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The Dawn of Tomorrow

THE NATIONAL NEGRO WEEKLY
DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE DARKER RACES

VOL. VI NO. 10 LONDON, ONT. JUNE 30th 1933. Price 5 cents

NEGRO SPIRITUALS

Continued from Last Issue
(By E. Lionel Cross)

In many of the Spirituals, the Negro gave full play to his imagination; he told his stories and drew his morals therefrom; he dreamed his dreams and declared his visions; he uttered his despair and prophesied his victories; he also spoke the group wisdom and expressed the group philosophy of life.

Indeed, the Spirituals taken as a whole, contain a record and a revelation of the deeper thoughts and experiences of the Negro in America for a period beginning 300 years ago and covering two and a half centuries.

If you wish to know what they are, you will find them written more plainly in these songs than in any pages of history. The Spiritual together with the secular songs—the work songs and sex songs—furnish the full expression of the life and thought of the otherwise inarticulate masses of the Negro race in the United States.

A further explanation of the variety of the Spiritual lies in the Negro's many moods; his sensitiveness and quick response to the whole gamut of human emotions. And what range he has! It is to be doubted if there is any other people in the world who can be so lugubriously sad as the Negro, or so genuinely gay.

An added explanation is found in his lively imagination, not yet wholly dulled by stereotyped ideas.

Above all, to fashion the Spirituals, the Negro was using as his medium the infinitely varied rhythmic patterns of his native African music to which he had added a new-found harmonic strength and melodic beauty.

For more than a century the Negro had been singing these Spirituals before their beauty and significance were in the slightest degree recognized. It is only within the past 50 or 60 years that any worthwhile effort has been made to collect and record these songs.

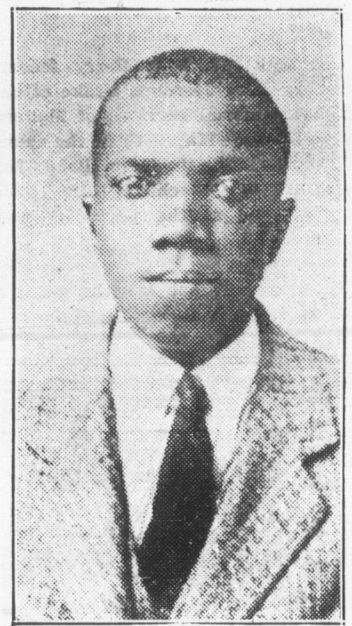
A great number has been lost but the Negro and the world are lucky that a great mass of them has been saved. Lucky, because it was merely by chance that practically all this music was not completely lost.

The Spirituals were first collected and set down by White people from the North who came in contact with the Negroes of the South during or

(Continued on Page 2)

SUMMER SCHOOL HAS COMMENCED

The University of Western Ontario, London, commences its 16th Annual Summer Registration to-day, July 3rd. Classes start on Wednesday, July 5th, continuing for about six weeks and closing on Saturday, Aug. 12th.



Randolph E. James

Among the registrants is Mr. Randolph A. James of Antigua, British West Indies, who recently arrived via U.S.A. to take the B.A. degree in Canada.

Mr. James holds the Bachelor of Theology degree from Howard University, Washington, D.C., and a certificate from the School of Education at Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey. He has also spent one year studying at Drew University, Madison, New Jersey in the School of Religious Education. Before returning to this Continent, Mr. James was supervisor of Education on the Island of St. John in the Virgin Islands of the U.S.A.

Sunday, June 17th, Mr. James preached at the Beth-Emanuel B.M.E. Church to an appreciative audience from the text, "Lord, to whom shall we go." (Jno 6:68).

DEATH CLAIMS "BLACK PATTI"

WORLD FAMOUS SINGER

Death claimed Matilda S. Joyner, the famous contralto soloist at a hospital in Providence, on Saturday, June 24, after a lingering illness which necessitated her retirement from her life of activity.

Matilda Lissurett was born in Portsmouth, Va. but was brought at an early age by her mother to Providence which place she claimed as her home and from which she made her debut.

She married Richard D. Jones who is said to have realized the possibilities of her voice and urged her to study with a view to its improvement. She studied under some of the best teachers in England and the U.S.A.

