5) Cook who was a famous preacher at that time, invited me to speak at his Monday lectures. Dr. Jackshufski, a pioneer woman physician, Russian or Polish, and suffragist, had me to address her club. Mr William Loyd Garrison used his influence to turn down a solicited loan from Memphis while giving as a reason the conditions I had pictured as existing there. The Boston Transcript and Advertiser gave the first notice and reports of my lectures.

4th, It was the beginning of public speaking for me. I have already said that I had not before made public speeches. But these invitations came as the result of that meeting, and ones from Philadelphia Pa., Wilmington Del Chester Pa and Washington D.C. followed. The Washington meeting held in the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church was poorly attended. Frederick Douglass came with his wife, his sons and their wives. In introducing me, he apologised for Washington's seeming indifference and invited me to come again when he wd undertake to arrange a larger meeting.

In Philadelphia as the guest of William Still who wrote "The Underground Railway", my meeting was attended by many of the old war horses. Miss Catherine Impey of Street, Somerset, England was visiting Quaker relatives of hers and at the same time trying to learn what she cd about the color question of this country. She was present at my meeting in the Quaker City and called on me at Mr Still's home. She was the editor of "Anti-Caste", a magazine published in England in behalf of the natives of India, and of course was interested in the treatment of darker races everywhere. She was shocked over my lynching story, also over the

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HEADQUARTERS: 1504 W. 14th STREET
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6) indifference to conditions which she found among the white people of this country especially among those of her own sex and kin. We deplored the situation and agreed that ~~the situation seemed hopeless~~ there seemed nothing to do but keep pegging away at the evils both of us were fighting.

This was ~~December~~ November of 1892. On the third of February 1893 I was back in Washington D.C. to fill the return date Mr Douglass had requested. True to his promise, he had gotten together the leading women of Washington and they filled Metropolitan Church with one of the biggest audiences I had ever seen. Mr Douglass himself presided and had Mrs Mary Church Terrell to introduce me. Mrs Terrell was president of Bethel Literary and was just beginning her public career. She was the daughter of the Mr Church who had shown himself a friend while I was a teacher in Memphis. Like myself she seemed to be making her maiden speech. Mrs Anna J. Cooper principal of the high school, Miss Lucy Moten head of the Normal and most of the brilliant and brainy women of Washington aiding our grand old man, that meeting ended in a blaze of glory and a donation of near $200 to aid the cause.

The next morning the newspapers carried the news that while our meeting was being held, there had been staged in Paris Texas one of the most awful lynchings and burnings this country has ever witnessed. A negro had been charged with ravishing and murdering a little 5 year old girl. He had been arrested and imprisoned while preparations were made

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to burn him alive. The local newspapers issued bulletins detailing the preparations, the school children had been given a holiday to see a man burned alive, the railroads ran excursions to bring rapid transit people of the surrounding country to witness the event which ~~was to take~~ place in broad daylight, with the authorities aiding and abetting this horror. The dispatches told in detail how he had been tortured with red hot irons searing his flesh for hours before finally the flames were lit which put an end to his agony. They also told how the mob fought over the hot ashes for bones, buttons and teeth for souvenirs.

~~Because~~ I had said in newspaper articles and public speeches that we should be in position to investigate every lynching and get the facts for ourselves. If there was to be no chance for a fair trial in these cases, we ~~shd~~ have the facts to use in an appeal to public opinion. Accordingly I felt that the first thing we shd do in this case was to get the facts.

~~But~~ We had no organization and no funds for that purpose, but the women of Washington had just given me $150 the night before. I used that to have Pinkerton's send an competent unprejudiced man from the Chicago office to bring unbiased facts. A man was sent from the Kansas City office, who sent back ~~only~~ clippings from the local press rather than personal investigations, and the photograph sent was that of an innocent young child of tender years.

The man died protesting his innocence. He had no trial, no chance to defend himself, and to this day, the world has only the word of his accusers that — committed that terrible crime against innocent childhood. For that reason there will always be doubts as to

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his guilt. There is no doubt whatever as to the guilt of those who tortured and ~~murdered~~ burned alive this victim of their blood lust. They openly admitted and gloried in their shame. Mrs Laura Dainty Pelham was traveling thro Texas a year later and she often told how the wife of the hotel keeper, kept talking about it as if it were something to be proud of. While she talked, her little 8 year old daughter who was playing about the room, came up to her mother & shaking her by the arm said, "I saw them burn the nigger didn't I mamma"? "yes, darling you saw them burn the nigger" said the complacent mother, as matter-of-factly as if she had said she saw them burn a pile of trash.

