in the hands of the white man. The Negro can aid the white man in upholding the laws but cannot prevent him from breaking them. The right to vote and sit upon juries has in direct violation of the National constitution, been taken from the great body of them. The right to even meet and protest against wrong is denied him in the South. Gentlemen, either the law or the mob must rule all of the people. Trying white lawbreakers by juries and Negro suspects by mobs can only bring misfortune upon your wives, sons and daughters.

The Constitution does not Follow the Flag. The Republic can hold Subjects:

The recent divisions of the U. S. Supreme Court in the Insula cases divides the people into two classes, citizens and subjects. It is the hardest blow to constitutional liberty since the foundation of the government. Stripped of its judicial verbiage it does not regard the constitution as the Supreme law of the land, but merely a collection of rules to be obeyed or disobeyed as the party in power may elect. The Herald in commenting upon Mr. Bryan's criticisms of that decision grew wild with rage, and after denouncing him as a dangerous man or words to that effect, proceeds to say that the "U. S. Supreme Court is the highest judicial body in the world." The same can be said of it when it handed down the infamous "Dred Scott Decision." And yet the Insula Decision is the Dred Scott Decision revamped. Those who appealed from that decision in the interest of justice were denounced as traitors and revolutionists. But when that issue came up for settlement by the arbitrament of war, every man who denounced that decision fought under the stars and stripes. The people owe obedience to no court that orders them to disobey the Golden rules.

The Supreme Court has made imperialism the paramount issue and if free government is not to perish from the earth it will have to be settled by bullets or ballots.

The Court by this decision says that "All men are not created equal;" that "governments do not derive their just powers from the consent of the governed."

HERALD MAN'S MEMORY IS POOR.

In an editorial on the burning of Fred Rochelle by a Florida mob, the Herald says:

"There appears to be no question of color, nor any line of locality involved in such retribution for atrocious crimes."

If the writer of the above lines believes what he writes, he either has a bad memory or does not read the columns of his own paper. To say that burning at the stake for assault and murder is not confined to negroes, is to make a statement which is at utter variance with the facts. If white men were not guilty of such crimes there might be room for such a statement. He evidently forgot how Durant murdered Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams, and then assaulted their corpses. Durant was not burned at the stake. Oh, no, the young white women of San Francisco kept his cell strewn with flowers while he came near dying of old age in prison. The three high-toned young white men who assaulted Jennie Boscheiter by turns, then murdered her, were not burned at the stake. They were tried according to law and given every opportunity to establish their innocence. The old white man who assaulted, murdered and then burned the body of his twelve-year-old victim in Washington, a short time ago, was not burned at the stake. The white men in Tennessee, who, after submitting a colored woman to shocking indignities, murdered her and threw her dead body in the street, were not burned at the stake. The white men in Louisiana who murdered a respectable colored man, then outraged his wife and daughter by the side of his dead body, were not burned at the stake. In the two last instances no arrests have ever been made, although the perpetrators of these fiendish crimes are well known to the local officers of the law.

From our memory alone, without referring to our files of the Herald, we could cite instances enough like the above to fill a page of that journal; but those cited should be sufficient to arouse his flagging memory.

To say that the color of the skin cuts no figure when a crime has been committed is to handle facts carelessly. If the skin of the accused is black, the presumption is against him and the crime is magnified; if white the presumption is in his favor and the crime minimized. Hence, in cases of white criminals, the Associated Press never suggests the mode of punishment: "HE WILL BE LYNCHED." HE WILL BE

BURNED AT THE STAKE."

The above suggestions are made, only when the accused is black or he is known to have African blood in his veins. To slur over these lynching outrages by the simple statement that the victims of these lawless outbreaks are not confined to one race does not fulfill a newspaper editor's duty to the peace and good order of his country, nor to society.

We have no sympathy whatever with criminals of any class, whether it be a rapist or a mobocrat. Both are enemies to society, the one no more so than the other. We love law but hate lawlessness. To plead for the enforcement of the laws is the best proof one can give of his devotion to the women and children of his country. To help make the law supreme is to glorify God.

GOVERNOR GAGE.

