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THE
A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
INSTITUTE

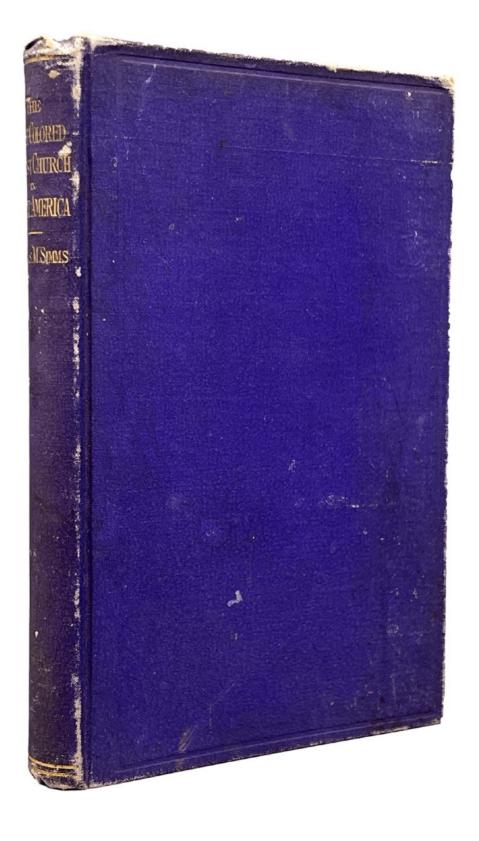
Agent for Change

SIMMS, Rev. James M. The First Colored Baptist Church in North America. Constituted at Savannah, Georgia, January 20, A.D. 1788..

PHILADELPHIA: J.B. LIPPINCOTT COMPANY, 1888. FIRST EDITION.

1

8.25 x 5.5", original purple cloth with gilt spine lettering, [2], 264 pp, frontispiece illustration of the church plus six additional illustration plates. A history of the First Bryan Baptist Church of Savannah, Georgia, founded in 1788 and claiming to be the oldest African American Baptist church in North America. The author, James M. Simms, was a member of the congregation who was born into enslavement; after purchasing his freedom in 1857, he served in the Union Army, and worked as an author, newspaper publisher, and member of the Georgia Assembly during Reconstruction. According to the preface, the book was compiled from both written and oral sources, including "Sisters Grace Hague and Sarah Wallace...[who] lived to very old ages, the first to 1884 and the two latter to 1885..." According to one modern day scholar, "In recounting the history of the church's leadership and congregation, Simms joined with other black leaders around the country who sought, through such publications, to highlight religious institutionbuilding as a significant force in black nineteenth-century life, a force that spanned slavery and freedom. Here in Simms's book, published in 1888, was the story of the ideal of equality among all people...Simms thus closely linked the history of the church to the history of emancipation" (Jones, "Saving Savannah: The City and the Civil War", 394). The book concludes with a summary of church activities at the time of publication, including church societies and finances, followed by the Church's covenant, constitution and by-laws, and biographical sketches of its pastors. Wear, soiling and discoloration to covers, front hinge cracking, bit of toning and foxing to pages, bit of staining to text block edges, overall a sound copy.

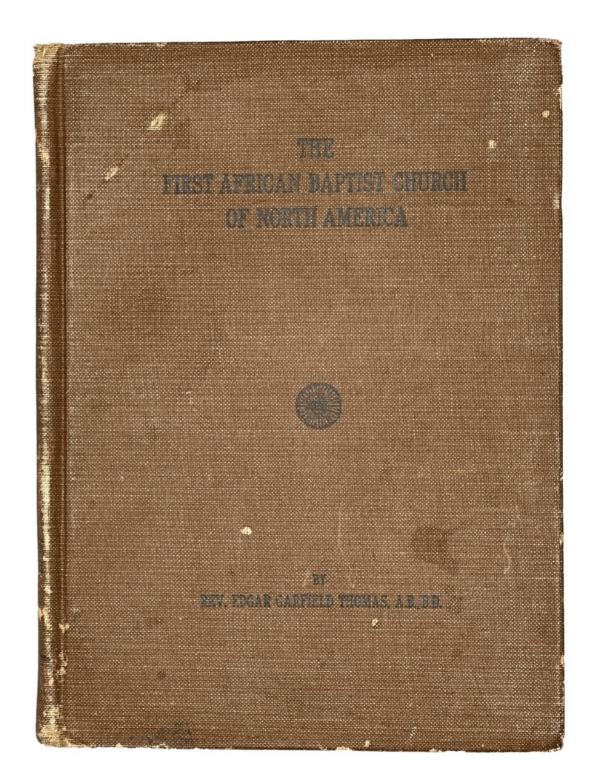


THOMAS, Rev. Edgar Garfield. The First African Baptist Church of North America.

