

The Liberator

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

VOL. V.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., DEC., 1903.

No. 8.



NEW CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING.

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We wish to share in the spirit of Christmas, and as a holiday special we shall sell 350 F. B. Q. business suits at this reduction.

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CHAS. W. ENNIS, 233 South spring Street

The Record Opposed to Industrial Education of the Negro.

Its Editor has a Severe Attack of Negrophobia.

A Wail from the "Lost Cause."

At the base of all the hubbub called the race problem is the steadily increasing disinclination of colored people to do menial labor. Try as we will to shut our eyes to the truth, it is a labor problem at bottom.

No sane white man or white woman has at heart any real fear that social equality of the races will ever come about. The real thing which is objected to, and which is at hand, is industrial equality.

The common idea is that this equality was conferred by the 14th amendment. It is not true. Industrial equality cannot be conferred by law. That can only give equality of opportunity. The freed slaves, spiritless and densely ignorant, were not transformed into skilled labor by legislation. Education was required and a cultivation of an understanding of the purposes and the dignity of labor.

The education has been generously lavished upon the negroes, at the expense of the whites—yes, doubly at their expense, for the education has turned menial servants into industrial equals and competitors.

No fact is more notable than that the first tendency of the half-educated negro is to seek the seemingly easy positions. Pay is a secondary consideration. He leaves the fields and the railroad grades and goes to the town to become a hotel porter or a barber.

With a little education he instantly despises hard labor, and long to be in some brass button brigade. He has not been taught properly to appreciate the purpose and dignity of labor. The hereditary tendency to a life of ease and of display is still in him. One eminent, but harsh, southern sociologist has declared that the race needed another hundred years of slavery to drill that out of them.

Southern newspapers report the continual rise of an unwillingness among young colored women to do housework, since they "wish to be teachers." It is only another demonstration of the same tendency shown by the other sex.

The race problem, reduced to plain English, is the servant problem. In freeing and educating the negroes we have made them our industrial equals and deprived ourselves of a distinctive race that had performed our menial work.

The situation came home in its full force when a little while ago in a southern city a crowd of striking union negroes fired upon a squad of white men who had gone to take their places. In leaping up to industrial equality the negro can ape the white man in more ways than one.

The fault clearly lies in the kind of education given to the negro. He is given too much education of a wrong kind. His unchastened imagination is stimulated, while no sterling qualities of character are drilled in him. He is given glimpses of the higher life and immediately seeks to gain it at a single bound, not being sufficiently taught that it is to be permanently attained only by slow, patient toil of hands and mind and heart.

It requires immolation through many generations of servile toil and humble living to turn savage into man. The educators who seek to turn the negro into a gentleman by a course in college need to be educated themselves in some fundamental principles.

No doubt they mean well and imagine they are doing the negro a great service in setting him to chasing the butterflies of the industrial world. But they would do him an immeasurably better service were they to teach him the dignity and the chastening power of the common labor that his half-made nature can comprehend.—The Los Angeles Record.

The writer of the above evidently set out with the intention to say something "gin the nigger," but every charge he brings against the negro, he unintentionally brings against the white man. What seems to trouble him, is that the negro with his half-made nature is successfully competing with the white man with his whole-made nature. So far as the "race problem" is concerned he hits the bull's eye when he says: "The real thing which is objected to, and which is at hand, is industrial equality." He says, that while the 14th Amendment confers upon the negro equality of opportunity, it does not confer upon him industrial equality.

If equality of opportunity does not carry with it unrestricted right to competition in all of the avenues of industry and trade, what does it mean?

He admits, that the slave of forty years ago is not only the industrial equal, but a serious competitor of the white man with his centuries of freedom and unrestricted opportunity. This speaks well for the negro. He sorrowfully says, the negro leaves the fields and railroad grades and goes to town to become a hotel porter or a barber." If we remember right the last named shades belonged originally to the negro. It is only of late years that white men adopted them and formed unions to crowd the negro out. "With a little education, he despises hard labor," he says. This is to be regretted, but we have known white men with a complete education to show the same antipathy

to hard labor and, before we forget it, we have known white men to leave the railroad grades to adopt the profession of tramping, and some other very naughty trades.

