



# THE TRIBUNAL AID

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**A VIABLE, VALID REQUIREMENT  
RESPONDING TO  
BLACK NORTH CAROLINA**

The 1976 Editions of THE TRIBUNAL AID will be dedicated to America's bicentennial Celebration, with emphasis on contributions our Race has made in the making of America, from birth to the present.

In 1976 there should not be a need to lift these contributions from isolated sources. Our past

should be interwoven into the fabric of our civilization, because we are, except for the Indian, America's oldest ethnic minority.

We have helped make America what it was, and what it is, since the founding of Virginia. We have been a factor in many major issues in our history. There have been many misdeeds

against us, yet we have been able to live through them and fight back. This is living proof of our history.

Our role in the making of America is neither well known or correctly known. Many positive contributions have escaped historians and have not found their way into the pages of many history books.

We will strive to give readers, Black and white, many little-known facts about our past and it is hoped that a proper perspective of our history will be of value to persons who may believe that as Black people we have an unworthy past; and hence, no strong claims to all rights of other Americans.

Faye Ashe, Black History Editor

## BICENTENNIAL BLACK HISTORY "Lost-Strayed-Or Stolen"

Black history in the Western Hemisphere most probably begins with the discovery of the New World by Christopher Columbus in 1492. Blacks are known to have participated meaningfully in a number of later explorations made by Europeans in various parts of the United States and Spanish America. Facts such as these at once fashion a new dimension for Black history within the mainstream of American history. Inasmuch as one of the primary purposes of this feature is to record some historical achievements of the Black, it becomes most important to offer the reader chronological accounts through which he can conveniently familiarize himself with the broad sweep of American Black history. The years covered here are 1492-1954.

1862 Washington, D.C.

Congress authorizes the enlistment of Negroes for military service.

1863 Washington, D.C.

President Lincoln issues the Emancipation Proclamation.

1865 Washington, D.C.

John Rock becomes the first Negro admitted to practice before the Supreme Court.

1865 Washington, D.C.

Congress retifies the 13th Amendment, and establishes the Freedmen's Bureau.

1865 Washington, D.C.

Death of Abraham Lincoln.

1865 Mississippi

Passage of the "Black Codes."

1865 Montgomery, Alabama

Jefferson Davis authorizes the Confederacy to fill its military quota by enlisting Negroes in numbers not to exceed 25% of the able-bodied slave population. The measure comes one month before Appomattox, and is too late to have any material impact on the outcome of the war.

1866 Massachusetts

Edward G. Walker and Charles L. Mitchell are elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, thus becoming the first Negroes to serve in a legislative assembly in the United States.

1866 Washington, D.C.

A bill is introduced in the District to provide for Negro suffrage. White voters are asked to indicate their sentiments in a referendum. Over 6500 vote against extension of the franchise to blacks; only 35 favor it.

1866 Tennessee

Opening of Fisk University in Nashville.

1866 Washington, D.C.

Passage of the Civil Rights Bill of 1866 despite President Andrew Johnson's veto.

1867 Atlanta, Georgia

Opening of Morehouse College and Howard University, respectively.

1867 Washington, D.C.

Congress passes the First Reconstruction Act, providing for military rule in the South, pending the reorganization of state governments loyal to the Union.

1868 Washington, D.C.

Ratification of the 14th Amendment which establishes the concept of "equal protection" for all citizens under the laws of the U.S. Constitution.

1868 Louisiana

Ex-slave Oscar J. Dunn becomes lieutenant governor of Louisiana -- at that time the highest elective office ever held by an American Negro.

1868 Louisiana

Readmission of Louisiana's Senator and Representatives to the U. S. government. The move follows the systematic terror initiated by the Ku Klux Klan against members of the Republican Party and emancipated blacks. Killings, lynchings and beatings are recorded in several Louisiana parishes.

1869 Haiti

Ebenezer Don Carlos Bassett, believed to be the first Negro to receive an appointment in the diplomatic service, becomes Minister to Haiti.

1870 Washington, D.C.

Joseph H. Rainey is seated as the first Negro in the House of Representatives.

1870 Washington, D.C.

Hiram Revels, the first Negro senator in the history of the U.S., delivers his first speech before the Senate on March 16 -- "...I maintain that the past record of my race is a true index of the feelings which today animate them ... They aim not to elevate themselves by sacrificing one single interest of their white fellow-citizens."

1870 Washington, D.C.

Ratification of the 15th Amendment, guaranteeing to all citizens the right to vote.

1871 Washington, D.C.

Congress enacts the "Ku Klux Klan" Act designed to enforce the provisions of the 14th Amendment.

FORMER HIGH POINT RESIDENT

## RHYMES FROM THE DELTA

PART SIX

A few years ago I found a book entitled *RHYMES FROM THE DELTA*. The cover of the book was worn and I had no idea at the moment the author of the book. When I turned to the title page I discovered that the author was a High Pointer and a member of my church.

*RHYMES FROM THE DELTA* is a collection of Narratives and Poems by Mr. George W. McCorkle. In the words of Mr. McCorkle, I would like to share with you some of his recollections about the schools he attended, his first compositions written and first poem published.

I am sure some of the recollections given here and names mentioned will bring back memories to many people in the City of High Point and other states and cities visited by Mr. McCorkle.

Many of his poems are dedicated to people of this city, many of whom we have known.

### Continued From Last Week

#### POEMS OF THOUGHT AND CHEER

Dedicated To The Memory of My Former Teacher, Prof. J. Adolphus Rhyne

#### DUTY

When the Muse demands a poem,  
I must write;  
I must always be on duty --  
Day or night.  
Though I may be fast asleep,  
While the angels safely keep,  
I must wake from slumber deep  
And get to work.

