

THE NEGRO AND HIS NEEDS

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The Negro and his needs by Raymond Patterson

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RAYMOND PATTERSON

**THE NEGRO
AND HIS NEEDS**

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NEGRO AND HIS NEEDS

By
RAYMOND PATTERSON

WITH A FOREWORD
BY
WILLIAM HOWARD TAFT



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FOREWORD

Raymond Patterson was a classmate of mine at Yale. For years he was a leader among the newspaper correspondents at Washington. He was a man of great ability and showed it in his college life. He became a trained journalist. He was an earnest and close observer, and a conscientious historian. He was possessed of a judicial mind, and it manifested itself in his treatment of what he saw. He was a man of wide interests. The problems that the country has before it for solution commanded his close attention, not as a mere recorder of events, but as one who, by his suggestion and clear statement of the facts, could aid their solution.

The following pages are the result of his investigations into conditions surrounding the negro question at the South. They are full of interest for every one who believes that this question is the most serious, facing the American people. One need not concur in the conclusions which Mr. Patterson draws, to appreciate the value of the work he has done. He has been painstaking and conscientious. He has made his story most readable.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy S. Johnson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "G" and "S".

PREFACE

The Southern man is too close to the negro and the Northern man too far away. Somewhere between these two widely different points of view must be found ultimately the solution of the negro problem.

At the present time that problem is so complex, it has so many curious ramifications, it involves so many side issues, it concerns such vast interests for the welfare of mankind itself, that it should be approached with great deliberation. The adjustment of the relations between the black race and the white in America cannot be a matter of years, or even of generations, but of centuries. In the meantime, however, it is of vast importance to the country, as steps toward the ultimate solution, to solve some of the temporary problems regarding the coloured race—problems of education, of racial development, of political and economic status, above all, of methods of intellectual and moral culture by which the negro shall be helped to rise from his present low plane to a higher. With some of these problems it is the purpose of this book to deal.

REVISED BY
MRS. RAYMOND PATTERSON
FROM LETTERS ORIGINALLY
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