

**SHORT STORIES FOR COLORED
PEOPLE: BOTH OLD
AND YOUNG - ENTERTAINING,
UPLIFTING, INTERESTING**

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Short stories for colored people: both old and young - entertaining, uplifting, interesting by Silas X. Floyd

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SILAS X. FLOYD

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SILAS X. FLOYD'S
SHORT STORIES
for
COLORED PEOPLE
BOTH OLD AND YOUNG

Entertaining Uplifting Interesting

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Author of "The Gospel of Serv'ce and other Sermons," "Life of
Charles T. Walker, D. D.," "National Perils," etc.

ILLUSTRATED

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PREFACE.

Truly the boys and girls of to-day ought to be thankful that they are alive. There never was such a golden age for childhood and youth as the present. To say nothing of the rich opportunities for mental and spiritual development, what a multitude of things have been provided for the innocent pleasure, the wholesome recreation of the young people of to-day; inventions that remind one of the magic of the "Arabian Nights"; tools of sport so perfect that one cannot imagine how they could be bettered; fascinating games, all unknown in the days gone by; books and papers upon which science, art and literary skill have lavished modern resources — all these and many other wonderful things have fallen to the lot of the favored boys and girls of to-day.

And now enterprising publishers of our grand country are going to put the boys and girls of America — and especially the colored boys and girls of America — under obligation to them, because they have decided to add to the list of good books for children and youths already on the market. I use the word "good" advisedly; for from the day that I was engaged to write this book I have had in mind constantly the thought of making it such a book as would

tell for good. It is an old saying that "evil communications corrupt good manners," but evil reading does more than this: for evil reading corrupts good morals.

I have endeavored to put into this book of stories for children only such things as might be freely admitted into the best homes of the land, and I have written with the hope that many young minds may be elevated by means of these stories and many hearts filled with high and holy aspirations. Our nation has a right to expect that our boys and girls shall turn out to be good men and good women, and this book is meant to help in this process.

SILAS X. FLOYD.

PUBLISHER'S NOTE.

The publishers of this book have spared neither pains nor expense in trying to make it as nearly perfect as a book of this kind can be. The typographical appearance and the illustrations will speak for themselves.

We consider ourselves fortunate in having been able to secure the services of the Rev. Dr. Silas X. Floyd as the author of this volume. Mr. Floyd's life work, aside from his literary training, has made him the ideal man to speak to the colored boys and girls of the South. Soon after graduating from Atlanta University in 1891, Mr. Floyd became Principal of a Public School at Augusta, Ga., and remained in that city for five years consecutively as a teacher. In June, 1896, he was called from the school-room into the Sunday-school work, having been appointed by the International Sunday School Convention as one of its Field Workers throughout the South. He continued in this work for three years, retiring from it to become Pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Augusta, Ga., one of the largest churches in the South. After a year and a half in the pastorate, he returned to the Sunday-school work, becoming Sunday-school Missionary for Georgia and Alabama under appointment of the American Baptist Publication Society.

Mr. Floyd's work, as the record shows, has been conspicuously for and in behalf of the children, and he is known far and wide as a competent writer and speaker on topics concerning young people. He has contributed to the Sunday School Times, the International Evangel, the New York Independent, The World's Work, Lippincott's Magazine, and many other journals and periodicals. He is the author of a volume of sermons published by the American Baptist Publication Society, and listed in their catalogue as among their standard works, and is also the author of the Life of the leading colored Baptist preacher in America, published by the National Baptist Publishing Board. From the beginning of the Voice of the Negro, Mr. Floyd has had charge of the Wayside Department as Editor, and his work as a humorist and writer of negro dialect is known to many through that medium.

In 1894, Atlanta University, his alma mater, conferred upon Mr. Floyd the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1902, Morris Brown College conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.