

# THE FREEMAN

EDITED BY "Woodbine"

THE FREEMAN POST OFFICE

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NOTICE.—Advertised letters will be held in The Freeman Post Office for FOUR WEEKS ONLY hereafter.

### LADIES LIST

Be. V. Laura Harris Mrs. Eliza  
B. M. M. Grace Harris, Mrs. M. O.  
B. M. M. Beatrice Henry, Mrs. Marion  
C. M. M. Cora Lewis, Mrs. Nettie  
F. M. M. Estelle Mitchell, Estelle  
F. M. M. Emma Morris, Miss Emma  
G. M. M. Clara Morton, Clara  
H. M. M. Annie Perkins, Miss Annett

### GENTLEMEN'S LIST

B. M. M. McCoy, Geo.  
B. M. M. Malone, W. M.  
B. M. M. McCamon, J. E.  
B. M. M. McDade, Henry  
B. M. M. Oliver, Prentice  
B. M. M. Palmer, Dan  
B. M. M. Perrin, Estney  
B. M. M. Price, J. W.  
B. M. M. Pett, Henry  
B. M. M. Rawles, Henry  
B. M. M. Smith, J. J.  
B. M. M. Steward, Wm.  
B. M. M. Stevens, Augustus  
B. M. M. Sherman, James E.  
B. M. M. Smith, J. J.  
B. M. M. Thomas, W. C.  
B. M. M. Tucker, J. B.  
B. M. M. The Websters  
B. M. M. VerValle, George  
B. M. M. Wright, J. L.  
B. M. M. Wilson, Lewis  
B. M. M. Wheaton, J. Frank  
B. M. M. Williams, R. W.  
B. M. M. Woolen, H. S.  
B. M. M. Watson, Jack  
B. M. M. Watkins, Jack  
B. M. M. Washington, Dan. E.

### ROUTE 1903

Parti Troubadours (V. Nickel & Nolan) Jan. 12, Delison, 13; Paris, Arkville, 15. Ship report 17.  
A. Johnson, (In Vandrefille) Hurdig & Co., New York, Jan. 3-11.  
A. Patterson, Boynton, N. J., Jan. 13, Reading, Pa., 15; Millerville, 14-15.  
B. Jones & P. Smith's Famous Georgians; Millville, Iowa, Jan. 10; Manchester 12; Independence 11.  
W. S. Walker, "In Danbury" Co., New York City, Mo. 11, 12-11.

Payton & Har... have joined Graham's Southern Spectacles Co., and send regards to all friends.

Henry J. Douglass would like to hear from his nephew Fred Douglas with the Williams & Walker company.

Walter S. Lyons of the Cincinnati Carnival Co. is in Indianapolis organizing the Old Plantation Georgia Minstrel for next season.

Mr. Russell writes that in his Holiday Review, Billy Johnson should have been mentioned as a legitimate comedy star and not Rosamond Johnson.

Remember we have only just about one-fourth the necessary amount for the Bland fund. A nice little rally will wipe it out. Let it not be said that we are a good cause and failed.

Mr. Walter Crumbly of the late team of Crumbly and Bradford has accepted the position of entertainer at the Bennington Club, Grand Rapids Mich. He sends regards to professional friends.

All professionals find a cordial welcome at the Bennington Club of Grand Rapids Mich. Mr. Shamney Robinson the general manager has made himself a popular favorite with the show people.

D. D. Smith of the Famous Georgia Minstrel would like to know if Mr. Smith of the Southern Quartette has received any mail not belonging to him. If so, kindly forward the same to The Freeman and oblige.

Mr. Moxley says that the colored professional is always taking example after the white actor on the stage but they do not seem to imitate the white actor in contributing to the Bland fund very strong. Loosen up, boys, and come to the front.

J. D. Howard chief advertising agent of the Freeman staff made a flying trip to New York last week on special business. He regrets that the brevity of his stay and imperative nature of his mission prevented him from getting around more than he did in a social way.

