

J.L. EDMONDS

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Life of Jefferson L. Edmonds

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THE EMANCIPATED.

BY JOHN S. M'GROARTY.

When out of the chaos earth was hurled,
And God's great mandate spread;
When He made the races to fill the world—
Yellow and white and red—
There was one made black, and the other three
Seeing him, asked to know
Whence, from what darkness cometh he?
And whither does he go?

What is the destiny of the American negro? Whither does he go? Is he to survive, or is he to be ground between the upper and nether millstones of time, to be blown as dust on the winds of fate; to disappear, as the American Indian is disappearing and as many another race has disappeared since the world began? It is a timely question to ask on this the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, "The Great Emancipator," two generations after Antietam, when he flung at the heels of McClellan's victorious army the immortal proclamation that struck the shackles from the limbs of 4,000,000 slaves.

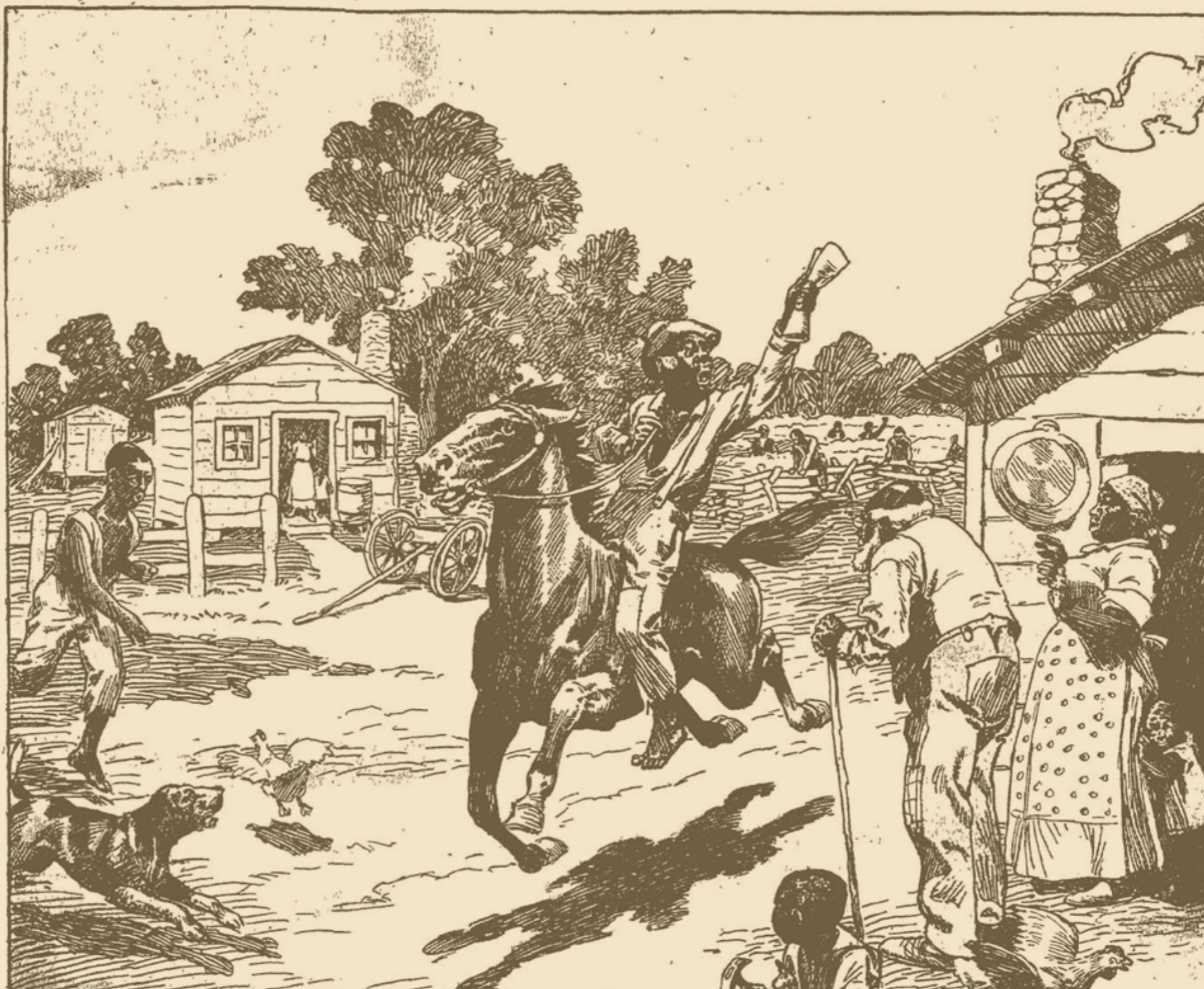
Men will answer this question, each in his own way, according to his light and prophetic vision; according to his faith in the negro or his prejudice against him. No one ever seems to think it worth while to ask the negro himself for an answer. The Times, however, does think it worth while, and has, accordingly, invited the negro people of Los Angeles and Southern California, and the great negro leader, Booker T. Washington, to speak for themselves. This they have done through the columns of The Times, this morning, in a section of the paper devoted to their statements. Attention is called to the story of emancipation as told by J. L. Edmonds, a former slave, now a prosperous farmer at Sawtelle; to the articles on the religious, social, professional and business life of the negroes in this vicinity, and to the article on negro women.

