

Men of the Month

A PREACHER The Rev J. B. Massiah who **OF THE WORD** died in January of this year was born in Barbadoes, B. W. I., about fifty-five years ago. He studied at the General Theological Seminary in New York City, taught for a while at Raleigh, N. C., and began his ministerial career at Cairo, Ill. He served as priest at Annapolis, Md., and Newark, N. J., was thirteen years in Detroit and ten years in Chicago. He made St. Thomas's church in Chicago, Ill., in its management, methods and contributions a model church. The property is worth \$25,000, and the communicants number one thousand. His loss will be severely felt.

A SOLDIER Major George W. Ford, Superintendent of the United States Military Cemetery at Springfield, Ill., was born in Virginia in 1847 and was educated in New York City. In 1867 he enlisted in the Tenth United States Cavalry, served all non-commissioned grades, and was honorably discharged in 1877 with the rank of Regimental Quartermaster Sergeant. He was commended in general orders for acts of good judgment and gallantry in the Indian wars. In 1898 he was made Major of the Twenty-third Kansas Volunteers, and served for a year in Cuba. He has served as Superintendent of Military Cemeteries of Beaufort, S. C., Fort Scott, Kan., Port Hudson, La., and Springfield, Ill. Major Ford was treasurer of the Lincoln Exposition in Chicago, and is President of the Springfield Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. He is a man of ability, and devoted to good causes, and the father of seven children.

AN EDITOR Under the editorship of W. N. Page the Pittsburgh, Pa., *Courier* became a real force among colored people. Mr. Page was for a long time secretary to a prominent Pittsburgh Captain of Industry. His interest was aroused in Negro journalism, and he took hold of this paper. Practically all his life was spent in Pittsburgh and he became a civic force to

be reckoned with. His comparatively early death is a great loss.

A BUSINESS WOMAN Miss Wilhelmina Tate, who recently died in St. Louis, Mo., at the age of thirty-six years was born in Nashville, Tenn. She was one of six children of a widowed mother, and early made her home with an aunt in St. Louis. Miss Tate began work at shampooing while still in short dresses going from house to house. Then she came to New York to study the culture and care of the hair, and soon she had an establishment with some of the wealthiest families of St. Louis as patrons. When she died over two thousand people came to pay their respects to her, and over one hundred floral emblems were received.

A PROMINENT CITIZEN J. C. Duke was born in 1853 in Alabama. He became editor of the *Montgomery Herald*, but was driven from the State because of his fearless editorial policy. Settling at Pine Bluff, Ark., he became editor of the *Pine Bluff Herald*. He served as a lieutenant of the Seventh United States Volunteers in the Spanish-American war, and for a number of years was Grand Chancellor of the Knights of Pythias of the State making that Order notable among colored men. For twenty-five years he was prominent in the civic and political life of the State. He died in Chicago last January.

A TEACHER G. P. Hamilton was born in Memphis in 1867. For thirty-two years he has been a teacher in the colored city schools. From 1892 to 1911 he was principal of the colored high school, and in the latter year he resigned to join an insurance company, but the school authorities raised his salary, and in 1915 made him supervisor of all the colored schools of the city of Memphis. In addition to this work he conducts a Shelby County Col-



MAJOR G. W. FORD

THE LATE W. N. PAGE

THE LATE MISS RAY
THE LATE J. C. DUKE
THE LATE MISS TATE

THE LATE FATHER MASSIAH
MR. G. B. HAMILTON