The fire lighted by this human torch, flamed round the world. It was the subject of conversation at a breakfast table in Aberdeen Scotland the next day. Mrs Isabella Fyvie Mayo, a Scottish authoress, had invited Miss Catherine Impey to visit her. She had read Anti-Caste and wanted to know the woman who like herself was fighting caste in India as practiced by Great Britain. Mrs Mayo's interest had taken practical form. Her house ~~was~~ had been sanctuary for East Indians for a long while, who wanted education and help.

Mrs Mayo wanted to know of Miss Impey if she had learned when in America the year before why the United States of America was burning human beings alive in the 19th century as the red Indians were said to have done 3 hundred years before. Miss Impey's reply was evidently not satisfactory

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Shipmates on
first voyage to England -
arrival, reception
and first appearance

Chapter 5 of my 1st writing

3/ wrote in this little book of mine were Harold M. Wood Monrovia Liberia, Africa, and Gilbert B. Haven. I have never heard of them since and do not know if they are still living.

Georgia Patton stayed in Liberia a number of years practicing medicine until her health broke down and she returned to the United States. She settled in Memphis Tenn., my old home, built up a practice there. She afterward married David Washington one of the most highly respected letter-carriers there and one of the few substantial citizens who did not leave Memphis when the rest of us did. Miss Patton that was, had one child which died and later Georgia Patton Washington herself passed away before she had reached the noonday of life

Miss Impey, her mother and Sister Kate welcomed me to their home, in Street, Somersetshire where I remained a few days to recuperate from my trip. She told me of her new friend Mrs Mayo who was so interested in the work and who was going to be a co-worker in the cause; that the first effort was to start from her home in Aberdeen in the north of Scotland. Accordingly we journeyed there in a few days and received a most hearty welcome from Mrs Isabella Hyde Mayo, who was well known in Scotland and England under the pen name of Edward Garrett.

Mrs Mayo's home was asylum for East Indians who enjoyed her practical friendship. Dr. George Herdinands a native of Ceylon had finished his collegiate & medical course at the University of Aberdeen and was

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practicing his profession of dentistry. Another young man a relative, I believe, was attending school. The third member of the household was a German music master who had plenty of music pupils in the town.

These three proteges of Mrs Mayo, threw themselves whole-heartedly in the work of helping preparations for our campaign. ~~My very first~~ Writing letters, arranging meetings, seeing the press, helping to mail ~~out~~ the ten thousand copies of Anti-Caste which went out to inform the British people of the organization of the Society for the Brotherhood of Man, with Mrs Mayo and Miss Impey leaders and co-editors of the little magazine. A happy two weeks were thus spent in busy working out of plans.

The beginning of my share was a drawing room meeting of the local celebrities in Mrs Mayo's home, where after explanations, the audience formed itself into a membership of our new society. When I ~~was~~ introduced to speak, I produced and read from the manuscript I had used the night of my first appearance in New York City at the women's testimonial for me six months before, and which I ~~had~~ used at every time I had spoken since.

The facts I related were enough of themselves to arrest and hold the attention. They needed no embellishment from me. ~~The same~~ "Society" one of the periodicals of London in its issue of May 6th, 1893 ~~at~~ had the following from one of its staff.

A very interesting young lady is about to visit London in the hope of arousing sympathy for the Blacks, whose treatment in the United States is not seldom fiendishly cruel. Miss Ida Wells is an American negro lady, who is fortunate enough to have secured as an ally Mrs. Isabella Fyvie Mayo, one of our cleverest writers of sound and useful literature. Miss Wells has opened her campaign in Aberdeen with a drawing room meeting at Mrs. M

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5) Chap 9.

Besides the meetings arranged for me in Aberdeen Mrs Mayo took me to a crowded men's Pleasant Saturday Evening meeting. There were an estimated 500 men there and we had seats on the platform. It is barely possible Mrs Mayo had arranged to have me introduced to that audience, but ~~I knew~~ nothing had been said to me of such a possibility and I was too new at the speaking game to have anticipated such a contingency. The chairman came over during the singing and said the speaker of the program cd not be present and asked if I cd not fill the place - I had left my Ms at home and was in a panic. Mrs Mayo thought I ought to try it for the advertising it wd give of our own meeting. The chairman wanted me to fill the 15 minutes allotted to the expected speaker, and I was quite sure I cd not speak five. However I consented to try, because it was my duty to accept all openings for our work. When I began, trying to remember my speech as written, I told of conditions since the Civil War among my people in the South, Jim Crow laws, ballot box intimidation, and laws against inter-marriage. When I got that far, a man in the audience shouted "I believe in that law." Immediately a storm of hisses and cries of "put him out", were heard nor was the tumult stilled until the offender got up and staggered out shaking his fist at us. ~~I went on~~ When it was quiet again, I told how in spite of such laws to prevent the mixing of the races, the white man had so bleached the Negro that a race of mulattoes quadroons and octoroons had grown up in the race, & such laws put a premium on immorality.

