

SEPTEMBER · 1915

papers by an inspired Class of our coloured men numbering in all about four; although only two of the number had the courage to sign their names.

These persons have attacked me from Parochial, political and other personal reasons. They were (with one exception) unknown to the public and to the people until this attack.

I held a Public Meeting at the Collegiate Hall at which over four hundred of our Members, friends and sympathizers assembled and these persons were composed of the most intelligent and cultured of the black people. The Meeting was presided over by Mr: R. W. Bryant, an Englishman, Vice-Chairman of the Mayor and Council of this city and an Ex-Mayor. The Meeting was most enthusiastic and after I had spoken the Meeting was thrown open for free opinion. One Gentleman from the audience spoke in high favour of my attitude and the Society. The Meeting afterwards endorsed my attitude and supported me right through.

The Newspapers here are manned by a narrow minded lot of Journalists who sacrifice general interest at any time so as to air personal views which are generally mingled with like or dislike of the individual criticized.

The News Editor of the paper that has attacked me through inspired correspondence has allowed this because I happen to pass his paper over when giving advertisements out to the Press. He is also among the coloured few who object to the name "Negro" in connection with my Association. As I have explained to you already the difficulties in the development of the race rests with our own people as some do not like to call themselves "Negroes" which will eventually lead them into an awkward position later on if they be allowed to continue in their blind ignorance.

I am about to tour the country delivering addresses and I will write you later.

With very best wishes Your most humble and obedient Servant

Marcus Garvey

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