

The Liberator

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

VOL. III.

LOS ANGELES, CAL., MARCH, 1907

No. 9.



MAYOR SNYDER.

The man of the people and for the people is Mayor Snyder. In refusing to sign the blanket franchise that was unlawfully sold to the Huntington-Hellman syndicate he exhibited a firmness and courage that has won for him the lasting gratitude of his fellow citizens regardless of political affiliation. The people realize now more than ever that they made no mistake in electing him over the united opposition of the daily papers of the city. By their laudation of our Spartan mayor these papers admit that they were saved in spite of themselves. Had the mayor been defeated in the

last election the people would have lost this contest and thirteen miles of our streets would have been turned into highways for hauling freight and the value of millions of dollars worth of property would have been almost permanently decreased. The fight this journal made for the mayor was not in vain. We felt then that we were making the peoples' fight. Now we know it. Mayor Snyder has come fully up to our estimate of him. He is indeed the peoples' man and hundreds of republicans have already signified their intention of voting for him if he receives the democratic nomination for governor next summer. If he is nominated the democratic party will enter the next campaign with more than a fighting chance.

MRS. W. L. GRAVES.

The attack Mrs. Graves made upon the good name of the whole negro race before the "Friday Morning Club" was the most bitter ever witnessed in this city. What pleasure she can find in trying to stir up strife between the races in this section is past finding out. In her tirade of abuse there is not a single statement that can be supported by facts. Her statement that crime is on the increase among the negroes is equally true of the white race. She charges the negro with political corruption. If the negro sold his vote who bought it? In this case what is the difference between the buyer and seller? If the negro's vote was for sale what caused the election riots in the South that followed the suppression of the Ku Klux Klan? It is certain the negro did not sell his vote then. Since 1875 he has had no vote to sell. She charges the negro with being immoral and cites the mulatto population as a proof. Will some of the negro haters inform us how these mulattoes came here? Why are all the mulattoes born in the South? Why is it that the number of mulatto children born in the South now are not so large as it was during the days of slavery? Did the fathers of these mulattoes elevate or lower the moral status of the mothers of these mulattoes? This howl that is continually coming up from the South about "social equality, intermarriage," etc., naturally suggests these questions to those who are acquainted with the heavy mulatto population of that section.

Mr. James M. Vena has well said "Equality of opportunity is all that is desired by us. Social equality will take care of itself." Ah, that is the rub!

Harroll & Greenly, funeral directors and Embalmers—Parlors, 232 East Fourth street, Los Angeles, Cal. Lady assistant. Open day and night. Phone Peter 4801.



DOCTOR BOWERS.

The Creation of the Negro Discussed.

LETTER FROM DR. BOWERS.

Editor Liberator: Referring to my article in the Ram's Horn of December 7th, on the recent origin of man, you do me an injustice. You head your article "Dr. Stephen Bowers Does Not Believe the Bible Story of the Creation of Man." You seem to infer thsi from my declaration that there may have been different centers of creation; that the Bible gives us a history of the Adamic pair and their descendants from which the Saviour of the world was to spring; and that it was my belief that the African race began its existence previous to that of the white race.

I base this belief on two or three particulars. Some of the oldest monuments of Egypt, dating back several thousand years from our time, and within at least 2000 years of the creation of Adam, contain pictures of Afri-

cans which are exactly typical of the negro of the jungles of Africa today. He has a black skin, crisp hair, receding forehead, flattened nose, tumaceous lips, prognathous jaws, long femers (and doubtless oblique pelvis, and all the other characteristics that differentiate the two races) exactly as the typical African of the present time. Now, my contention is that as in the last, probably, 6000 years there has been no apparent change in the African of pure blood, it is not at all probable there was in the preceding 2000 years. Hence the African could not have sprung from the white race.

The Hebrew word Adamah, from which the word Adam is derived, means red or reddish, a color that characterizes what is termed the "white race." The Indian is not the "red man," but is copper-colored, as are all mongoloids; but the white man is the red man, properly speaking. He still retains the color in which he was created, and doubtless the African does also. No disgrace can be attached to

the color of the skin, for we are exactly as God created us, and He makes no mistakes.

