Today’s Family
Volume II
Fall 1985

Gems and Spirit

Jewish princess,
Blue-eyed maiden
of quicksilver fears
your love/love flashes
straining at your will.

Let it free.

Holding your light energy,
 fundraiser pictures of quicksilver
ber your love/love flashes
straining at your will.

Let it free.

Hold your light energy,
blinking back the sparks
from your eyes,
aching for freedom
in the evening glow.

Let it free.

Girl of piano’s songs
faults will ease your burden
keeps you warm.
Let it free.
so all can see
our destiny
how far horizons stretch
how peaceful the waters flow.

The works of Stephen A. Mon-"...
SELECTION SERVICE SYSTEM

The Selective Service System reaches an important milestone in the registration of young men on January 1, 1986. On this date, men who were required in 1980 to register with Selective Service will be turning 26. Selective Service does not have the authority to accept registrations of men after they turn 26. Men who failed to register will have permanently forfeited their right to certain Federal student aid and job training benefits as well as Federal employment. Additionally, registration with Selective Service is a requirement in some states for various employment opportunities, such as law enforcement agencies and permission to practice law.

Men born in 1960 who have not registered, will reach age 26 in 1986 and, under present law, will no longer be eligible for selection for induction. Over 15 million men, age 18 through 25, have registered with Selective Service since President Carter initiated registration in 1980.

Many of the men who are non-registrants may be unaware of the requirements or do not understand the importance of the obligation to register. Some have served in the military but failed to register either before or after leaving active duty. Others may have been incarcerated at the time of their 18th birthday and not realized they were required to register if released from custody prior to age 26. Men age 18 to 25 who have not yet registered, should register promptly to avoid prosecution and/or loss of benefits. Registration takes only five minutes at any post office. Failure to register is a felony, punishable by a fine of up to $250,000 and/or up to 5 years imprisonment.

For further information, contact: Joan Lamb, Assistant Director for Public Affairs, (312) 721-0760.

Men who were required in 1980 to register with Selective Service but failed to register either before or after entering the Armed Forces or who were required in 1980 to register and are not yet registered, may have been incarcerated at the time of their 18th birthday and not realized they were required to register if released from custody prior to age 26. Men age 18 to 25 who have not yet registered, should register promptly to avoid prosecution and/or loss of benefits. Registration takes only five minutes at any post office. Failure to register is a felony, punishable by a fine of up to $250,000 and/or up to 5 years imprisonment.

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By the time Rochester was incor-
porated in 1834, Black busi-
nessmen were already on the
scene.
In 1834 Burrell Reed arrived
here while serving as a guide of
the John J. Astor fur trading or-
ganization. By 1816, Reed who
claimed he was a Spanish
halfbreed, opened the first bar-
ber shop in the city. Reed was
advertised in local newspapers
and enjoyed great popularity
and financial success. He de-
scribed himself as a "science
signer," who was dashed into
white society just long enough
to know where he belonged.

When waiting on customers at a
country store Reed wore an outfit
of yellow buckskin pants, white
vest and blue coat. He is appar-
itly believed to have lost his
name and fortune by "contrac-
ting loose habits". He died in
February of 1828.

In 1816 A. Steward passed through Rochester at the end of the
course of delivering produce. A
year later he opened a meat
market on Buffalo Street (now
Main Street West). While com-
petitors vandalized his prop-
erty by tearing down his signs or
painting them black. This con-
cluded until he sought the help
of a constable.

Steward had an active role in
the early Black community of
Rochester. He organized a sub-
school for colored children in
1818. He also attended sev-
eral church organizations in
Rochester and various other
northern cities.

In 1830 Steward closed down
his business and left Rochester to
work in the itinerant minis-
tery of fugitive slaves in Can-
da. After the venture proved unprofitable he returned to
Rochester penniless.

When he returned, however, old friends of his, Riverand Peck a
printer and publisher, George A.
Avery a wholesale grocer, Samuel Porter a bookseller owner of real
estate, Levi W. Sibley publisher of the Democrat and Griffith
Brothers and Co., each loaned him a hundred dollars a piece for five
years.

Within a few days he was op-
erating a well supplied variety
store. His business prospered.
In only a few years he opened
another store and acquired a
business partner.

Although he was a business-
man, Steward took issue with the
sale of liquor. His store was
one of the first to abandon the
sale of alcohol.

