**The Colored Citizen**

Weekly

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4 pages, five columns on each page; 4 pages, seven columns on each page

Advertisements of black businesses

[Articles include poems, local news, business-oriented, less political]

[J. Sampson (or his father?) worked with W.C. Yancy before this newspaper. See *The Palladium of Liberty*, March 20, 1844. “Proceedings of Public Meeting in Hamilton Ohio”]

**Vol. 1, no. 1, Saturday, November 7, 1863**

**“Nothing That Concerns Mankind is Foreign To Me”**

Original prospectus: “Feeling the stern necessity of a medium through which to speak, hear and be heard, to defend the right and denounce wrong, touching our interest more especially in this city, where unoffending colored citizens are shamefully wronged, we assume the responsibility of publishing the *Citizen*. We hope to receive encouragement from every friend of Truth, Justice, Law, and Humanity. We promise our columns shall not be made a vehicle for the ventilation of personal spite or puffery; we are not the organ of any individual idea, further than for the good of our common cause. The *Citizen* will be more a paper of facts and secular news than a literary journal. We aim to be straightforward, modest and respectful, co-operating in every good work, especially that of ameliorating the condition of a proscribed class who have been so shamefully wronged by our fellow-country men.”

Article 1: “A Constitutional Government For Russia”

Article 2: “Meeting of Tennessee Colored Men—What They Think of the War”

Article 3: “The Monroe Doctrine”

Article 4: “The Heart in the Face”

Notice: Persons in Cleveland wishing to take the “Citizen,” a paper devoted to the interest of the Ohio colored soldiers, can do so through Mr. Joseph E. Sampson of that city, who will give all information required. [Is Joseph E. Sampson a son of John Sampson?]

Article 5: “Instrumental Music in Churches.” [emphasizing community members’ vocal talent: Joseph Corbin, Dr. Buckner, and Spurlock]

Article 6: “Emancipation Promotes Insurrection” [Henry Ward Beecher’s lecture on “the American war and emancipation”] The President’s proclamation was the only thing that prevented a bloody insurrection. While the authority of the masters had been either completely lost or weakened the proclamation, inviting the slaves to a higher social condition, tended to nothing so much as to peace and good order. It simply called upon the colored people, who had been abandoned by their own government to take refuge under another more stable. It merely called upon those who had been wronged to assert their rights under the protection of our arms, and to employ under our flag those who, under another flag, would have been employed against us.

Article 7: “Honor to the Brave” [news on colored soldiers] Our brave soldiers at Fort Hudson and Fort Wagner gave the rebels a striking evidence of their physical equality. . . Whilst our Dominican friends are convincing the slave holding Spaniards that they are not to be baffled and trifled with, our brave colored soldiery will respond to their welcome appeals of impartial law and liberty, with a vim that would have shaken the ancient battlements of Rome.

Article 8: “Will We Fail?” Be not deceived. . . . Our hearts alive to the chances and changes of a nation will beat steady time to the tune of life, while we, steady as our hearts, step in harmonious action up the acclivitous hill of progress, and those who are favorable to our cause will join us in shouting, on ward!

Article 9: “Zion Church Festival” [Mrs. Wallace Shelton, the Superintendent of the above festival, paid over to the Trustee of the church the handsome sum of $126, which was the net proceeds of the festival.”

[More festivals for black soldiers]

Article 10: [News on black businesses] We are glad to see that there is an movement on foot having for its object the education of our freed brethren. This enterprise has been gotten up by Rev. W. Shelton and others. We hope that every friend of the race will co-operate with Mr. Shelton in forwarding this praiseworthy enterprise.

Mr. Solomon Adams, with his cordial smile of welcome, can be found at all hours at his well established and finely conducted Restaurant, No. 94 Broadway, Winnie House, where a host of good things, in the shape of eatables, will be served up in the very best style to suit the most fastidious palate. Give him a call.