As will be seen, the answer is voluminous, and even luminous. However it be that the black man has fared or is faring in other parts of the country and the world, his voice in this Lincoln Day issue of The Times is not tremulous with defeat or querulous with despair. Instead, it is the voice of people who have traveled far and well with the vibrant march of progress, and who look out on life with level gaze from victories won. They have apparently come to the wise conclusion that they must work out their own salvation—the only safe rule for them to follow. As Booker T. Washington says, they must make obstacle an opportunity.

As a rule, the white man's knowledge of the negro is superficial. We know our brothers in black only from meeting them on the highways or from the jokes that are printed about them in the comic papers. Sometimes our impressions are gained from none too friendly sources—from those who hate the negro blindly and without reason. This section of today's issue of The Times—a departure unique in journalism—contains the story of the negroes whom fate has cast in this part of the country. It is their own story told by themselves. The Times has, as it were, invited them to throw open their doors that their white neighbors may look in on them in their family life, their business and professional and social life, and see for themselves how the negro lives and toils and, has his being in our own loved California of the South.

I was glad when the editor-in-chief of The Times announced that he was to make this feature a part of the paper's celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln.

"MEASURE OUR SUCCESSES FROM THE DEPTHS FROM WHICH WE HAVE COME
RATHER THAN THE HEIGHTS TO WHICH WE HOPE TO ASCEND"—*Frederick Douglass.*





Photo, page 461
America: A Concise History, Third Edition



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THE FIRST COLORED SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVES.

In the 41st and 42nd Congress of the United States.

NEW YORK, PUBLISHED BY CURRIER & IVES, 125 NASSAU STREET.

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OFFICIAL MAP
OF THE COUNTY OF

Los Angeles

CALIFORNIA

Compiled from Official Maps

E. C. Corbitt
1896

1896

Scale of Miles

1 inch = 1 mile

Clifford S. Chapman

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THE LIBERATOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the American Negro

Vol. XI 5 cts. a copy LOS ANGELES, CAL., MARCH 21, 1913 \$1.50 a year No. 22

Vote This Ballot To Guard Your Rights

Recommendations of The Executive Committee of People's Charter Conference.

Save This SAMPLE BALLOT Until Election Day and Vote as Recommended If You Desire the Best Interests of Los Angeles -41144-

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: To vote on a proposition stamp a cross (X) in the voting square to the right of and opposite the answer you desire to give. ALL MARKS EXCEPT THE CROSS (X) ARE FORBIDDEN. ALL DISTINGUISHING MARKS OR ERASURES ARE FORBIDDEN AND MAKE THE ANSWER OF ELECTION AND OBTAIN ANOTHER.

BALLOT VOID. IF YOU WRONGLY STAMP, TEAR OR DEFACE THIS BALLOT, return it to the inspector of election and obtain another.

