**The Aliened American**

Weekly [Every Saturday morning]

Office: Cleveland, Ohio

Published by

Editor: William Howard Day [Lucie Stanton’s name is not mentioned here]

Corresponding editors: Samuel Ringgold Ward (Toronto) and Rev. James William Charles Pennington, New York

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4 pages, seven columns on each page

No advertisement. But it had many potential advertisers in Cleveland and Oberlin (John Watson), both white and black business owners.

“To furnish News: To favor Literature, Science and Art: To aid the development, Education, Mechanical and Social, of Colored Americans: To depend the Right of Humanity”

[The newspaper includes poems, short stories, and essays. “Literature” “Scientific” “News” “Correspondence” “Bank notes and whole sale prices”]

Article 1: Mrs. Lucie S. Day’s “Charles and Clara Hayes” [about self-liberated siblings’ story. Lucie may have reflected her childhood memories from her Underground Railroad parents. Otherwise, in consider the year of 1853, she could have been inspired by Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*.]

Article 2: “The Family Opposed to Newspapers” [satirizes an old ignorant man to emphasize the importance of learning through newspaper subscription]

Article 3: “The True Gentleman”

Article 4: Ohio State Convention of Colored Freeman. Columbus, Jan. 18, 1853

<http://coloredconventions.org/items/show/592>

[At the meeting, the delegates and chairs decided on establishing a black newspaper. “Article 11. 3.Resolved, That as a means to the same end; we hereby pledge ourselves to support, by all honorable means, a Newspaper soon to be started in Cleveland, by William H. Day, devoted to our interests.

Later, John Mercer Langston also addressed the importance of a black newspaper: “[He] addressed the convention on the importance of establishing and supporting an efficient newspaper. He said we had no medium through which we can tell our wrongs to the world. He hoped the paper would be supported.”

This convention also defines the American Colonization Society as the worse enemy. Lucie Stanton’s step father, John Brown also attended the convention. He served as an executive committee from Cuyahoga County. The editor of *The Palladium of Liberty*, David Jenkins also actively led the convention.]

Article 5: “Ohio State Anti-Slavery Society [William Day served for Ohio State Anti-Slavery Society. But he resigned soon for many duties including publishing the newspaper.]

Article 6: [Invention of powerful engine]

Article 7: [Mr. Jackson’s seven-year-old daughter, Phoebe in Ohio City is clairvoyant. She can read blindfolded.]

[News about around the world including Australia, UK, France,..]

Article 8: “Important from San Juan—Seizure by U. S. Naval Forces—Registration of the Government”

“Special Notice”: In order to receive in the subscriptions pledged, and to allow many persons who have been waiting to see the first number of the *Aliened American*, to do so, we will now, according to agreement, suspend its publication for some weeks. Persons desiring the paper will do well to forward their names, post office address, and money, (pre-paid) without delay. It will the sooner secure the resumption of the publication, and the consecutive numbers: for we shall supply only subscription. [illegible]

“To Our Patrons”: Thanks to you, we are, today, enabled to commence our mission. That mission is to visit weekly, the haunts and the homes of the sovereigns of this land, with our demand for simple justice: to aid the educational, mechanical and social development of Colored Americas: and while we furnish News—to favor literature, science and art. A mission demanding our best but humble efforts, and calling for the earnest support of every friend of Man. So far as our principles are concerned, we commence, as we shall continue, independent: independent in religion—independent in politics—independent in everything;--the organ of no Party, and yet a Political paper; and the humble supporter of all good men. We have started to win—to succeed. And the substantial patronage which has enabled us to commence, will we trust, enable us to continue, a career of usefulness. William H. Day. Editor and Publisher

Article 9: “Salutation” from Samuel Ringgold Ward in Toronto.