The Governor, by his appointment of Attorney G. Woodson Wickliffe to a \$1,200 clerkship on the board of Harbor Commissioners, displayed that characteristics of standing by his friends which has won for him the admiration of all classes of his fellow-citizens, regardless of party. In making his appointment while standing by his friends regardless of consequences, he has never allowed the interest of the State to suffer.

The appointment of Attorney Wickliffe is indeed an innovation, he being the first colored man to hold a position of that kind in this State. The Governor, by this appointment, shows that he does not regard the distribution of a few spittoon jobs among the Negroes as political recognition and by making it puts all of his supporters upon the same level. The position could not have been given to a more worthy gentleman, and his friends, regardless of politics, are elated over his success.

If the new constitution of Alabama is adopted as drawn up, Prof. Booker T. Washington will be disfranchised as he is a member of two races. It also disfranchises bastards; now if they would go a little farther and disfranchise the fathers of the unfortunate bastards the whole convention would be stamped.

A PLEASANT RECEPTION.

Attorney G. W. Wickliffe and Miss Jessie C. Terry were delightfully entertained Friday evening, May 31, by Miss L. J. Holden at the suburban home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Holden, 2530 Edwin street. Various games were indulged in, among them being a contest of conundrums, for which a hand painted book mark was offered as a prize. The refreshments were in pink and white. Dainty mementoes in the shape of hearts, were painted by the hostess and presented to each guest; an appropriate verse being inserted between the elaborate covers. The invited guests were Dr. M. E. Sykes, Dr. Geo. D. Taylor; Messrs. Roberts, Perry and Maize; Misses Browne, Sarah Browne, Bradley, Moore Reed and Fortler.

L. J. HOLDEN, Author.

"THE HERALD'S ERROR."

The comments in the Herald of May 18, under the caption of "The Liberator's Error," on matter which appeared in the columns of this journal were not our views on the race problem but the views of "The Call." We merely copied and sub-headed The Call editorial in question that our readers might have the benefit of its views on that important issue.

Among other things the Herald says:

"It is the constitution, not the people of the United States, that is at fault relative to the protection of negro suffrage in the South."

Now the constitution guarantees to every citizen equal rights. Under its operation all citizens are equal. If the party in power fail to use its prerogatives for the constitution's enforcement, the constitution is not at fault. The constitution denies no right that it guarantees. The fifteenth amendment says:

"The right to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or by any state, on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude."

If this amendment is not enforced it is the fault of the party in power and not the fault of the constitution.

When the enforcement of the con-

stitution becomes an issue and the people decide that it shall not be enforced then the constitutional government will be at an end. The mere evasion of its duty by the party in power to get votes is no fault of the constitution. The more one reads our national constitution the more untenable the position taken by The Herald becomes.

A VICTORY FOR INDEPENDENTS.

The recognition received by the colored voters of this state at the hands of Governor Gage by the position given Mr. Wickliffe is a splendid victory for the independent colored voters. Although the Negro vote was cast solidly for the Republican party for years, all the recognition they received were a few spittoon jobs kept in stock for the purpose. Of course, during campaigns the "boys" would be given cheap cigars and marching suits made of the same gaudy material used by the Dutch kidnapers who did a flourishing business on the West Coast of Africa, several centuries ago. The editor of this journal and a few other gentlemen who put the interest of the race above party, held a consultation and reached the conclusion that a division of the colored vote was necessary to check the tendency of the Republican leaders to draw the color line in the public service. Many members of the race who did not understand our motives tried to ostracize us but time and education soon taught them to treat us as patriots instead of traitors, and the feeling that the Negro had a right to join any party he desired became a popular one.

The result has given the Negro a broader conception of citizenship and its duties and has raised him a thousand fold in his own and the estimation of his fellow citizens, regardless of party.

It is, however, well to say just here, that while the Negro has the right to vote as he pleases, the right to join the party that will best promote his interest in the community in which he lives, he should not make the mistake of attempting to make politics his trade. "Office-seekin's poor business," while our votes entitle us to representation in state and county positions by

a few capable young men like Mr. Wickliffe, what we most need and need now, is a few representatives in the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association, in the banking and mercantile business, in the fruit exchange. We need more men who employ themselves, more farmers, more plowmen, more producers. To be a good American citizen you will have to be something more than a voter. The inmates of the poor house vote. To be respected in your community you will have to be more than a consumer.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR NEGROES.

