

# THE AMERICAN MISSIONARY

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REV. JOSEPH EDWARD ROY, D.D.

JOSEPH EDWIN ROY was born at Martinsburg, Ohio, February 7, 1827. He was graduated at Knox College, Illinois, in 1848, and from Union Theological Seminary, New York, in 1853. Returning at this time to the West he took with him a commission from the American Missionary Association to a missionary church in Illinois. In 1855 he was called to the pastorate of Plymouth Church, Chicago, which was then two years old. After a pastorate of five years he accepted a call by the American Missionary Association to a District Secretaryship in the same city, but in a year and a half by a change in national affairs it was mutually agreed that he should

\*The picture on the cover was taken at the age of fifty-six years. That at the head of this article was taken at the age of seventy-six.

accept a transfer to the Home Missionary Society, in which service he continued for eighteen years. In 1878—by mutual arrangement again—Dr. Roy was reappointed to the American Missionary Association as its Field Superintendent, and under his supervision of seven years some fifty churches were organized. In 1885 Dr. Roy was asked for the second time to take the office of District Secretary at Chicago, which he did, holding it with great usefulness until 1903, when at the age of seventy-six years he was made Secretary *Emeritus*. He continued, however, as his strength would allow to serve the Association until his very latest years, when he has been practically laid aside by the infirmities of age. Dr. Roy died on Wednesday morning, March 4th, one month advanced in his eighty-second year.

In view of a work so varied as Dr. Roy successfully accomplished, one must be impressed with the dignity and value of a single life. The high regard in which Dr. Roy was held by the colored people of the South testifies to his sacrificial devotion to their interests.

He was among the last of those truly large, broad-minded, wide-visioned men who espoused an unpopular cause in its beginnings and consecrated themselves in full-hearted sincerity and without question to the oppressed and to their uplifting. Dr. Roy was simply revered among the colored people of the South. He not only had their absolute confidence but the abundant wealth of their affection. The writer of this little sketch in his goings

that in his development, even with the aid of Christian training, he must cast off sloth and cowardice, and work out his own salvation. Let him remember that his inferior condition to-day is due largely, if not entirely, to the deadly, and, may we say with reverence, the cruel kindness of nature towards him, by which for long ages she exempted him largely from the fearful conflict and rivalry against opposing elements, under which conditions the white races laid the foundations and fostered the development of their magnificent powers.

Let him now regard all obstacles in his way to-day as helps toward his development, and put forth the powers necessary to grapple with and overcome them. Let him, as far as possible, forget the guilt of those who would place the obstacles with

wrong intent, and regard the impediments as a tardy restitution that nature is offering for her previous homicidal kindness.

The Negro must be impressed also, most forcibly and persistently, that NOTHING LESS than Christian education, NOTHING DIVORCED FROM CHRISTIANITY, will make the race what it should be.

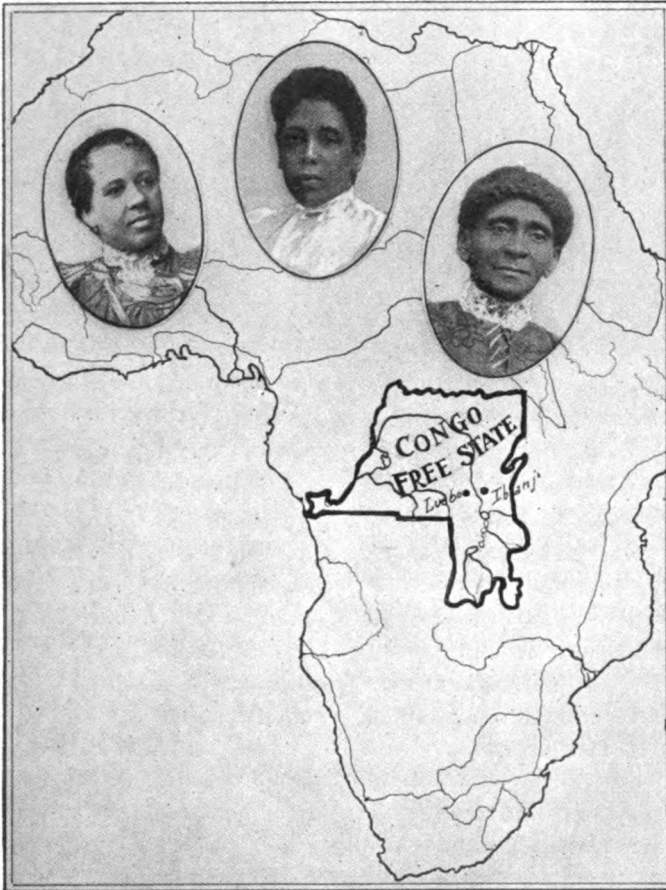
Let us, then, who are engaged in the task of developing the Negro along the lines of Christian education take up our work afresh, with renewed courage and hope and patience. The many defects that still cling to him with such tenacity will be rejected or transformed in the further march of the inexorable cosmic laws, just as ruthlessly as unfitness has been always dealt with in the long past; and the fittest development shall be attained, shall prevail and shall survive.

## MISSIONARIES FROM TALLADEGA COLLEGE IN AFRICA

ONE of the features of our work in which we take especial satisfaction is the growing sense of missionary responsibility and consecration to it on the part of Christian students in our higher institutions. The three young women whose pictures are here given to our readers were among the pioneers who went to Africa under the Southern Presbyterian Board of Missions some years ago. They have made an excellent record. These are from Talladega College in Alabama, but Fisk University is also well represented on the same field. Others in these institutions who have given proof of exceptional ability in their college classes and of devoted piety members of our Congregational Church are now preparing to follow these missionaries to other missionary stations in the Congo under the Presbyterian Board. Rev. Spencer Snell, pastor of our church in Mobile, Ala-

bama, writes concerning these Christian women who are now *en route* to Africa as follows:

"On Sunday evening, February 23d, we had a most interesting service. It was a public meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union. Part of the program was a farewell meeting to Miss Maria Fearing and Miss Lillian M. Thomas upon the eve of their departure to their work at Luebo, Congo Free State, Africa, after a vacation of sixteen months, most of which was spent in our city. After most helpful and instructive exercises by the Union, farewell words were spoken by the missionaries which touched all hearts present. The thorough consecration of these women to their work as evidenced by their great desire to return to it with all the risks, hardship and privation incident thereto seemed like enough to make any one interested in foreign missions and to have the most profound respect



MRS LUCY G. SHEPPARD MISS LILIAN M. THOMAS MISS MARIA FEARING

for those who engage in such work. The love of these two missionaries for their own people in Africa was so great that they seemed to think and talk of little else. All their planning was with reference to Luebo. All friends of the A.M.A.

will be interested in the great work which these people are doing because they were prepared for their work in the schools of this Association and under God caught the spirit of mission work from its consecrated teachers sent South.

### FOUR THOUSAND DOLLARS WANTED

**L**ESS than twenty years ago Greenwood, S. C., was a sleepy, typical Southern town of three or four thousand people, nearly equally divided between the two races. The white people were chiefly engaged in agriculture and the colored people were their field

servants. The white people had no modern school for their children. For the colored people there was Brewer Normal Institute, an excellent primary, grammar and normal boarding and day school, planted and sustained by the American Missionary Association. Meanwhile, two