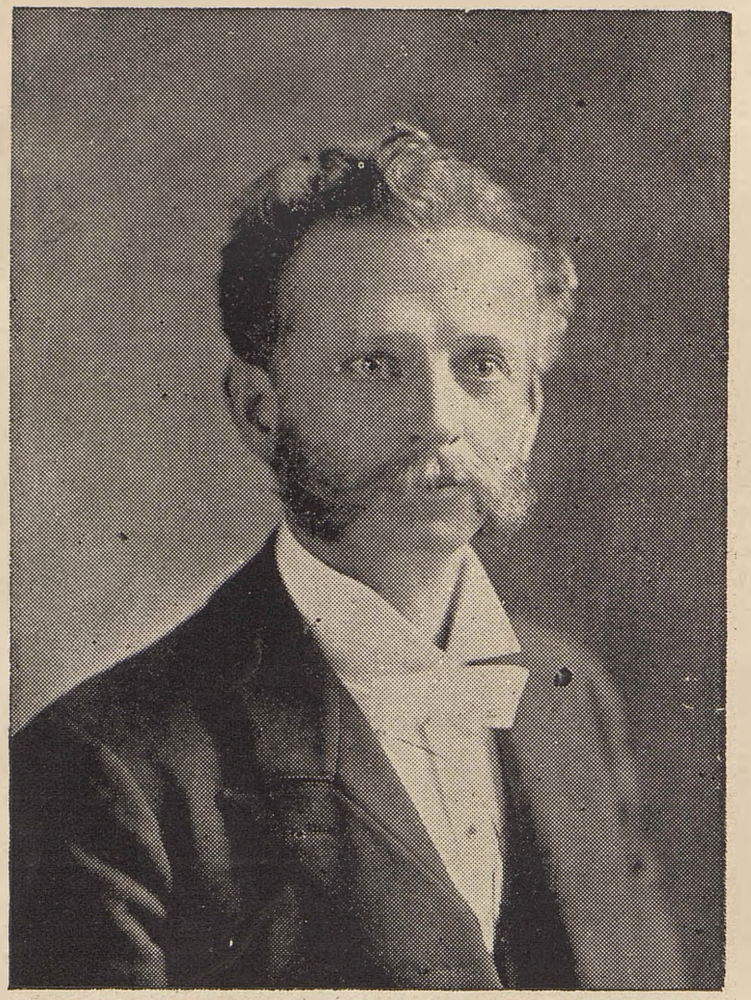
The Liberator

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

VOL. V. LOS ANGELES, CAL., MARCH, 1904. No. 11.

THE WASHINGTON AND HUDDLESTON BLOCK.

This two-story block, 331, 333 and 335 South Spring street, is the most valuable piece of property in the city owned by colored persons. Besides other valuable property this Spring street block gives them an income of $500 per month, or $6000 a year. By the erection of a six or eight story building on the present site, which they contemplate doing, this property can be made to yield an income of $30,000 to $40,000 annually. Its location is one of the most popular as well as the most valuable on Spring street. Almost opposite this property on the northeast corner of Spring and Fourth streets is the new million-dollar Helman block; on the opposite corner stands the immense twelve-story building of the Southern California Bank, with the Angelus Hotel, the finest in Southern California, facing it on the west. This property, which is now valued at $200,000, can easily be made worth a million. The Washington and Huddleson families owe it to themselves and that aristocratic location to put up a modern office block that will be in keeping with its surroundings. This Mr. Washington is very anxious to do. This done, the owners will be millionaires.



By Courtesy of The L. A. Express

MAYOR M. P. SNYDER.

A Memorial Window Dedicated to Mrs. Biddy Mason

Mayor Snyder Delivers the Address

A Fitting Remembrance

His Honor, Mayor Snyder, yesterday afternoon proved his ability as a pulpiteer, and in his efforts at the memorial window dedication at the new First African M. E. Church, he called forth loud acclaims of "Amen!" "Yes, that's so, bless the Lord!" "Yes, indeed, Brother Mayor." The Mayor's address was the feature of the affair. It was a memorial to Mrs. Biddy Mason, an old pioneer of Los Angeles, conceded to have been the richest colored woman west of the Mississippi Valley.