You say: "The learned doctor does not believe the Scriptural declaration that God created all men of one flesh." There is no such declaration in the Bible, to my knowledge. Paul said: "And hath made of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth," etc. But he does not say that they all descended from the same pair. The biologist will tell you that the blood corpuscles in man differ from that of the lower animals, but the blood of all human races seem to be of the same kind. It would, therefore, be proper to say, "And hath made of one kind of blood all nations," etc.

The relation between the races is that they are all human beings regardless of the colors of their skins; they have the same responsibility to their Creator and they have the same destiny. God is no respecter of persons, and looks on the heart, not on the color of the skin. The fact that there may have been different centers of creation "does not affect the oneness of human nature nor the general destiny of man." The first chapters of Genesis intimate that there were people living upon this earth when the Adamic pair were created. Whether white, black or copper-colored we have no positive means of knowing.

Permit me to say in conclusion that after long study of the Bible story of creation in the light of science, philosophy and critical exegesis, I most cordially believe it; and not only the creation story but every declaration found within that Sacred Book. It is God's volume to man, of every race and color, to aid him in extricating himself from the difficulties in which his fall has placed him, and to find his way to a better life.

STEPHEN BOWERS.

Los Angeles, Dec. 31, 1901.

Elsewhere in these columns will be found an interesting letter from Doctor Bowers, in reply to a criticism in this journal of his "Ram's Horn" article on the "Recent Origin of Man," in which the learned doctor declares it to be his belief "That the negro is an independent creation." In his attempt to extricate himself the doctor seems to have

gotten into a worse tangle. He no longer "delves in the solitary rocks" of California, but has carried the war into Africa and in headlong dash to the pyramids of Egypt he left his rear to the mercy of his foes.

Genesis 3:20 says, "And Adam called his wife's name Eve because she was the mother of all living." Again Genesis 7:21 and 22, "And all flesh died that moved upon the earth, both of fowl, and of cattle, and of beast and of every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth, and every man." "All in whose nostrils was the breath of life, of all was in the dry land, died."

Now, if the negro is an independent creation and his creation antedates that of Adam he must have been extinct when "Adam named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all living." According to Genesis 7:13 there were only eight persons saved in the ark. Now, if this is true, where was the negro? Did God have two creations of the negro, one before Adam and the other after the flood? We can neither deny or verify statements found in the Bible by studying pictures carved on monuments erected by forgotten Egyptians. A study of those prodigious monuments as they relate to the crumbled power of ancient Egypt and demonstrate the mutability of human power and greatness, they teach an important lesson. They prove that power and oppression cannot perpetuate the memory of nations or individuals. Immutability from the ravages of time and oblivion can be secured, not by doubting the Scriptures, but by following their precepts. The master and slave lie down together in the dust of oblivion and succeeding generations gaze with awe upon the monuments erected by the slave to perpetuate the memory of the master without knowing master from slave.

A NEW ESTABLISHMENT.

Messrs. Harroll & Greenby, both of San Francisco, have opened undertaking parlors at 232 East Fourth street. They have a neat, up-to-date establishment; in fact, as neat as is to be found in the city. They are prepared and will give satisfactory service. Both of these gentlemen are undertakers by profession. Parlors 232 East Fourth street. Phone Peter 4801. Lady assistant.

Sheriff Hammel's Deputy Quits.

"4 Sworn Democrats,"

"Not according
to His
'NOTATION.'"

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Jan. 15, 1902.
to the President and officers of the
Coloered Buisness Men Association,
225½ S. Spring St., L. A. City.
Dear Sir

Your notice of the meeting call for Jan. 16th recived and in reply I say that my duty to the county are required at night all this month, so render it impossible for me to attend your meeting this month. I further notifie this association that I, J. B. Loving, here by attend my resignation to this association to Please discontinue my name on your rool of members, as I have two much to look after now, and the association are not satisfactory form according to my notation I take Exception of formmation of association. As a Buisness man I dont care to bein aney thing liable to be aney assumption in it Principles.

My Exception

1) the association should be all Buisness men that repsent sumthing. All Others shind be Excluded

2) Your Bord of Directores you have (7) When (5) Would do and (4) of home are swon Dumocrats and not all are Buisness Men

3) You treasurer bond should have been stipulated By the Board of Directors and bond approved By the members of the association and should be from good responsible Company of Bond insurance and no Straw Bonds-men.