To our mind, it is no more criminal for the negro woman to want to become a teacher, than it is for a white woman, to want to become a teacher. If the southern newspaper editors presume that the educated negro woman is going to cook for five dollars per month just because she is black, when she can earn \$25 per month by teaching and dress making, etc., they are presuming too much upon her color.

Those striking negro union men who fired upon non-union white men because they wanted to work, simply imitated the white union strikers. If those negroes had been white men the Record would have hailed them as patriots for that lawless deed. In Illinois white strikers have frequently destroyed negro colonies, because they wanted to work. It was white strikers that mobbed a defenseless white woman for carrying her husband food while working to give his children bread. The only way to educate a race for menial service is to condemn it to perpetual slavery. Is that what the Record wants for the negro?

We have advised the negroes all along to stay in the country, buy homes and educate their children, not for menials, but fit them to become lords of the land—that is the land they own. But any menial service is preferable to idleness. Better a thousand times live and die a menial than become a gentleman burglar, a forger, counterfeiter, shop-lifter, foot-pad, thief, professional beggar and tramp. To the credit of the negro the Record charges him with none of the above named improprieties, but gently upbraids him for wanting to better his condition by becoming a skilled laborer, for teaching school at \$25 per month instead of cooking at \$5 per month, for wanting light jobs with big pay, such as editing one-cent evening papers, for laboring for a man's money instead of holding him up, for receiving a check as a reward for honest toil instead of forging it, for leaving railroad grades to become hotel porters and barbers instead of tramping.

Now we like the Record people and regret to see them training with the Tillman gang, but if we must, we will turn Baalam over to his asses.

TUSKEGEE WINS.

Tuskegee, Aa., Nov. 27.—The Tuskegee Institute foot ball team on Thanksgiving day, by a score of 5 to 0, defeated the Fish University eleven on the Tuskegee Institute grounds. The Fish representatives have been regarded for many years as the unbeaten colored team of the country. Not less than 2,000 people were in attendance.

JEALOUS WHITE GIRL.

Kills Her Colored Rival in West Virginia.

Both in Love With a Colored Man—White Woman is Arrested by the Police.

Parkersburg, W. Va., Nov. 14—Mabel Barnes, a white girl, lay in wait in a dark spot tonight for Perey Jones, a colored girl, attacked her with a knife and cut her throat, killing her almost instantly.

The two girls were in love with a colored man, and jealously of the colored girl prompted the Barnes girl to commit the crime. The Barnes girl is under arrest.—Memphis Appeal.

There will be no lynching, the negro girl is dead and the black bone of the contention took himself to the tall timber, believing that there could be no harm in such a move. Reverse the case and the girl would be tortured to death in true Southern style. The truth is slowly coming to light. The author of the miscegenation laws is the father of all the crimes resulting therefrom. It made the old rape dodge necessary and this dodge was used as a justification of mob law.

Last year there were 1,846 marriages between whites and negroes in New York state. Nine hundred and twenty white men married negro women and 928 white women married negro men.

So far as the negro is concerned there is no rape racket in New York. There is no law in that state making the rape dodge necessary. See?

"PAY RENT TO YOURSELF."

Noonday Meeting Held Yesterday at the Pacific Electric Shops by Francis Murphy.

Francis Murphy held an enthusiastic meeting yesterday noon at the Pacific Electric Railway shops, where he had an audience of more than one hundred men. He admonished them to save their money now while times are so prosperous, to love their wives and make home happy.

"Save your money," he said, "and buy a little home of your own; stop paying rent to the other fellow, and pay rent to yourself."

The men were so well pleased with the talk of the veteran hero of the blue ribbon that they voted with a shout to have him come again, and he announced another meeting at noon on November 24. On next Tuesday at the same hour he will talk at the Bishop Cracker Factory.

The Murphy prayer meeting, which was held for the first time in the Art Room at Blanchard Hall, last Thursday evening, was attended by more than seventy people, and provision will be made for more people tomorrow evening in the same rooms. This meeting for more than a year was held from house to house until it entirely outgrew the accommodations.—The Times.

We trust that our colored readers will read the above, paste it in their hats and govern themselves accordingly. Whatever is good for the white man is good for the negro. It is especially so in this case, as the negro has no millionaire friend to give him employment he must save his earnings looking to a time when he can employ himself.

ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

HOTEL JONES has been re-opened in a new brick block. Everything is up-to-date. Jones needs no recommendation.

* * *

The habit of some cheap little negroes of speaking evil of every negro that is trying to do something for himself and race, is a vicious one and injures mainly those negroes who possess it. Every stranger that comes to the city is given to understand which man needs watching, always marking men who stand for manhood and progress. How the fellow is to be pitied, who never speaks well of good men! We pray for these misguided men all the more, because they are mainly ignorant young men who can read and write. Point out to the strangers the beautiful things about this great city. Tell them of our good people and their enterprises. They regard it as a good sign for you to be proud of your home and people.

* * *

It looks as if Doctor Geo. D. Taylor is going to take unto himself a better half. He purchased a lot recently in an aristocratic locality, and is preparing to erect a handsome residence. The doctor enjoys the confidence and best wishes of all who know him. He has a lucrative practice.

* * *

HOTEL COLEMAN, famous for its splendid tables, will entertain its friends and guests with a big Christmas spread, but for a good dinner call any day at 145 San Pedro street.

* * *

VENA & JACOBS has opened a real estate, rental and loan office at 128 N. Main street. Mr. Vena, the head of the firm, is an old well known and reliable citizen. He is a man whose ability and worth is appreciated by the community at large. Mr. Jacobs is a Mississippian. His father was a man of distinction, a friend and co-worker of ex-U. S. Senator Bruce. He is a young man of good habits and is well equipped for the duties of life. His talented mother is one of the club leaders among the ladies of the city.

* * *

Doctor R. G. Martin, late of Memphis, Tenn., has decided to locate in this city and opened an office at 202½ S. Broadway, rooms 211 and 212. The doctor is a scholarly, affable gentleman.

THE GOLDEN GATE LAWN CO. is making success in gardening and land-

scaping. The firm employs already a good force of men. Messrs. J. E. Lewis and J. W. E. Wright are managers and contractors. See their car elsewhere.

* * *

Attorney Charles P. Lee has opened a law office in the Wilson Block, corner Spring and First streets, rooms 213 and 214. That his ability is being appreciated is shown by the business he is doing.

* *

Mrs. K. E. Bradley has been typewriting for Miss Warner during the evenings to help her meet the demands on her office for work. Miss Bradley is coming to the front as an expert.

* * *

MR. C. W. BROOKS, an enterprising young carpenter and builder of Natchez, Miss., bought, through J. L. Edmonds, five acres of land at Sawtelle; price \$1500, cash. Mr. Brooks made an extensive trip through California last summer, and on his return home he spent some time in Southern California, visiting all points of interest around the city. He visited Sawtelle accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Stewart, of Natchez, as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Edmonds. He knows a good thing when he sees it. Sawtelle, the site of the National Soldiers' Home, is situated 14 miles from this city, and four miles from the ocean, is surrounded by the finest agricultural country on the globe. It is in the center of the immense bean fields that bids fair to surpass those of Ventura in extent, production and profit. Two railroads, steam and electric, connect it with both this city and the ocean.

* * *

MR. L. L. STEWART has purchased a lot on W. 36th street, near Central avenue. Consideration \$450 cash. Mr. Stewart came here last summer from Natchez, Miss., bringing with him an accomplished young wife. He will soon erect a cottage on his property. Mr. Stewart is an employ of the Blinn Lumber Co. He is a lumberman and has the confidence of the firm.

* * *

Mr. J. L. Thornton has purchased a nice cottage at 1455 E. 21st street, and so the good work goes on.

* * *

Mr. J. H. Jamison, the successful scrap iron broker, visited Bakersfield recently and bought three car loads of scrap. He is one of the heaviest dealers in scrap in Southern California.

* * *

Mr. and Mrs. Jonas Bright are smiling over the arrival of a daughter. Mr. Bright's home is now really, bright. Young Miss Bright was born at her own home and, it is hoped, that every little colored baby of the future will be equally fortunate.

THE LIBERATOR.

J. L. EDMUNDS, Editor and Business Manager.

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HOW TO WRITE FOR THE LIBERATOR.

Write only on one side of your paper. Published monthly at Los Angeles. Office 218 West Sixth Street. Editor's address, Sawtelle, Cal. TEL. PETER 7231.

