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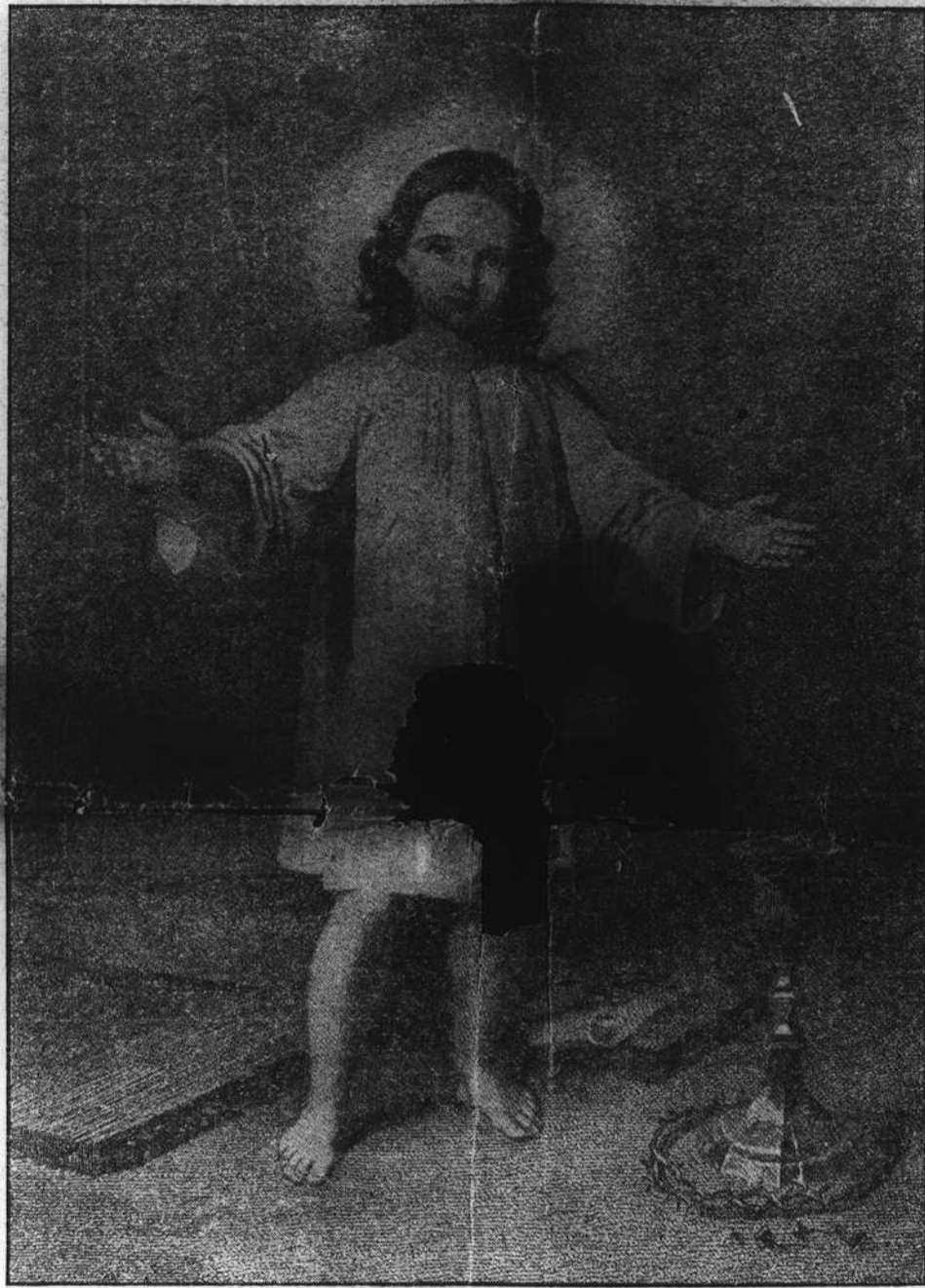
SOME PLAIN SPEAKING

On the 16th of June 1909 I wrote the following article and filed it away among my papers. It is now published for the first time.