[SAVANNAH, GEORGIA]: E.G. THOMAS, AUTHOR, 1925. FIRST EDITION.

2

7.75 x 5.75", brown cloth with black lettering, [2], 144 pp, photographic frontispiece depicting the church, illustrations within text, errata leaf. A history of the First African Baptist Church of Savannah, Georgia, founded in 1788 and claiming to be the oldest African American Baptist church in North America. The author, Edgar Garfield Thomas, was a Morehouse educated reverend who served as pastor of the church between 1924 and 1928. According to the preface, the book was published in part to reinforce the church's claim as the first African American Baptist church, as two other churches also claimed the title, and "our rivals have become more aggressive, and their propaganda is bearing fruit." The majority of the text covers the history of the church in the 18th and 19th centuries, while the last four chapters cover the first two decades of the twentieth century, including descriptions of the various organizations and clubs of the church. Wear and discoloration to covers, damp staining to margins of frontispiece and title page, pencil underlining to text.

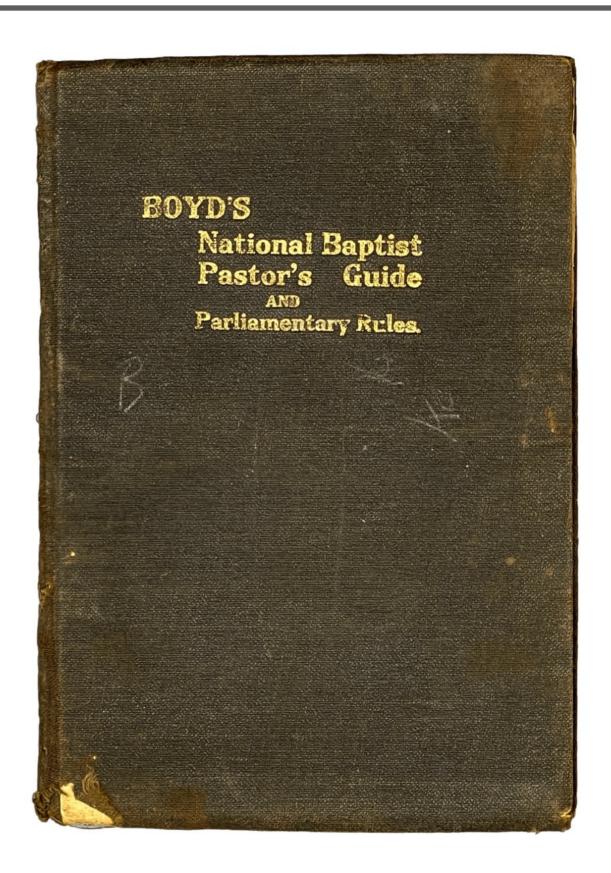


BOYD, R[ichard] H[enry]. Boyd's National Baptist Pastor's Guide and Parliamentary Rules.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE: NATIONAL BAPTIST PUBLISHING BOARD, 1900. SIXTEENTH EDITION.

3

6.75 x 4.75", black cloth with gilt lettering to front cover, 87 pp. A guide for pastors of the National Baptist Convention, an African American Baptist denomination founded in 1895. The author, Richard Henry Boyd, was born into enslavement in Mississippi in 1843. In 1859, he was sold to a cotton plantation in Texas. After the Civil War, Boyd taught himself to read, and served as a Baptist minister in Texas, founding that state's first African American Baptist association. In 1896, Boyd moved to Nashville, where he founded the National Baptist Publishing Board and helped to found the National Baptist Convention. This title was an early publication of the National Baptist Publishing Board, which "dominated the market for black Baptist books and other materials" (Joyce, "Black Book Publishers," 160). This "Sixteenth Edition" bears a copyright date of 1900, although it may have been published in the ensuing couple of decades. Boyd writes in the preface that "I have felt that the Negro Baptist preacher has needed a brief manual suited exactly to his work...The Negro Baptist preacher is a great factor in the uplifting of a great people..." The text, meanwhile, contains chapters on all aspects of founding and operating a Baptist church, including "How to Organize a Baptist Church," "Powers and Duties of a Pastor," "Programme for the Installation of a Pastor," "Pastoral Visiting," "For the Bedside of the Sick," marriage services, burial services, Sunday school, letters of commendation, parliamentary rules, and much more. Covers worn and discolored, with chip to cloth at lower corner. Heavy toning to cheap paper, cracking to hinges. Five leaves as well as rear endpaper detached from binding, owner inscriptions of "Earlam Hayes, Oakdale, La" to pastedowns. Damp staining to margins of first few leaves, occasional small tear to paper along margins.

