

urge his will to comprehend and carry out even the essential obligations which bind him to God and his fellow men. Whilst so situated the American black will never be capable of self-government. "Transport the darky back to Africa," is the cry of even the best informed. Improvement, these contend, would come if means and opportunities were afforded; which, if withheld in the United States, must be sought elsewhere. Negroes themselves, unfortunately, defeat this hope wherever they happen to exercise autonomy. In Haiti, insurrection and sedition make the government they control barely possible. The rich mineral treasures of the island lie undeveloped; agriculture languishes. The other islands governed by negroes present a similar phenomenon. The slaves who formerly deserted their masters for freedom and British rule in Canada, never identified themselves to any extent with the interests of this country.

No, the negro will hardly prosper by returning to Africa. Wont as he is to let whites do his work, provide his support, avenge and defend him from wrong, he is not likely to be more independent, industrious and resourceful off in a kraal, on uncultivated plains, in the midst of hostile tribes. Surely wisdom and benevolence do not combine in the plan; for if the change were effected, the darky back from America would be facing a lot not a whit less desperate than the one which awaited him when he first landed on this continent to begin a life of toil and misery.

The negro problem has only one effective solution. It is, to banish the present lazy idea the colored man has of Christianity, and give him a fuller notion of revealed Truth, of the difference between right and wrong, to open wide his being to the marvellous efficacy, inherent in the dogmas and practices of the Catholic Church. The negro has run the gauntlet, so to speak, of the other religious bodies. These would have won success if it depended on a lavish distribution of funds, on voluminous printing, on the extraordinary activity and push of their representatives in the field. But while these evangelists (not to mention other defects) show lack of heartfelt sympathy and respect for their black charges; whilst their best methods of teaching are out of touch with the inmost conscience of the negro, all their zeal will in the