POETRY FOR THE PEOPLE

THE BLACK BELT

I live in the Black Belt. not on the Lake Shore Drive. The hombs waters me in the night time And yet, thank our God, I'm alive. In happy fight here to the Black Belt coldly the Aryans pass by, Their lips are close set, but their men

wals in the downcast eye. 306 placed me right here in the Blaci

Where Enhratm's kin fell like hail en the riot raged—you remembe And Erypt's child sent up a wail. uiiful bere in the Black Bell ninth, nincteen twenty-one. The lake breeze is cool-my small win

Admits just enough genial sun. I speci with my window up high, Where I may behold morning's dawn

And watch lung sail in the sky. Yea, even when bull-ts were flying. I might as well have slept outdoor, but Enhraim s bullets all missed me, But Ephraim s bullets all miss And now we are friendly the more. The underworld's raging and fourning The papers are journals from ball, phraim's quiet and hopeful-And God whispers all things are well

mystery's here in the Black Belt That ever allures me to stay, And future bards' songs chall reveal it. For Jesus has passed by this way. Behold! future ages chall tell it.

How our Master heard Ephraim's cry And came to the Black Belt to tarry. high.

What mattern I hide in the Black Belt. The black breed suffices for me, .. That I endure winter a vist hard-

If I may beln set Enhant from I visited church in the Black Belt. The Triumph Church that I profess And we had a guest well beloved But I will not ask you to guess.

shing, the patriot kinsman Of our war hero of world-wide fame, We knot at the alter with Ephraim To save Anglo-Saxons from shame write to me here in the Black Belt. To suffering sons sore oppressed!

Expot's star rapid is rising Here where thy race shall be blest!

TO CHARLES H. D. ESTE O Afric son, thou bard of royal sires,

With heart all overflowing that wouldst sing' Sail from the realm that other poet's

baunt-Smite Egypt's lyre and let its echoes

Some note, how e'er discordant it

Of some divine and ancient symphony That charmed thy sires in Ethiopia

O do not let those who enslaved thy

Bind shackles unto thy God-given Formake their ports however fair they

Beek out thine own imagination

Game at the lotus that the Nile hath Until it yields the story which i

The tale it tells to mankind shall be

Arrayed in Egypts rarest hues and

Steal in the past and nurse emotion And thou canst speak as nobly as the

For Menelik s blood filters through thy

the bresst.

O laun h with me on fancy's ample To unexplored isles let us sail away.

growing dim. Some fairer star, perchance, may lend its ray

O Afric son of sires that happy dwelt By Eden's garden, look into thy beart.

And recove there some fair and price less pearl

Of thought from Ethiopia's rare mart! By ETHEL TREW DUNLAP. 2222 Wentworth avenue, Chicago, III.

SOMETIMES By H. ELIZABETH DOWDEN on I feel fee' lak

"Taint no use of tryin": see I feet jee' lak A-custic est a-cryin'. Semetimes I feel jes' lak

Kneelin' down an' prayin'; iometimes I feel jes' lak God hears what I'm sayin'

Structimes I feel jee' lak God marks all de sin; Sometimes I test jes' lak

Mometimes I feel fee' lak Dis worf is all de hell; Sometimes I feel jes' lak Somethin' I cain' jes' tell.

Sometimen I feel jest lak Things'll never be jer right; Sometimes I feel jes' lak I'm a pligrim o' de night.

emetimes I feet jes lak God does all things best, An' den I feet jer' jek Ide Spirit to at reg.

THE BLACK MAN'S PLAINT

The parties and me to be believed

war they freely went, Nor have they ever thrown a crue bomb or killed a president.

always first to colors, when this country calls on men to fight, when every war is ended, stands pleading for his rights. He proved he was a soldier, by his loyal deeds in France.

And will mester any task that's nut to him, if they just give him a

proved he was a warrior for h saved the flag from harm, he made this country million when he slaved down on farm.

Of course history talls us and world, that we are free, we've coased to serve the m

BUT, where is our liberty? they measure out our distance telling us how far to go. discriminate, and segregate

run cars called "Jim Crow. if they call that liberty in this lanof free, and brave. It must be HELL in other lands where

they claim to still have slaves. brought us here from Africa when labor was slack, But now they seem to hate us. Wh

do my race so digty here, still can not tell what to will only recognize us when the need us for a war

smile upon our women, ook good to them. swing us to a limb.

brought us here and made us slaves, they sold out kin for gold e they owned their bodies, but they didn't own their souls. they stole us from our own coun-

try, it was against our will, in return for good we do, they shoot, burn, hang er kill. We fight and breed for this country, and we feel the bullet's nain.

victorious in every battle, but what credit do we gain? bearts are wrung with pain,

stole us from the land of wealth but we're going back again. We must make ourselves a nation, the

we can sing our nation's song, the BLACKS, are four hundre million strong ROBERT ERNEST.