She appeared before great audiences in Europe and America, which highly applauded her.

In her passing Providence has lost one of its distinguished citizens, and the colored people one who brought to the race great credit and distinction.

B. M. E. Conference Meets at Windsor

The 77th Annual Conference of the British Methodist Episcopal Church of Canada will be held starting Tuesday July 4th, 1933 in the B.M.E. Church in Windsor, and will conclude next Monday. Subsidiary Conferences will also be held by Auxiliary departments of the connexion, the Women's Home and Foreign Missionary Society, Sunday School, Young People's Society and the Ministers' Wives' League.

The annual opening sermon will be delivered Tuesday night by Rev. C. A. Johnston at 8 p.m. General Supt. Dawson will be the celebrant at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. An invitation has been extended to all.

CORRECTION

In a recent issue of the "Dawn of Tomorrow" we published a very well composed article under the caption "Negro Spirituals" in which we unintentionally omitted to give due credit to the author of same, namely Mr. E. Lionel Cross. The publishers of this paper greatly regret that this mistake occurred and offer apologies to Mr. Cross.

A NEGRO INVENTOR

McCoy, Elijah (Mar. 27, 1842—Oct. 10, 1929), Negro inventor was born in Canada, the son of George and Mildred (Gains) McCoy, both natives of Kentucky. He seems to have engaged in mechanical work at an early age and soon developed inventive talent, which he applied almost exclusively to the field of automatic lubrication of machinery. About 1870, at which time he was a resident of Ypsilanti, Mich., he began experimenting with lubricators for steam engines, and after two years of labor, June 23, 1872, he received patent No. 129,843. Probably he had an experimental machine-shop of his own, and as each of his ideas was perfected he made a partial or total assignment of his rights to the invention, thereby obtaining sufficient money to continue with his work. Thus his first patent was assigned outright to William and S. C. Hamlin of Ypsilanti. Between 1872 and 1876 McCoy obtained six patents for lubricators and one for an ironing table, the latter on May 12, 1874. For a period of six years thereafter his inventive work apparently ceased. Meanwhile, he moved to Detroit, and here from 1882 to 1926 he continued his activities. During this period forty-four patents were granted him, all but eight of which pertained to lubricating devices.

McCoy is regarded as the pioneer in devising means for steadily supplying oil to machinery in intermittent drops from a cup, thus obviating the necessity of stopping a machine to oil it. His lubricating cup was in use for years on stationary engines and locomotives of the great railways of the West, on the engines of steamships on the Great Lakes, on trans-Atlantic liners, and on the machinery of many factories. Other patents which he secured included those for the following devices: steam dome for locomotives, June 16, 1885; scaffold support, June 4, 1907; valve and plug-cock, June 30, 1914; vehicle wheel tire, Oct. 2, 1923; and a rubber heel, Nov. 10, 1925. About 1920 he organized the Elijah McCoy Manufacturing Company in Detroit and assigned to his company an improved airbrake lubricator, which he patented that year. Some time after 1926 his health began to fail. He was apparently alone in the world, his wife having died, and in 1928 he was committed to the Eloise Insanitary, Eloise, Mich., where he died about a year later. He was buried in Detroit.

Dawn of Tomorrow

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EDITORIAL

The World Economic Conference is at the present time meeting in London and every eye is turned upon the outcome. Everything is being done to reach a satisfactory agreement which will result in leading the world out of the present economic disorder but it seems from the latest reports that the Conference has reached a snag. The gold standard countries—France, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland have asked the British protection since the U.S. has flatly refused stabilization. Premier Ramsay MacDonald thinks that the U.S. should be party to any joint declaration. Italy has backed the gold bloc. Back of the American refusal is the belief that such a concession, if made, would thwart or delay the restoration of world price-levels. The belief is held that U.S. is prepared to pursue its internal policy without interruption, regardless of what happens to the world level. The hope was at first entertained that Prof. Moley's presence at the Conf. would have relieved the tense situation, but apparently pessimism now fills the air. Whether the British will join the gold standard nations in opposition to the United States is doubtful at the present.

A very informative book has been compiled from lectures given under the Halley Element Trust. (founded 15 Dec., 1924 for research towards the Christian intent in all social life). It is entitled "The World's Economic Crisis and the Way of Escape which might have done much good if read by the delegates to the world conference. The lecturer, Sir Arthur sees the way of escape through.

