

The Charleston Exposition will give the Negro the finest opportunity that he has yet had in this country to demonstrate his practical achievements as a people. It is not that we have not succeeded at previous displays of this kind. Indeed our showing at Atlanta was magnificent, and will always be remembered. Our exhibit at Paris was an eye-opener to the civilized world. We are doing well at Buffalo, and maintaining the respect of critical visitors from everywhere. Comparisons have not been odious with reference to any of these highly creditable milestones of progress.

Charleston should outrank them all, however, for it has the advantage of being able to secure intact, or nearly so; the typical exhibits of former collections, and the added experience of those engaged in the work will be of immense advantage. With the best of Paris and Buffalo as a nucleus, the country can be scoured, North, East, South and West, for the later and more finished products of the farms, schools and shops, and the acquaintances made in the first investigation will blaze the way to reach territory previously unexplored. The West Indies and Africa will for the first time be extensively featured, and as the world is moving rapidly on to these new soils, their resources will be of profound interest to Americans of both races.

A creditable beginning has been made. The laying of the corner-stone afforded an opportunity for speeches that placed the engineers in happy accord, and the spirit of unity that has sprung up between the potential factors of Charleston and the pride of the substantial whites in the possibilities of their Negro neighbors, bespeak great results for the Exposition. It is serving as an educator and as a merger of material interests of the state of South Carolina and vicinity, which in itself fully justifies the labor expended in getting up the display. The press

of Charleston is making favorable sentiment, and Dr. Crum and the local managers are to be congratulated that they have succeeded so admirably in arranging for equal accommodations for visitors of our race, who might otherwise be put to serious inconvenience. Merchants and business men generally promise liberal treatment to all, and the churches and school houses will vie in extending the hospitality characteristic of whole souled southerners.

The Exposition opens December 1, 1901, and its Negro Building will be a conspicuous feature throughout the season. The exhibit of the resources of our people in agriculture, industry, invention, literature, etc, will more than meet the most sanguine expectations. This opportunity to demonstrate what we have done and are capable of doing is too valuable to be lost. We should and will make the most of it. It will mark our present limit in the arts and sciences. That the representation will be worthy of the race is guaranteed in the fact that the greatest living Negro, Booker T. Washington, is at the head of the enterprise. In Dr. Crum, Mr. Jackson, Rev. Richard Carroll, and the public spirited executive board he has a corps of assistants that can be depended upon to give the best that is within them. The new Negro will be seen to advantage at Charleston.

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