This woman left a record, not alone of remarkable business acumen, considering her opportunities, but also as a great-hearted, charitable Christian, whose good works and lovable character are cherished in the hearts of many pioneers. The memorial window was placed in the new church by her daughter, Mrs. W. H. Washington of Toberman street.

Added to this event was the unveiling of the window to the "Good Shepherd," a contribution of the general congregation which was accomplished with dramatic effect.

The beautiful new church, which would be a credit to any denomination in Los Angeles, was well filled with friends of the Washington family and many who had known Biddy Mason. The choir rendered music, and the invocation led off with a send-off for the Mayor—sort of advance announcement, as it were—in which the petitioner said: "We bless Thee, dear Lord, for a Mayor who don't feel above the citizens of this town and who is willing to come down among us and to speak well of us." (Hearty amens from the brethren.)

Attorney Charles P. Lee, a colored man who was recently admitted to the bar here, presided, and after briefly announcing the purport of this memorial meeting, he gracefully introduced Mayor Snyder.

With all the ease of one used to speaking from the pulpit, Mr. Snyder at once put his hearers in a pleasant frame of mind by referring to his connection with the Methodist denomination.

WHAT THE MAYOR SAID.

"I am not a stranger in a Methodist church," said the Mayor. "I was brought up in the Methodist church and have always attended one. If I have any good in me today, the credit is due to the Methodist church and the instructions I received under its teachings in my youth.

"I am very glad of this opportunity to take part in this service. I am not a minister, but in this beautiful new temple, just being opened, I want to say a word, and that is, that when a church is once dedicated to the worship of Almighty God, it should never be used for any other purpose. (Amens from all parts of the house.)

"I believe it is fitting for me to be here today, as the Mayor of this city, to encourage you in your great work(and to pay my tribute to the good woman whose memory you honor today.

"The work being done by this institution is far-reaching, immeasurable. We have to look to the church for the sustaining power of the best citizenship. It was through the influence of religion that the very liberty we enjoy today was brought about, through the action of the Pilgrim Fathers, and it was through the activity of the church that the sentiment for equal rights was sustained in America.

"I sometimes feel that the church of Christ does not feel its power. If it is directed wholly for the benefit of humanity, and teaches Christ's love for man, it will be invincible, and must succeed; but it must not trifle with its duty.

"Be faithful to this good cause. If a question arises as to right or wrong in your personal conduct, do not act until your conscience is fully satisfied. When you have a clear conscience you may be satisfied that the Lord is not displeased with what you have done.

"Nearly twenty-three years ago it was my privilege to first meet Biddy Mason, or 'Aunt Biddy,' as we all loved to call her. I had come from the home of the colored people, and for some purpose my employer sent me to see Aunt Biddy Mason. The kindly, cheerful greeting of this good soul

made me feel almost that I was again at my old home.

"She was a good woman, and you are fully justified in today honoring her memory with this memorial window. *There are many lessons to be learned from the life of this good woman. One of these is the important one that we must strive against selfishness, the monster which you must fight at every point.*

"Her life was an effort for others. Like Biddy Mason, let us so order our conduct that people in contact with us may not forget us, and that our memories and deeds may shine forth as bright as the evening star. When we are called on to go hence and the tomb awaits these mortal bodies, then may our brothers and sisters say of us, as they say of her, 'He was a good man; she was a good woman.'"

Mayor Snyder closed his address with hearty congratulations to the colored people upon acquiring such a church property, and expressing the wish that its influence for good citizenship and for Christian culture would constantly increase.

Rev. C. H. Anderson, pastor of the Second Baptist Church, paid a tender tribute to the life and influence of Biddy Mason, and stated that she was the first contributor to the building of the first colored Methodist church here years ago, having donated $500 to that cause.

Attorney John W. Kemp, who was in charge of the legal affairs of the Biddy Mason estate, also spoke in glowing terms of the character of this woman, whose influence seems to have touched so many lives, and dwelt upon the nobility of her character.