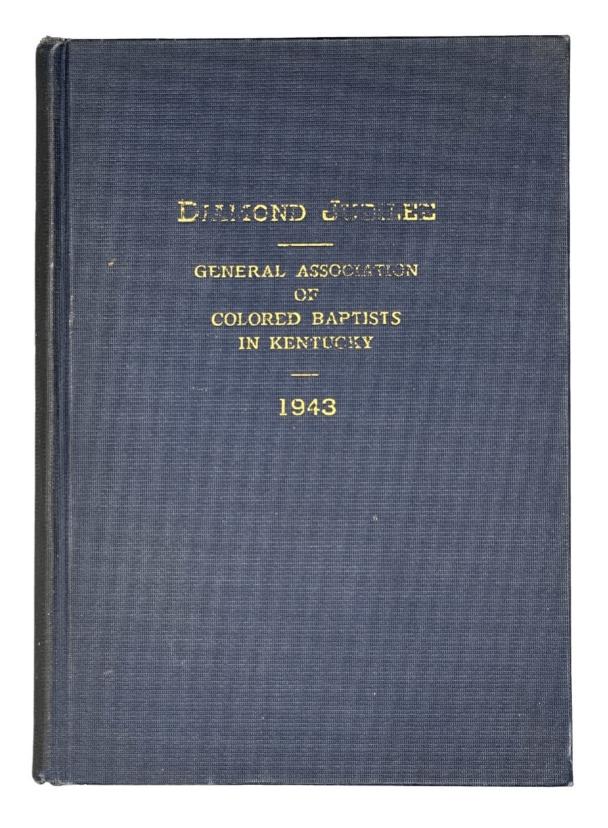


Diamond Jubilee Of The General Association Of Colored Baptists In Kentucky The Story of Seventy-Five Years Of The Association And Four Years Of Convention Activities.

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY: GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED BAPTISTS IN KENTUCKY, 1943.

4

9.5 x 6.75", blue cloth with gold lettering, [6], 289 pp, numerous photographic illustrations. A history of African American Baptists in Kentucky, published to mark the 75th anniversary of the founding of the General Association of Colored Baptists in Kentucky. Begins with a history of the association itself, followed by histories of state conventions, district associations, and various auxiliary groups. Section five, meanwhile, covers roughly the second half of the book, and provides histories of numerous churches and auxiliaries around the state. Rubbing to cover lettering, slight soiling to covers, binding a tad loose, bookplate to front endpaper.

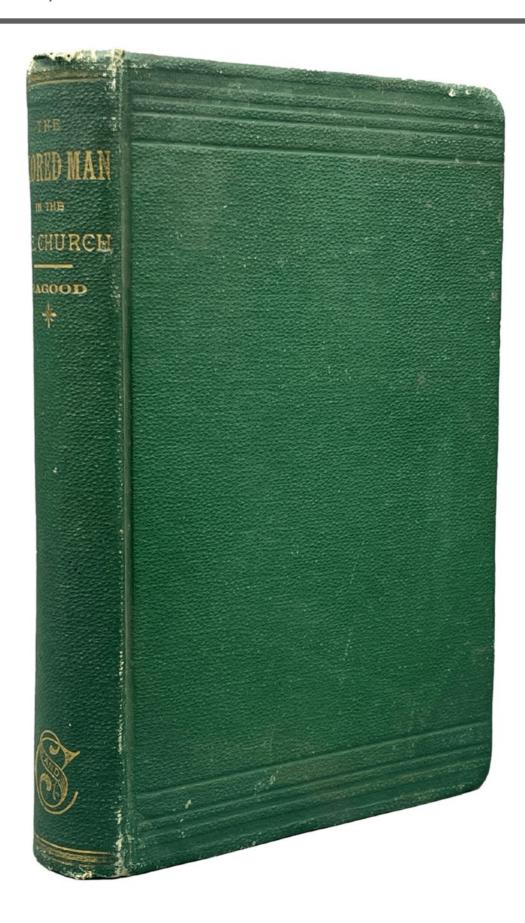


HAGOOD, Rev. L[ewis] M[arshall]. The Colored Man in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CINCINNATI/NEW YORK: CRANSTON & STOWE/HUNT & EATON, 1890. FIRST EDITION.