When I got thro, I had been talking 25 minutes instead of the alloted 15 and no one had interrupted

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6) Chap 9

or called time on me! Mrs Mayo was elated, said it was the best I had done, told me never to use the manuscript again. I never have from that day to this.

After this successful start in Aberdeen, Mrs Mayo & I went to ~~Edinburgh~~ Hawick & Glasgow & ~~Huntly~~ Edinburgh, while Miss Impey went on to arrange other meetings in the United Kingdom for us, working largely thro the Society of Friends of which she and her family were members.

The Peterhead Sentinel & Buchan Journal of May 2nd 1893 said

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1966 Autobiography copy

During the past week meetings have been held in several of the large towns of Scotland, at which addresses have been delivered by Miss Ada B. Wells, an American negro lady, who has been accompanied by Mrs Fyvie Mayo, Aberdeen, and Miss Catherine Impey, who resides in Somerset. The object of these meetings is set forth in a little pamphlet which lies before me. It is a special number of "Anti-caste," a journal which advocates "the brotherhood of mankind irrespective of colour or descent." This number is made up of "some facts respecting lynch law occurring within the past few months in the United States: a selection only, drawn from reliable sources by Catherine Impey, Editor *Anti Caste*, Somerset, England, and Isabella Fyvie Mayo, ("Edward Garrett"), Aberdeen, Scotland." The facts that are set forth go to show very clearly that although slavery in the Southern States of America is believed to have been abolished when the American war closed, the lot of the coloured people in these parts is little better than it was when slavery was in full force. These people are uniformly treated as members of an inferior caste, they are subjected to every possible indignity, they are denied all the rights of citizens and, when they give any manner of offence to the white man, they are tried according to the summary methods of Judge Lynch. Some horrible stories are told in this pamphlet, which one cannot read without burning indignation. Were it not that the facts are spoken to by ladies, whose reputation for truth and carefulness is beyond all suspicion, one would fain believe that such things could not be in these days of civilisation and freedom. But a case has been made out by these ladies that cannot be ignored by those who care for the good name of the United States; and it is no wonder that so much active sympathy has gone out to the ladies who have come to tell the people of this country how freedom is mocked in the country that boasts herself the freest in the world.

and this from the Edinburgh Evening Gazette of May 1st ~~1893~~ 1893 said:

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Apropos of the recent visit to Aberdeen of Miss Ida B. Wells, the American negro lady who addressed a meeting last Monday evening in the Ball Room, Music Hall Buildings, a correspondent writes me as follows:—

Miss Wells has been in Edinburgh since Thursday night. On Friday afternoon she addressed an influential meeting in the Bible Society Rooms, St Andrew Square. To-day (Saturday) she spoke to a drawing-room meeting convened in the Free Church Manse, Kirkliston (Rev. Mr Lendrum), and afterwards to a crowded assembly in the hall of the Carubbers' Close Mission. She has everywhere been heard with deep attention and interest, and has evoked unanimous expressions of sympathy. On Monday she speaks in the rooms of the Y.M.C.A., South St Andrew Street, as per enclosed. On Tuesday she goes to Glasgow, where she is to find an audience in the Friends' Meeting House. The Society for the Furtherance of the Brotherhood of Man, the proposed basis for protests against violence and prejudice, and for expression of sympathy with sufferers therefrom, has already enrolled many names (from 150 to 200), and every post is bringing more.

~~Gazette~~

In Edinburgh we were the guests of Eliza ~~Wigham~~ Wigham an old ~~anti-slavery~~ friend of Frederick Douglass anti slavery campaign. She was head of the new society there and everybody was jubilant over the great interest aroused and the excellent press notices and ready response of those asked to join. We had been at work less than ~~three~~ weeks when the blow fell which severed the friendship of the 2 women who began

26th WARD—Herman Tabbert, Committeeman
1723 Hastings Street

20th WARD—Harry Hockstein, Committeeman
1712 W. 18th St. Tel. Canal 7496

West Side Civic Republican League

OFFICERS:
WILLIAM W. TAYLOR, PRES
REV. WILLIAM CLARK, 1ST VICE. PRES.
EDMUND A. SIMMONS, 2ND VICE-PRES.
R. A. ARMSTRONG, SEC.
FRANK HANDLEY, TREAS.