Mr. Kemp said that the career of Biddy Mason was in many respects remarkable; and that, born a slave, and hampered with many restrictions, she had succeeded in amassing a property that was valued at more than $100,000. "Yet it is not for this property, but her sweet, helpful Christian character that Biddy Mason is remembered," declared Mr. Kemp. "Pioneers all praise her life of good deeds, raising the fallen and helping her race by practical aid and sterling example. Her life has been an inspiration to many, and it is meet that it be commemorated by this memorial window."

VENERABLE CHURCH BUILDER.

Then came one of the picturesque features of the day. Chairman Lee introduced to the congregation a white-haired patriarch, Rev. Peter Green, who stands to the colored Methodists of California in somewhat the same relation that the venerable Moses of old did to the children of Israel. Father Green has been a presiding elder in the church as far back as anyone can remember. His religion is of that the heart and the hands. In the early practical kind that makes use of both of these he began to labor with the scattered colored people of California, and had as his parish the whole coast from San Diego to Washington. With his own hands Father Green built churches at Marysville, Stockton, Red Bluff, and Virginia City; and he was the moving spirit in establishing the work in Los Angeles. When the Methodists were ready to dedicate the new church their thoughts reverted to this venerable father in Israel, who had started the work, and the kindly idea was carried out of sending for him to come down from Martinez, Contra Costa county, to participate with them in the enjoyment of the beautiful new structure.

Bent with the weight of years, and with a voice so weakened that those in the rear of the auditorium could only now and then catch a word, the old man detailed the struggles of early days, and the love of Biddy Mason for the church of Christ, not only her own denomination, but the great body of those who served the Lord. With tears streaming down his face, he pointed first to the picture of the woman, which stood on a draped easel on the platform, and then to the memorial window, and although his words were unheard, the actions of the man were eloquence itself.

The memorial window was formally presented to the church by Mr. Lee and was accepted by the pastor, Rev. J. E. Edwards, who also spoke of the main memorial window to the Good Shepherd, and as he referred to it the cloth which had hidden its beauty was dropped, and the picture of the sheperd and the lambs was presented.

The congregation with one accord began the recitation of the shepherd psalm, with beautiful effect, the words rolling out with volume: "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want," ect., and the organ played softly during the recitation. It was a fitting climax to a unique service.

THE MASON ESTATE.

Among the properties of the Biddy Mason estate are the business houses of Nos. 331, 333 and 335 South Spring street, two-story brick blocks erected by Mrs. Mason in the early '80s. She left her property to her two daughters, Mrs. Ellen Huddleston and Mrs. Harriet Washington.

Biddy Mason was born a slave and came to California in 1851, with twenty other slaves. Her master feared the sentiment of the Pacific Coast, and endeavored to take his slaves back to Georgia with him.

Through the continued efforts of Robert Owen, Sr., the pitiable cases of these slaves was carried through all the courts, and finally Judge Hayes granted them their freedom.—Times, March 6th.

* * *

The wealthy negro whose wealth does not furnish employment for members of his race, is a shabby, worthless negro. He is worse than a good-for-nothing negro.

ITEMS OF LOCAL INTEREST.

There can be no better proof of the rocky path over which the negro newspaper man has to travel than the fact that three capitalists and our captain could not muster cash and courage enough to get out more than one edition of the Pacific Coast Monthly Magazine.

ANDREW CARNEGIE ON THE RACE PROBLEM.

"Now, the wise policy seems obvious. We should agree that the keeping down of millions of people, even if successful, would be destructive to civilized society, and a menace to the State. To treat them as if they had already risen would be equally so; *therefore, an educational test for the suffrage should be adopted and strictly applied, applicable to whites and blacks alike,* for ignorance in the whites is deplorable. There is only one way to make satisfactory members of society, whether white or black, and that is, through education in the widest sense."—Mr. Andrew Carnegie, addressing the meeting in the interest of Hampton Institute, held in the Madison Square Garden Concert Hall, February 12, 1904.

Pomona, Cal., March 7, 1904.

Mr. J. Edmunds, Sawtelle, Cal.

Dear Sir:—You will find enclosed money order for your paper, balance on last year and in full for this year's subscription. Please send it to my home in Los Angeles, as heretofore, and I will get it. Please send it regularly and without fail.