As to any proposed charter amendment and its alternative you may vote FOR either one of them, or FOR either one and AGAINST the other, or you may vote AGAINST both, BUT DO NOT VOTE FOR BOTH; A VOTE FOR BOTH WILL NOT BE COUNTED IN FAVOR OF EITHER.

PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS		PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS	
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	
Shall proposed charter amendment number ONE, relating to the powers of the city in acquiring public utilities now privately owned and to the disposition of the surplus product or service of any public utility owned by the city, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	X
No		No	
Shall proposed charter amendment number TWO, relating to the granting of franchises for, and the powers of control of the city over, privately owned public utilities, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	X
No		No	
Shall proposed charter amendment number THREE, relating to the city's power to license, regulate and control certain businesses, relating to city elections and to the limitation of the purposes and the amount of the expenditure of money in connection therewith, relating to the use of the bed of the Los Angeles River, relating to excess condemnation and to the construction of passageways across public alleys, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number FOUR, authorizing the city to exercise any power which a municipal corporation might or could exercise under the Constitution of California, and relating to the property which may be held and controlled by the city and to the businesses in which the city may engage, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number FIVE, relating to the power of the Council to issue instructions to appointive boards, commissions and officers of the city, and relating to grouping the functions of the city government into nine divisions, and appointing the members of the Council as council members for such divisions, and prescribing their duties as such, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number SIX, relating to the salaries of officers of the city, and fixing the times for the meetings of the Council, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
(NOTE.—Proposed charter amendment number SIX, hereinafter referred to, is submitted as an alternative to this proposed charter amendment number SIX. As to these two proposed charter amendments, you may vote for either one of them, or for either one and against the other, or you may vote against both, but do not vote for both; a vote for both will not be counted in favor of either.)			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number SEVEN, providing for a primary nominating election in May and a general municipal election in June of the present year and of each odd numbered year thereafter, terminating the terms of office of appointive officers of the city on the first Monday in July, 1913, prohibiting officers of the city from being interested in city contracts, and relating to the recall of appointive officers of the city, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number EIGHT, relating to proportional representation in the City Council, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
(NOTE.—Proposed charter amendment number SEVENTEEN hereinafter referred to is submitted as an alternative to this proposed charter amendment number EIGHT. As to these two proposed charter amendments, you may vote for either one of them, or for either one and against the other, or you may vote against both, but do not vote for both; a vote for both will not be counted in favor of either.)			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number NINE, providing for the appointment of the members of the Board of Harbor Commissioners, establishing a harbor district comprising the tide and submerged lands and lands adjacent thereto in Los Angeles Harbor, and relating to the regulation, control and use of the waterfront, tide and submerged lands in said harbor, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
(NOTE.—Proposed charter amendment number SIXTEEN hereinafter referred to is submitted as an alternative to this proposed charter amendment number NINE. As to these two proposed charter amendments, you may vote for either one of them, or for either one and against the other, or you may vote against both, but do not vote for both; a vote for both will not be counted in favor of either.)			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
Shall proposed charter amendment number TEN, fixing the amounts of bonds of certain city officers, and relating to the payment by the city of the premium on such bonds executed by corporate sureties, be ratified?			
Yes	X	Yes	
No		No	X
END OF PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS			
INITIATIVE ORDINANCE			
Yes		Yes	
No		No	
Shall the ordinance regulating public dances and public dance halls and providing for the granting and revocation of permits therefor, be adopted?			

THE LIBERATOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Cause of Good Government and the Advancement of the American Negro.

Vol. X 5 cts. a copy LOS ANGELES, CAL., APRIL 12, 1912 \$1.50 a year No. 21

Why Negroes Should Own Farms in California

(Reprint by request from issue of Aug. 11, 1911)

