

B. R. JACOBS & CO.

REAL ESTATE AND LOANS.

99 WASHINGTON STREET.

Chicago. July 12th 95.

Mr. Albion W. Tourgee,

Mayville, Chautauqua Co., N. Y.

Dear Sir,-

I have this morning been handed a copy of the "BASIS" of June 22nd, 1895, and on Page 356 I find marked a paragraph concerning Rev. Johnston Myers, the Pastor of the Immanuel Baptist Church of Chicago. This paragraph contains a few mistakes to which I call your attention:

First,- "Another Minister has come out flat-footed for the "Jim Crow" church".

Second,- "He preached upon the subject lately".

Third,- "It is reported ~~to~~ he declared that he is in favor of excluding colored people from the Church and Sunday School".

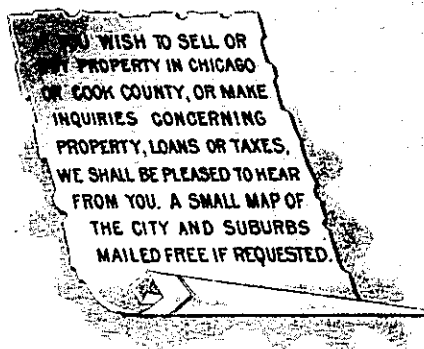
In answer I wish to say,--

First,- Mr. Myers has not come out flat-footed for the Jim Crow church.

Second,- He has not preached upon the subject.

Third,- He DID NOT declare that he was in favor of excluding colored people from the Church and Sunday School, (and if that report has been printed I have not seen it.)

Mr. Myers did not preach upon the subject nor did he make any remarks about it from the pulpit; the report was based upon a so called interview with a reporter who, in a few minutes after the Sunday service, asked Mr. Myers about his coming to Chicago and if he knew that the Immanuel Church was inclined to be aristocratic or exclusive, or some similar word, to which Mr. Myers replied, "That is certainly a mistake, they seem to welcome every body here and do things that we could not do in Cincinnati, they have colored children in their Sunday School with the white children". The reporter asked Mr. Myers if there was any objections to colored people coming into the church and Mr. Myers replied--"None at all, but where there are good churches of colored people of the same denomination and accessible I would not advise them to go to the churches of the white people" and expressing his own view of the case as an individual, he said "I would recommend them strongly to their own people".



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Mr. A. W. T-2.

This interview was before Mr. Myers came to the city as our Pastor, and after the report was published he wrote a strong letter which was read to the church and the Sunday School and from which I quote:

"Now, I have no desire to have any colored child leave our Sabbath School, and if our Deacons think it wise and best, I should follow their judgment and baptize a colored person. I still am ready, however, to stand by the opinion in private that the Kingdom of Jesus Christ will be advanced more readily and reach both colored and white people more certainly by doing all we can for the colored Baptist churches, and creating no unnecessary prejudice by bringing them into our white churches".

Believing that you desire to be entirely fair I think you will gladly make a correction, and you will admit, of your own knowledge of newspaper paragraphs and reports, that the conclusions reached in the paragraph alluded to might have been omitted until the facts of the case were ascertained.—

Very respectfully yours,

D. R. Jacobs