Respectfully yours,

JAMES A. JACKSON.

861 N. Figueroa St.

Since the death of the Pacific Coast Monthly it is rumored that Messrs. Owens and Walker will get "Cap" Crumbly a janitor job at the postoffice. It is even hinted that they think the Captain is better fitted for that position than he is for editing a magazine. It is a good thing to tie up to men with a pull, even if it is a down pull.

* * *

J. L. Edmonds, the editor, has been on the sick list.

PROF. MOORE HERE.

We are pleased to note the arrival of Prof. J. C. Moore and family. They have a fine ranch at Pasadena, where they will reside in the near future. Prof. Moore is connected with the Livingstone College and East Tennessee Industrial School. The Professor has many friends here who will be gratified when he is permanently settled here. There is a place here for a man of his ability and industry.

THE LIBERATOR.

J. L. EDMUNDS, Editor and Business Manager.

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Write only on one side of your paper.

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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,

MOB VIOLENCE INCREASING.

The burning of Hobart and wife at the stake in Mississippi and Bays in Arkansas, all colored, on murder charge and the recent outrage at Springfield, O., are evidence of a disregard for law not witnessed in any other civilized country on earth. In neither case was there the slightest chance of the victims escaping the full penalty of the law, if guilty. Hobart killed Eastland while the latter was trying to kill him. Hobart's wife had nothing to do with the killing and was charged with no offense whatever. She was burned alive after being shockingly tortured. Three other negroes were killed in cold blood by the mob. For a similar killing Bays was burned at the stake in Arkansas, in his father's yard in the presence of his family. The father and mother were compelled to see their son slowly burned alive. While crimes like the above are being committed in broad daylight in the South, without protest from the church or state, the outbreak in Ohio is not to be wondered at. If a mob can burn an innocent negro woman at the stake in Mississippi, without even a protest from those in power in the State and nation, the lawless element of the white population in Ohio or anywhere else in this country can amuse themselves by pumping lead into the body of a negro man charged with killing a white man. The application of the torch to homes of innocent negroes by the mob was done with no more fear of punishment than the boy who applies a lighted match to a bunch of firecrackers.

The growing disregard for the negro's constitutional rights in this country is due mainly to two things: First is the nullification of his rights by Southern Legslatures and by the acton of the United States Supreme Court in declaring constitutional these revolutionary enactments. If the negro appeals to that august body when denied his constitutional rights ,his case is dismissed for want of jurisdiction, and he is told to appeal to Congress; if Congress passes laws for his protection, this same court declares them unconstitutional. From the above it can be seen that the United States Supreme Court has done its full share in increasing mob violence as practiced upon the negroes. As a result, there is an increasing contempt for all laws; crimes of every kind are on the increase, life is daily becoming cheaper, and American civilization a stench in the nostrils of the Turk.

Elsewhere in these calumns will be found the speech of Mayor Snyder, delivered at the dedication of a window to the memory of Mrs. Biddy Mason by Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Washington. In that speech the Mayor said many things the colored people can remember with profit. The Mayor is a man of destiny and may yet be Governor of this State. He has ably served the city three times as Mayor and is prominently mentioned for a fourth term. He is the first man to be three times elected Mayor, and as such welcomed two Presidents of the United States to the city.

* * *

The Archlight, a neat four-page weekly paper published at El Paso, Tex., is on our exchange list. It is nicely gotten up and reflects credit upon its publisher, Mr. H. C. Allen.

* * *

The last number of Facts, the organ of the open-shop printers, contains much food for thought. It contains many "Facts" that are worthy of remembrance.

* * *

Mrs. Green F. Owens of Boyle Heights, who is doing a thriving real estate business, has added another story to her handsome home on New Jersey street. It is the most attractive cottage in that locality.

* * *

We are pleased to acknowledge receipt of "Gems of Colorado Scenery," sent us by an old friend, Mr. F. J. Loper of Colorado Springs, Colo. Mr. Loper is a Mississippian who went to Colorado many years ago and has succeeded well in the hotel business. On our visit to Colorado Springs in 1900 we were the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Loper. It was due to Mr. Loper's hospitality that we were enabled to see the sights around that beautiful city. The mountain scenery around that city is unsurpassed.