4) the association cant do nothin With 1 or 2 Dollars if the association Means Buisness less do Buisness that is to say Every Member Subscribe (25.00) Dollars Paible Monthly (5.00) Dollars then after the association get all that subscribe in treasury then the association Will be in a Position to do sumthing. Hoping the association Will be successful. I will not do aney thing to retard it Progress. I remain yours,

JULIUS B. LOVING.

OUR FRIENDS ARE PASSING AWAY.

Since the first of the year we have received an unusually long list of names of friends who have crossed the great divide. Among those near and dear to us who have crossed the border land recently the names of our brother, Mr. S. J. Edmonds, and Messrs. James R. and Jefferson L. Edmonds, the latter sons of our former master, are on the list. We knew them all to love them and instead of one, we seem to have lost three brothers. In the early seventies, when we were struggling to get the rudiments of an education at Crawfordville, Miss., the two last named rendered us every assistance possible. The latter, Mr. Jefferson L. Edmonds often furnished clothing and money to help us through a school term. Our mother nursed him and loved to the day of her death as a mother loves her son. He was a noble man that knew not an enemy, for he had none. With our mother's brother as a body servant, he followed the fortunes of Gen. Robt. E. Lee from the formation of his army to the battle of Gettysburg, where among the great heaps of the slain he was left for dead. The lives if these dear ones were such that death simply summoned them from labor to rest. Indeed, there are so few of the good men and women left whose lives blest our youth that a thought of them makes us feel alone, although in the midst of the rushing multitude of today.

They now rest in peace.

MR. FRANK WALKER.

The fight Mr. Walker has made for the people in the franchise contest has won for him their lasting gratitude. The freight carrying clause in the franchise was juggled through the council in his absence. While he is opposed to the freight carrying clause, he contends that the city ought to have one million dollars for it if it must be incorporated into the franchise. He he has proved himself in every way worthy of the confidence imposed in him by the voters in his ward. The people of the city will call him to higher duties.

The Liberator,

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

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

Agents wanted in every city, town and village. Address THE LIBERATOR PUBLISHING CO., Los Angeles, Cal.

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Business office, 614 South Broadway, Los Angeles, Cal.

TEL. PETER 7231.

BEN TILLMAN AGAIN.

Just as we expected, Ben Tillman, who has been going over the country preaching the gospel of murder and hate and the right of white cut-throats like himself to murder and rob negroes, has commenced to assault white men. It is but natural that he should regard white men as cowards and hypocrites, who have silently submitted to his bullyism for the past six years. He has stood in the senate and boasted of having killed "niggers" and stuffed ballot boxes, and violated the constitution and laws with impunity, without even a protest from those who claimed to represent law and order. Of course, it was negroes whom he and his gang had murdered and robbed, but the men who will murder and rob negroes will murder and rob white men whenever they deem it necessary. Mr. Tillman, whose incendiary utterances received the applause of northern audiences, is now making white men the victims of

his lawless brutality. Tillman's success as a self-confessed murderer and peace breaker has induced a number of white women to take the stump to encourage burning at the stake on suspicion, mob murder, anarchy nullification and hell. If the republican majority in the senate possessed half the backbone that Tillman possesses he would have been expelled from the senate long ago. The end is not yet. Tillman will remain in the senate. Whither is this Christian nation drifting?

THE SOLID SIX.

Of the "solid six" it may be said of several of them that "The places that know them now will in a short time know them no more forever." The gentleman from the Sixth ward is already preparing to retire to the shades of a private life. Some of his constituents seem to think that he can best serve the interests of his ward in the latter capacity. It is thought that the two railroad attorneys representing the Eighth and Ninth wards will be able to stem the tide, as these wards are well supplied with "gin mills." But these gentlemen will not attempt to widen their political territory; to do this would be fatal. They will therefore settle down to practical ward healing. The Seventh ward is represented by a blacksmith, who, while his constituents are divided as to his success as a councilman, their unanimous verdict is that he is a good blacksmith. Now, when he returns next January to make music on his anvil he will do so with the consciousness that the voters in his ward will enjoy it better than his services as councilman.

There are others who will be elected to stay home as soon as the voters get a hearing.