Article 11: [About the Civil War] “Reflections” In 1861. . . [Colored men] were told that this war, which was just beginning, was a white man’s war, and no negroes were wanted.

Article 12: “From Nashville” [Blacks too care of contrabands]

Article 13: “My Maryland” “Progress of the Union Sentiment”

Article 14: “What the War Has Done For the Negro” [Edward Dicey’s “Retrospect of the War”]

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Dicey>

Article 15: “What the Colored People Ask” The late riots in this city have turned the hearts of thousands to the wants of the large colored population living among us. The wanton and brutal attacks made upon them by bands of ruffians, have caused many who were indifferent before, now to stand forth in their defense. Of the colored people in this city we believe *a larger proportion than of the Irish* are worthy, inoffensive, and industrious, and they have the strongest claim to protection. They do not ask for charity; they only ask for work, and the opportunity of supporting themselves.

Article 16: “General Railroad Arrangement: Union Ticket Offices” [general information about train schedule

Article 17: “Obituary” [Written by J.H Buchanan, Civil general <https://www.loc.gov/item/mal2555300/>] Under the head of Obituaries, you might now announce the death of American Slavery. Its death knell is now sounding over the land. The monster has committed suicide, dying an ignoble death. No one seems willing to honor it so much as to prepare an obituary notice for the press. The reason is evidence. If the writer were to swell exclusively upon the virtues of the deceased, as is customary in such productions, he would have positively nothing to write. It is true that a few mourners go about the streets, but the majority of its old friends seem to entertain feelings similar to individuals who have just witnessed the departure of a friend who has died with a cancer, glad that he is out of his misery, seeing it is impossible for him to live. . . . This people must be educated for a state of freedom. Ignorance fits a man for slavery, but unfits him for freedom. . . .

Article 18: “The Condor of the Andes”

Article 19: “A Physician’s Power” [by Rev. Rufus W. Clark, D.D]

Article 20: [“Notice” reveals black women’s leadership] The Contraband Aid Association will meet on Thursday evening, the 12th inst. At Mrs. Thomas’ house, [assume Alexander Thomas’s wife] No. 312 Seventh St.

The Young Ladies’ Union Sewing Circle, for the benefit of colored orphans, will meet at Mrs. [Mary] Kings, Sixth St. east of Broadway, Monday evening the 9th inst.

**Vol. 3, no. 29, Saturday, May 19, 1866**

**“Nothing That Concerns Mankind is Foreign To Me”**

[noticeable changes from the first issue: more advertisement, narrow columns (for enough room for advertising?), new masthead, more concerns on international issues, published after the Civil War, ..]

[Special attention given to job printing. Minutes of associations, lodges, conventions, and conferences; circulars, bill-heads, wedding and obituary notices printed with dispatch, and on the most reasonable terms.]

Article 1: “Poetry” [by John Hay]

Article 2: “Parlor and Fireside: The Failures and Falsehoods of Human Life”

Article 3: “The Cholera”

Article 4: “I’ll Call Tomorrow” [about politeness and good manner]

Article 5: “Chinese Juggling” “A Pharisee”

Article 6: “How to do a Kind Deed”

**“Prospectus of the *Colored Citizen*”**

The Colored Citizen, a weekly journal of news, literature, and conducted by colored men for the special benefit of colored men, has now entered the third year of its existence. It is published by an association of colored men, residents of Cincinnati, Louisville, Zanesville, St. Louis, Chicago, Columbus, Indianapolis, Parkersburg, and other prominent cities of the great West. It appeals confidently to the colored citizens of that section of the country for such a support as it necessary to render their organ a permanent institution. It has already lived down the prophecies of those who regarded a colored men’s newspaper as a predestined failure; and its prophecies are, more than ever, favorable. It will be seen that it is the only colored secular paper in our country published for so low at price; though larger than any other colored newspaper—with one exception—published in the United States. Its terms are…

[not any more Cincinnati’s local newspaper]

Article 8: “The Ohio Congressman” [A self-made man, a foremost Radical, consecrated to all progression may the days be may before we shall say, we no longer see Ashley.”