5

8 x 5.75", original green cloth with gilt spine lettering, [2], 327 pp, portrait frontispiece plus seven illustration plates. A book on the relationship between the Methodist Episcopal Church and the African American, written by Lewis Marshall Hagood, an African American physician and clergyman. Here, Hagood attempted to defend the church against criticism by many African Americans that arose due to the creation of racially segregated conferences and the "expansion of church missions to include southern whites" (Teasdale, "Methodist Evangelism, American Salvation," 93). In his preface, Hagood writes that his work will "show that, so far as the question goes, the heart of the MEC has always been right; and that, though errors may have been committed, they have been in most instances, from the head and not from the heart of the church..." (4-5). The book goes on to describe "the ways that the MEC reached out to and honored African Americans during its early history in the United States," while arguing "that the MEC had no choice but to offer conferences separated by race" (Teasdale, 93-94). There are also chapters on the work of the church before, during and after the Civil War, plus chapters on "The Colored Bishop Question," "The Union of Colored Methodists," and more. A very good copy with rear endpaper lacking, foxing to endpapers, wear to cloth at corners and spine tips, bumping to corners.

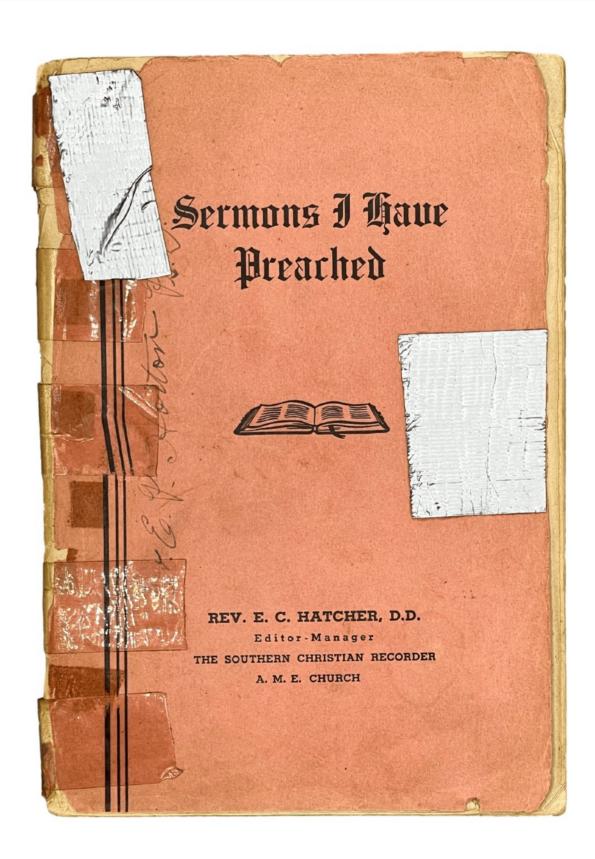


HATCHER, E[ugene] C. Sermons I Have Preached.

NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE: A.M.E. SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION, [1952].

6

8.75 x 6.25", pink wrappers with black lettering, 92 pp. A scarce pamphlet printing a collection of sermons by Reverend Eugene C. Hatcher, who served as the editor and manager of the Southern Christian Recorder, the newspaper of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, starting in 1940. The pamphlet is undated, but the Author's Note mentions that Hatcher had served as Editor of the newspaper for twelve years at the time of publication. Hatcher went on to serve as Bishop, presiding over four West African countries, as well as president of the A.M.E. Bishop's council. One of the sermons, titled "The Black Woman Who Got The White Woman Told Or The Excellency Of Mine," discusses the progress of the African American in the years since emancipation and the importance of the A.M.E. church and prayer in maintaining this progress. Another sermon, "How To Be Saved Just Now," contains an anecdote about "Zekiel, of the Old Slave Days," who lived on a Mississippi plantation and found salvation in his dying hour. A third sermon, "The Place of Evangelism In The Program Of The Church," discusses the importance of missionary work in the A.M.E. Church. An extremely scarce collection of sermons, with no copies in OCLC. Text block detached from wrappers, which are lacking spine covering and have been crudely repaired with many pieces of clear tape and two pieces of duct tape, slight toning to pages.

