INDICATIONS OF EXODUS TO CUBA

Promoter Calls Island an Eden For Colored Americans.

HOW THE PLAN IS REGARDED.

Movement Headed by R. M. R. Nelson to Remove Thousands From the Southern States Said to Have Backing of Wealthy Capitalists—Plenty of Room For Thrifty Planters.

Havana, Cuba. — R. M. R. Nelson, whose address is Lista, Havana, came to Cuba in July, 1898, and opened Cuba's only gold mine for a company of white men (Americans), who have robbed him of his share. He has not sat down and whined over his losses. He was in New York in December last on business and was optimistic about Cuba and its future. He urged his friends to flee from the chilling blasts of the north to this Edenland. He said that Flagler's $40,000,000 bridge across the sea was proof of a movement to make Cuba the playground of the world's rich; that land values in Cuba would increase faster than in New York city.

Mr. Nelson talked interestingly of this beautiful isle of the sea and expressed the opinion that when American Negroes came to know of the splendid opportunities which here await them they will begin to take a more lively interest in the opportunities which it offers to the farmer, the mechanic and skilled laborers with a little money to invest.

After fourteen years of talking, writing and lecturing he said he was not surprised to find that every paper in Cuba is now discussing his plan, backed by millionaires, to bring from the south 10,000 Negro farmers who have money and place them in Cuba. Some of these newspapers are edited by southern white men, left over after the conquest of Spain by the United States, who perhaps naturally do not

R. M. R. NELSON.

want to see the Negroes of the south enjoy better industrial opportunities than they now have.

The Havana Telegraph, edited by a fair minded gentleman, in an editorial a column and a half long takes an optimistic view of the proposed plan to place 10,000 Negro farmers from the south, who want to improve their condition politically and financially.

It says: "Although we have lived in Cuba for more than a dozen years, we have never seen displayed blacker ingratitude than that shown during the last week by the organs of Cuban public opinion to the American Negro who played so large a part in winning Cuba's freedom.

"Did American Negroes of the Ninth and Tenth United States cavalry and those of the Twenty-fourth infantry prove themselves inferior in the fighting about Santiago to the Cuban Negroes making up the army of Calixto Garcia? Was there ever as brave a deed done by Cuban Negroes as that of the American Negroes of the Twenty-fourth United States infantry who volunteered to do guard duty at the yellow fever hospital? And has any one a better right to come to Cuba than have the brethren of these Negroes who fought so well in Cuba's cause?"

Any American farmer who desires to migrate to Cuba and who has the means to do so and to support himself while getting established has as much right to change his residence as any American white man and as many American white men are doing constantly.

A sugar plantation in Cuba will last ten years without replanting. There is fine pasturage here and every variety of tropical fruits, with many species unknown to Americans. The climatic conditions are ideal. Edenland it is, as Mr. Nelson calls it, and he yearns for more American Negroes of the right stamp and class to locate in Cuba and grow up with the country.

The plan is feasible and practical and offers a partial solution of the Negro problem in the United States. Prejudiced Americans who have come to Cuba to make their fortunes naturally do not want to see American Negroes here for obvious reasons. Mr. Nelson will furnish any information desired by colored men in the United States who may be thinking of Cuba as a field for profitable labor.

MARCH CRISIS MAGAZINE.

Featured by Many Facts—Pillsbury on Fourteenth Amendment.

Next to the strikingly beautiful head of a colored girl on the cover of the March Crisis, the most striking feature of this number is the article by the Hon. Albert E. Pillsbury, former attorney general of Massachusetts. Mr. Pillsbury contends that under the fourteenth amendment there is a clear federal remedy for lynching, and he outlines a bill calculated to meet this national disgrace.

The latest statistics on Negro-American population are given, and the men of the month include J. Rosamond John, the gifted composer; the late Bishop Gaines and the young colored high school student who was a recent prize winner. The strong editorials attack the "divine right" of white men to ruin colored girls without penalty and explain what "optimism" among colored people may come to mean in the way of pessimism. Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard contributes a strong letter to a southerner on lynching.

The National association announces the pleasantest and most encouraging piece of news which the Crisis ever had to recount. For some time it has been apparent that if the association was to do farreaching constructive work, if it hoped to attack the larger phases of segregation, lawlessness or disfranchisement, it must have a fund at its disposal. Such a fund should be called a fund for legal redress, and its money should be appropriated under the direction of the board of directors and the association's attorney. Mr. Julius Rosenwald of Chicago started this fund on Feb. 1 by a gift of $2,000.

Shortly afterward Mr. Samuel Fels of Philadelphia augmented it by a gift of $500. This splendid beginning will make it possible for the association during the present year to carry on a much greater mass of important work than before, always provided that it increases steadily in members.

