



Smithsonian Institution

National Museum of African American History and Culture

The Crisis Vol. 11 No. 3

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Men of the Month

A Pianist

Monsieur Justin Elie was born at Port-au-Prince, Haiti, September 1st, 1883. At the age of five years he showed a passion for music. His parents took him to France and put him in the celebrated institution at Sainte Croix. He was prepared for the Conservatory of Paris by the great pianist, Marmontel, and passed a brilliant entrance examination in 1903. He studied under De Beriot, Phillips, De Wormser and De Pessard. He was graduated in 1905 and has since been in concert work in Paris and in the West Indies. He has written several compositions, notable among them is "Aphrodite." Monsieur Elie is expected in the United States soon.

A Clergyman

Pierre Emry Jones was born in Haiti in 1848 and was educated in the United States. He was made a Deacon in the Episcopal church in 1872 and returned to Haiti as a missionary under Bishop Holly.

Since the death of Bishop Holly Mr. Jones has been President of the Episcopal convocation. Last year the Divinity School of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Philadelphia conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Sacred Theology.

A Great Actor

Ira Aldridge was born in Maryland in 1810. He was educated at Schenectady College and at Glasgow University in Scotland. Although he was intended for the ministry he turned to the stage and made his debut at Royalty Theatre in London in 1833. His success was immediate. Edward Kean played Iago to his Othello and other actors and actresses vied in honoring him.

In 1852 he started for the continent. In Prussia he received a gold medal of the first class for art and science, previously awarded only to Humboldt, Spontini and Lizst. The Emperor of Austria gave him the Grand Cross of the Order of Leopold. In Russia he was equally honored. Indeed from 1852 until his death Aldridge was recognized in Europe as the first of living tragedians, equalled only by the wonderful Rachael.

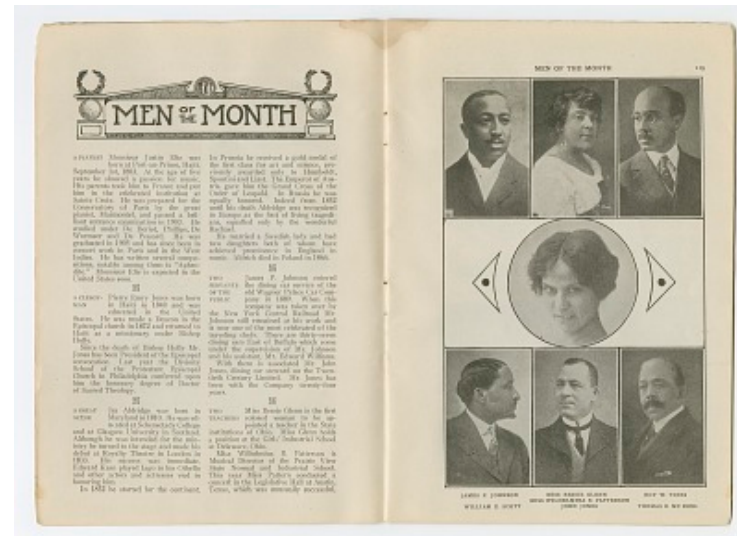
He married a Swedish lady and had two daughters both of whom have achieved prominence in England in music. Aldrich [Aldridge] died in Poland in 1866.

Two Servants of the Public

James P. Johnson entered the dining car service of the old Wagner Palace Car Company in 1889. When this company was taken over by the New York Central Railroad Mr. Johnson still remained at his work and is now one of the most celebrated of the traveling chefs. There are thirty-seven dining cars East of Buffalo which come under the supervision of Mr. Johnson and his assistant, Mr. Edward Williams.

With them is associated Mr. John Jones, dining car steward on the Twentieth Century Limited. Mr. Jones has been with the Company twenty-four years.

Two Teachers



Miss Bessie Glenn is the first colored woman to be appointed a teacher in the State institutions of Ohio. Miss Glenn holds a position at the Girls' Industrial School at Delaware, Ohio.

Miss Wilhelmina B. Patterson is Musical Director of the Prairie View State Normal and Industrial School. The year Miss Pattern conducted a concert in the Legislative Hall at Austin, Texas, which was unusually successful,

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[[image top left]] JAMES P. JOHNSON

[[image top middle]] MISS BESSIE GLENN

[[image top right]] ROY W. TIBBS

[[image middle]] MISS WILHELMINA B. PATTERSON

[[image bottom left]] WILLIAM E. SCOTT

[[image bottom middle]] JOHN JONES

[[image bottom left]] THOMAS B. MCKEEL

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