🡪 James Mitchell Ashley, 1824-1896]

Article 9: “Anniversary of American Anteslavery [sic] Society” [list the meeting resolutions.] The 33d Anniversary was held, May 8th, in the church of the Puritans, N.Y. city. Letters from Messers. Sumner, Chase, Gen. Sexton, and Judge Kelly were read, and addressed delivered by Wendell Philips, O.B. Frothingham, Chase, Lenoz Remond, and others.

Article 10: “Important Case in a Freedmen’s Court” [Introduce lawsuits by former slaves against white owners or proprietors in Nashville.] York Freeman, a colored man of large means, in 1831 bequeathed to his wife Judy, three tracks of land, stock, tools & c. Before his death his daughter Ella, a slave was put up at auction, and York advanced to James B. Hallums, the money necessary to purchase her, who gave his note for the purchase money, taking a bill of sale in his own name. this course was necessarily adopted on account of the State laws against emancipation. York subsequently assigned all his property to Hallums in consequence of some indictments against him for selling liquor. Judy also placed $316 dollars in Hallums’ hands for safekeeping. After the death of York and Judy; Happums not only seized all the property, but reduced Ella to slavery. –she became free by the Emancipation Proclamation and brought suit to recover the property of her father. The court gave her $4386,44 damages for the enslavement of herself and sons, also the lands belonging to her father. Several eminent lawyers of Nashville were engaged in the suit.

Article 11: “An Englishman in Hayti”

Article 12: “How Easily the Negro Dies” [statistics from the Civil War reveal the casualty of black soldiers significantly exceed that of white soldiers]

Article 13: “Items” [Charles E. Clark’s sudden death. He was a owner of Barnet House Barber shop. J.P. Sampson, The Black Swan, Miss Greenfield, .. ]

Article 14: “The Colored Public Schools of Cincinnati—Their faults and the remedies”

Article 15: [Important] “Louisville Department”: Horace Morris, John K. Mason, Marsh Woodson 🡪 “We hope this new move will have the effect of deepening the interest in and extending the circulation of this valuable paper.” 🡪 It began to be published in Louisville, KT, in 1866.

“Be not the slave of authority. If you think anything of yourself, think for yourself.”\

Article 16: “Religious Intelligence”

Article 17: [Seeking a lost family member]

Article 18: “Personal” [Letter about his former wife’s false accusation of domestic violence. Louisa Turner and Isaac Turner]

“Notices” 🡪 similar to advertising and announcements. Railroad schedule

Article 19: “Children’s Corner”

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**Quoted periodicals:** *New York Tribune, Congregationalist, Victoria, Evangelist, Chamber’s Journal, Ed. Journal, The Methodist, The Gayworthys, Zion’s Herald, London Daily, Richmond Examiner*

**Advertisements [only one column]: many advertisements illustrate post-war Cincinnati.**

1. Clothes and shoes: 25
2. Beauty product: 3
3. Medicine and doctor’s office: 8 (including patients for medical experiments, like “private disease”)
4. Books/postcard/portrait: 3
5. Barbershop: 1
6. Farming:
7. Construction (roofing and plumbing): 2
8. Furnishing (furniture, carpet, cabinets, rugs): 16
9. Employment: 3
10. Printer/binder:
11. Hotel/Boarding house: 11
12. Jewelry: 3
13. Groceries and coal: 7
14. Cleaning: 1
15. Music lessons:
16. Sewing machine: 4
17. Restaurant/saloon/tavern: 4
18. Cemetery: 2
19. Insurance: 4
20. Bank/Loan: 1
21. Real estate: 2
22. Liquors and cigars: 4
23. Law office: 3 [regarding veteran compensation, claiming agent]
24. Photography: 3
25. Eyeglasses (stereoscopes): 2
26. Private school/training school: 1