Doctor Bowers says that "No disgrace can be attached to the color of the skin, as we are exactly as God created us, and He makes no mistakes." It behooves the doctor to be a little careful about such utterances, or Mrs. Burdette and Mrs. Lou V. Chapin will read him out of the white race. With them it seems that everything depends upon the color of the skin. As they see it, character cannot live under a dark skin. To have a soul the hide must be white.

A CHANGE OF NAME.

The Colored Business Men's Association will soon be incorporated under the name of The Los Angeles Business Men's Association. As soon as the charter is obtained it will proceed to make business investments. The association will incorporate with a capital stock of \$10,000, divided into 1000 shares of \$10 each. The shares sold will mature in ten months. The association has sixteen members, all men of character and standing in the community, all of whom are earnest in their endeavor to stimulate business enterprises among the race.

Later, the capital stock of the Los Angeles Business Men's Association has been increased to \$25,000, divided into 1000 shares of \$25 each.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

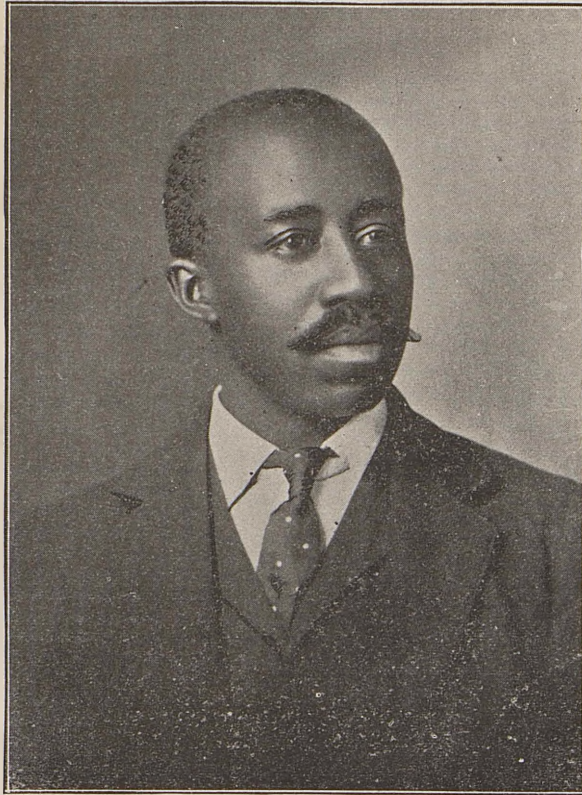
B. W. Brown. J. L. Edmonds. R. C. Owens. Hilliard Strickler. Eugene Walker. C. C. Flint. James M. Vena.

During the year 1901, 136 persons were put to death by anarchists in this country. President McKinley was one of the victims. Six were burned at the stake. Although these murders were committed in broad daylight in the presence of men, women and children, only one anarchist, Czolgosc, paid the penalty for his crime of cold-blooded murder. The other victims were negroes, and public sentiment did not demand that their murderers be punished. The mob has made a good start and will claim many victims before the close of the year.

MRS. JAMES M. VENA REPLIES.

Mrs. Vena's reply to Mrs. Graves' wanton assault upon the good name of a whole race was simply masterly. It is unanswerable. Mrs. Graves' attack upon the negro was made in the true Southern mob style, either in droves or behind closed doors. They never attack the negro in an open field. The methods pursued against the negroes by a certain class of whites are not only cowardly, but contemptible. There is no position too low for them to take, no statement too false for them to make.

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MR. G. B. LEWIS,
Vice-President of the Los Angeles Business Men's Association.

MR. G. B. LEWIS.

Of the Los Angeles colored business men it can be said with truth that Mr. Lewis has made the most rapid progress of them all. Five years ago he went into the employ of the Cass & Smurr Hardware Company to do general repair work. His previous experience soon raised him in the estimation of the firm and his wages were increased from time to time. While thus employed he opened a repair shop in the rear of his place, 1332 Girard street, and did odd jobs for his neighbors during the evening. His ad. in the three colored papers that circulate in the city—"G. B. Lewis, stove doctor; old stoves made new"—gave him as thorough introduction to the public. The patronage he gained by first class work soon made it necessary for him to resign his position with Cass & Smurr, so as to meet the demands of his customers. The company accepted his resignation with the understanding that