OUR TICKET FOR 1904.

For President of the United States, Theodore Roosevelt, of New York.

For Vice-President, Gen. Harrison Gray Otis, of California, or Governor Durbin, of Indiana,

DON'T LOOK UPON THE NEGRO AS INFERIOR.

An editorial from the Record, published elsewhere in these columns, furnishes food thought. The attempt of certain whites to deny the negro his rights, to deny him the opportunity to develop himself along industrial, intellectual and other lines, is not made because they regard him as an inferior, but because they believe him to be just opposite of what they claim. If this class really believed the negro to be inferior they would give him every opportunity to prove it. If they believed what they preach they would open the doors of all of their societies for mental and moral culture to him as they have done to the Mexicans, Chinese, Japs and Indians. In every school or in-

stitution for co-education of the races the negro receives more than his share of class honors. This can not be said of the others. Side by side the white man and the negro have fought all of the country's battles, they furnished the labor and skill that has produced its great wealth. They furnished all the presidents, governors, jurists, senators and congressmen the nation has had. The eminent lawyers, soldiers, orators, doctors, scientists, inventors and financiers of the country have been either whites or negroes. The contest for supremacy has been between them and them alone. Wherever the negro has had an even chance he has proven himself to be the equal of the white man. The whole fight of his enemies now is to keep him from having an equal chance. This class of whites love the negro as a menial in spite of his black skin. Those whites who hate the negro worst as a man, loved him so well as a menial that they raise children by negro women, even if they had to kill the negro to do it.

As a servant, they can swallow the negro, skin and all. This howl about the "race problem," "negro inferiority," is a raw, base subterfuge and every now and then Tillman or some member of his gang admits the truth of it. Sometime ago ex-Gov. Northern, of Georgia, gave the lie to the whole gang in an interview. It is the negro's ability to get on in the world that they fear. They believe less in the inferiority of the negro than the negro does.

If the negro's faith in himself was as strong as these whites is, he would work wonders. A man worthy of the name does not worry about his inferiors except to give them a square deal. Only a coward will strike the fellow that's down.

The plea of the Tillman, Gorman, Vardaman, Carmack gang that ten million negroes, inferiors, created only to serve, must be disfranchised, chained hand and foot, to keep them from dominating sixty million white people, inherently superior, created to rule, ought to be an insult to American manhood. The negro needs no class legislation to help him in the race. All he asks is the enforcement of the laws. He leaves the little matter of social equality and similar trifles to puzzle the brains of small white folks.

THE HERALD SOUVENIR DIRECTORY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA is the most valuable reference book of this section in print. It places at your finger tips any information relative to the business and business men of this great section. As an advertisement of Southern California it's a hummer. Its cuts and illustrations are superb. If you desire to send your eastern friends something that they will appreciate, send them THE HERALD'S SOUVENIR DIRECTORY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.

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TRAVELS IN FOREIGN LANDS.

We are pleased to announce to the readers of The Liberator that we have secured the services of Attorney C. P. Lee to write for this journal a series of articles on his travels in foreign lands, commencing with the January number. Besides other illustrations these articles will be accompanied by cuts of distinguished colored men in England, France, Germany, Spain and countries of Europe. With these articles and accompanying illustrations each edition of The Liberator will be a souvenir. Mr. Lee is a brilliant orator, a forceful, entertaining writer.

THANKS.

This edition would not be complete without our thanks to the readers and friends of this journal for their generous support both financial and moral. We thank the young ladies especially for their loyalty. The young men have followed suit nobly, by not only subscribing for it for themselves, but several have paid subscriptions for distant friends and girls they have left behind. Two gentlemen paid four subscriptions each in order to spread the gospel it preaches. The revenue derived from sale of papers to be sent to distant friends is considerable.

So our friends have aided in extending the circulation in many ways for which we extend them our sincere thanks and wish them all a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

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WANTS TO BE WHITE.

From time to time we notice in the Richmond (Va. Planet and a few other negro papers, which advertises any thing that yields a revenue, the "Before and After" fraud, represented by cuts of kinky hair made straight and black skins made white, by certain recently discovered compounds. As these nostrums are extensively advertised the advertisers must make money or they could not afford the expense. The fact that these fake skin-bleachers and hair straighteners are making money, shows that there are thousands and thousands of cheap negroes who would like to be white.