Russell Bandow, formerly of the team of Brandow & Arlington and Miss Louise Freeman of the Freeman Sisters have resumed partnership and will present to the public next season an act entirely different from all other colored

acts. They are this season with the Smart Set company, making a good hit in their respective characters. They send regards to all friends and enemies.

Fred W. Johnson, the Tarantula, whose cut arrived too late for our Holiday number, though his sketch appeared in the same, wishes you all a Happy New Year to all, adding that it is better late than never and that he will be very busy until April 1, '03. He invites offers for season of '03 and '04. Permanent address, "The Tarantula" care The Freeman."

Deedunes & Harris met their old friend Will G. Millford, who is one of America's leading colored pianists. He left no stone unturned to make their stay pleasant. In order to make things complete, he secured the services of several of his personal friends and brothers, all members of the 2nd Bat., 1st. Regt. K of P of Missouri, headed by Maj. J. A. Shackelford and the following worthy members: Bud Phillips, Marshall Story, Edgar Trout, and Lee Patten. There was no end to the pleasures derived while in the company of those gentlemen and we left Joplin with a fond remembrance of our old and new friends.

The quartette now touring with the Sawnee River company, consisting of Messrs. Geo. R. Reese, D. L. Frazier, Samuel Booker and M. T. Halgo, were tendered a swell reception during their recent sojourn in Fort Wayne, Ind., by Mr. and Mrs. Walters and Mrs. Barber. This quartette, by the way is a stunner and unlike general custom the management of the company has given them the best possible chance to forge to the front. The usual bridle of restriction is conspicuously absent and they are given a good showing in the dialogue of the play.

Notes from the Old Plantation with Southern Carnival Co.—This leaves all well and doing as well as could be expected. The Boyds send regards to Joe and Lulu Russell. Mrs. Douglas Banks Jones wishes all her Cincinnati and Louisville friends a Happy New Year. Chas. Holman sends regards to J. D. West, the World's Fair Band and all St. Louis friends. The Hendersons say to Sam Johnson that they always knew you could clean up if they would just give you a chance. They also send regards to Tom Logan, Kid Aiston, Prof. McCamon, A. B. Hutchins, Bob Gant, the Cheatams and all friends.

The following clipping was from a Jacksonville, Fla., Journal of Jan. 2: "There was only one marriage license issued yesterday at the office of County Judge Phillips. The license was issued to a colored couple, Walter L. Crumpton and Pauline Cottrell."

Who said Pauline Cottrell could get a good husband. My New Year's present has been in the show business but is now a prosperous tailor of Jacksonville. Regards to P. G. Lowery, Stella Mitchell and Ludson B. Alston. Misses Pearl Woods, Annie Jones, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Jones of the Exchange Theatre and Mr. Sam Cohen of the "A Rabbit's Foot Co." were present, so you see my New Year's was a very happy one to me.

Napoleon Johnson writes from the Big Minstrel Festival—As a rule with companies the week before Christmas is considered a dull week. As that is true then we must be one of the exceptions for we could hardly notice it at all especially at our Xmas audiences in Beaumont Tex. In Franklin La., Dec. 21, we had a general handshaking and a few minutes chat with members of the Black Patti company. Our band serenaded them during the stop on their way from New Orleans to New Iberia. On the 2nd we met the members of the A. G. Allen's Minstrel as their cars were in the shops at Mobile for repairs. No one can cook like mother must be the motto of a number of us, judging from the good edibles received in our Xmas boxes. Our new scenery for our first part settings has arrived to replace the old that was ruined in the rail. Regards to all friends. Would like to hear from Allen Sauls and R. C. Logan.

Boston, Mass., notes—Cole & Johnson, the greatest colored entertainers in the world have closed their record breaking engagement at Keith's new Boston theatre, having played four consecutive weeks at this popular house and if it had been left to the manager they would have been retained for four weeks more. The Boston Herald says Bob Cole is the greatest comedian yet produced by the race. Mr. Rosamond Johnson is making a reputation as a

great musical writer and baritone soloist. The Boston people are glad to know that they will start a show next season.—Irving Jones certainly carried the Howard Theatre with his coon songs last week. They could not get enough of his singing. Mr. Jones appeared Sunday evening at the Bowdoin Square Theatre concert and was received grandly by the house.—The Golden Gate Quartette was in town last week playing at the Austin & Stone's Museum. They are booked for the Keith circuit and left for New York City Sunday night. They send regards to Henry Troy and Ernest Hogan.—Mr. Thomas J. Jackson is representing the Freeman here. Address 237 Berkeley st.