* * *

Miss Mildred Howard will please accept our sincere thanks for $1 sent us in payment for a year's subscription.

We have received many similar favors from friends all over the country during the month, but Miss Howard being the first young lady for the new year, we owe her this personal mention. We are equally grateful to our other friends.

* * *

The suckers caught by the defunct Pacific Coast Monthly are thinking of calling a mass meeting to devise ways and means of recovering their subscription money. Some of them called on a lawyer to see if those capitalists couldn't be forced to disgorge or continue the publication of that female eye-painter.

"A fool and his money soon parts."

* * *

Mr. L. L. Stewart, who secured a position with the Southwestern Lumber Company through the kindness of Mr. W. A. Brown of Mullen & Bluett, the clothiers, is doing nicely. The Brooks brothers of Natchez, Miss., who are building a fine home at Sawtelle, bought the lumber of this company because Mr. Stewart is employed there. The colored people of this city and vicinity are building many houses and it would be well for them to patronize this company, because it is reliable and at the same time gives employment to members of the race.

UNPRECEDENTED SALES.

The sales of the industrial edition of The Liberator were entirely beyond our most sanguine expectations. Almost before the forms had returned from the pressman the first edition, though a large one, had been exhausted and a second one ordered. The sale of the second edition continues unabated and will soon be exhausted. Its circulation covered the entire country and parts of Europe and has added many names to our subscription list covering every section of the country.

We are under many obligations to Messrs. G. W. Snell, Thomas Williamson, Charles Oliver and friends in San Francisco for valuable services rendered. Those desiring copies should order them at once. Rooms 213 and 214, Wilson block, corner Spring and First streets, The Liberator's information bureau. Price 10 cents.

SUPPLEMENT

A SPLENDID SHOWING.

Some weeks ago The Herald called attention to the fact that the colored citizens of Los Angeles were making a fine record in the way of material progress; that they included among their number business and professional men, tradesmen, mechanics; in short, that the colored man was by no means confining his attention to whitewashing, sewer digging, porter's work and similar menial occupations.

The half was not told. The current number of the Liberator is a revelation of colored industry and progress. Publisher Edmonds presents handsome halftones and write-ups of more than a score of well-established businesses and there are doubtless many more besides these.

On the first page is presented a picture of the First A. M. E. church with a membership of over 400, costing $25,000. Among the business houses are several real estate and rental firms, doctors, stove and hardware stores, grocery, butcher shop, crockery store, barber shop; stenographer and typewriter, van and storage, newspaper, hotels and lodging houses, dentist, furniture store, blacksmith shop, fruit and vegetable store, all owned and operated by colored men and women. Pictures are also presented of several homes belonging to colored men that are a credit to the community.

The Herald heartily congratulates the negroes of Los Angeles upon the splendid showing they are making, and Publisher Edmonds upon the acumen and good judgment that resulted in such a notable edition of the Liberator. It would also repeat its previously expressed conviction that the colored men and women who are thus advancing themselves and their race are troubled by no personal race problem; that when they show a disposition to "do things" in a material way they find few obstacles placed in their way; that opportunity presents itself to the negro no less than to the white man, and that fortune's smiles are no less generously bestowed. —The Herald.

ENTERPRISE OF COLORED PEOPLE.

The Liberator, a monthly paper published by J. L. Edmunds for the advancement of the interests of the colored race in Southern California, has just issued a handsomely illustrated edition of twenty pages, showing the progress the colored people are making in Los Angeles in a business way and in securing homes. The interiors of several pretentious business establishments are shown, and there is a fine array of handsome residences, all of them owned by colored people. The Liberator is preaching practical sermons to the colored people in emphasizing the need of saving their wages and investing them in homes of their own. —The Times.

The February edition of the Liberator eclipses all previous efforts of that enterprising journal. It is a gem in its every feature. The reading matter is entertaining and instructive. The mechanical part is tastily "made up" and the cuts are pleasing to the eye and encouraging to the heart of every one who is interested in the signal success of the negro citizen in Los Angeles. We are sure that this illustrative issue of the Liberator has been an eye-opener to many who walk our streets daily unaware of the steady advance of our people.—The Enterprise.