John D. Rockefeller Makes a Donation of Three to Graduates of Tuskegee, Hampton and Spelman Institutes.

NEW YORK, June 16.—With a view to assisting the negroes of the south to secure advantages in the way of a higher education, John D. Rockefeller has endowed three scholarships at the Teachers' College, Columbia University, to be awarded to the graduates of southern negro institutions.

The scholarships are of an annual value of \$500 each. They will be awarded on the basis of intellectual ability and proved excellence in the classroom. They will be largely competitive. Eligibility will be strictly limited to the graduates of Hampton Institute in West Virginia and the Spelman Seminary in Atlanta, Ga., and Tuskegee. One scholarship will be given to the graduate of Tuskegee who will be recommended by Booker T. Washington, president of the university. Another scholarship will be given to a graduate of the Spelman Seminary on nomination of its principal, and the third prize will be awarded to the graduate of Hampton Institute on the approval of Dr. Fressell, its head.

We are pleased to acknowledge receipt of the July number of the Delineator, published at 17 West Thirtieth street, New York. It contains information that is indispensable to the home. The virtues of this magazine are well known. Price, 15 cents.

The Liberator,

Published monthly at Los Angeles.
J. L. EDMONDS, Editor and Business Manager.

Subscription Rates, \$1.00 a year; 10 cents per month.

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Business office, 620 South Broadway, Los Angeles, Cal.

TEL. GREEN 1882.

Edwards, the slayer of Foster at Benton, Louisiana, is still at large. And since it has been announced that he is to be tortured to death or burned at the stake if captured, it is the sincere hope of every person who has a spark of human feeling in his bosom that he either make good his escape or die with his gun smoking. Edwards killed Foster in self-defense, if the truth was known, but it is never told in such cases. Then, too, the negro is not allowed to defend himself against a white man in that mob-ridden section. It is also announced that Prophet Smith and several other colored citizens known to be innocent are either to be lynched or whipped severely for being on the farm when Foster was shot. If these negroes were not known to be innocent of complicity in the shooting of Foster, they would every one of them have been burned at the stake, as that is the method of punishment adopted by

southern mobs for negroes suspected of crimes. It is a deplorable condition in this free Christian country. One law for white men, and another law for negroes; juries to try white men charged with crimes and mobs to murder negroes without trials when suspected of crimes or for being near where a crime has been committed. Our advice to the negroes who live in mob-ridden states or districts is: To continue to be law-abiding, industrious and polite; teach your children the same lessons, but keep a good Winchester rifle in your home and use it upon any person or persons who attempts to enter it for unlawful purposes. The negroes have been put outside of the pale of humanity and will therefore have to protect themselves. Since the war 40,000 negroes have been butchered in the south by mobs. Until recently the mobs disposed of the negroes by the more humane method of the rope and bullet, but that is considered too good now, so the stake has been adopted.

Later: Rev Smith and MacLand have both been hanged by a mob. The sheriff kept them till the mob got ready to murder them. Their innocence was established, but they had to die, just the same.

MR. G. WOODSON WICKLIFFE.

Mr. Wickliffe's good fortune in receiving an appointment on the board of Harbor Commissioners is a source of much gratification to his fellow citizens. We dare say that no appointment made by the Governor has given more general satisfaction than this one.

His painstaking method of handling matters entrusted to his care and his gentlemanly demeanor have won for him the confidence and respect of all who knew him.

REMOVAL NOTICE.

Mr. W. H. Washington will remove his Ladies' and Gents' Shoe Shining Parlors from 146 South Spring street, to 127½ West Second street. He will occupy his new quarters on June 30th, where he will be glad to meet his old friends and patrons. Don't forget the number 127½ West Second street. When you want a shine, call.

SHALL THEIR HOME BE SOLD?