Notes from the Famous Georgia Minstrels:—We are still in Iowa, getting ours and hoping the same of all. We had a never to be forgotten Xmas at Des Moines, as we cancelled two stands ahead, thus giving us three days in the great city of Iowa. Notwithstanding the thermometer marked 8 to 10 degrees below, during the entire three days, we carried our "Ugly Men's Ball," out to the letter. Our crowd was mostly made up of strangers in the city but everyone went away satisfied, claiming universally to have witnessed one of the most pleasurable events of their lives. A glance at the program was well worth the price of admission. The greatest feat of the evening was that of the jury hanging over the decision for first prize, which was to be the neglect man of the profession present, the prize being \$20 in gold. The jury hung on Jesse Gilmer, Wm. Shields and Oscar Cameron and as the honest and fair jurymen could not agree, the first prize was called in by a unanimous vote of the jury. W. A. Dixon won without a struggle, the second prize, a new Stetson hat, and F. L. Denton fell heir to the third prize, a nice \$3 fur cap, without even the assistance of the jury. Prof. G. W. Housely the score keeper of the the great casino tournament of 190 games, in which each man in the tournament had to play 160 games, the one winning the most to take first prize—with the assistance of Dave Smith issued the prizes at the Ugly Men's ball. The

on him before they find out the real facts. His working partner, Charles Williams, is one of the cleverest in his make-up, and monologues are among the best. As a team they are hard to beat.—As I close my items for the week I learn that the team of Williams and Stevens were compelled to close with Peters' vaudeville house owing to illness of Mr. Stevens. Mr. Douglass has assumed the management. We hope a speedy recovery to Mr. Stevens.—J. A. Watts of Richard & Pringle's Minstrels No. 2 passed through the city. He sends regards to all his friends.—An injustice is being enacted upon our esteemed friend and comedian, Billie Caldwell. There is a hobo team starring themselves as Caldwell and Henry. Now, there is only the one Billie Caldwell, and Henry is out of the business. Mr. Caldwell desires the public and all managers to beware of them, and, besides, if they continue to do so, they may expect painful results. Remember there is only one Billie Caldwell, making a hit, starring alone, and still composing his own pieces. He has now four new songs in press that will shortly be produced. They are "Big Foot Nigger," "When a Coon Turns Day to Night," "Maybe Some Day." He sends regards to all.

Mrs. Fisk in "Mary of Magdala."  
BY J. D. HOWARD.

Dear "Woodbine":—  
Having nothing special to demand my time last night and feeling some-

### TENOR VOCALIST, CHARACTER AND SKETCH ARTIST



T. W. JOHNSON

winners were: T. J. Culligan, score 93; Mr. Clermont, score 92; second prize, \$2. W. W. Wate, score 86; third prize, \$1.50. All participants of the tournament are well satisfied and want another go at either casino or whist.

Chicago Note:—Daddy Love's Theatrical Exchange, 336 27th St.—Augustus Stevens of the team of the Williams and Stevens sends regards to the New Orleans Minstrel Company—Miss Georgia Dodds is singing "Mandy" with great success at Peters' Vaudeville House.—Mr. Steven Wheeler, formerly of Bostock Comedy Co., is preparing to put before the public an act that has never been executed successfully by any one—Cook and Jones, one of the best sketch teams in the business, are playing at Peters' Vaudeville House.—William Gregg, a professional mandolin player, also sweet singer, is entertaining some of Chicago's swell clubs to the entire satisfaction of the host and hostess. He is assisted by that eminent pianist player, Prof. John Love of San Francisco, Cal. He sends regards to all friends.—Prof. J. L. Peters is going to make several changes in his place of business which, when completed, will be one of the finest vaudeville resorts, cafe and bar in the city. Professionals take note.—The Crosbys, Harry and Orna, arrived in Chicago with a Honolulu Coon Company, and are fast making friends here, and send regards to all their professional friends.—As a female impersonator in actions, talk, singing, dressing and performing, up to the present date of them all, our dear friend, Augustus Stevens, is the leader. He is so perfect in his make-up that persons talk to him, men get stuck