REV. C. H. ANDERSON.

When we say that Rev. C. H. Anderson is in many respects the foremost colored minister on the Pacific Coast a statement is made that those who know him will verify. He is not only foremost as a church builder, but as a home builder and a worthy citizen. While looking after the moral well-being of his people, he has not forgotten their temporal welfare. He is broad, progressive, enterprising and teaches by example as well as by word. He believes the people who own their homes and depend upon themselves make better Christians than the dependent and shiftless. The colored settlement at Vineland is the result of his efforts to better the condition of his followers by securing homes for them where they can be self-supporting. He is leader of the movement by the Western Baptist Association to found an "Old Folks' Home" for old and dependent colored people. This has the support of the entire Baptist denomination and bids fair to succeed, as Rev. Anderson and his people always do.

On his lot, corner New Jersey street and Evergreen avenue, he is erecting a handsome building, a store below and a flat above. The Second Baptist Church, of which Rev. Anderson is pastor, is the largest colored congregation in the city. The old church being too small, they will soon commence the erection of a new church, corner Fourteenth and Paloma streets to cost $30,000.

SAWTELLE.

This coming little city has been honored in the past month by several distinguished colored visitors, who are looking over Southern California for business opportunities. Mrs. Fannie Mitchell of Wilberforce, Ohio, and Mrs. Jas. M. Vena of Los Angeles were pleasant and interested visitors. After being driven through the beautiful Soldiers' Home grounds and other places of interest by the editor of this journal, luncheon was served at the Edmonds Villa. After which the party was driven to Santa Monica, where they boarded a car for the city. The rain prevented the ladies from visiting the Sawtelle strawberry fields, where strawberries are shipped to the market 365 days in the year. To see ripe tomatoes on the vines and cabbages, peas and potatoes all growing in the open air in the month of February was quite a contrast to the snow and ice Mrs. Mitchell had left in Ohio. With Madames Mitchell and Vena came one of the biggest rains Sawtelle has received during the season. Visitors to Sawtelle are always welcome, especially of the Mitchell-Vena and rain sort.

* * *

Mr. L. N. Sessions was also o pleasant visitor. He found us at the plow. After luncheon we turned the faithful old horse to grass, as Mr. Sessions preferred to stay close to soil to better examine it. We took him for a walk through the gardens and berry fields. Like all visitors to this nlad of Goshen, he was simply delighted with its soil and products. Mr. Sessions is the husband of Mrs. L. N. Sessions, a distinguished scholar and educator, who recently settled in Los Angeles. He is an old Mississippian and friend of Bruce and Lynch.

Mrs. L. L. Stewart spent several days here as the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Edmonds. The change from the city to our warm salt ocean air proved very beneficial to her.

Messrs. E. M. and Theodore Brooks of Natchez, Miss., brothers of Mr. C. W. Brooks of that city, who recently purchased five acres of valuable lands at this place, are guests at the Edmonds Villa. Mr. Brooks has commenced the erection of a modern cottage on the property. It will be, when completed, one of the neatest cottages in the village. The Brookses are all carpenters and men of means. Mr. E. M. Brooks has been engaged in the shoe business and says that he knows more about shoes than house building. That these gentlemen are enterprising and far-seeing is shown by their Sawtelle investment. The whole family, consisting of six persons, will come here to live. Gov. Vardaman is putting in his work. Vardaman and his kind are driving from the South its most desirable colored citizens—men of intelligence and enterprise and means. We have here in California plenty of room for men of the Brooks stamp.

Prof. Booker T. Washington's appeal to the South and the country for the suppression of mob violence and the distribution of equal and exact justice to all is both patriotic and manly. But we fear that his appeal to the South is in vain. In all probability history in this case will repeat itself. The South may have to have another Appomattox. This country has never done anything for the negro except what it has been forced to do for its own preservation.