This class of cheap, ignorant negroes, most of whom can read and write, believe that man hood depends entirely upon the color of the skin and the texture of the hair. In other words they believe that a dark skin and kinky hair is proof of inferiority. This class is not only a disgrace but a detriment to their race. If they could be made white they would only increase the tramp gang. If tramp fraternity were negroes they too would be buying "skin bleach" and "anti kink." But knowing as they do that without those virtues that constitute manhood, the color of the skin cuts little or no figure in the final wind up, they are trying to get even by committing burglary, highway robbery, train wrecking, arson, kidnaping, loafing, begging and stealing. If the people of the "under world" who constitute the ever increasing social evil were negroes they would also swell the demands for "skin bleach" and "anti-kink."

Our mail from time to time contains requests for space to advertise "skin bleach, anti kink," and kindred frauds all of which find their way into the waste basket. We would not, if we could in any way change the pure, unadulterated negro, believing him to be one of God's masterpieces. As long as we see thousands and thousands of people of the so-called superior race in all stages of poverty, who are in the full enjoyment of unrestricted opportunity, we cannot but remain firm in our conviction that superiority consists of some thing more than the color of the skin or the texture of the hair. The happiness that comes from doing good, that comes from living virtuous lives, is enjoyed only by those who do good and live virtuous lives without regard to race or color.

To boil this matter down, if the negroes who are filling the coffers of these skin bleach fakers would spend that money for homes and race schools and churches and spend their idle moments in the cultivation of those virtues that make useful men and women, if they would love their race and support its enterprises, pay for and read race papers and entertain hatred for no race, but love for all, they would soon look about as well as other people. But the

negro editors who allow their papers to be used as mediums to rob their race for sake of gain ought to cease their prattling about the equality of men, while they are teaching them that straight hair and a coat of white wash is necessary to make them equal.



J. B. LOVING,

The man to see, when you want to buy or rent a house, when you want work, or anything to make you happy. 128 North Main.

At the Night School.—Messrs. Emanuel Hall, John Mosee, M. G. Downey, Clarence Ward, Elzie Irvin and J. L. Edmonds Jr. are students at the Spring street night school. They work during the day and go to school at night. They belong to the class out of which the men of the future will come. Such pluck as they possessed surmounts all obstacles and never knows defeat. Such a desire for knowledge will not go unrewarded. Knowledge thus acquired will make room for its possessor. The country is full of lost men, living dead men, who were sent to school, while its business is being conducted almost wholly by men who went to school. Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, James A. Garfield and Booker T. Washington went to school. Lincoln went to school six months. Douglass went to school to himself. Booker T. Washington walked several hundred miles to get there and then worked his way through. The way of self help starts out lowly, but it is the path the most illustrious have trodden.

LYNCHERS MAY BE LYNCHED.

The officers of the law at Lynchburg, Tenn., have decided to protect the lives of white men and women in that little city and community by protecting those of the negroes. That is about the only way it can be done. Fourteen murder-

ers who took part in lynching a negro at that place have been indicted and it is hoped that the whole gang will get what they deserve. If the people of South Carolina had have adopted the same policy in dealing with its "nigger" killers Gonzales might have been spared. Thank God the South is waking up. The enforcement of the laws is her only hope. The man who will murder a negro will murder a white man. The jury that will acquit him in one case will acquit him in the other. Law or anarchy must reign.

LECTURE ON THE LIFE OF MARTIN LUTHER.

Attorney C. P. Lee's lecture on "The Life and Times of Martin Luther," delivered before the Men's Forum on the 6th of this month, was the most eloquent ever listened to by that body. His word pictures were so finely drawn, his description so vivid, his eloquence so fevid, his language so chaste, his words so simple and abundant. He carried his audience to the scenes where deeds of that great man's life were performed. His audience saw things as he had seen them and felt as he had felt. They saw the rise and triumphal march of that great monk, as he defied the Pope, potentates and princes, and risked everything for the religious freedom of the human race. After silently looking upon the electrified audiences of that leader and lover of men, the Forum stood with uncovered heads in silence around his sacred tomb. Attorney Lee's application of Luther's life to the needs of the present was an inspiration. The lecture will be repeated. Ample notice will be given.

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