#### WHEN GEORGE BEGINS TO MOP

You ought to see this man at work  
Or with a piece of chop;  
But everything takes on new life  
When George begins to mop.

All know the tiome for him to start,  
From office to the shop,  
And gladly give the right of way  
When George begins to mop.

Once in a while he looks around  
When sweat begins to drop;  
All take their flight to higher ground  
When George begins to mop.

The cooks and dieticians, too --  
All take a nimble 'hop  
From water flashing right and left  
When George begins to mop.

No need to say you're going at once  
With hope to call a cop;  
You'd never get him near that door  
When George begins to mop.

You'd think sometimes he's at the point  
Where he would almost flop,  
But stay your distance, my dear friend,  
When George begins to mop.

Some visitors oft happen in,  
But make a sudden stop  
To join the other lookers-on  
When George begins to mop.

No matter where your station is --  
At the bottom or at the top,  
You'd better make your safe escape  
When George begins to mop.

So if you have a little time  
To spare, even from your crop,  
You'll spend it wisely to peep in  
When George begins to mop.

#### THE DESPONDENT BROTHER

This brother from his early youth  
Had sought to do his best;  
He stood up always for the truth,  
Though bitter was the test.

He sought to help his fellowman  
Where there was crying need;  
He was a leader in the van  
In sowing precious seed.

His one great prayer, through sleet and hail,  
That he might do so well  
That he would not be sent to jail  
Nor make his bed in hell.

But circumstances came around  
That landed him in jail;  
It brought the brother to the ground  
When prayer did not prevail.

His friends, together paid his fine --  
From prison made him free;  
His countenance began to shine  
In all sincerity.

He went to service next church day  
When sadness in his heart;  
The pastor called on him to pray;  
The brother made a start:

"Oh, Lord," said he, "Let prayer prevail  
While here on earth I dwell;  
I've asked to be kept out of jail --  
And also out of hell.

"Now, Lord, it looks like I'm to fail;  
Good tidings to me tell;  
You've suffered me to go the jail --  
I believe I'm going to hell."

#### THE GARDENER

A vision rises in his breast  
Beginning of each day;  
He gives to every task his best  
As he plods on his way.

Each flower gives a lesson great  
Left by that hand divine;  
The fragrance drives away all hate  
And ushers in sunshine.

The gardener works from morn till eve  
In this great school of art,  
Content that he is to receive  
Much beauty for his part.

Upon his bed he dreams at night  
Of lillies of every shade;  
Let them be purple, red or white  
All these God's hand has made,

#### PRESEVERANCE

If the word is hard to split,  
Strike right on;  
If you miss it when you hit,  
Strike right on;  
You must never think to fail,  
Let your axe at last prevail;  
Get more strength and split the rail,  
Strike right on.

If the sun is very hot,  
Toil right on;  
Be contented with your lot;  
Toil right on;  
If you try to shun the heat,  
You will never cut the wheat,  
Don't be thinking how to beat;  
Toil right on.

If you cannot find a job,  
Hunt right on;  
Don't go 'round and try to rob;  
Hunt right on;  
Do whatever comes to hand;  
Do your work so it will stand;  
But if still you fail to land,  
Hunt right on.

If the way is rough and long,  
Walk right on;  
When you stop you do the wrong;  
Walk right on;  
Never think to give it up;  
When you have a bitter cup,  
Next may be a sweeter sup;  
Walk right on.

If the day is bitter cold,  
Move right on;  
Be a man -- a hero, bold;  
Move right on;

You can't always be at ease;  
Hear the wind blow through the trees?  
Step up man before you freeze!  
Move right on.

If the weather kills your crop,  
Plant right on;  
If it does not rain a drop,  
Plant right on;  
Hitch your oxen to the cart;  
Get your seed and make a start;  
Providence will do His part;  
Plant right on.

If you're troubled day by day,  
Pray right on;  
If your friends their trust betray;  
Pray right on;  
God is ruling over all,  
When you need Him, simply call;  
He will never let you fall;  
Pray right on.

If the tub is full of clothes,  
Rub right on;  
If you feel like you could dose,  
Rub right on;  
There's a better day ahead;  
Rub, you have no need to dread;  
You will get your daily bread,  
Rub right on.

If the hill is rough and steep,  
Climb right on;  
If sometimes you're made to weep,  
Climb right on;  
Though the climbing gives you pain,  
Just beyond the cloud and rain,  
You will see the sun again,  
Climb right on.

If the waves are dashing high,  
Sail right on;  
If it seems that death is nigh,  
Sail right on;  
Though the waves be great a strong,  
And the battle fierce and long,  
Don't forget your prayer and song;  
Sail right on.

If the stove is red with heat,  
Cook right on;  
If your burn your bread and meat,  
Cook right on;  
Cooking may be very hot,  
Yet it seems to be your lot;  
Put the chicken in the pot,  
Cook right on.

If your best girl turns you down,  
Court right on;  
If she gives you angry frown,  
Court right on;  
If she holds the other beau,  
It's high time for you to go;  
Don't be seen there any more;  
Court right on.

If it seems that all is lost,  
Keep right on;  
Do the right at any cost,  
Keep right on;  
Though your friends may turn to foes,  
And both earth and hell oppose,  
Right will blossom as a rose;  
Keep right on.

If you think you've failed in life,  
Strive right on;  
"Be a hero in the strife."  
Strive right on;  
There are others of your kind;  
Get a better frame of mind;  
Look ahead, and not behind;  
Strive right on.

If in life you have had bad luck,  
Push right on;  
You may reach the goal with pluck;  
Push right on;  
If you push and then believe,  
Victory you will achieve,  
And at last reward receive;  
Push right on.

1776 Honoring America's Bicentennial 1976