he remain with it until he could train a young man to take his place. He had made himself a necessity to the firm and therefore could not leave till he educated a man to take his place. The selection of a successor being left to him, he selected Mr. Van C. Williams, who is proving himself worthy of the confidence imposed in him. Forming a copartnership with Mr. Smith, also an employe of Cass & Smurr, they opened a stove and hardware house at 220 West Sixth street, under the firm name of Smith & Lewis. The business soon outgrew the place, compelling them to move to 611 South Broadway, their present quarters. They carry a \$5000 stock, requiring three persons to handle the business. Their place of business is one of the neatest, best kept places of its kind on Broadway. Mr. Lewis has been a source of constant surprise to persons who call to order a stove or range, on inquiring for the proprietor finding that Mr. Lewis is one of them.

The example Mr. Lewis has set and his success is worthy of emulation by the colored men who hold many paying jobs in this city. It should be the ambition of every man who is compelled to work for others to conduct himself so as to some day be his own boss and fill a man's place in his community. Instead of spending his wages in giving lawn parties on rented lawns and having rented houses "tastefully decorated" so as to shine (?) in the columns of some so-called newspaper as a social leader, he saved his earnings and is now doing business for himself. One successful business man is better than a hundred social leaders who are dependent upon others for employment. It has been said time and again if the negro hoped to occupy a man's place in this country he must own a part of its wealth and be a part of its business. Playing the part of a buffoon during a political campaign will get him nothing higher than a spittoon job. Like many others, Mr. Lewis realizes this fact and is devoting his attention to the things that will make him one of the taxpayers and business promoters of this city.

THE SOUTH AGAIN HEARD FROM.

This time it is two young bloods at the Nebraska University who have almost gone mad because Booker T. Washington was invited to deliver the commencement address. They threatened to leave the university if the invitation is not withdrawn. It is to be hoped that the invitation will hold good. If these foolish fellows and all like them would commit suicide the cost of burying them would be a good investment. Their presence in the country is a menace to its peace and dignity. When will the South cease to owe its prominence before the country to its mobs and mouthings of its "nigger" haters? The fellow that has nothing to recommend him but the color of his hide is poor indeed.

Mrs. R. A. Washington of 1427 Newton street was the hostess of a delightful luncheon Wednesday, February 12, in honor of Mesdames Washington, White and Odeneal of Chicago, Ill. The parlors and dining room were tastefully decorated with roses and lilies and a very dainty and substantial menu of three courses was served. Mrs. Washington was assisted by Mrs. M. H. Patton. The guests were: Mesdames Chas. Washington, Frank White, Wm. Odeneal, M. E. Bronson, H. M. Spiller, M. Atchinson, M. Blue, Chas. Finelle, M. H. Patton, Chas. Oliver. Rev. J. E. Edwards.

Laws that Encourage Unlawful Co-habitation.

THE MISCEGENATION LAWS.

The miscegenation laws of the Southern states, which have been copied by several of the northern and western states, enacted to prevent the legal inter-marriage of the white and black races, and known to shame as the miscegenation laws, have been productive of more crime against morality than is generally supposed. A study of these laws present some strange features. There is more mixing of the races in states where the law prohibits legal mixing than in states where there is no legal prohibition. The so-called "rape racket," where the charge made against negroes is confined almost wholly to those states having miscegenation laws. There are 30,000 mulatto children born in this country every year; of course most of them have negro mothers and born outside of wedlock. And an investigation will show further that nine-tenths of those illegitimate children are born where the miscegenation laws prevail. In states where the miscegenation laws are in vogue white men are never punished for living unlawfully with negro women, and in such states negro women have no redress for assaults and insults perpetrated upon them by white men. There are exceptions, but they are generally north of the Mason and Dixon line. Where the laws punish all despoilers of female virtue alike, regardless of the color of the female, there is practically no illegal mixing of the races and no "rape racket." But where virtue is determined by the color of the skin, true reverence for it is lowered in both sexes, hence the illegal mixing. Instead of being dubbed as laws to prevent intermarriage they should be entitled "Laws to encourage unlawful co-habitation between the races," for that is what is being done by this flagrant class legislation. If this thing is kept up for fifty or one hundred years what will be its effect upon the morality of the country? Laws that force 30,000 unfortunate children to be born outside of wedlock annually are a crime not only against civilization, but is also against virtue and human-

