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Wins Fight to Free Condemned Men

Luther Collins, In Jail Five Years, is Now Free and Back at Work.

After five years of unremitting effort, the Houston, Tex., branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, has won a spectacular fight resulting in the liberation of Luther Collins, a colored man, who was successively sentenced to death and then to 99 years in prison, and has spent in all five years in jail.

Mr. Collins was convicted and sentenced on the testimony of a white woman of ill-repute, and the contradictions in the testimony she gave, together with evidence of Mr. Collins' good character, made it evident he was innocent of the assault charged. The Houston N. A. A. C. P. not only raised \$2,000 to carry the case through the Texas courts on repeated appeals, but interested prominent white people in the case. Financial aid offered by the National office of the N. A. A. C. P. was refused by the Houston branch which declared it could and would finance the case itself.

Recently Luther Collins' 99 year sentence was reversed and the district attorney of Fort Bend county, Texas, gave the Collins attorney authority to try the case in any county he wished. The attorney promptly named Washington county, where the attorney had practiced law for 25 years. The bond was at once reduced from \$7,500 to \$2,500 and Collins was released under bond in March of this year. Bond was signed by four of the most prominent white and four of the most prominent colored men of the city of Houston, one of the white men being secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, two of them bankers and the fourth a prominent merchant. After a number of consultations between the district attorney of Washington County, the judge and the defense attorneys, the district attorney moved that the case be dismissed. Collins was freed early in September and is now working at the job he held before his arrest.

Had it not been for the fight made by the Houston N. A. A. C. P., Luther Collins would long since have been dead as he had no friends to intercede for him and the public took it for granted he was guilty.

WINS GREATER NEW YORK NEWSPAPER STORY PRIZE

New York, Oct. 13.—Emile G. Thomas, a native of St. Croix, capital of the Virgin Islands, who came to this country 5 years ago and who attended night school at Washington Heights High School five nights a week, taking English, Latin, Algebra and American history, and who works at the Vacuum Oil Company during the day, was awarded first prize in the New York World's Biggest News story of the week contest.

Thomas picked the World's Series as the biggest news of the week ending Oct. 3 and received the prize because of the freshness and sincerity of his article. All high school students of New York excepting employees of the World are eligible for the contest.

Thomas is 24 years old. He aspires to be a dentist.—St. Louis Argus.

LONDON.

Mrs. Minnie Harris is home again after spending several weeks in Detroit with her daughter, Mrs. Vant. She reports that Mrs. Vant's eye trouble is progressing favorably.

Mr. Ed. Mixer of Gray street, has been seriously ill. He shows signs of improvement.

Mrs. Rachel Fountain, who was recently confined to Victoria Hospital, is home again. She is much improved.

Rev. Thomas Woodcock spent a very pleasant vacation with friends in Windsor, Detroit, Fort Erie, Niagara Falls and Buffalo.

The Get Acquainted Club is making great preparations for their Hallowe'en party which is to be held in St. George's Hall on Oct. 29th. Persons who do not attend will miss a treat.

Miss Vivian Knox, our young and coming pianist, is receiving many commendations from her instructors.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Brown, of Gray street, have gone south to spend several weeks with relatives. They are sorely missed by the many friends they left behind.

Invitations ar out for the twelfth marriage anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Berry Front street. Mr. and Mrs. Berry have a host of friends, many of whom will be present next Thursday evening to wish them many future blessings.

We are pleased to announce that little Francis Moxley is making steady improvement in health.

The B. M. E. Sunday school held a very enjoyable and successful supper last Monday evening. The church is holding its harvest home supper next Monday evening, Oct. 25. Come and enjoy yourself.

Mrs. Arthur Moxley has moved into her new home at 49 Glenwood Ave.

London is expecting Brantford and other cities to be present on Oct. 29 at its Hallowe'en party.

JOHN BROWN'S DAUGHTER DIES IN CALIFORNIA

Only Child to Witness Execution of Her Father for Treason.

Eureka, Cal., Oct. 18.—Pacific Coast News Bureau)—Mrs. Annie Brown Adams, last surviving member of the family of John Brown, of Harper's Ferry fame, died last week after 56 years' residence in California.

Witnessed Execution.

Mrs. Adams, 87 years of age, and the mother of 8 children, was the only child to witness the execution of her father, the famous abolitionist who, with five slaves, raided the United States government arsenal at Harper's Ferry, Va., Oct. 16, 1859. One slave escaped, two were killed and two were captured and executed.