Article 10: “The Aliened American” [this article explains the history of a black press. The necessity of a black newspaper was raised for the first time at the state convention in 1849. In the following year, the resolution was adopted. At the 1852 State Convention, a Press committee was organized, which included David Jenkins, William Day, F. Douglass (Frederick Douglass?), L.D. Taylor, and P.H. Clark.] This paper speaks for them, first through its name—*Aliened American*. Born under the United States’ Constitution, and entitled by it, to all the rights and immunities of other citizens, the State and National Governments have not only disfranchised, they have ostracized—have made them aliens—through their Law, their Public Opinion and their Community—Regulations.—Our color has been, generally, a mark of degradation, no matter how learned, how eloquent, or how well-disposed we have been. In the honorable instances of communities and individuals where color has not been regarded a crime, it has often been owing to our becoming better known. What we propose to do by this paper is—to make our way where our personal presence would be excluded, and by appealing to the judgment of men, to induce them to act towards us as they would desire us to act, were our conditions revered. This paper, therefore, will endeavor to represent Colored Americans by insisting that Manhood is not justly measured y the color of the hair, the shape of the nose, or the hue of the skin. . . . But we speak not for ourselves alone. We speak for Humanity. ..

Article 11: “Our Present Number” We publish this number only to give our friends something of an idea as to what the paper will be. The engraved head for it, by Messrs, Brainerd & Burridge, is not yet completed. When that is finished, and we meet our intention to improve our paper’s typography, its general appearance will equal that of any first class journal. Its matter will speak for itself.

Article 12: “Our Correspondence”—“Africa” [from Miss Mahala McGuyre, a black missionary in Sierra Leone. She mentions Kaw Mendi. She went there with Mr. Gray (Oberlin graduate) and Mrs. Sarah (Kinson) Green, the youngest member of the *Amistad* and Oberlin graduate. This newspaper has a direct connection to those missionaries in Africa.]

Article 13: “The Corresponding Editors”

Article 14: “Convention in Butler County” [it publishes the convention proceedings that selected delegates for the Ohio State Convention of Colored People, held on January 19th, 1853, Columbus.--> contribute it to the Colored Convention Project]

Article 15: “The Black Swan” [Miss Elizabeth Greenfield] <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elizabeth_Greenfield>

Article 16: “President Pierce’s Inaugural” [comments on his speech from black Americans’ perspective] Nor do we believe that our Government has shown devotion to freedom. [it also questions the value of the constitution.]

Article 17: “New Books” [(1) William Cooper Nell (Boston) published *Services of Colored American sin the Wars of 1776 and 1812* in 1851. (2) Martin Robinson Delany’s *The Condition, Elevation, Emigration and Destiny of the Colored People of the United States* published in 1852. And more but illegible]

Article 18: “Mr. J [Jonathan] .A. Harris [fugitive slave] and Mrs. H.M. Tracy Cutler” Another fact. The first colored man who cast a ballot in the county of Lorain, was Rev. William P. Newman. The first man who made an argument before the judges of election to enable him to do it, was Mr. Tracy. To Mr. Tracy, then, belongs, to a considerable extent, the credit of the practical application of the organic law of the State in our favor.

Article 19: “American Colonization Society” The repository of that date (August 1850) said, speaking of fifty-five who had just embarked—“The fifty-five added to the number previously sent (7,034) make 7,089 persons who have been sent to Liberia since the organization of the Society,”.. [the *African Repository* is an official document for this] [The newspaper questions,] Will some reliable Colonization journalist give us the whole number sent [illegible] to African by each Society?

Article 20: “Personal. Etc.” [reporting about the popularity of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* including other black leaders, Nathaniel Hawthorne’s publication of the *Scarlett Letter*]

Article 21: [News about well-known writers like Thackeray]

Article 22: :The Inaugural Address of the President of the United States. Washington, March 4 1853]

**Contributors:** Lucie Stanton [However, when the newspaper introduces its contributors, her name is omitted.], Theodore Parker, Rev. Amos G. Beman (New Haven, Connecticut), Dr. Martin R. Delany (Pittsburgh, PA), Charles B. Ray, J.P Campbell, Henry Wilson, Dempsey Kennedy, Sampson White

**Quoted periodicals:** *New York Tribune, Hun’s Merchant’s Magazine, Mansfield Herald (Ohio), Columbus Journal, Hamilton Intelligencer, Republic, Columbian Magazine, Albany Knick*

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