ity. We do not and never have favored the inter-marriage of the races, but all right-minded decent people prefer marriage to adultery. We favor the enactment of national matrimonial laws that will encourage marriage and punish adultery. The moral purity of the nation demands it. Why were these miscegenation laws enacted in the first place? Were they necessary? Let's see: The negro was brought to this country by force and held in abject slavery for 250 years, during which time it was unlawful for him to exercise any rights due man. He could not even contract a legal marriage; therefore had to raise his children outside of wedlock. He was ignorant and poor because it was unlawful for him to be otherwise. This was his condition at the close of the war that freed him. But no sooner was he freed, encumbered as he was with the ignorance, poverty and immorality that slavery had forced upon him, than his former masters enacted laws to prevent him from inter-marrying with his sons and daughters. Was this necessary? Had slavery so weakened the white people that they were unable to reject offers of marriage from their slaves of yesterday? Already the country is suffering a moral blight caused by our two codes of morals. Divorces, prostitution, suicides, insanity and crimes are increasing to an alarming extent. Either the virtue of all women will have to be protected or the moral standing of society in general will be lowered.

THE COLOR LINE DRAWN.

After considerable hair pulling those representing the majority in members but the minority in wealth and intelligence of the woman's clubs of the state, under the leadership of Mrs. Burdette, wife of a Pasadena minister of Christ, have drawn the color line in the woman's clubs. The color of the skin is now to be the test of womanhood. According to these ladies' idea of womanhood the possession of an ideal Christian character amounts to nothing if the skin is dark. This is another case of selling the birth-right for a mess of pottage. It is another case of casting pearls before the swine of southern color hate to win the friendship of the swine. After all, it is history repeating itself. The supreme Court of the United States did the same thing when it handed down the Dred Scott decision. Congress

passed the fugitive slave law for the same reason. To obtain the same end Daniel Webster cast himself down from the pinnacle of his fame by supporting that infamous law and died of a broken heart. To keep the negro down, to sink him beneath the level of brutes the supreme court prostituted its august authority; congress became the willing tool of those who trafficked in human flesh and female virtue, and Daniel Webster bartered his good name. These all died amid the evil they had done and the negro was freed by work his enemies did to prevent it. Thus the cause of justice goes right on winning victories in spite of the temporary obstruction by misguided men and women. In a few short years, while the whites and blacks of this generation are mingling together as common clay, their descendants will be working shoulder to shoulder for the mutual advancement of all. When they read the pages of the history that is being written today they will blush and wonder what manner of men some of their ancestors were, who, while claiming to be followers of Jesus Christ, working for the advancement of his kingdom among men, were going from place to place preaching the gospel of hate, sowing seeds of revolution, planting thistle where figs should have been planted, cultivating hate instead of love, war instead of peace.

INTER-MARRIAGE OF THE RACES AGAIN.

In connection with this woman's club business the old worn out cry about inter-marriage of the races has been raised again. This old dodge is used whenever some friend of humanity takes a stand for justice to all men regardless of color or condition. Now, the first-class white people of this country are giving themselves no trouble whatever about negroes marrying into their families, and first, the first class negroes are giving themselves less concern than the latter class of whites. Every year there are born in the United States 30,000 mulatto children. The fathers of these unfortunate children are white men and the mothers black women, not octoroons. Strange as it may seem, these good men and women who are so utterly opposed to the mixing of the races are never heard to speak a word condemning this crime against virtue and innocence. It is marriage that these good people oppose, not unlawful co-habitation. It is a crime against the white women, the black women and black men. But what can the black men do about it? They are not represented in the legislative department of the Federal nor the state government in which they live. They have no voice in making or executing the laws. Those who can lynch him with impunity can make any use of his women they please. Thank God these unfor-

tunate conditions, like slavery that gave them birth, cannot last. American man and womanhood will yet assert itself and Ben Tillman and his cohorts both male and female, will be driven to the rear. The negro does not fear the outcome. In the ranks of those who are leading this fight against the innocent and the weak there is not a single infidel. What an inconsistent gang we followers of Christ have to associate with! Surely the "wheat and tares" are growing together.

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THE RACKET STORE.

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