The first and chief value of a California farm is that life is as safe as respect for law can make it. The value of land depends more upon the safety of life than the fertility of the soil. Hence, where life isn't safe, property is without value. California therefore, offers the home seeker two of the chief essentials to success as a farmer: absolute freedom in the enjoyment of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, coupled with the most fertile and productive soil under the sun.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The next essential, no less important than the two mentioned, is the facilities offered the farmer for educating his children. In this particular, California is second to none. Every community has its grammar school with nine months sessions each year and high school districts are so situated that every farmer's boy or girl is within four miles of the district high school. Graduating from the high schools the State University and Normal schools are opened free to all. All of the large cities of the state have Polytechnic High Schools where the farmer's boys can learn the trades free and those who are unable to attend the day schools, can enter the night classes which are also free. The state maintains a number of normal schools situated in the large centers of population making them of easy access to the children in every part of the state. So the farmer who brings his children to California owns free of cost the absolute protection

of the laws and facilities for educating his children that are unsurpassed. With these and a small farm, say ten to forty acres of land, he is absolutely independent. The farmer who wishes to conserve his energies while living decently and independently, should come to California. This does not mean that he can live without work, but it does mean that well directed labor produces more in California than it does anywhere else in the United States.

FARMS

The California farmer knows nothing of the privations endured by the farmers of the rural districts of the East and South. He has the enjoyment of all the facilities enjoyed by the Eastern villagers. His church and school is at his door, the grocer supplies him each day, the butcher and baker supplies fresh meat and bread for each meal. The daily paper is at his door early in the morning, the rural mail carrier hands him his mail each day and his telephone puts him in speaking distance with the business people of distant cities. Everything his soil produces finds a ready market at his door.

The system of public roads maintained by the county are the best in the country. So that driving and automobiling are two great sources of pleasure among the farmers and their children.

THE PRODUCTIVENESS OF THE SOIL

The soil in California is so productive that the farmer needs

only a small well cared for tract of land. For instance, a farmer with a family of five can make a good living and educate his children on ten acres of land. Such a farmer would have time for reading and recreation and would not be a slave to the farm, but with one fourth of the labor, get better results than a southern farmer can get on forty acres.

A young farmer in King's County gathered 1000 sacks of onions from three and three-fourths acres of land worth \$1.50 per sack, or \$1,500. Upon this same land he can harvest another crop. This is merely one of thousands of instances to be found anywhere in California. Owing to California's matchless climate, wealth and diversity of soil, the farmers of California engage with great profit in almost every agricultural pursuit known to the country. The fruit growing of this state is conducted on such a large scale, that it is engaged in principally by men of large means. There are yet tens of thousands of opportunities for men of small means to engage in the business with absolute certainty of success; as many thousands of acres of valuable fruit lands are being reclaimed annually and thrown on the market at low prices and easy terms.

COTTON GROWING

Besides the millions of dollars, produced annually from farming, cattle raising, mining and manufacturing in this state, the introduction of cotton growing in the great Imperial valley will add its

The Liberator Extra

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

LOS ANGELES, CAL., DECEMBER, 1902.

No. 8.



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

DO COLORED BUSINESS MEN PATRONIZE RACE ENTERPRISES?

Elsewhere in these columns we publish a letter from Mr. Alfred Summers, prominent citizen of Pasadena, in which he discusses at some length the attitude of colored business men toward race enterprises. Its perusal will doubtless be beneficial to those of the race who are interested in its advancement. We regret to admit that the charges made against our business men are too well founded, and hope that the appearance of their cards in some race journal will place them in the attitude of consistency. Our business men are by reason of circumstances leaders, and a display of a little less selfishness on their part might greatly enhance their business. If we even had the aid of our business men by way of subscriptions to the paper it would increase our facilities for educating our people to patronize their stores. What we need, Brothers, is a few more wide-awake business men like Mr. T. B. Walker of our city. His card is to be seen in several race papers. This has much to do with his popularity and business success.

Because the services a man is trying to render needy people are not appreciated, is absolutely no reason for their continuance. The negro race has got to be lifted up. If the negro of the present does not appreciate the services of those who are carrying the load, a generation is coming that will. To laborers who make sacrifices to broaden the opportunities of the little boys and girls who are looking to us men of today; to their little feet in the right paths, is the sweetest and most sacred duty that falls to the lot of man. That's what we're trying to do, and the washerwomen, men like Bro. Summers who carry the load and do other similar labor, are doing by us loyally. If our laborers contribute in the least to the advancement of the race, they will not have been in vain. That of itself is an imperishable reward. But for the present let us get away from selfishness and concentrate our efforts to uplift the race. "Today is the day of salvation."