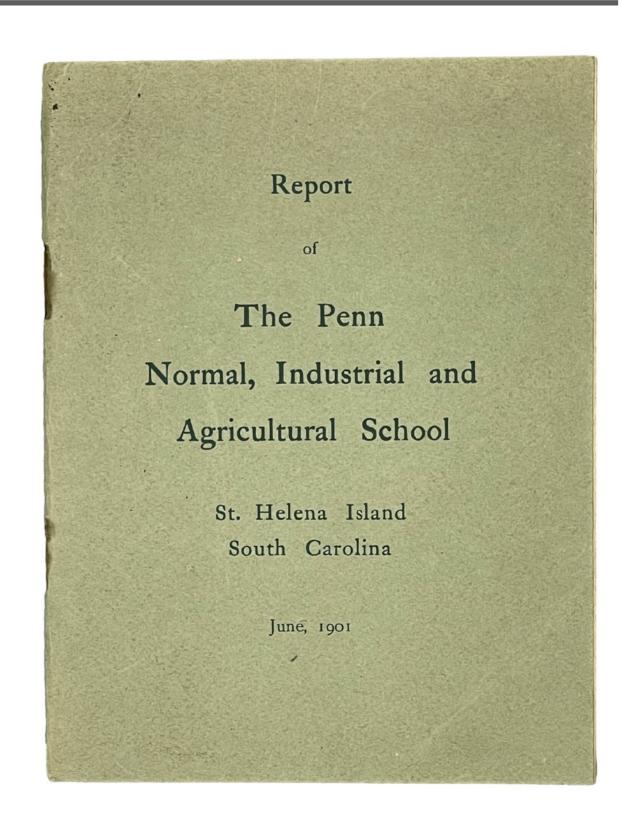


Report of The Penn Normal, Industrial and Agricultural School St. Helena Island South Carolina June 1901.

PHILADELPHIA: GEORGE B. BUCHANAN AND COMPANY, 1901.

7

6.75 x 5", green printed wrappers, 19 pp. A report by the Penn Normal, Industrial and Agricultural School, founded on St. Helena Island, South Carolina by Quaker missionaries in 1862 to help with the education of formerly enslaved people. The booklet begins with a list of the "Immediate Needs of the School," including "Supplies and Tools for Teaching Cotton Raising and Farming." This is followed by lists of trustees and school staff, an introduction describing the school, statistics about students and attendance, and a course catalog. The report concludes with a 3.5 page obituary for Laura M. Towne, the school's founder and a prominent abolitionist and educator. Hint of foxing to pages and soiling to covers, staples lacking with text block detached from wrappers and stains from rusting where staples were located previously.

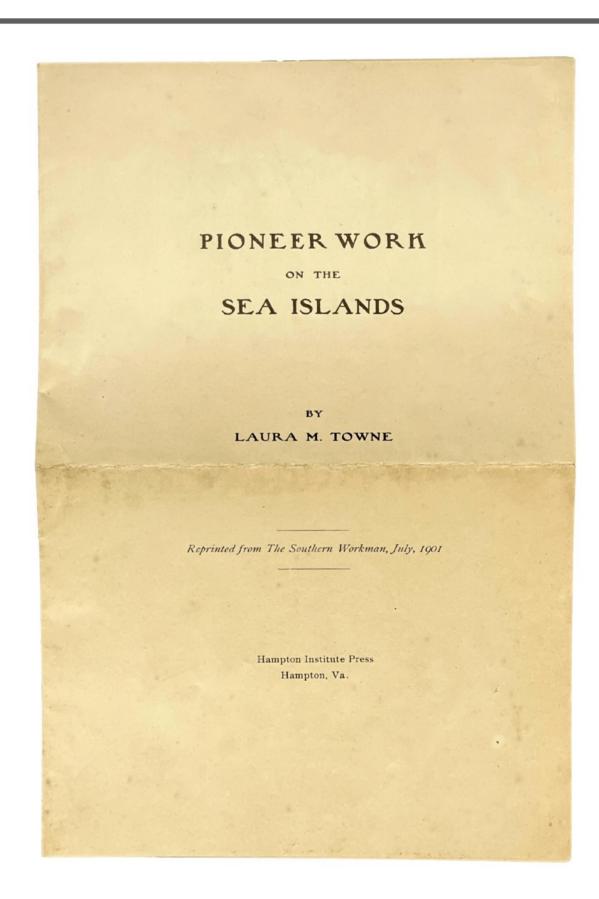


TOWNE, Laura M. Pioneer Work On The Sea Islands.

HAMPTON, VIRGINIA: HAMPTON INSTITUTE PRESS, 1901.

8

Stapled booklet measuring 10 x 6.5", 8 pp, photographic illustrations. This "sketch of the founding of the Penn School," a school for African American children on St. Helena Island, South Carolina, was reprinted from the July, 1901 issue of The Southern Workman, a periodical published at the Hampton Institute in Virginia. The author, Laura M. Towne, was a prominent abolitionist and educator who founded the first schools for freedmen in the south after the Civil War. In this article, Towne reminisced about the early days of the school at the tail end of and directly after the war. Some foxing, yellowing, and creasing to paper.