1. Reparation and war debt, already suspended, being suspended for a longer period and greatly reduced.
2. Reform in monetary policy.
3. Tariff and commercial policies being reformed.
4. Speedy restoration of foreign lending.

5. Assured peace in the world as the indispensable foundation of any tolerable world economic structure.

He ends his discussion by saying that the immediate prospect is in some respects a bleak one. But let me remind you, in conclusion, that the problems before us, difficult as they are, are essentially capable of human solution. If nature or science were failing us we might have no alternative but to endure. But our difficulties come only from defects in human organization and what man has made, man can reform.

We need better organization and regulative wisdom, magnanimity in policy and courage in action. For world problems it is not enough to

Negro Spirituals

(Continued from Page 1)

immediately after the Civil War.

The Negro was likewise lucky with regard to his folk tales. The plantation stories were collected and set down by a Southern White man (Joel Chandler Harris).

He has not had the same good fortune with the ther folk contribution he has made to the Common Stone of American art. Dancing in so far as it is a native art in America, has been dominated almost absolutely by Negro influence; and yet the Negro has received but the scantiest credit for his contribution.

There are no indications that the high regard attained by the Spirituals will be followed by any marked decline in interest. The vogue of these songs is by no means a sudden popular fad; it has been reached through long and steady development in the recognition of their worth.

The chief effect of this slave music at first upon its white hearers was that they were touched and moved by the deepest sympathy for the "poor Negro." To-day the spirituals have a new vogue; the effect now produced upon white hearers is not sympathy for the "poor Negro" but admiration for the creative genius of the race. The history of the spirituals is sufficient evidence that they possess the germ of immortality. And it is by no means too much to say that they will last as long as anything artistic that has thus far been produced on this Continent.

Has this music been in any way a vital force? Has its powers brought about any change? What modification has it worked upon the Nation and within the Negro?

The Spirituals have exerted a gentle and little-considered influence for a good many years. For more than a half century they have touched and stirred the hearts of people and effected a softening-down of some of the hard edges of prejudice against the Negro. Measured by length of years they have wrought more in sociology than in art. Indeed, within the past decade, and indeed within the past nine of ten years, they have been perhaps the main force in breezing down the old illusion that the Negro in America is nothing but a beggar at the gate of the nation, waiting to be thrown the crumbs of civilization.

The common idea hitherto has been that the Negro is intellectually and morally empty; now, however, slowly, but surely, it is being realized that he is the possessor of a wealth of natural endowments; that he has long been a generous giver to America; that he has helped to shape and mold it; that he has put an indelible print upon it, and that America is the exact America it is to-day because of his influence.

think nationally, or even impartially. We must think internationally. It is very evident that international thinking is lacking on the part of certain members of the conference or rather on the part of the nations which they represent.

WOODSTOCK NOTES

Mrs. J. F. Jenkins of London spent a few hours with friends in Woodstock.

Mr. Harold Marshall of Toronto spent a few days with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Horace Marshall.

A fine baby boy was born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Blair.

Mr. and Mrs. Horace Marshall had a delightful picnic at Burford.

Miss Loretta Harris of Hamilton spent a few hours with friends in the city.

Master Eugene Topp who has been a visitor in Toronto or some time is expected to reside with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Topp.

Mr. Smith of Windsor spent a few hours with friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Topp and family are residing at Sweabury.

DRESDEN NOTES

Miss Hilda Johnson is visiting friends and relatives in Toronto.

The Green Valley baseball team held an entertainment in the Town Hall. A good time was reported by all.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Berry accompanied by Miss Florence Drake attended the memorial services of Madame Tully, Sunday, May 28th in the Queen St. Baptist Church. Mrs. Berry rendered a very touching solo. She was assisted at the piano by Miss Drake.

Mr. Benny Talbot was the guest of friends while visiting Dresden.

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NEGRO WAS THIRD CANADIAN TO WIN VICTORIA CROSS

Reprinted from The Free Press, London, July 3, 1933.