COLORED VOTERS DENEEN GROUP

HEADQUARTERS: 1504 W. 14th STREET

Chicago, Illinois

PHONE CANAL 7496

"REGISTRATION AND REPRESENTATION FOR ALL THE PEOPLE"

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
WALTER E. ROGERS, CHRM.
WILLIAM W. TAYLOR
PETER JONES
ALBERT AUSTIN
WILLIAM RAY
H. B. WILSON
S. J. JACKSON

Dear Friend:

The West Side Civic Republican League extends a cordial invitation to you and your friends to join with us in a rousing general Ward meeting of the West Side Republican Civic League at 1504 W. 14th Street Friday night, March 19th, 1926 at 8 o'clock and we will greatly appreciate your presence and co-operation in our work.

For the first time in the political history of our ward, our men and women voters are made welcome in the practical work of building up the Grand Old Party organization in the 26th Ward. We have loyal and tireless in our devotion to our party leaders, but our active co-operation in party management has not been solicited nor permitted.

Desiring to help our party, our League offered its services to our Ward Committeeman, Thomas Curran, but we were refused recognition as an organization and told to join the Ward Club as individuals. Unless we acted upon plans made without consulting us, and without any regard to our interest in the political welfare of our own race, we could not be recognized. We were even denied the right to invite Dr. Bradden, a world-war veteran, one of our ablest race leaders, now a candidate for County Commissioner, to speak in our ward meetings, unless he agreed to speak for himself only and say nothing for other Republican candidates for nomination, except those selected by the Ward Committeeman.

The West Side Civic Republican League next offered its support to the Deneed group upon exactly the same terms offered to our Ward Committeeman, Thomas Curran. Our services were accepted and our officers and members, men and women, were given representation in ward management, according to our strength and party loyalty. We are given active management of the precincts controlled by colored voters. Serving on the Registration Board, Tuesday, March 23rd, we will have five colored Republican Judges and two colored clerks.

Come to our grand opening next Friday night. Hear our plans. Bring your suggestions. Offer your services and help us put the names of all colored voters in our two wards, the 26th and 20th, on the Registration Books next Tuesday, March 23rd. Seats reserved for ladies.

The West Side Civic Republican League.
William W. Taylor, Pres.
R. A. Armstrong, Secty.
Walter E. Rogers, Chairmn. Ex. Com.

~~Notwithstanding the turmoil~~, the meetings held in Newcastle, Birmingham and Manchester were largely attended and secured good notices from the press, and many members for the Society for the Brotherhood of Man. The Newcastle Daily Leader May 10th, 1893 gave the following account

LYNCH LAW IN THE SOUTHERN STATES OF AMERICA.

Miss Ida B. Wells, an American negro lady who has been compelled to leave her home in Tennessee for being connected with a paper which spoke out in protest on the subject of lynch law, and has been threatened that if she returns in twenty years she will be shot on sight, is at present visiting the principal towns in England lecturing on the hardship and injustice practised towards members of her own race, and yesterday she addressed public meetings held afternoon and evening in the Society of Friends Meeting House, Pilgrim Street, Newcastle. At night the audience was so large that two meetings were held, one presided over by Mr David Richardson, and the other by Mr Thos. Hunter, postmaster. Miss Wells, who is a young lady with a strong American accent, and who speaks with an educated and forcible style, gave some harrowing instances of the injustice to which members of her race are subjected in the Southern States, of their being socially ostracised and frequently lynched in the most barbarous fashion by mobs on mere suspicion, and without any form of trial whatever. These lynchings, she explained, were on the increase, and had risen from 52 in 1882 to 169 in 1891, and 159 in 1892. Up to April, 1893, 93 black men and women had been lynched, and since April 5th three black men had been so treated. Her object in coming to England, she said, was to arouse public sentiment on this matter. England had often shown America her duty in the past, and she had no doubt England would do so again. She was listened to attentively, and loudly applauded, as were also Miss Impey, member of the Society of Friends, and Mr C. J. Celestine Edwards (editor of "Lux"), who also spoke on the same subject.—The following resolution, moved by the Rev. Marsden Gibson, and seconded by Mr Francis Appleton, was unanimously adopted:—"That this meeting having heard the recital of injustice and inhumanity practised against the coloured population of the Southern States of America, hereby expresses its abhorrence of deeds which violate every principle of Christian civilisation. It resolves that a branch of the 'Society for the furtherance of Human Brotherhood' be formed in Newcastle, and now earnestly calls upon the Christian sentiments of the United States Government to take such steps as may be necessary to put an end to the lawless deeds."

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