It is time to do some plain speaking concerning the Negro and the attitude of a part of the white race toward him. The time is now and I am going to speak plainly.

The negro is just now the victim of the insensate hatred of a class of white people who are to be found not only in the South, but in a great many northern states, where the virus of race prejudice has taken a deeper hold than many of us realize, and this is largely due to the fact that Negroes are pushing forward in these northern communities and endeavoring to improve their condition materially, educationally and industrially. The large foreign element in the North and West, see in the Negro a formidable rival in the industries and much of the mob violence of which we hear in these sections directed against Negroes is directly traceable to this element, which forms a quite considerable part of the trade and labor unions of the North. To this acum of the races of Europe we are indebted for the... and West.

The apathy of the administration in regards to these disorders, the cowardly silence of the press, the public and the pulpit has spurred the mob both in the North and in the South to acts of violence and savagery hitherto unheard of. It apparently assumes that since the President and Congress do not deem it necessary to take any action to protect the Negro in the enjoyment of his limited rights of citizenship, it may do as it pleases with him; and so Negroes are now being lynched and burned at the stake in the North almost as frequently as in the South, where he is also robbed of his labor and his vote and denied every privilege which the white man demand and receive for themselves. As a balm for these wrongs and injustices northern philanthropists pour their dollars into the coffers of negro schools, and northern business men and manufactureres absolutely refuse to give employment to the products of these schools for whom their money is given to educate, no matter how well educated or how efficient they may be. Meanwhile our spineless race leaders are temporizing with wrong, and hoping against hope for the coming of the morning, when "men to men shall brothers be, for a' that and a' that." They forget that rights are more than filthy gold, that manhood counts for more than cringing servility, even though the latter pays temporarily, that gold does not make men out of jelly and that jelly fish and apologetic leaders cannot lead manly men anywhere by cowardly submitting to wrong or temporizing with injustices which tend to brutalize and dehumanize any race. The questions which relate to the civic and political rights of the Negro cannot be much longer put off or adjourned. There is bound to be a day of reckoning, of retribution, settlement, for God punishes national sins with the same certainty and vigor with which he punishes individual sins. For all the wrongs for which the Negro race has suffered and is now suffering the white man will sooner or later have to pay a terrible penalty; for what



And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:10,11.

goes up must come down. I believe in the justice of Almighty God and that the law of action and reaction still applies and will apply to this nation, and to all nations who use their power arbitrarily and to oppress the weak and helpless. Nothing is more clearly written in the book of fate than that this nation is on the verge of a great upheaval and there is nothing more certain than that the negro who is the victim, the under dog in this civilization will in that grim revel, become as he always has in every great crisis in this nation, one of the bulwarks of the Republic.

In less than ten years the nations will be at each others throats and blood will flow, and thrones will totter. "The pestilence that walketh at noonday" will overshadow this land and want and famine will be the portion of many peoples here and in foreign lands. Great as was imperial Rome it is now only a memory because it worked unrighteousness and boasted of its strength. God suffered it to be cut down. Its great strength was its chief weakness. Industrial education is not the true solvent for the wrongs of the Negro. He has a grievance which can only be righted by poetic justice. If the white man of the North who has recently resorted to the lynching

habit and mob violence in imitation of their white Southern brethren imagine that they can repress in the Negro the desire for justice and determination to possess it, I tell them that they are mistaken. It cannot be repressed, it cannot be shot out of them, or frightened out of them. The mightiest question before the American people today is what shall we do with the Negro?

