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Record of Colored Fighting Troops to Make Bright Page in History

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Recommended Citation

Gregory, Thomas Montgomery, "Record of Colored Fighting Troops to Make Bright Page in History" (1919). *News Releases*. 3.

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RECORD OF COLORED FIGHTING TROOPS TO MAKE BRIGHT PAGE IN HISTORY.
ARTICLE IV.

SOMEWHERE IN FRANCE. When this war is over, and peace, lasting peace, declared, and the necessitous censorship has been lifted so one may mention the names of army units, cities and towns, the Colored historian who records the history of the Colored soldier in this war, will need no imaginative powers to tell of the service, the daring deeds of valor, and the incomparable fighting Colored men did over here in France. Verdun, No. Man's Land, Belleau Woods, Chateau-Thierry, Soissons, the Vesle, Argonne, Champagne, et. al., are vast urns which contain the story of how America's black soldiers fought; how they dared, bled and died "to make the world safe for democracy." Bordeaux, Brest, St. Nasair, Montoir, et. al., will forever tell a story of the big achievements of the Colored stevedores who helped to make possible the victories of the fighting men at the front. The Y.M.C.A. huts scattered here and there, and in which now labor so splendidly and self-sacrificingly Colored Y.M.C.A. workers, will bear testimony, years after they have been deserted, of the part these non-combatants took in helping and buoying up our boys. The story of how Crispus Attucks fell at Lexington in 1776 will be but a juvenile - a "Mother Goose" bed-time story beside the story of how our boys fought, and fell, at Champagne. Fort Pillow and Milliken's Bend of the Civil War will pale beside Chateau-Thierry and Argonne. The story of the Spartans at Thermopylea, and Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade," as a recitation by the amateur elocutionists, will give place to the charge of the Colored troops, from America, at Champagne. The story of our Colored troops, combatants and non-combatants, in this war will make every Colored man, woman and child of today and tomorrow, proud of their race, and proud they were such one hundred per cent Americans as to do their bit cheerfully in this war. View it from any angle you may; locate yourself in any section of the United States you may, you will find, after this war, that the "New Day and New Duty" our friends have been prophesying for us will be present, and because of the record of valor made by Colored soldiers here in France, while pushing the Hun back from Chateau-Thierry into Wilhemstrassa. These Colored soldiers over here - now quite two hundred thousand, are proud they are here. They would not exchange the opportunity they have had for rendering service to their country for all the fabled riches of Golconda. When German militarism has been crushed beyond restoration, and glorious peace shall have been achieved by the Allies, these Colored soldiers, such as survive, will be eager to return to the United States glad that they had and accepted the opportunity to serve well their country and civilization. Such as may fall on the field of battle - and many will have - will beam a smile of satisfaction, before entering into eternity, that they had the glorious privilege of dying in, and for, a righteous cause to advance their race back in the states, and everywhere. Contact with the men over here confirms this statement. Knowledge of things over here makes it possible for me to declare that the pages in the history of this war will transmit to posterity no records of stoical endurance and valor more lasting than the record made by Colored troops from Bordeaux to the Rhine.