Bishop Lee's lecture on the "Old and New Negro," delivered at the First A. M. E. Church, paid handsomely every person who heard it. It was indeed the gospel of work, the gospel of good character, the gospel of right living, of self-respect, of doing something and being something. Bishop Lee is the most practical of the A. M. E. Bishops that we have had the good fortune to meet, Bishop Turner excepted. The gospel preached by Bishops Lee and Clinton is the kind that the masses of the colored people need. It is the Booker Washington gospel—a gospel that fits a man for dying by first fitting him for living.

LOCAL ITEMS.

Mr. R. C. Owens bought of Williamson Bros., 327 South Spring street, a beautiful Behr piano. The Behr is the finest make of pianos. One of them graces the parlor of the Waldorf Hotel, New York. Mr. W. H. Washington called at Williamson Bros. to examine and perhaps purchase one of these popular pianos, but there was not one in stock, the new shipment not having arrived.

Sudden Death of the Pacific Coast Montly Magazine

Death Due to an Over Dose of Coagulation.

Interment Private.

The sudden death of the Pacific Coast Monthly, a so-called magazine published by R. C. Owens, *capitalist*. Eugene Walker, *merchant tailor*, and J. L. Holt, *enterprising business man*, was a sledgehammer blow to the suckers who had pungled up a dollar each for a monthly description of charming female peepers. The end came peacefully at 13 minutes past 10 o'clock a. m., February 13. Its demise marks the premature busting of another fake bubble—another scheme to get something for nothing has petered out and left its promoters in the condition of Aesop's frog, whose carcass was wrecked by overinflation.

It was an immense wind castle. Captain Crumbly, whose experience makes him an authority on scintillating female optics, was put in charge. With hearts for trumps he was to corral all of the women by flashy descriptions of female charms. With all of the women on his string, the conquest of the outwitted men would be a mere trifle. And the other little negro editors—well, they would be forgotten.

With visions of endless banquets flowing with red wine and sparkling champagne, with scores of charming women in hair-pulling rivalry for an opportunity to bask in his smile; with undying fame beckoning from every wind that blew, "Cap" took up his pen with the eagerness of one bent on earning his "grub stake." Cap rubbed it on thick; so thick that it took every word in the old "blue back speller" to describe the paralyzing charms of one or two dark-eyed beauties. This put all the other women on the war path and poor Cap's goose was cooked. Instead of smiles, his horizon was dark with female frowns. There is nothing so blighting as a woman's frown. Having staked everything on one roll of the dice and lost, Cap looked as crestfallen as a boy whose popping cracker busted when he was lighting it.

After Cap had distributed fifty or a hundred copies of the journalistic freak bound in flaming red covers in imitation of the muslin used by the old Dutch kidnapers, the owner of the would-be journal, the chief moguls, rode about the city with an air of importance equaled only by the eagle man when mounted on horseback in a fiesta parade. They rode forth like conquerors reviewing the spoils of conquest, only to find that they were the spoils—the victims of a costly self-coagulation. After visitng the barber shops to see what they could hear of their publication and finding it lying around like an old last year's almanac, they returned to their rendezvous in the condition a ballooon that had just finished its journey. The *See me?* air that had previously pervaded the atmosphere around them had departed forever. People are no longer compelled to get off the sidewalks to pass them.

After ascertaining the extent of the ruin that had overtaken their ambition, a secret council was called, to which the supining, cringing editor was summoned. As soon as the full extent of the casualties were known the editor was flung onto the mercies of a mob of angry women with no hope of appeasing their wrath by less select "write-ups" in his next edition.

While there are a diversity of opinions as to the cause of its death, all are agreed that wind baby is dead.

Aside from the four principal mourners there are a few wet nurses who have been sucked to the tune of one dollar apiece for subscription. *Peace to its ashes and charity for its daddies.*

THE NEGRO'S RIGHT TO JURY REPRESENTATION.