Forty-one persons joined the association in January, 1912, paying $161 in memberships.

L. M. Hershaw reminds us in his "Historic Dates" of General Grant's fine message on the fifteenth amendment in March, 1870, in which he denominates that amendment "a measure of grander importance than any other one act of the kind from the foundation of our free government to the present day."

Miss Jessie Fauset of the Washington high school and a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Cornell, takes charge of the "What to Read" department. Announcement is made that the Easter number will surpass all previous special numbers. Mr. W. E. D. Du Bois and his associated editors seem to be meeting with unusually encouraging success.

MODERN IMPROVEMENTS AT HOWARD UNIVERSITY.

New Lighting Plant and Library Facilities Appreciated by Students.

The completion of the new electric lighting power plant and the extension of the heating plant, through an expenditure of over $100,000, now give to Howard university, in Washington, an adequate supply of heat and light that should meet its needs for many years to come. For the first time the grounds are lighted.

The buildings are also supplied with the quality and amount of light that under the former meager appropriation they were not able to afford. Power is also supplied for the running of the machinery in the department of manual arts, and an ample supply of electricity is available for the work in electrical engineering.

The Carnegie library, with its enlarged facilities and increased equipment, has brought a new atmosphere of culture to the institution. No body of students ever showed a more enthusiastic appreciation of such opportunities as are now offered in that finest department of college instruction—namely, the use of books.

The doors are open from 8 a. m. to 8:30 p. m. in the general library and to 10 p. m. in the medical room. The average attendance is from forty to eighty each hour. There have been 9,736 books borrowed for use during this scholastic year. There have been 823 accessions of bound volumes. In the cataloguing department 2,837 books have been placed in the card lists. The library now requires the work of the librarian, two permanent assistants and six student assistants.

Dr. Washington's Northern Tour.

During the latter part of March and the early part of April Dr. Booker T. Washington will make a tour through the northern part of New York, western Pennsylvania and points in Ohio in the interest of the Tuskegee institute. The object of these tours is to more fully acquaint the public with the work of the school and what the institution is doing for the race in sending out students and graduates fully prepared for leadership and uplift in the various lines of literary and industrial work among the masses.

Annual Convention of Sunday Schools.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the New England Baptist Sunday school convention will be held with the Sunday school of the Monumental Baptist church in Philadelphia for two days beginning on Tuesday, June 11, at 10:30 a. m. All Baptist Young People's unions are invited to join the convention upon the same terms as the Sunday schools, with equal representation of delegates and other officials.

BISHOPS' COUNCIL NOTES.

Executive Body of A. M. E. Church Showered With Requests For Aid.

At the semiannual meeting of the council of bishops recently held in Baltimore the Rev. H. Richardson, president of Campbell college, Jackson, Miss., accompanied by a delegation of ministers from his state, presented the needs of the institution to the council.

As the college is largely supported by the farmers of the state and in view of the fact that their crops were partially destroyed by the boll weevil last year, President Richardson urged that the council recommend to the general conference a substantial appropriation for the school to the end that the work of educating the masses of young men and women in that particular section of the south might not suffer for want of funds to meet current expenses.

Bishop C. T. Shaffer was selected to deliver the quadrennial sermon at the opening session of the general lawmaking body of the denomination at the general conference in May. The quadrennial address to the church as a whole is being prepared by Bishop C. S. Smith, who has charge of the work of the A. M. E. church of Georgia.

The bishops also heard a plea from a number of ministers of the Baltimore conference asking that they recommend that the general conference make an appropriation to aid Bethel church, Baltimore, of which the Rev. Dr. D. G. Hill is pastor. The church was bought over a year ago for $90,000.

AMBITION OF M. Q. CELE.

Hampton's Zulu Student Prepares For Return to "Fatherland."

At the Brooklyn meeting held under the auspices of the Armstrong association, in the interest of Hampton institute, on Thursday evening, Feb. 29, Madikane Quandiyane Cele, a Zulu student who finished the wheelwrighting trade at Hampton institute in May, 1911, told briefly the interesting story of his life in South Africa and America. "My father," he said, "was a governor under the king of the Zulus until the white missionaries landed there. He spent six years with the missionaries and then went back to work among his own people.

"I grew up, as most Zulu boys do, watching my father's herds until I be-

MADIKANE Q. CELE.

came a large boy and began to join in sports such as hunting, playing at war and idling away all of the time."

Cele studied for two years in a South African missionary school and finished the blue Zulu spelling book.

He further pursued his studies and, through his uncle, Rev. John L. Dube, came to America. At the Slater school in Winston-Salem, N. C., he came in touch with two Hampton teachers. He concluded that Hampton's training was just what he needed for his work in Zululand.