NEW EXCHANGES.

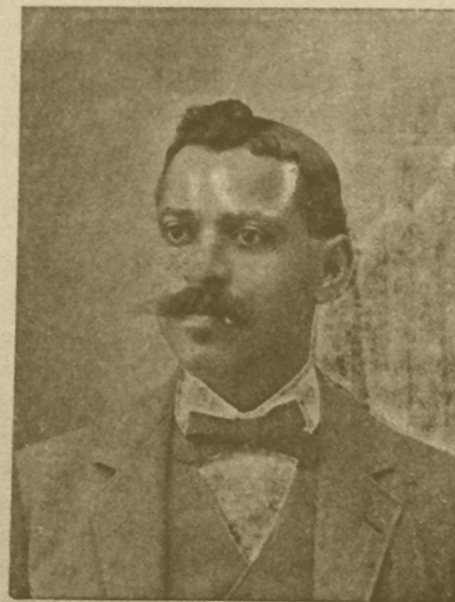
We are pleased to put on our exchange list the St. Joseph Radical of St. Joseph, Mo., and the Advocate, Portland, Oregon. Both are splendidly gotten up. The Radical is a fighter of

THE LIBERATOR.



MR. V. W. MORRIS.

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BUSY MEN AND WOMEN,

Just a short talk. The Globe (weekly) is read by "Busy Men and Women." It tells you how to do things and be busy. Send 4 cents stamps for sample copy. The Globe, 218 West 6th St.

Notice.—Many of our readers indebted to this paper for information and other small amounts of friends will do us a favor to pay once. This will enable us to make improvements that we contemplate. Whatever you owe please pay it without further notice. We are ambitious with your liberal support to increase our efforts in the elevation of the colored race. If you are not a subscriber, please send a dollar to push the good work.