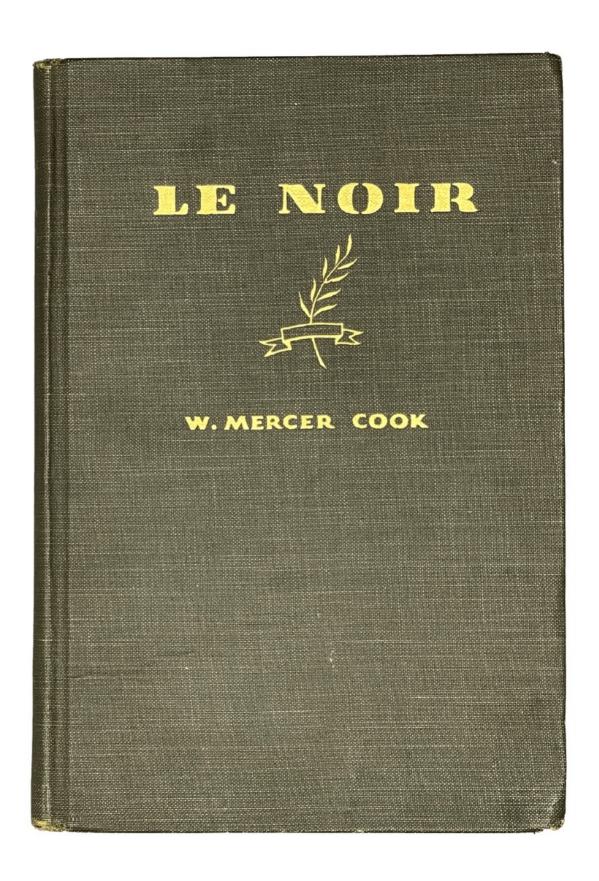


COOK, W[ill] Mercer. Le Noir Morceaux Choisis De Vingt-Neuf Français Celebres.

NEW YORK, CINCINNATI, CHICAGO, BOSTON, ATLANTA: AMERICAN BOOK COMPANY, 1934. FIRST ED.

9

8 x 5.5", grey cloth with gold lettering, x, 173 pp. A French language text book intended for use by African American students, written by Mercer Cook, a Howard University professor who, "In the 1930s...laid the foundations of black French studies" (Germain, "Mercer Cook And The Origins Of Black French Studies," 67). The preface notes that "the Negro has not been overlooked in French literature to the same extent that he has been neglected in the French classes of our Negro schools and colleges...there is a wealth of material on the subject of the colored man in French literature." Thus, the book contains many such selections, including "political speeches on the subject of slavery, articles concerning Negroes of distinction, excerpts of stories by Daudet, Voltaire, Loti and others," etc, in order to let African American students "know what has been written concerning them in this beautiful foreign tongue, the intricacies of which they are attempting to master" (preface). The book concludes with a chapter of exercises and questions for conversation, a chapter of notes, and a chapter of vocabulary. The book reflect's Cook's "profound admiration for French philosophers and writers who rejected social inequality and its doctrinal supports" while also positing "that many French intellectuals who believed in the idea of liberty, equality, and fraternity for all individuals actually held prejudices against people of African descent," a radical belief at the time that drew much criticism (Germain, "Mercer Cook And The Origins Of Black French Studies," 69). In very good condition with slight wear to corners and spine tips, rubbing to spine lettering, slight toning to pages.



Collection of Five Yearbooks from a Historically Black College in Lawrenceville, Virginia.

LAWRENCEVILLE, VIRGINIA: 1948 TO 1956

10

Five yearbooks, each approximately 10.25 x 8", bound in cloth or faux leather, variously paginated. The yearbooks belonged to Naomi Harrison, Dean of Women of St. Pauls Polytechnic Institute, a private historically Black college in Lawrenceville, Virginia. Included is the college's yearbook for 1948 (titled "The Conqueror"), together with yearbooks for 1949, 1952, 1954, and 1956 (titled "The Tiger"). The 1948 yearbook was "the first attempt of the College Department to publish a yearbook" (foreword). The 1948 yearbook contains a school history, messages from the president, faculty, and students, portraits of faculty and staff, school songs and poems, a class prophecy, class histories, a class will, a synopsis of the senior class play, information on and depictions of school sports and clubs, and a section of ads for local businesses. The later yearbooks contain all or most of these features, and add more illustrations; the 1949 yearbook contains a section of photographic illustrations of trades students at work (including sewing, painting, radio, and beauty students), while the 1950s yearbooks print sections of action shots of students and activities around campus. Three of the yearbooks are inscribed by Harrison on the front pastedown; yearbooks with some wear and soiling, occasional toning and slight staining, two yearbooks with visible wear along spine.

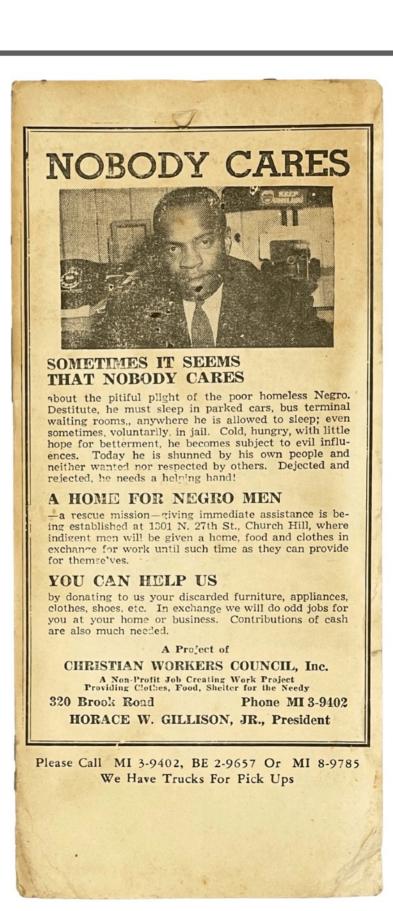


Handbill Soliciting Donations to Help Establish a Shelter for Homeless African American Men in Virginia.