In 1832 his store burnt down and
he left the city.

Reed Jeffreys was proba-
ably the most successful Black
entrepreneur of early Roches-
ter. He was born in Lime, Con-
becticut in 1803 and probably
came to Rochester in his late
 teens. The 1840 Rochester City
Directory lists him as a waiter.
After that he held several posi-
tions including that of farmer,
laborer and barber. He was also
a Methodist minister. Jeffreys
invested in real estate purchasing
his first piece of property in 1833.

At one time he owned a large
portion of the land that covers
present day East Avenue and
Monroe Avenue between Nr. and
Goodman streets. When its
property value increased he es-
tablished financial indepen-
dence. Apart from these prop-
erties he owned two hotels; The
Mamsaot House and the Clarence.

Jeffreys served as the eighth
pastor of Rochester's African
Methodist Episcopal Church.
At the time of his death in
1890 he was considered one of
the richest Black men in New
York state. His assets valued at
over 100,000. Measures in 1858
dollars he would be a million-
aire twice over.

DIVORCED SPOUSES

Economically dependent di-
vorced spouses can qualify for
monthly Social Security bene-
fits based on their former spouse's
records if certain condi-
tions are met: 1) The couple
must have been married for
least 18 years prior to the final
divorce decree, and 2) The non-
receiving spouse may be in-
wage or working spouse must be
in-

LIFE CLAIMS: The depen-
dent spouse claims benefits on
the basis of the still-

However, if both former
spouses are at least age 60
then the dependent spouse can re-
ceive benefits even before the
worker retires, if the couple has
been divorced at least two
years.

The benefit amount for the dependent spouse at age 65 is 50% of the
worker's full benefit. If the
benefit begins the month the
dependent spouse attains age
60, the benefit is 32.5%. If the
benefit begins before the month
the dependent spouse attains age
60, the benefit is 25% of the
worker's full benefit.

The marriage need not have lasted ten years if the couple has
been divorced at least two
years. The benefit will vary be-
tween 71 and 100% of the worker's
full benefit for a dependent
spouse first entitled at age 60 or
entitled as a disabled spouse. If
first entitled at age 60, the
amount is equal to the worker's
full benefit. If the worker is
disabled then the benefit rate will
be between 76% and 100%.

Entitlement of a dependent
spouse age 60 or older, or of a
dependent divorced spouse age
50 or older, is to the extent of
benefits any other entitled ben-
eficiaries of the workers' rec-
cord can receive. Entitle-
ment of a dependent spouse
age 60 or older, or of a depend-
ent divorced spouse age 50 or older,
is of the nature of an entitlement
but does not affect the amount
of benefits any other entitled ben-
eficiaries of the workers' record
will receive. Entitlement of a
dependent spouse under 60 or
of a dependent divorced
spouse under 60 because of caring
for the deceased's children, will
not affect the amount of
benefits any other entitled ben-
eficiaries of the workers' record
will receive. Entitlement of a
dependent spouse under 60 or
of a dependent divorced
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eficiaries of the workers' record
will receive.

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Mr. Howard Coles
Editor

[Date]

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[Address]

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Mr. Howard Coles
Editor

[Date]

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[Address]

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Mr. Howard Coles
Editor

[Date]
Frederick Douglass’ Career Highlights in Rochester

From page 5

Oct. 27, 1859 — Whereabouts unknown.
Nov. 2, 1859 — Believed to be in Windsor, Canada.

Nov. 2, 1859 — In letter to the Democrat, tells why he avoids United States Marshal.
Nov. 5, 1859 — Announces his intention to make a long and protracted lecture tour to England.

Nov. 11, 1859 — Caricature of Frederick Douglass published in Frank Leslie’s Magazine.


Feb. 7, 1860 — Lectures on slavery in Hope Hall, Liverpool.

Mar. 13, 1860 — Edinburgh Witness comments on his variance with the noted English abolitionist, George Thompson, on the slavery question.

May 7, 1860 — Paper to be published monthly, receives and is from Great Britain for his Abolition paper.

Dec. 5, 1860 — Ejected by police from Boston Abolitionists meeting.

March 5, 1861 — Delivers lectures at Zion Church.

April 11, 1861 — Given lecture at Zion Church.