was washed and excited from the heavy mass I had just finished, as per your instructions, relative to personal appearances at the various advertising agencies, I left my hotel, upon diversion bent and soon found that my aimless vagabondizing had brought me in the vicinity of the Manhattan. The blazing lights from the electric display read: "Mrs. Fiske, in Mary of Magdala"

So much had come to me by way of reading and otherwise of the wonderful work this auburn-haired actress had accomplished in her recent characterization of "Becky Sharpe" (which, by the way, she has immortalized) that I made up my mind at once to pass the evening listening to the version of her latest creation.

The play is Biblical. The scene, Jerusalem. The first act takes place just a few days prior to the arrest and trial of Christ. It opens with a scene in a chamber of Mary of Magdala's house. Mary is a very beautiful woman of the province whose rare loveliness and accomplishments have attracted to her many of the profligate nobles of the city. Chief among these, in fact the favored one, was no less a personage than the infamous Judas Iscariot. I say infamous by virtue of tradition, yet the character as constructed, gives one a different and, perhaps, a more just opinion as to the correct calibre of Iscariot. Throughout the delineation of the character one finds him humane, very. He was a man of strong convictions yet of swerving temperament. His passions, always his conqueror, degenerated him to the miserable wretch which, later, makes him the betrayer of Jesus Christ.

Jerusalem, as the play goes and his-

tory itself confirms, had passed into the hands of the Romans. Pilate was appointed by Caesar to be its governor and chief executive under the new regime. The constant appearance of the Roman soldiers in the streets was a calling and bitter portion to the conquered Jews.

Judas Iscariot, himself a Jew of much influence and power with his native priests and seers, was sorely burdened by the degrading yoke of subjugation. His mind was ever alert and active to any schemes by which the rule of the hated Romans might be dispelled. He had been attracted to the public preachings of Jesus, in the streets of the city and finally became one of His staunch disciples. He claimed throughout the play that the Christ had promised the people of Jerusalem their deliverance from Roman rule. In His later teachings when Jesus admonished the people to "love their enemies" etc., Iscariot became wroth and denounced Jesus secretly to his people.

In his anger he hastens to the palace of Mary of Magdala, his mistress, to seek her council as to the best measures adaptable to rid the community of Jesus of Nazareth. He was too late, however, for Mary, herself, had fallen victim to the charms and persuasive tenets expounded by the great Philosopher. She had become cleansed by the Lamb of God and was at times almost hysterical in proclamations of allegiance to His faith and doctrines. This being too much for the erstwhile favored lover of the most honored courtisan in the Kingdom, he betook himself to the high priest of his people. This wily individual had already begun to feel the decay of his offices by the strange and wonderful things being daily accomplished by Christ, and he heartily agreed with and urged upon Judas the imperative necessity of getting rid of this Jew of "black art and sharp practices."

Then come the finer points of the story, so far as character acting is concerned. The love and also the strength of the convictions Judas had once labored under relative to Christ and His teachings caused him to pause before

betraying Jesus to the Jews. His struggles with conscience and his lust for revenge were very masterfully portrayed, revenge, however, finally proving the greater power. So Christ was betrayed. There are many incidents immediately after the betrayal and just before the crucifixion that space will not permit me to recite. The final act is rich in mechanical devices and effects. The flash of lightning and roar of thunder just before Iscariot hangs himself is indeed weird. The audience sees him crouching and hiding behind the rocks of the moon fairs as though to dodge the wrath of Heaven. The play in all is a grand piece of work showing the scope and imagination of man's ingenuity and handwork. All who embrace any opportunity they may have to witness this drama will find it one of the richest educational treats of the season.