Many white Americans mistakenly suppose that the endowment of colleges and schools for negro education is the only proper way to dispose of it. This only aggravates it. Education without rights is as bad if not worse than chattel slavery. It creates more restlessness and rebellion in the breasts of negroes who like myself are heartily tired of the cowardly evasions and silence of those who ought to speak out, but dare not against the deep damnations of the Negro's wrongs. Had George Washington looked to God the III for advice as to how to conduct the war against England there would have been no declaration of Independence, and no United States. The American Negro is going to get his rights either from the American people, or from the Almighty God and he will get them much sooner than some of his enemies imagine. There are now indications on

the world's checker board which point to national and international upheavals for the world, is now in travail, and at almost any moment the unexpected and the unusual may happen. Europe is helpless and America is ominously silent. History is about to repeat itself. We are sitting on the edge of a volcano which in its pent up fury will some day burst forth and set the whole world in tears.

AN HISTORIC EVENT

Special to The Star:
The Most Worshipful Grand Lodge (Prince Hall Constitution) F. A. and A. M., of the State of New York gave a banquet in honor of President C. D. B. King and wife, of Liberia, West Gold Coast Africa on the evening of Sept. 22, in Anderson's Assembly Rooms 16th and Irving Place, New York State. The affair is declared by those conversant with such functions to have been the largest and most successful social event ever given by the race in the greater city. Tickets of admission including dinner were \$5 a couple and \$3 single and many applications for places at the table had to be denied for want of space. It was an epoch making event and many distinguished Africans sat

around the festive board, among them Bishop A. P. Campaer, of Liberia; Dr. H. B. Cassell, Prof. F. William Ellegar and Messrs. Wolo and Powell of Liberia. Among the noted ladies present were Mrs. Lella Waiters, wife of the late Bishop A. Waiters, Miss Grandolyn James, of Kingston Jamaica; Mrs. J. Cockburn, wife of Captain Cockburn of Lagos, West Coast, Mrs. David Parker, wife of the most worshipful Grand Master, Prince Hall G. L. President elect King, was escorted from the Hotel, The Astor, to the Banquet Hall by R. W. H. A. Williamson, Treasurer of the Banquet Committee, and four mounted police officers detailed by the mayor, and he was received at the entrance of the Hall by the Knight Templar with arched swords under which he passed with the committee to the guest tables, to the strains of the Liberian National Anthem, "All Hail Liberia, Hall," by the Orchestra, the diners rising and cheering as he passed to his seat beside G. H. Parker. The speeches of welcome and responses to toasts were enlivening and inspiring. Letters of regret were received and read by Bruce Grit from Governor Smith, Major Hylan, Dr. J. Harvey Anderson of The Star of Zion, His Honor, Mr. J. Supreme Court of... and Master in adjacent... charge of the affairs was composed of R. W. G. S. G. L. of New York, A. A. Schemburg, chairman; R. W. H. A. Williamson, Treasurer; John E. Bruce Grit, K. O. A. R. M. L. P., Secretary of the Banquet Committee. The dinner for service and completeness left nothing to be desired. The Grand Lodge has demonstrated its ability as an entertainer of distinguished masons from foreign lands, and its guests are unstinted in praise of its hospitality. This is the second banquet tendered by the New York Grand Lodge to Masons from abroad, the first having occurred more than fifty years ago when delegates from Haiti were banqueted by it.

John E. Bruce, "Grit."
Yonkers, N. Y.
June 10, 1909.

THE NORTH ALABAMA CONFERENCE

By Rev. C. J. Stevenson, A. B., D. D.

The old North Alabama Conference has again passed into history. On the 19th of November this historic Conference opened its 25th annual session in Clinton Chapel, Tuscaloosa, Ala. Rev. S. H. Brown is the pastor. Rt. Rev. J. W. Alstork is the presiding Bishop. The conference opened with a large delegation of ministers and laymen on hand. Dr. C. C. Alleyne, editor of the Quarterly Review; was the only General officer on hand at the opening. The conference was interesting from beginning to end. The Bishop whose health was almost perfect was at his best in his usual way of giving advice on the leading topics of the day. The strike situation, the lynching problem and the Mexican situation and all of our present day ills were topics for sane advice. After the usual introduction of visitors and some preliminaries, the Conference settled down to business.

The first day's session closed with splendid results. Dr. J. C. Thompson, Presiding Elder of the

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