Realizing that his people needed to know how to build good wagons, Cele took wheelwrighting and special work in blacksmithing in the Hampton Institute Trade school. Cele plans to return to the forgotten children of South Africa and carry them the blessings which he has received at the Hampton school.

Rev. Dr. Joshua Jones For Bishop.

Among the many men spoken of in connection with the A. M. E. bishopric is the Rev. Dr. Joshua Jones, presiding elder in the north conference. He was born in South Carolina fifty-five years ago. He is now in his prime mentally and physically. The Third Episcopal district is solidly behind his candidacy, and he has received assurances of support from many sections of the country.

Dr. Jones was educated at Claflin, Howard and Wilberforce universities and has also served as president of the latter well known school. He is regarded as one of the leading pulpit orators in the country.

Professorship For Coleridge-Taylor.

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor, the eminent composer of African-English extraction, has recently been elected principal professor of musical composition in the Guildhall School of Music, in London. He is also the conductor for the noted Handel society, in London, and is highly regarded by the music loving public.

SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

The Sunday School Lesson For March 10th.

Title: "Jesus The Healer."—Mark 1: 29-45.

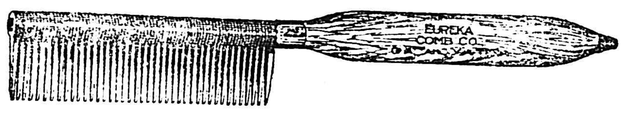
Golden Text: "Himself Took Our Infirmities, And Bare Our Sickness."—Matt. 8:17.

When Paul went to Ephesus to talk to the Ephesians and found the large number of shrines and temples erected to the numerous gods, it was an evident fact that the people were spirit worshipers, or at least great believers in the spirit world, as they understood it. All primitive peoples and in fact peoples of all races have been believers in spiritual manifestations, and many are today. Consequently, in the day of Jesus, almost all diseases both mind and body were attributed to spiritual influences. Even the forces of nature were supposed to be under the direction of good or evil influences, and so when there were storms of wind or rain, it was the evil spirits abroad, and the great waves of the sea inundating the land was the result of the evil influences of the seas good or evil spirits of the deep. And so it was an easy matter in the days of Jesus to attribute these diseases to evil spirits, and when Jesus began to heal the sick, and cure the diseased, it was said that he had a spirit, and so spiritual influences were attributed to him.

But it was not altogether the business of Jesus to engage in healing bodily diseases. He came as a healer of souls, and healing of bodily disorders was but incidental to the great work He had in mind to accomplish. It was no doubt a great temptation to Him when Peter came to Him the morning, after He had returned from early prayer, with the information that the people waited for Him in large numbers with their sick and diseased to go to them and administer such relief as He only could give. But it was not that He came to do. The great love in His heart for the suffering people would have drawn Him with tremendous force towards them, but in this instance as in a former instance when sought for by his mother, He made it plain that He must be about His Father's business. And so He said to Simon and those who had followed him: Let us go into the next town, that I may preach there also; for therefore came I forth. Even here His fame had preceded Him, and as soon as He had come into Galilee, the sick came unto Him, and even the leper came and desired to be cleansed.

But suppose Jesus had yielded to the temptation of going back to the large number who waited through the long night for Him; waiting for His magic touch to make them whole? Suppose Jesus had yielded to that kindly impulse, what would have happened? He might have secured a greater hold on the minds and hearts of the people; they would, no doubt, have worshipped Him with gratitude beyond all expression, and for a time He would have been the idol of the people and really in favor with the officials of the Government and of the temple but it was not that He was seeking.

Jesus was seeking the souls of men; He was seekng to bring the world back from its lost state; He was here to preach righteousness, to cleanse the spiritual man and make him well. In the eyes of Jesus the proclamation of His truth was of more importance than the healing of bodies. The first thing men needed was a ministry to their minds and hearts and wills. Jesus knew that the great needs are that men shall have sound bodies indeed, but bodily soundness shall come out of mental and spiritual soundness. Jesus knew that the best way to minister to the bodies of men was to touch their minds. It was and is this spirit which is abroad in the world today which makes men erect hospitals and charitable institutions, the spirit of Christ. If Jesus had chosen to limit Himself to works of healing He would have had little time for preaching, and it was the preaching that men needed most. There are millions in the world today whose hearts are touched by the feeling of the infirmities of others because their own hearts have been touched by the fire of the Holy Ghost, and because they have first loved Him and have come to feel the importance of His own divinity.



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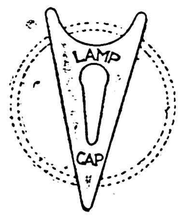

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