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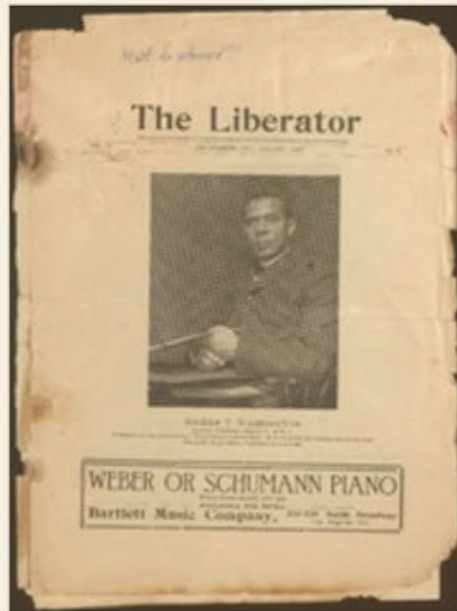
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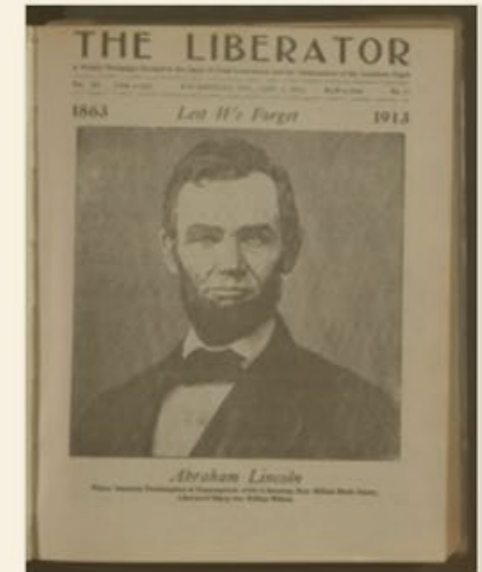
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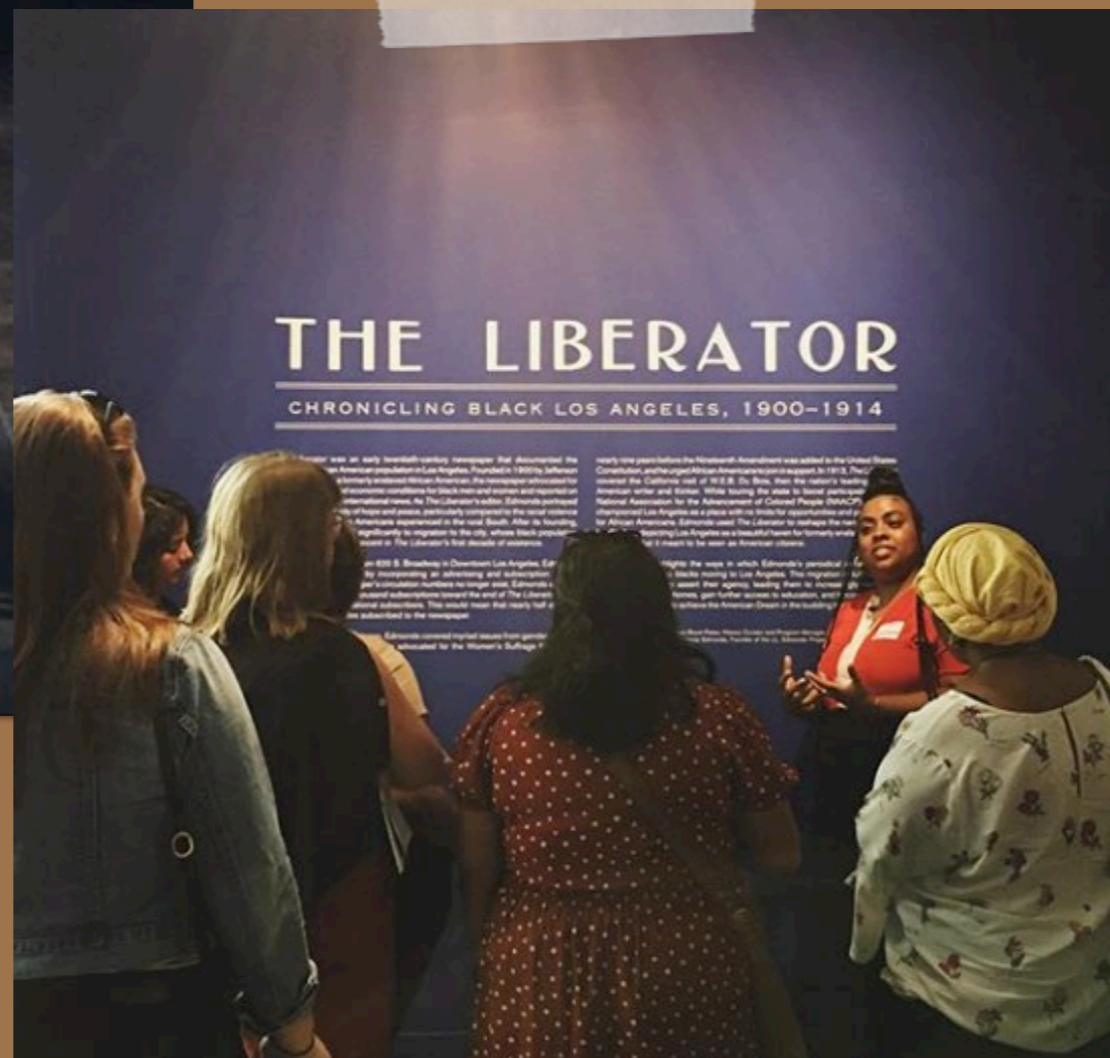


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IF WE ERASE FROM AMERICAN HISTORY THE PAGES
THAT THE NEGRO'S PRESENCE CAUSED TO BE WRITTEN,
IT WOULD BE A SHORT, UNINTERESTING STORY.
— WITTENBERG LEWIS GORDON, 1904



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ONE WHOLE LIFE

IF WE ERASE FROM THE PAGES OF AMERICAN HISTORY THE NEGRO'S PRESENCE,
IT WOULD BE A SHORT, UNINTERESTING STORY.

-JEFFERSON LEWIS EDMONDS, THE LOS ANGELES TIMES (1909)

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*What will your legacy
be?*

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