On account of sickness the home of Mrs. Ruth Brown Thompson, daughter of John Brown, the Liberator, is in danger of being sold to satisfy a mortgage. This mortgage was given to secure money to assist them during a severe illness of Mrs. Thompson, who is 72 years old. Mr. Thompson is 79 years old. The only support this dear old couple have is a daughter whose health has been undermined by over work in her efforts to supply their needs. The friends and neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson in Pasadena, both white and colored, are diligently at work raising money to lift the mortgage. The amount necessary is \$400. We earnestly request the colored people to assist in lifting the mortgage by voluntary contribution. It has been suggested that pastors of the colored churches arrange for a John Brown's day to be observed with appropriate exercises, after which a collection be taken for the payment of this debt. All contributions should be sent to Hon. W. S. Melick, Pasadena, Cal. Your contribution must be sent in immediately.

The sacrifices John Brown made for the freedom of the slaves are well known and appreciated by all. Mr. Thompson, his son-in-law, who is now 79 years old, was a soldier in Captain Brown's ranks when he was fighting battles for liberty. In his youth he fought for us; now that he is old shall we forget him?

COLORED PAPERS PLEASE COPY.

THERE IS A HELL.

Col. Robt. G. Ingersoll the great humanitarian and agnostic would not accept the idea of a hell. In this he was off, for if there is no hell, how would the demons who are burning men at the stake be punished? They are not regarded as criminals in this country. The church offers no protest, hence they are not sinners.

The inventor of the first distillery was killed by a mob composed of the men, women and children of his community as soon as they saw the effects of imbibing too freely of his wares. He was charged with "being in league with the devil to uncap hell." He may have been innocent but nobody believes it. The men he has murdered, the women and children outraged are as the sands by the seashore. Surely, the good or evil men do live after them."

RECOGNITION FROM GOV. GAGE.

In the appointment of G. Woodson Wickliffe to a clerical position under the State Harbor Commissioners, Governor Henry T. Gage has given recognition to the Colored citizens of California that all will no doubt appreciate. He departs from the beaten path of his predecessors, and, besides displaying force of character, shows that he is broad-minded and liberal enough to recognize merit and ability in a befitting manner, and he could not have selected from our ranks a more competent and worthier representative.

Mr. Wickliffe was a clerk for several years in the department of the Third Assistant Postmaster General at Washington, D. C., and besides he is a lawyer of standing, and thoroughly qualified in every way for the position with which he has been honored. We congratulate him upon his success and we take pleasure in assuring Governor Gage that his act will be looked upon by the thousands of his fellow citizens as a personal recognition of their faithfulness and loyalty to principles of which he is such a splendid exponent. While we have had many Republicans to fill the Gubernatorial chair, there has been but one Henry T. Gage, and he is setting a standard for honesty and general excellence that all those who follow him may emulate with the greatest honor to themselves. —Western Outlook.

The Hon. Moses Hallett, a lawyer of Denver, delivered an address before the graduating class of the law school of the University of Colorado. The closing words were as follows:

"Such was the United States of America at the end of the eighteenth century. One hundred years later the same nation and government, in total disregard of the principle on which it was established, repudiating every declaration of authority upon which it came into power, with shameless perfidy takes into its possession other lands and people, with intent to rule them absolutely and with the power of the sword.

" 'So fleet the works of men
Back to the earth again.'

"This nation, baptised in the blood

of freemen a short century back, and dedicated to the cause of liberty for men, now crumbles into the slough of despotism, another ruin on the sands of time to mark the course of man's inhumanity to man."—Times.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

Mrs. E. G. Hill has gone to San Francisco for a short stay.

Attorney G. Woodson Wickliffe was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Edmunds of South Pasadena on May 30, just previous to his leaving for San Francisco.

Miss Dora Young, a Kansas City teacher, and Prof. E. C. Hawkins, of Fort Scott, Kansas, were visitors at the Ohio recently.

Rev. J. D. Pettigrew, one of the ablest young ministers on the Coast will soon go north on a lecture tour. The Reverend gentleman is an eloquent, forceful entertaining speaker and will do much good for the cause of the race. Those who hear him once will avail themselves of an opportunity to hear him again.

Rev. F. L. Donohoo was also a pleasant caller at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edmunds, of South Pasadena recently. He says: "Editor Edmunds is a good farmer." While that is a matter of doubt, everybody knows the Reverend to be an able, worthy minister.

Mr. G. M. Warner has issued a call for a meeting of the Afro-American league. He is a tireless worker and secured for Mr. Wickliffe the endorsement of the state league. When Mr. Wickliffe received his appointment, Warner was tickled.