In the cemetery at Brooklyn, Hants County, Nova Scotia, is the grave of a very old man who died at Horton Bluff, a small community in that neighborhood, 29 years ago. Beneath a simple tombstone lie the remains of William Hall, the third Canadian to win the Victoria Cross. In the overpowering force of great events enacted within the past two decades William Hall has been forgotten, for the deed which placed his name on the Scroll of Immortals was performed a long time ago.

There are many reasons why this man should be remembered. Chief among them is the fact that he was a full-blooded negro, the son of a slave who had formed part of a cargo of "black ivory" and was in course of being transported to the United States during the war of 1812 when the slave ship was captured by the British frigate, "Leonard," and then brought to Halifax. This slave, so far as can be ascertained, was given employment by a Nova Scotia family, one, probably, whose name he adopted.

Marrying a woman of his own color this product of the Dark Continent lived for many years at Horton Bluff; and there, about the year 1824, the future Victoria Cross hero was born.

Little is known of William Hall's early life beyond that he was reared in the Annapolis Valley, went to the school at Avonport, and eventually joined the Royal Navy, probably at Halifax. From then until the summer of 1857, no records are available of this humble negro's career. We are, therefore, obliged to span that indefinite period and to shift the scene from the shadow of the old Halifax Citadel to Hong Kong. There we find Hall serving as "captain of the fore-top" on board H. M. S. Shannon.

The Indian Mutiny was spreading, the Sepoys stimulated by their early successes. British garrisons were shut up in Delhi, Cawnpore and Lucknow. Small relief columns were fighting their way to the assistance of the beleaguered troops; but the whole situation was dark and menacing.

At Hong Kong, Lord Elgin, the governor, who from 1847 to 1854 had been governor of Upper Canada, had received urgent requests to send all available men to India. Pursuant in these, two naval brigades were dispatched from the warships then on the China station—H. M. S. Pearl and H. M. S. Shannon.

Commanded by Captain William Peel, V. C., who had won his honor at Sebastopol during the Crimean War and who, he it said, was the son of Sir Robert Peel, former prime minister of Great Britain, the "Shannon Brigade" reached Calcutta in August, 1857. The force started up the Ganges in tow of the steamer Chunar, and comprised 450 men, with six 8-inch guns, two 24-pdr. howitzers and two field pieces.

On September 2, Peel reached Allahabad, 809 miles from Calcutta,

where a prolonged halt was made pending completion of arrangements to convey the guns "across country" to Cawnpore. Transportation difficulties, however, necessitated leaving the heavy artillery behind, and on October 28 the naval force began their move forward with a siege train of 24-pdrs. Distinguishing themselves in the fighting on November 2 at Fathpore, midway between Cawnpore and Allahabad, the brigade continued their advance to the former city and joined Sir Colin Campbell. The commander in chief was then completing his preparations for the relief of Lucknow and Oudh, besieged in the Residency at Lucknow.

Of the relentless battle which preceded the heavy and decisive engagement on November 14, when William Hall won his Victoria Cross, this brief record has little to say. This was the day on which Sir Colin Campbell's little force delivered the main assault against the rebel defences east of the city.

The principal attack against Lucknow was launched from the south-east in the cramped area where the mutineers line vanished in the jungle fringing the Gumti.

Late in the afternoon, following some heavy preliminary fighting, the Sikandarbagh—a high walled enclosure about 150 yards square—had been carried at the point of bayonet by the 93rd Highlanders and the Sikhs; but the most critical moment of the engagement had not yet arrived. Nearly half a mile to the west of the Sikandarbagh, across the open, jungle-bordered plain, stood the Shah Najaf, a large and ancient mosque.

Loop-holed, strongly garrisoned, and with walls several feet in thickness, the Shah Najaf was the key to Lucknow. To capture this position quickly was essential to the success of the battle, for the relieving force numbered less than 5000 men, opposed to an army of more than 30,000 rebels.

It was after four o'clock in the afternoon when Sir Colin Campbell directed that the Shah should be attacked. The preliminary bombardment was undertaken by the "Shannon Brigade," who dragging their guns to less than 400 yards range, laid a heavy cannonade on the walls. Under a concentrated fire from three sides the gunners sent shell after shell into the mosque, but so thick were the walls that the projectiles made little or no impression.

