

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., May 5, 1917.

*Dear Sir:* Kindly inform me by return mail are there any factories or concerns employing colored laborers, skilled or unskilled, the south is ringing with news from Chicago telling of the wonderful openings for colored people, and I am asking you to find the correct information whether I could get employment there or not. Please find postage enclosed for immediate reply.

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 29, 1917.

*Dear Sir:* I saw your add in the Chicago Defender where you wanted laborers and I taugth that this would be a grand opportunity for me to better my present conditions so I taugth I would write you and ask you would you be kind enough as to give me a job dear sir. I am a single man and would be willing to do any kind of work, dear sir would you be kind enough as to forward me a transportation and I would come write away so please do the best you can for me. There is but little down here to be gotten dear sir will you kindly grant me that favor. Hoping to receive a favorable answer.

GREENWOOD, S. C., May 8, 1917.

*Dear Friend:* I saw in the Chicago Defender where you waned labor. pleas send pass for as many men as you can are let me know what I must do to get one by return mail because I wont to leave the south and go north where you get a better chance. So please answer at once.

SUMTER, S. C., May 12, 1917.

*Dear Sir:* Could you get me a job in the — Tin Plate Factory at —, Pa. a job for (3) three also a pass from here for (3) I am a comon laborer and the other are the same. If you could we will be ever so much ablige and will comply with your advertisement. If you cant get a job just where we wish to go we will thank you for a good job any where in the state of Pa. or Ohio. I am in my 50 the others are my sons just in the bloom of life and I would wish that you could find a place where we can make a living and I also wish that you could find a place where we all three can be together. If you will send us a pass we will come just as soon as I receive it. If you find a place that you can send us please let us hear what the job will pay. Nothing more. I am yours respectfully.

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CARRIER, MISS., May 1, 1917.

Please sir will you please send me transportation for me and my wife I am willing to work anywhere you put me at the rate I am going it would take me from now until Cristmas to feed myself and get money enough to come with. Wages is so low and grocery is so high untill all I can do is to live. Please answer soon to.

NEWBERN, ALA., 5-21-1917.

*My dear Sir:* Your letter of the 11th inst. to hand and contents noted. In reply I wish to thank you for the kind offer relative to the laides. We shall leave for New York on or before June 20th; I desire to know if it be possible to secure our transportation fare from the parties to whom they shall work? Owing to conditions (here) in the south one is hardly able to eke out an existence on the paltry salaries allowed by our white friends; therefore we need help. If you can comply with our request, we shall be very grateful to you; & I wish to say in advance that you will not have cause to regret for whatever the charges may be we shall pay them willingly. I shall furnish the best references as to character.

Now, if it be possible for us to secure our transportation, we could leave here on or before the 5th of June. We prefer coming by water as it is cheaper. I trust that I have made myself plain and that you will see your way clear to serve us.

NEWBERN, ALA., 4/7/1917.

*Dear Sir:* I am in receipt of a letter from — of —, —, in regards to placing two young women of our community in positions in the North or West, as he was unable to give the above assistance he enclosed your address. We desire to know if you are in a position to put us in touch with any reliable firm or private family that desire to employ two young women; one is a teacher in the public school of this county, and has been for the past six years having duties of a mother and sister to care for she is forced to seek employment else where as labor is very cheap here. The other is a high school pupil, is capable of during the work of a private family with much credit.

Doubtless you have learned of the great exodus of our people to the north and west from this and other southern states. I wish to say that we are forced to go when one things of a grown man wages is only fifty to seventy five cents per day for all grades of

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work. He is compelled to go where there is better wages and sociable conditions, believe me. When I say that many places here in this state the only thing that the black man gets is a peck of meal and from three to four lbs. of bacon per week, and he is treated as a slave. As leaders we are powerless for we dare not resent such or to show even the slightest disapproval. Only a few days ago more than 1000 people left here for the north and west. They cannot stay here. The white man is saying that you must not go but they are not doing anything by way of assisting the black man to stay. As a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church (north) I am on the verge of starvation simply because of the above conditions. I shall be glad to know if there is any possible way by which I could be of real service to you as director of your society. Thanking you in advance for an early reply, and for any suggestions that you may be able to offer.

With best wishes for your success, I remain,  
very sincerely yours.

BREWSTER, ALA., Jan. 6, 1917.

*Dear Sir:* I am writing you enregards if work in the north I would like to came in turch with some of the leading men that wants colerd laborer and what about transportation there is a good deal of peple here wanting jobs.

TROY, ALA., 3-24-17.

*Dear Sir:* I received you of Feb. 17 and was very delighted to hear from you in regards of the matter in which I writen you about. I am very anxious to get to Chicago and realy believe that if I was there I would very soom be working on the position in which I writen you about. Now you can just imagine how it is with the colored man in the south. I am more than anxious to go to Chicago but have not got the necessary fund in which to pay my way and these southern white peoples are not paying a man enough for his work down here to save up enough money to leave here with. Now I am asking you for a helping hand in which to assist me in getting to Chicago. I know you can do so if you only will.

Hoping to hear from you at an early date and looking for a helping hand and also any information you choose to inform me of, I remain as ever yours truly.

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COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 1, 1917.