April 6, 1861 — Elected treasurer of the Charter Oak Baseball Club.

April 20, 1861 — Lectures in Zion Church tomorrow.

July 6, 1861 — Present at anti-slavery picnic.

Oct. 18, 1861 — Lectures at Palmyra.

March 3, 1863 — Appeals to Negroes to enlist in the army.

July 13, 1863 — Defends the burning of Darien by Colonel Montgomery’s colored soldiers.

Aug. 20, 1863 — Announces discontinuance of his monthly to assist the government in raising colored troops.

Dec. 30, 1863 — Lectures at East Avon.

Jan. 8, 1864 — In Portland; given seat in Mr. Stebbins’ church.

May 5, 1864 — Mentioned as a presidential candidate.

May 20, 1864 — Expected to play prominent part in Republican National Convention.

Aug. 29, 1864 — Addresses crowd at Zion’s Church on issues of the day.

Sept. 5, 1864 — A portion of a letter he wrote to an English friend on “Freedman” reprinted.

Feb. 6, 1865 — Reported lecturing at Troy on “Maryland Enslaved and Free.”

May 18, 1865 — Speaks in Auburn on “Reconstruction.”

May 19, 1865 — Addressed Auburn audience on extension of the right of suffrage to colored men of the South; audience voted unanimously for colored suffrage.

May 29, 1865 — Accepts invitation to deliver address at Brockport.

Jan. 8, 1866 — Recommended as eulogist for Abraham Lincoln.

Jan. 22, 1866 — Fulton Patriot in article addresses him as “Hon. Frederick Douglass”; U.A. comments this lack of racial prejudice.


Jan. 26, 1866 — Lectures on behalf of the Freedmen at Plymouth Church.

Feb. 12, 1866 — Full text of his talks with President Johnson.

Aug. 7, 1866 — Presides at City Hall meeting of Republican Party.

Aug. 23, 1866 — Quotation from lecture delivered by a man named Thompson in 1824: “Four years hence Rochester’s chief claim to fame will be the fact that it was the home of Frederick Douglass.”

Aug. 27, 1866 — Elected delegate from Rochester to the Loyal Southern Convention to be held in Philadelphia.

Sept. 1, 1866 — Letter accepting the Rochester Republican Convention appointment as delegate to the Philadelphia Convention providing he receives the necessary credentials. Ed comments.

Sept. 1, 1866 — Newspaper reports he accused Andrew Johnson of conspiring against Abraham Lincoln.

Sept. 5, 1866 — Rumor that he was nearly lynched in New York, N.J. denied by U.A.

Sept. 6, 1866 — Philadelphia paper calls him “the bone of contention” at Republican Convention.

Sept. 7, 1866 — Philadelphia Convention refuses to permit him to be added to any committee.

Sept. 15, 1866 — His ability emphatically praised by Daily Democrat.

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Desiderata

Go placidly amid the noise & haste, & remember what peace there may be in silence. As far as possible without surrender be on good terms with all persons. Speak your truth quietly & clearly; and listen to others, even the dull & ignorant; they too have their story. Avoid loud & aggressive persons, they are vexations to the spirit. If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain & bitter; for always there will be greater & lesser persons than yourself. Enjoy your achievements as well as your plans. Keep interested in your own career, however humble; it is a real possession in the changing fortunes of time. Exercise caution in your business affairs; for the world is full of trickery. But let this not blind you to what virtue there is; many persons strive for high ideals; and everywhere life is full of heroism. Be yourself. Especially, do not feign affection. Neither be cynical about love; for in the face of all aridity & disenchantment it is perennial as the grass. Take kindly the counsel of the years, gracefully surrendering the things of youth. Nurture strength of spirit to shield you in sudden misfortune. But do not distress yourself with imaginings. Many fears are born of fatigue & loneliness. Beyond a wholesome discipline, be gentle with yourself. You are a child of the universe, no less than the trees & the stars; you have a right to be here. And whether or not it is clear to you, no doubt the universe is unfolding as it should. Therefore be at peace with God, whatever you conceive Him to be, and whatever your labors & aspirations, in the noisy confusion of life keep peace with your soul. With all its sham, drudgery & broken dreams, it is still a beautiful world. Be careful. Strive to be happy.

Found in old Saint Paul’s Church, Baltimore, dated 1692
MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Colorful

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