Miss Helen Warner, the type writer, has all the work she can do.

Miss Kitty Bradley is taking a commercial course and is making rapid progress.

Of the six colored students who attended the South Pasadena school, all passed the higher grades except one big old fat boy. Since the examination

he looks like a sinner in a beautiful snow, with nowhere to go.

Mr. Griffin, who shot and killed William Brown, has been discharged.

Mr. J. M. Scott is building a hall on Central avenue to be used by the K. of P.'s and other colored secret orders. Colored men are beginning to take life serious and settle down to business. That is The Liberator's advice.

While all regret to lose Lawyer Wickliffe, all appreciate the honor that comes to us through him.

The Odd Fellows' convention will convene in this city on August 6th and 7th.

DR. GARRET, THE DENTIST.

Dr. A. C. Garret, whose office is in the Burdeck block, 129 West Second street, has one of the best equipped dental offices in the city. His instruments and apparatus are all of the latest patents. A recent visit to his office brought so forcibly to our mind the advancement made by the colored people since the emancipation. It is impossible for any one to appreciate this so well as we who were formerly slaves and felt the hopelessness of our condition just previous to the breaking out of the civil war. The doctor is a graduate of the Howard University, Washington, D. C.

WESLEY CHAPEL NOTES.

The revival which closed recently at Wesley chapel resulted in 11 conversions, backsliders reclaimed 2. Total accessions, 18. Baptising, 5th Sunday in this month. There will be an entertaining exhibition given at the church on Friday night, June 28th.

Admission, children 5 cents. Adults, 10 cents. Corner Sixth and Maple ave. Don't fail to attend.

WANTED—A COLORED SHOEMAKER.

A first-class colored shoemaker is wanted at once, to take charge of a shop on Second street, near Spring. Shop and materials will be furnished, and the shoemaker will have half of what he makes. No expenses. Those interested call at 127½ West Second street, or write to the editor of The Liberator, 620 South Broadway.

A NEW FIRM.

Messrs. C. M. Smith and G. B. Lewis, both former employes of the Cass & Smurr Stove company, have commenced business for themselves under the firm name of Smith & Lewis. Their place of business is 220 West Sixth street, where they are prepared to do all kinds of stove repairing and light plumbing. They will carry a large stock of all kinds of stove repairs; also new and second-hand stoves. Mr. Lewis, the well-known stove doctor, will have charge of the repairing department, which insures first-class work on short notice. If you wish to buy or sell, ring up Tel. John 321.

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The prompt action of Governor Gage in the Modoc lynching and his offer of \$5000 for the apprehension and conviction of the murderers is indeed commendable and shows that the governor is not in sympathy with the mob mania that is now disgracing the whole country. It was the most cold-blooded uncalled for murder that has occurred in this state for years. It is sincerely hoped that the good citizens of Modoc county will assist the authorities in bringing the murderers to justice.

The cold-blooded murder of an old man of 72 years and his sons on a larceny charge is so inhuman that language is inadequate to properly describe it.

Mr. William A. Willyms, a distinguished scholar and linguist and classmate of Archbishop Corrigan, died in New York on the 1st. He was the sacristan of the Roman Catholic church of St. Benedict, the Moor. He was the son of a Virginia slave, and was educated in Rome for the priesthood.

THE RACKET STORE.

The readers of the Liberator, especially the ladies, will find it to their interest to call and examine stock and prices at the Racket Store, 111 and 113 East Colorado street, Pasadena, Cal., before purchasing. They carry a full line of first-class goods. Their five and ten cent counter is unexcelled. Headquarters for toys and children's goods.

When you want anything in gent's furnishing goods don't forget F. B. Silverwood, 221 South Spring street. For hats of every style at prices within the reach of all Silverwood cannot be beat.

The Racket is the place to buy your house furnishings at prices that will make you glad you are living. Courteous treatment, low prices and good goods are the principles we deal on. Come and see for yourself.

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We have made arrangements with the publishers, whereby we can give this splendid book and a year's subscription to "The Liberator" for \$2.00. Price of "The Liberator" alone is \$1.00. On receipt of \$2.00 we will send the book by mail, post-paid, and "The Liberator" one year, to any address in the United States.

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