A PROPHESY TO ETHIOPIA

Oh, say do you know that the day sure as the sun shines in yorder's

Ethiopia shall reign supreme, fre -distant Her leader and guide through the conflict shall be who died that all men

should be free. She is free now from bondage and With alscrity she has made use o

She for knowledge has sought, large estates has she bought,

Though in the snare of oppres ofttimes been caught The name of her leader and council

in yet Jehovah?

Oft hung from the trees while the pale Oft burned at the stake for anothe man's crime,

But, her blood is avenged, for ten times ten earthquakes, by seas, made by men.

Have been wiped out of exists Jehovah! and who stops the por

Rachel, weep on; we will not chide though you Through the courts of God's grace soon your proud sons shall sweep;

And your children below, who have loved you so, Will press on to the goal and mone

Their leader and guide through ti unflict shall be Jehovahi who died that all men should -Anna E Shielda be free. Cambridge, Mass.

A NEW DRIVE A new drive for Afric's freeds Oh hear the ringing call. Join in our ranks and firmly say Africa shall be free

A test to prove at burie sound: ader then shall bravely shout Africa shall be free.

Ready, then, my brother be Why not come along with me? Fall in ranks and strong to say, Africa shall be free.

Marone Clarrer sands the call. It's for one and all, It's the season of the time.

Wall, are you ready for the fight? Cird up your lotse and stand alors, Come along and do your part, 'Africa shall be fire,

Say, brother, why stand ye life. Ready should be your enward sigh, Then for your troibin, hisward and Africa ahall, he dign.

When ou the theres we brudy he

A NEW POET APPEARS IN MONTREAL

Bus of the set the said of and on at material the said some so were at the source as well bus without

Wm. Ferris, Literary Editor, Megro Weeld

Dear Sis-I hope you will forgive my repeated demand repeated demand upon you for space in your valuable columns, but I feel it my privilege to commend you highly on the warm interest and whole-souled tolerance which you have manifested dding posts of the Negro race An inelepificant applicant in the domain you a lifetime of gratitude for the prominence given me from time

I do not believe in praising a r after he is dead. I am certain that the other poets will join me in saying that you are a bleesing to us.

Readers of the Negro World will be pleased to learn that there are a few poets looming in Montrea! Amons them I wish to make special mention of Mrs. M. Rainford, a faithful and self-sacrificing member of the U. N. A. Unfortunately, she is confined to her had and her condition is somewhat critical. Her nature is tender and her mood poetlo. I am analosing a specimen copy of one of her poems with an numble request for its publicity if

A thousand thanks to you. Yours faithfully. CHARLES H. D. ESTE. Montreal, Can.

My Father Leads. Every day my Father leads me In a pleasant pasture green, And with manna fresh He feeds me, Though His hands remain unseen Yet His angels come to succor, Help and cheer me on my way. Tenderly they hover o'er me, Bid me never cease to pray.

Every day my Father leads me With a cup of patience feeds me, While He bids me lean on Him While He doth my cup replenish On His breast I shall recline. Peace, sweet peace, that passetl

knowledge Is most wonderfully min (MRS.) M. RAINFORD. \$65 Delisio St., Montreal, Can.

To My Sister If I could only know that you would think of me When clouds of absence part me fro

your sight. Depression would no longer make mock at me:

take their flight. And can tell the whole creation. WE If I could only know that in your youthful heart There's still reserved for

hud of love. The tides that surge my shore would roll apart: sweet content my fretful mind

would rove If I could only know that when you You would commend me to Jehovah's

would no longer feel a failure on the I'd find the world an Eden bright ar

fair. CHARLES H. D. ESTE. II. N. L A. Literary Club, Montreal.

A GREETING TO HON, MARCUS GARVEY

U. N. I. A. and A. C. I., Universal Building,

New York City. Dear Sir: I am authorized by your subjects and my fellow citizens to inform you most cordially that our hearts and souls are with you in this great undertaking. We pledge you to do our best in helping you to further the move. But just now we can do We have been like others whom you are always reprimanding when the rain came it got wet for no preparation was made to secure it. But as business is just being started and keep our eyes open for the com-

ing foe, From the menth of November past till the month dated, we have had no trade for our products and no other work of any kind was done for us to procure funda. We were in dire dinme, but, thank God, He has again comed up our way and we pledge to use it to our very best advantage, especially the one He has so nobly prepared you for. We pray His spirit may ever lead and guide you until God and man shall call you blessed for the work you have done

We feel curselves proud to be your subjects and long for the time when we shall be to your command, fearing so dread. Whatever your orders or wish we are willing to comply so long as it is is our power. Wishing you God-speed and success in this undertaking,

I comotrade, rours obediently, CLARIBERT L. WATER ner Hole, Bay Island of Rustan, Spanish Honduras.