"The men were falling fast," records an eye-witness. "Even Peel's usually bright face became grave and anxious. Sir Colin sat on his white horse, exposed to the whole storm of shot, looking intently on the Shah Najaf, which was wreathed in volumes of smoke from the burning buildings in front, but sparkled all over with bright flash of small arms. It was now apparent that the crisis of the battle had been reached."

Sir Colin decided to assault the position with the bayonet, and to that task he assigned the 93rd Highlanders, supported by a battery of the royal artillery and the guns of the "Shannon Brigade."

The artillerymen raced forward, passing the Shannon's men on the right. Unhindered only a few hundred yards from the mosque, they delivered a storm of grape-shot against the walls.

(Continued on Page 6)

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LONDON NOTES

Mr. William Taylor, a life-long resident of London, departed this life on Friday, June 9th and was buried from Ferguson's undertaking rooms on Tuesday afternoon, June 13th at 2.30. He is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Annie Grayson of Toronto; two sisters, Mrs. M. Brown and Mrs. M. White of Detroit, Mich. and Evanston, Ill. two brothers, Mr. Edward Taylor and Mr. Walter Taylor of New York City and Detroit, Mich. Mr. William Taylor was well known and respected business man in the city for a number of years having succeeded his father as a barber who conducted his shop for over thirty years.

A garden party was given on the lawn of Mr. and Mrs. Fred R. Harris of Trafalgar St. was a grand success. The Pastor, officers and members of the B.M.E. Church were well pleased with the effort and assistance given by all the other co-operating organizations who arranged attractive booths for the occasion.

Mrs. Bernice McKurdy was elected to represent the Dunbar social guide at the Young Peoples convention at Windsor.

Mr. Randolph James of New York City is a student of theology at Western University and is making his home at the residence of Mrs. Mary Burke, 208 Simcoe St.

Mr. Fred Kelley Jr. is reported ill at St. Joseph Hospital, we wish him a speedy recovery.

The Hotel London Baseball team are gaining city-wide popularity and admiration this season by winning the first 9 games of the 18 scheduled.

Messrs Wm. and Lewin Grant and Mother accompanied by Mrs. Jenkins and Mr. Wm. Harris spent a very pleasant Sunday with friends and relatives in Chatham.

Mrs. Jenkins entertained Mrs. Clara Durant to a tea.

Mr. Stanley Drake, accompanied by mother and sister motored to the annual Conference at Windsor.

The members of the Dunbar Social Guide held a "Junior Party" at the home of Mrs. Bernice Fountaine. Each member was attired in child's dress. A very good time was had by all.

The Canadian Colored Champions of Chatham are holding their annual picnic at Springbank Park, Thursday July 13th. The champions will play the Hotel London team in the evening on the Trafalgar diamond.

Miss Henderson of New York was the guest of her sister Mrs. Jean Hollingsworth for a few days.

The C.L.A.C.P. held a garden party

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1895 Anniversary Sale 1933

38 years ago, on the first day of July, I started in the jewelry business in the same block as we are today, and to celebrate the event we are offering specials in our complete line of merchandise, including Watches, Clocks, Diamonds, Jewelry, Silverware, Novelties and China. Be sure and see our wonderful values in Wedding Presents and Prizes.

Special in Brooches and Bapins—1 tray of Brooches and Bapins, yellow and yellow and green, gold lined, set with colored stones and cameos. Priced as high as \$5.00.

To be sold at, each **\$1.50**
Used Watches—25 Used Watches—Ladies' and Gents' Wrist and Pocket Watches, in good running order, from **\$3.00 to \$7.00**
\$3.00 to \$50.00 allowed on your old watch when buying a new Watch.

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34-pc. Cabinet of Silver, stainless steel blades. Reg. \$20, for **\$10**

Flatware for summer homes, stainless stl. knives. 1/2 doz **\$1.50**

Forks, Half Dozen **90c**

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Spoons, Half Dozen **60c**

Tablespoon, Sugar Shell, Butter Knife, each **18c**

Diamonds left to be Sold—Ladies' Diamond Ring, centre stone 1.50k perfect blue-white. Reg. \$650, for **\$400**

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COLLISON'S

386 RICHMOND STREET

at the home of Mrs. Jenkins, June 8. It was a great success along with the Hotel London's Orchestra assisting in the musical part of the program.