*Dear Ser:* I am out of work and was inform to write you al about work in the north I am a labor and is willing to work any where. I am in need of work very bad let me here from you at once

CHARLESTON, S. C., April 27, 1917.

*Dear Sir:* i was told by Mr. — — to rite you for one of cards as he say you got a lot of work to do in a brick yard and i an a hard working man i want to work and will work at any thing that pays so i rite to you for one of your blank so i can fill it out i dont care how soon i can get there and go to work there is no work here that pays a man to stay here so please send blank as soon as you can. Hoping to here from you soon.

SAVANNAH, GA., April 29, 1917.

*Dear sir:* I receive your letter and glad to hear from you, the reason why i wanted to come up there is for more wages. i am a man with family and works hard, but dont get sufficient wages to supoprt my family. i does any kind of ordinary hard work such as farming or teamster or most anything. i would like to no what kind of work you got up there to do as i fell satisfied that i could please you, and also state your price that you pay, and if this application is satisfactory why ans and i am willing to come right way.

*Dear Sir:* After reading a very interesting letter of Miss —, it affords me great interest to ask you for some information in regards to employment in Connecticut and to eliminate some writing and get the right understanding. I will ask you to please furnish me with an application form and in the mean time I may receive all information that you may give. Also please if you cannot get me employment in Connecticut, write me if there are any openings in New Jersey or New York. I am very anxious to leave the south as there are no chances of jobs here worth while. I have a recommendation as machine helper which I can send if required.

Hoping to have an interview as early as possible.

SAVANNAH, GA., May 1, 1917.

*Dear Sir:* In sceing your advertisement in reference to secur- ing a position for those desiring, I decided to take advantage of this opportunity as I desire better wages to meet the present high cost of living.

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me ther to meet you and look after you. I will send you a paper as soon as one come along they send out extras two and three times a day.

CHICAGO, ILL.

*Dear Partner:* You received a few days ago and I was indeed glad to hear from you and know that you was well. How is the old burg and all of the boys. Say partner is it true that T— M— was shot by a Negro Mon. It is all over the city among the people f H'burg if so let know at once so I tell the boys it true. Well so much for that. I wish you could have been here to have been ere to those games. I saw them and beleve me they was worth the money I pay to see them. T. S. and I went out to see Sunday game sitch was 7 to 2 White Sox and I saw Satday game 2 to 1 White Sox. Please tell J— write that he will never see nothing as long s he stay down there behind the sun there some thing to see up ere all the time. (tell old E— B— to go to (H—) Tell t— he dont hafter answer my cards. How is friend Wilson Wrote him a letter in August. Tell him that all right I will see im in the funny paper. Well Partner I guess you hear a meny money thing about Chicago. Half you hear is not true. I know t— C— hav tole a meny lie Whenever you here see them 'ardie tell them to write to this a dress Say Pardie old H— is popping up in his Barber shop. Guess I will come to you Boy Xmas. I must go to bed. Just in from a hard days work.

Your life long friend.

DIXON, ILL., Sept.-25-17.

*Dear Sir:* Time affords of writting you people now as we have raised to wages to three dollars a day for ten hours—eleven hrs. a day \$3.19 We work two wks day and two wks night—for night work \$3.90 This is steady work a year round We have been running ten years without stopping only for ten days repair. I wish you would write me at once.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, 11/13/17.

Mr. H—  
Hattiesburg, Miss.

*Dear M—:* Yours received sometime ago and found all well and doing well. hope you and family are well.

I got my things alright the other day and they were in good

condition. I am all fixed now and living well. I certainly appreciate what you done for us and I will remember you in the near future.

M—, old boy, I was promoted on the first of the month I was made first assistant to the head carpenter when he is out of the place I take everything in charge and was raised to \$95. a month. You know I know my stuff.

Whats the news generally around H'burg? I should have been here 20 years ago. I just begin to feel like a man. It's a great deal of pleasure in knowing that you have got some privilege My children are going to the same school with the whites and I dont have to umble to no one. I have registered—Will vote the next election and there isnt any 'yes sir' and 'no sir'—its all yes and no and Sam and Bill.

Florine says hello and would like very much to see you.

All joins me in sending love to you and family. How is times there now? Answer soon, from your friend and bro.

PITTSBURG, PA., May 11, 1917.

*My dear Pastor and wife:* It affords me great pleasure to write you this leave me well & O. K. I hope you & sis Hayes are well & no you think I have forgotten you all but I never will how is ever body & how is the church getting along well I am in this great city & you no it cool here right now the trees are just peeping out. fruit trees are now in full bloom but its cool yet we set by big fire over night. I like the money O. K. but I like the South betterm for my Pleasure this city is too fast for me they give you big money for what you do but they charge you big things for what you get and the people are coming by cal Loads every day its just pack out the people are Begging for some whears to sta If you have a family of children & come here you can buy a house easier than you cant rent one if you rent one you have to sign up for 6 months or 12 month so you see if you dont like it you have to stay you no they pass that law becaus the People move about so much I am at a real nice place and stay right in the house of a Rve.— and family his wife is a state worker I mean a missionary she is some class own a plenty rel estate & personal Property they has a 4 story home on the mountain. Piano in the parlor, organ in the sewing room, 1 daughter and 2 sons but you no I have to pay \$2.00 per week just to sleep and pay it in advance & get meals

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