> "QARVISM" An Acrestic

Carviers, strong and subst Always expressing its echievement fleady to absorbe its armor taking. aime its achievements Standy to shoulder its armor taking, Very practical where in its good length; In a time of love and unity we think Covered times of the great link, Many and any of the people of Garvien

"DESTINY" An Agreet

Oathy we step the praises of old, avery good deed we do tabuld alone it in the destiny that talk. This is last how it do expelle; it read further than we can talk, flower will be object to what talk, the start will be object to the supplier.

BRUCE GRIT'S COLUMN

Negroes in the United States of North America are really, as is alleged by some of our writers and speakers, full fiedged citizens of this country: What's all this hub bub we hear from various racial organizations demandin equal rights and a square deal? And why are these organizations neces if our writers and orators are correct in eaying that we are really min citizens? I fear we people of African descent in the U. S. A. attach too much importance to the word ctilizen, and understand too little what it really con

the old Anglo-African Magazine, published in this city in the fifties by Thos. Hamilton, a Negro, who it is said claimed blood relationship to Alexander Hamilton, Washington's first Secretary of the Treasury, who was himself said to have a strain of Negro blood (though his biographers have all of them dex terously evaded the issue says: Roman citizen had two classes of rights, the private right, the quiritium and the public rights, jus civitatis. As none of these rights could be exercise sion of any or all of them constituted citizenship on the part of the individual holding them, and once a Roman citien the individual could not by any be deprived of citizenship against his own will."

In the 22d Chapter of Acts, 25, 26, 27 erses, we read: "And they bound him (Paul) with thongs, and he said unto the Centurian that stood by: 'Is it law ful for you to scourge a man that is Roman and uncondemead? And when the Conturian heard that he went and told the Chief Cartain, saving, Take heed what thou doest, for this man is a Roman.' Then the Chief Cuptain came and said unto him. Tell me, art thou a Roman.' He said, 'yea.' Then the Chief Captain said, with a great Paul said, 'But I was born free.' the Roman law, if the rights of a citizen were taken from any one prospered and fattened off his unreby way of punishment, or for any other cause, come action always took place Thus when citizens were hanished they goods were confiscated and themselves were forbidden the use of thre and water (ils igne et ague interdictum est) which obliged them to repair to some foreign place. Continuing, Dr. Smith says: "The Just Quiritium or private rights of Roman citizens were (1) Jus Liberatatis—the right of liborty, (2) Jus Gentilatalis et Familiae. the right of family, (3) Jus Connubil, the right of marriage, (4) Jus Patrium the right of a father, (5) Jus Dominii Legetimi, the right of legal property, Jus Testamenti et Hacreditatis, the right of making a will and succeeding to an inheritance; Jus Tutelae, the right of Tutelage or wardship."

The rights of a Roman citizen as w have here clearly seen were clearly defined, and could not be invaded no invalidated, except for infractions real or imaginary, of the law of the land, when punishment followed by banishment, through the operation of unof his goods, and the benefits of public utilities, fire and water. The citizens of Rome were secure in their right of franchise. Their title of citizenship nations, and it meant something when Roman proclaimed himself to citizen of Rome. When the Apostle Paul, as we have seen was in imminent danger of barsh punishment and rough treatment at the hands of his accusers his simple question, "Is it lawful you to accourge a man that is a magical effect on his jailers, and they evinced a wholesome fear of the consequences, if they should persist in carrying out their original intentions. of the world, and her power radiated citizens from wrong and injustice. The mere mention of her name was a sufficient guarantee of protection to her citisens in any part of the world. A nation that would thus protect its citisens abroad could do no other than to

protect them at home. some of its citizens in foreign land, and does not protect all of its citizens at home, whose natural civil and conettentional rights are engrosched unos by other citizens and arbitrarily nullifled by force, intimidation and murder This is the difference between Roman eithership in the haloyen days of its power and prestige, as a conquesting nation, and American citizenship which foce not receive the full protection of the laws, nor a full measure of fustice in the operation of the laws. No Negro in America can truthfully be said to be a full fledged citizen of this country as long as he individually, or the race to which he belongs in its collective capacity, is compelled to appeal and beg for rights, advantages, opportunisties and privileges, which the Constitute tion clearly says is the heritage of every son of the set.

There cannot be in a tree republic.