The statement which follows has been prepared by Mr. Wilford H. Smith, attorney-at-law, 150 Nassau St., New York. Mr. Smith, it will be remembered, had charge of the Dan Rogers case which came up from Alabama and which was recently decided by the United States Supreme Court, and also of the Seth Carter case, which came up from Texas, both of which cases were decided in compliance with the contention made to give negroes of the country the unquestioned right to be represented upon juries and not to be discriminated against when members of the race are on trial. It is strongly urged that our people insist through their attorneys upon this right to be represented upon juries in all cases where their interests are at stake. It is further urged that the information contained in this circular be circulated as widely as possible through the agency of the press, the pulpit, and in all ways where it will reach the masses of the negro people.

To the Colored People of the South:

The Supreme Court of the United States has decided in the recent cases of Rogers vs. Alabama, and Carter vs. Texas, that the exclusion of qualified negroes from jury service on grand and petit juries on account of their race and color, is a denial to negroes on trial, in courts where such exclusion is allowed, the equal protection of the law; and the trial and conviction of a negro under such circumstances will be set aside and annulled, as being in violation of the 14th amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The same is also true in a civil court, and a verdict against a negro in a civil trial in a court where such discrimination is allowed, will be set aside on appeal or writ of error to the Supreme Court of the United States.

You should avail yourselves of the benefit of these decisions by moving to quash all indictments and panels of petit juries in criminal and civil cases, in courts where competent members of your race are excluded from jury service. If the community in which you live, or the court in which you are tried is not willing to concede representation on the juries to the competent of your race, which is a right guaranteed by the Federal Constitution, there can be very little reason to hope that your case will be fairly and impartially considered in such a community or by such a court.

In most communities in the South you have no representation in the making of the law, and for that reason you should not fail to avail yourselves of your right to have a voice in its administration. You are so vitally affected in your lives, liberty and property by the law and its administration, that you should not be willing to give up all right to representation in these matters even to your most trusted friends.

Then, too, it tends to bring upon the American negro the scorn and contempt of the foreign element from every land, when they come into communities where negroes are in large numbers, claiming to be American citizens, and yet find that they have no voice in law-making bodies, nor in the courts of the country.

This is no contention for social equality, but for manhood rights under the law, which you neglect with safety to the liberties of yourselves and your children.

A PROTEST AGAINST THE BURNING AND LYNCHING OF NEGROES.

BY BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

(The following letter was originally printed in the Birmingham Age-Herald, Monday, February 29, 1904, and was also sent out by the Associated Press to the newspapers of the country:)

Within the last fortnight three members of my race have been burned at the stake; of these one was a woman. Not one of the three was charged with any crime even remotely connected with the abuse of a white woman. In every case murder was the sole accusation. All of these burnings took place in broad daylight and two of them occurred on Sunday afternoon in sight of a Christian church.

In the midst of the nation's busy and prosperous life few, I fear, take time to consider where these brutal and inhuman crimes are leading us. The custom of burning human beings has become so common as scarcely to excite interest or attract unusual attention.

I have always been among those who condemned in the strongest terms crimes of whatever character committed by members of my race, and I condemn them now with equal severity; but I maintain that the only protection of our

civilization is a fair and calm trial of all people charged with crime and in their legal punishment if proved guilty.

There is no shadow of excuse for departure from legal methods in the cases of individuals accused of murder. The laws are as a rule made by the white people, and their execution is in the hands of the white people; so that there is little probability of any guilty colored man escaping.

These burnings without a trial are in the deepest sense unjust to my race; but it is not this injustice alone which stirs my heart. These barbarous scenes, followed, as they are, by publication of the shocking details are more disgraceful and degrading to the people who inflict the punishment than those who receive it.

If the law is disregarded when a negro is concerned, it will soon be disregarded when a white man is concerned; and, besides, the rule of the mob destroys the friendly relations which should exist between the races and injures and interferes with the material prosperity of the communities concerned.

Worst of all these outrages take place in communities where there are Christian churches; in the midst of people who have their Sunday schools, their Christian Endeavor Societies and Young Men's Christian Associations, where collections are taken up for sending missionaries to Africa and China and the rest of the so-called heathen world.

Is it not possible for pulpit and press to speak out against these burnings in a manner that shall arouse a public sentiment that will compel the mob to cease insulting our courts, our Governors and legal authority; cease bringing shame and ridicule upon our Christian civilization?

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.
Tuskegee, Ala., February 22, 1904.