Messrs. Wm. and Lewis Groat accompanied by James Jenkins and Wm. Harris spent a very pleasant Sunday with friends and relatives in Hamilton.

Mrs. Rachel Fountaine and daughter Audrey accompanied by Miss Helen Harris were the guests of Sam. Harris.

Mr. Thomas Jordan of Detroit visited his wife Mrs. Jordan who is with her mother, Mrs. Harris.

To Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson a fine baby boy.

The Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention (inc.), Nashville, Tenn. has just released from its press "A short history of the Baptist Denomination" under the authorship of the Rev'd Miles Mark Fisher.

This book is very informative and is considered an authoritative historical account of the Baptist Organization and growth. The author, Rev'd Fisher was formerly Hoyt Professor of Church History in Virginia Union University. He was graduate from Morehouse College, the Northern Baptist Theological Seminary of Chicago, and the University of Chicago.

MY GRANDMA

I know not all the weary paths she trod
The heartaches, heartbreaks, bitter tears she shed.
But this, I know, her trust was in her God
These things I've known, since when He guided her in everything she did.
A little tot,—
The memories will never be forgot—
Her tender care, her sweet and loving smile,
Never complaining, always making life worthwhile.
I know when God says, "Weary traveler, come."
She'll smile and say, "Yes, Lord, I'm coming home."
He'll take her to the land where lilies grow;
The land she hoped for, struggled for, here below.

—Florence A. Sparks.

IMPRESSIONS

We have committed the Golden Rule to memory; let us now commit it to life. We have preached Brotherhood for centuries; we now need to find a material basis for Brotherhood. Government must be made the organ of fraternity—a working form of comrade-love.

Think on this—work for this.

—Edwin Markham

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(Continued from Page 3)

against the walls. No sooner had the battery become emplaced than Peel's guns were hauled forward, and once again came into action. The Highlanders advanced.

Unequipped with scaling ladders, the walls still unbreached, the Highlander came to a complete stop at the enclosure surrounding the Shah Najaf. From the loop-holed walls a relentless torrent of well-aimed musketry dropped them by the score. Frantically the infantrymen raged around the enclosure, seeking vainly for some means either of ascending or penetrating the walls.

Then it was that the men of the Shannon enacted that drama from which emerged the award of the Victoria Cross for William Hall.

The turning point of the battle had been reached. Either the Shah Najaf must be taken or Sir Colin Campbell's force must recoil in defeat.

Peel ordered two of his guns still nearer to the mosque. The sailors strained at the ropes and manhandled their pieces to within 20 yards of the wall. With one of these guns went William Hall.

A fire of musketry and handgrenades drenched the crews, all but annihilating them. The personnel of one was completely destroyed, and the men around the second were falling fast. Calmly Hall worked this gun beneath that murderous storm. Only his officer, Lieut. Young and he were left; but with no thought beyond accomplishing what he had been ordered to do, the Nova Scotian Negro continued sponging and loading, sending shell after shell crashing into the wall.

The Highlanders were meanwhile pouring in a fusillade, but this was not particularly effective, and they continued exposed to the musketry from the still unbreached mosque. Rockets were brought up, and a volley of fiery projectiles was sent hissing over the wall. Under cover of these the guns of the Shannon were hauled back.

The capture of the Shah Najaf was effected when a fissure was discovered just large enough to enable a man to climb the wall. Clambering to the coping, a number of Highlanders made their entry into the place and opened the great gate.

But the mutineers had vanished. Sir Colin Campbell characterized it as "an action almost unexampled in war."

Both Wall and his officer Young were awarded the Victoria Cross for their unparalleled bravery before the walls of the Shah Najaf.

The Nova Scotian negro left the Royal Navy, presumably around 1880. Returning to Canada, he settled down at Avonport, in King's County Nova Scotia, devoting himself to farming and to his favorite recreation which according to "Who's Who," for the year 1900 was "shooting crows."

A brave and loyal man, well thought of by his neighbors, this son of a slave and a Canada's third Victoria Cross hero, died in August, 1904, at the age of 80.

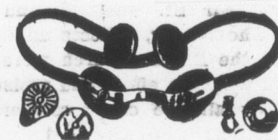
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