Whose beast to that—it is of the people.

by the people and for the people.

ettisenship for while men differing in

ettisenship for while men differing in scope and meaning from that, which is expressed and defined in these words: "All persons how or paturalised in the "All persons how or paturalised in the United States and subject to the jury helicities, thirtee, and the States, of the United States, and the States, whiteds Chery testide. No State and State Chery testide. No State and State Chery testide. No State and State Chery testide. No State

it is that all citizens of this republic regardless of race or oblor, are to stand upon an equal plane before the law, and benefits which the law imposes an these are taxation for the support of navy in time of war, and the right to hold office in times of peace. Nation ally, the people of a country are one peoble with one common deatiny, one purpose, one aim. This is in effect what the framers of the Constitution

in its original form practically meant when they wrote into that document the preamble to the Declaration of In-"We the people," etc. dependence which then included the of five of the American Colonies, who had voted for delegates to the Conven tion of 1787, which ratified and adopt ed the Constitution, and this was confirmed when the war amendments were later incorporated in the Consti

When Napoleon Bonaparte was in Egypt, information was brought to him one day that robbers from the desert had murdered a poor pensant and carried off his flock. "Take three hundred horsemen and two hundred camsis," said Bonaparte to an officer of his staff, "and pursue these robbers until the, are captured and the outrage is avenged."

"Was the boor your cousin." inuired a Shelk, contemptuously, "that you are in such a rage at his death?" was one whose protection providence had intrusted to my care."

"Wonderful," exclaimed the Sheik, You speak like one insp red of the Al-

The Almighty, who permits w does not order, allowed the white man America, where he made him a slave his fields and clear the forests, to build up the waste places and incidentally the fortunes of his captors, who have quited labor for generations. Becoming conscience--stricken, they gave the Negro his freedom with a legacy of impurance and vice for his three hele dred years of servitude in the Hell of Slavery. Later, their consciences stiff troubling them, they made him a citizon as we have seen, and, from that, day, the gift was bestowed. They have never had the moral courage to perthis boon so dear to every freeman in all lands.

No, brothren, we are not American citizens except in name—our title is clear enough, but white America isn't courageous enough to honor it. Provdence has committed us to its cars, and what the future will reveal is still in the iap of the gods. We are simply sojourners, strangers and aliens in the and of our birth, but not our mother-If any good American of color wants to find out whether his title to citizenship is as good as a white man's, let him start something.

Governor Dorsey of Georgia is now a marked man. Any white man below the Mason and Dixon line who espouses the cause of the Negro, who ories out for justice for the Negro, who exposes and condemns the meth ods of the white race in the flouth for oppressing, robbing and killing Negroes, will be a marked man and will be socially, commercially and politically lonesome. Geo. W. Cable, Albion W. Tourgee and a score of other white men less noted have trice the experiment and have been estracised and driven out of the South The intolerance of the white South has made moral cowards, and is making more cowards, of thousands of white men and women who feel as Rome at that period was the mistross kindly toward the Negro as the white people of the North used to feel tointo every habitable quarter of the then civilized world. She protected her openly their friendship for the black race. They dare not run counter to the dominant sentiment in the South, which regards the Negro as an inferior, having no rights which white men are bound to respect. The white man in the South who would date this the Negro the truth could not live in But Rome's example in these respects this country. The whole South is now are only partially followed by the Great organizing to teach Governor Dorney a lesson, and when he has tearned; the lesson it will either have the effect of making him as unfinching friend of the black race, with residence in some Northern State, or recent what he has written of Southern atrocities and run for the Seasts or the lower house of Congress. With his present record he is persons non grain to the indurated old South;

Every time a Negro committe a trime of a particularly historic character, and which the leading duline delight to feature in his black letters, with suggestive comments, which of the most, assume with fordight manner, who are attracted to the section of the letters with Toront (his The letters with the later than about time by the light letter roughnesses to give the centre of the



State on especimity to function; and the said of the s to yell so loudly, "Lynch the Nigger."

People with hair-trigger mouth that go off on short notice in all places constimes get in and as a consequence of their tactlemness, as the in point will show. A fashionable society dame gave a reception, and among the guests was a Mr. The Who believing that none but a friend whom he addressed was within hearing distance, said: reception. Why, I never saw anything so dull in my life. It is not worth the trouble of dressing for. Such an inspid affair; really I never saw anything so dull in all my life, and the rooms are so intolerably hot?" The fortunately for Mr. L., the hostess, unobserved, was standing near and There (nointing to the ante-room) is a cooler room, and beyond it the hall, still cooler." This prompt, and meaningful hint was understood and Tork in the near future taken by the loquacious gentleman (?), which is now in rehearst. It entires who stood not upon the order of his written. taken by the loquacious gentleman (?),

O Lord may Good, bear their cat-O Lord pur God, hear Thou on Of heapting app, formula. We have "no language hat a s

But Thou, Lord, art neath Though Reard Thy proph On Tules's bloody plans; Thougs beard the applicate

In thine own strength evenue. the That blot this metion's name With blood of those who've an

Of those whe have been state.

whose liber give it fund. RECOM GRAY.

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1 727

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