[RICHMOND, VIRGINIA]: CIRCA 1950S TO 1960S.

11

Handbill measuring 9 x 4", with photographic portrait illustration. A scarce handbill soliciting donations to help establish a shelter for homeless African American men in Richmond, Virginia. The project was set up by a longtime Richmond area African American reverend, Horace W. Gillison who, together with his wife, ran a charity called the Christian Workers Council, Inc. The charity operated a thrift store and a used furniture store; thus, this handbill solicits not monetary donations, but "your discarded furniture, appliances, clothes, shoes, etc." in order to help "the poor homeless Negro..." who "Cold, hungry, with little hope for betterment, he becomes subject to evil influences..." Some toning, foxing, and creasing to paper.

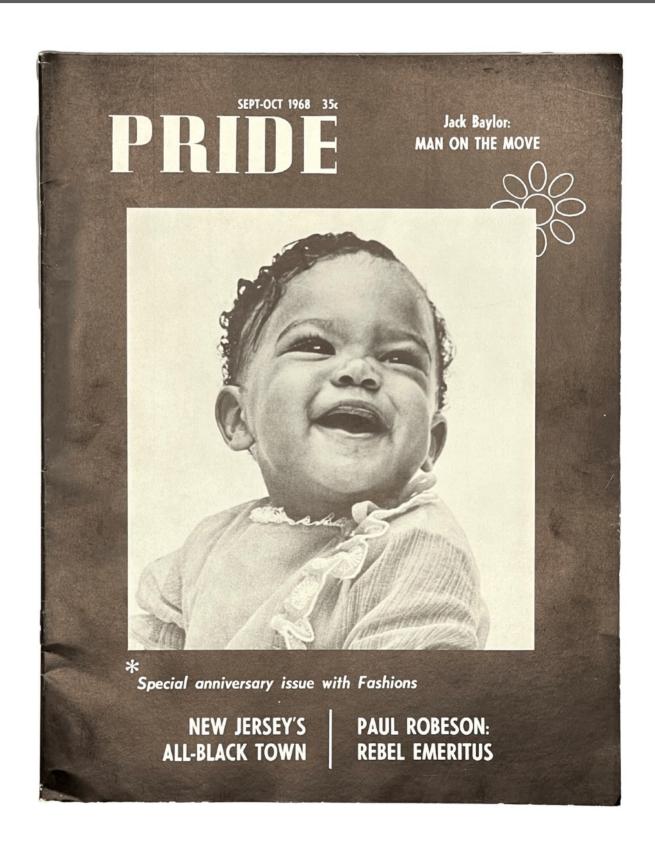


Pride. Volume 2, Number 5.

PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA: PRIDE PUBLICATIONS, INC, 1968.

12

11.5 x 9", stapled, illustrated wrappers, 32 pp, photographic illustrations throughout. Volume 2, Number 5 (September to October, 1968), of this uncommon magazine catering to the African American population of the Philadelphia area. Contains articles such as "Jersey's All-Black Town" (i.e., Lawndale, N.J.), "Greater Phila. Golf Club A Progress Report" (regarding an African American country club), "Fashions", and more, including an advertisement for an upcoming business loan program held at a local high school. In very good condition with hint of rubbing to front cover and bit of foxing to rear cover.



Collection of Ephemera Relating to the A. Philip Randolph Institute.

NEW YORK: A. PHILIP RANDOLPH INSTITUTE, 1969.

13

Three ephemeral items issued by the A. Philip Randolph Institute, an organization of African American trade unionists advocating for racial and economic justice. The institute was founded in 1964 by Randolph and Bayard Rustin as a bridge between the civil rights movement and the labor movement. This collection includes a brochure (9.25 x 7.25" when folded, 18.5 x 14.5" when unfolded) titled "The A. Philip Randolph Institute Agent for Change." The brochure contains a biography of Randolph and outlines the goals and programs of the institute, including job training seminars, educational programs, and publications. Also included is a ten page booklet reprinting an article by Bayard Rustin titled "The Failure Of Black Separatism" that originally appeared in the January, 1970 issue of Harper's Magazine. Finally, the collection includes a one page circular letter by Rustin, which was originally sent together with the brochure. The letter describes the work of Randolph and the institute while soliciting donations to the cause. Overall in excellent condition.



