

## NORTHERN DRIVE TO START

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 9.—The members of the Race in this section are way ahead of the leaders who are just now considering the advisability of going north to better their conditions. The leaders among the churches, ministers and bishops are telling the cause for leaving, but they are too late. Thousands have left for the north and thousands are still leaving, and a million will leave with the Great Northern Drive, Tuesday, May 15. The maltreatment of the whites toward members of the Race is the sole cause of the exodus. It is the general belief here that its God's plan and hand that through His Providence the Race will be helped. There are some ministers, however, who have been real leaders and advised their people aright. Among them might be named Rev. R. H. Haynes, president A. M. E. Alliance; Rev. A. Jones, secretary.

## THE EXODUS

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# THE EXODUS



(Photo by Johnston, Savannah, Ga.)

### NORTHWARD BOUND

Laborers waiting for the third section of the labor trains northward bound on the outskirts of Savannah, Ga. The exodus of labor from the South has caused much alarm among the Southern whites, who have failed to treat them decent. The men, tired of being kicked and cursed, are leaving by the thousands as the above picture shows.

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## Farewell, Dixie Land

**THE OTHER FELLOW** is seldom in a position where he can decide what is best for you to do when the subject under consideration is a personal one. Yet the great "I AMS" of the Wilsonian type who live in the land of cotton and sugar cane, essay to tell the wishy-washy northerner that they know best how to deal with the Colored people, having summered and wintered with them for dozens of years. And in the past owing to the fact that the north, east and west had but a few of the people in question in their midst, they swallowed this southern canard and stood for the treatment accorded them, brutal as it was, believing, as they were told, the punishment only fitted the crimes.

Horrible pictures were painted and sent for northern consumption, of "big, black brutes" committing some imaginary crime and for the sake of southern womanhood how the chivalrous mob wreaked vengeance on the culprit. As dastardly, as revolting and as inhuman as these scenes were, they were enacted at a distance and didn't strike the northerner as forcibly as they do now, when from personal contact they know the Colored citizen is just as good in every respect as the white citizen. That is why the hue and cry is going up that the south needs reformation and needs it badly.

Every black man for the sake of his wife and daughters especially should leave even at a financial sacrifice every spot in the south where his worth is not appreciated enough to give him the standing of a man and a citizen in the community. We know full well that this would almost mean a depopulation of that section and if it were possible we would glory in its accomplishment. Some people only appreciate the value of a thing after it has gone, which is undoubtedly true of the southerners as a mass. Some, however, are beginning to see the light as is evidenced by the following truthful editorial which appeared in a southern paper:

"The north, the east and the west are absorbing uncounted thousands of strong, industrious Colored people into their great unskilled labor crucible. There are those who say they'll come back quickly enough. But that isn't true. Ellis Island will not clear labor into this country again for at least one full generation, possibly two. So year after year the labor markets of the continent will ~~care~~ for men, and year after year the south will be ravished of her long established, ideally fitted labor supply to meet the needs of the hour in other parts. **WE MUST HAVE THE NEGRO IN THE SOUTH. HE HAS BEEN WITH US SO LONG THAT OUR WHOLE INDUSTRIAL, COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL STRUCTURE HAS BEEN BUILT ON A BLACK FOUNDATION. IT IS THE ONLY LABOR WE HAVE, IT IS THE BEST WE POSSIBLY COULD HAVE—IF WE LOSE IT, WE GO BANKRUPT.**"

The writer goes further and says that everybody seems to be asleep about what is going on right under their nose; with their very solvency being sucked out from underneath they go about their affairs as usual. The police officers raid pool rooms for "loafing Negroes," bring in twelve, keep them in the barracks all night, and next morning find that ten of them have steady, regular jobs, and that they were there merely to spend an hour in the only indoor recreation they have; and again their county officers hear of a disturbance and without investigation bring in fifty odd men, women, boys and girls to spend the night in a jail, to make bond at 10 per cent, to hire lawyers, to mortgage half of two months' wages to get back on their jobs Monday morning—although but a bare half dozen could have been guilty of the disorderly conduct. It must take an awful lot of real gall for even a semi-intelligent southerner to say, "The south knows best how to care for the Negro."