

APRIL • 1908

*light from 1893 to 1895, and served in editorial capacities with the Indianapolis Freeman and the Chicago Broad Ax before assuming the editorship of the Chicago Conservator in 1908.*

## From Charles William Anderson

New York, N.Y., April 1, 1908

(Personal)

My dear Doctor: The Primaries in this City were held yesterday, and Parsons<sup>1</sup> defeated Odell<sup>2</sup> all along the line. The Fifteenth Congressional District, in which San Juan Hill is located, where Gilchrist Stewart was encouraged to make his fight for a delegate to the National Convention, was carried by the Parsons forces, although Stewart's own district, the Thirteenth Assembly District was lost by a few votes. This district has always been Anti-Parsons, and always gave an overwhelming vote against him. This time, under the leadership of Sol. Johnson, it was nearly carried. Of course, the Odell forces never intended to send Stewart. They supported him in that district to hold the big colored vote there, but had they won, their plan was to send Senator Saxe<sup>3</sup> and Abe Gruber.<sup>4</sup> Now that they have lost, they will probably pay the empty compliment of casting their 66 votes for him, to show that they were really in earnest in their desire to have a colored man go to Chicago, and to put Parsons in a hole. The Convention will be composed of 180 delegates, 114 of whom are Parsons men and 66 Odell men. Hence, the 66 will probably be instructed to vote for Stewart. As I also live in that district, it would be a fine play for Parsons to have me elected. He can do it easily. Please wire or write our "friend" to have Parsons send me from this (the Fifteenth) District. I am writing Loeb in this connection today. I do not think there will be any trouble about it, if the President makes the request, as Mr. Parsons agrees that I did as much hard work to win the fight in the district as he did, or any other man. He was very fearful of losing it, and didn't even hope to carry it by such a splendid plurality. Do this at once, as the Congressional Conventions are to be held very soon. Make your letter as strong as possible.