Grand Master J.F. Thomas' Annual Address Delivered in the 13th Annual Session, Hattiesburg, Miss., Nov. 9-12, 1910.

NO PLACE OF PUBLICATION: 1910.

14

Single folded leaf measuring 10.5 x 6", with four pages of text. A scarce leaflet printing an address given by J.F. Thomas, Grand Master of the Grand Benevolent Association (GBA), an African American fraternal organization. The address was given before a meeting of the association held in Hattiesburg, Mississippi in 1910. According to a 1913 article about the organization that appeared in several African American newspapers, Thomas was born in Westpoint, Georgia, and worked for several decades in the mines of Alabama before founding the GBA in Bessemer, Alabama in 1907. The organization quickly expanded, forming branches in Alabama, Mississippi, and South Carolina, and building a permanent home for the order in Bessemer. According to the article, "The Grand Benevolent association is not alone to look after the sick and bury the dead. But it is intended to help individual members while living to show up the business ability and worth of the race in the community and the country at large. Employment is now given to over fifty young men and women by the institution." Meanwhile, in this address, Thomas discusses the purpose, benefits, necessity, and current state of the lodge, noting that "The G.B.A. is a complete colored organization, and is the product of Negro brain...For many years it has brought honor and renown to its members, and in time of distress it has stood by its members..." In nice condition with folding creases and slight foxing.

Grand Master, J. F. Thomas' ANNUAL ADDRESS

Delivered in the 13th Annual Session, Hattiesburg, Miss., Nov. 9-12, 1910.

Subject: The Lodge

The lodge is the next thing to the church. The lodge usually does all kind of charitable work for the cause of humanity. It follows close upon the heels of the church and does much of the work which the church used to do but have now left off. But more recently, the lodge has taken up the cross and have decided to play a better part along the line of protecting the race during the hours of misfortune, sickness and distress. In other words, the lodge has taken upon itself a most important responsibility to do for mankind things which the church has not as yet seen fit to do.

However, every one has reached the conclusion, and this with out a doubt, the church is the greatest of all organizations. We all know it comes first on all occasions. Every human being is at once willing to recognize these facts and support this contention because the church does the work which the lodge cannot really do under any circumstances. So, there is a great difference between these two great institutions, and that is, the church saves the soul, or rather brings souls to Christ, and the lodge saves the widows and orphans in the hours of distress, and keeps them from going down to degredation.

ONLY THREE ORGANIZATIONS WHICH WE CAN COMPLETELY MASTER

Out of all the many institutions and enterprises established throughout the civilized world, more especially the Southland, there are only three which our race has the opportunity to master completely. One of these, the first, is the church; second, the school, and last, the lodge.

We all know of a certain that the Negro will never be allowed to fill the presidency of the United States, although we have men who are competent for the position. But the Negro knows he can be master of something. If he cannot be the president of the United States, he knows very well that he can become president of the lodge, and this affords him great consolation.

THE LODGE MAKES FRIENDS

One writer has well said "that there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother." We find that the lodge is constantly making friends on every hand who are cementing the very efforts of the race in order to relieve the weary conditions of mankind. Just here we are to be reminded of two great friends, Jonathan and David, who were determined to show to the world that it is worth much to have friends. And, I may repeat in my own words that it is always good to have a true friend that one can depend upon at all times. In other words, a true friend is like sound health, the value of it is seldom known until it is lost. So, no one knows the real value of a good friend until he is gone.

The lodge makes friends every day by organizing people together who soon become better known, and who are soon made to realize that it is one of our greatest duties to help and assist each other in our struggles here on earth; that by helping each other we have learned to climb, and we have also learned again, by fight-

MILLER, Kelly. The Negro Sanhedrin A Call To Conference.

WASHINGTON D.C.: MURRAY BROS PRINTING CO, 1923. FIRST EDITION.

15

9.5 x 6.25", brown stapled wrappers with black lettering, 23 pp. A pamphlet by Howard University professor and author Kelly Miller regarding the upcoming "Negro Sanhedrin," an "All-Race Conference" of African American leaders focusing on racial unity and civil rights, held in Chicago in February, 1924. Here, Miller, who was to become chairman of the Sanhedrin, discusses the reasons for and object of the conference, outlines its tone, and sets forth a motto for the conference. He also provides a historical account of similar conferences, and asks the question "Is an All-Negro Conference Possible," discussing the possibility of internal dissent amongst the various factions of the conference. A nice copy with slight creasing, rusting to staples, two hole punches along left hand margin of wrappers and through text block.

