

May 2018

Garvey, Marcus, 1887-1940, Letter.

Follow this and additional works at: [http://dh.howard.edu/og\\_corres](http://dh.howard.edu/og_corres)

---

#### Recommended Citation

"Garvey, Marcus, 1887-1940, Letter." (2018). *Correspondence*. 9.  
[http://dh.howard.edu/og\\_corres/9](http://dh.howard.edu/og_corres/9)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the OG Series at Digital Howard @ Howard University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of Digital Howard @ Howard University. For more information, please contact [lopez.matthews@howard.edu](mailto:lopez.matthews@howard.edu).

**One God!**

**One Aim!**

**One Destiny!**

PARENT BODY

**Universal Negro Improvement Association**

**MARCUS GARVEY**

President General

Sir WM. L. SHERRILL, K. C. D. S. O. E.  
Asst. Pres. Gen'l.

Sir CLIFFORD S. BOURNE, K. C. D. S. O.  
Chancellor

AND

**African Communities League**

UNIVERSAL BUILDING  
56 WEST 135TH STREET  
NEW YORK, U. S. A.

Sir R. L. POSTON, K. C. O. N.  
Secretary General

PERCIVAL L. BURROWS  
Asst. Secretary General  
N. G. G. THOMAS  
2nd Asst. Sect'y General

"He created of one blood all nations of men to dwell on the face of the earth."

March 10, 1924.

Mr. Guy M. Walker,  
924 West End Ave.,  
City.

My dear Mr. Walker:

I am charged with the duty and responsibility of writing to you on a subject which I feel that you are interested in, because of your high and elevated position in the nation, and because of your humanitarianism which is felt to be beyond question. The subject is that of the Negro problem as it confronts us, not only in America, but in the world.

There is a deep and earnest desire on the part of some of the world's most forward looking statesmen and humanitarians, to make an immediate effort for the settlement of the perplexing and grievous question of race. We in America should not delay the settlement of this great question, because it cannot settle itself.

The Universal Negro Improvement Association, an organization of six million scattered members of which I am President-General, is working for a solution of the problem through the founding and establishing in Africa of a nation for Negroes, where the race will be given the fullest opportunity to develop itself, such as we may not expect in countries where we form but a minority in a majority Government of other races.

There is no doubt that the 20th century Negro in America is different from the Negro of the last century. To-day he is forward looking and ambitious. He is the product of our best schools, colleges and universities. With his training, he is not prepared to be satisfied as a secondary consideration in the social, economic and political life of the nation. By his ambition, he is aspiring to the highest in political office and industrial and social positions. This under the Constitution, cannot be reasonably denied him, but in the midst of a majority race that is not inclined to allow the minority to enjoy the benefits of the best that the nation affords, we have the great problem that must be solved.

All communications must be sent to the Association and not to individuals.

All Money Orders must be made payable to U. N. I. A.

It is not the humanitarians like you, of the white race that the Negro fears, nor those who are broad-minded enough to consider the rights of man regardless of color, but it is the great mass that does not think in the higher terms of humanity, but who are guided purely and simply by their economic, social and political relationship to others.

We of the Universal Negro Improvement Association, after having taken into consideration the impossibility of the liberal and humanitarian few to curb successfully the passion of the great mass, are endeavoring to so create sentiment among the fifteen million Negroes of America and other parts of the world as to lead them to see that the only and best solution for the race problem, is for us to have a nation of our own in Africa, whereby we would not be regarded in countries like America, as competitors of the white race for the common positions in politics, industry and society, but that we would be regarded as a people striving in our own country to present to the world a civilization and culture of our own. Knowing that you must have some feeling on a question like this, led the Universal Negro Improvement Association to direct me to write you, asking for a frank and open opinion of our program. The opinion that you give will be kept private if you so desire. Your wishes on this matter shall be respected in every particular.

The following symposium is therefore submitted to you most respectfully, and we are asking that you be good enough to answer each question in conjunction with this communication, so that we may be able to judge how much sympathy there is among the leaders of the white race in this country, as touching the effort we are making for the solution of the vexed problem of race in America, which is very annoying.

SYMPOSIUM:

1. Do you believe the Negro to be a human being?
2. Do you believe the Negro entitled to all the rights of humanity?
3. Do you believe that the Negro should be taught not to aspire to be the best imitation of the white man, but the best product of himself?
4. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to develop a society of his own, that is for social intercourse and marrying within his own race?
5. Do you believe that the Negro should be taught not to aspire to the highest political positions in Govern-

ments of the white race, but to such positions among his own race in a Government of his own?

6. Do you believe that the Negro should have a Government of his own in Africa?
7. Would you help morally or otherwise to bring about such a possibility?
8. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to aspire to the highest industrial and commercial positions in the countries of the white man in competition with him and to his exclusion?
9. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to create positions of his own in industry and commerce in a country of his own with the privilege of trading with the other races of the world?
10. Do you believe that the Negro should be encouraged to regard and respect the rights of all other races in the same manner as other races would respect the rights of the Negro?
11. Should five or six million or any large number of Negroes in the United States of America desire a repatriation to Africa for the peaceful building up of a country of their own, or for the settlement of such countries as are established among Negroes without any serious handicap to the industries of America, would you assist in this direction?

It is felt that you will give deep consideration to this communication, and receive it in the spirit in which it is written—that of a desire to settle amicably a vexed question.

I am forwarding you along with this letter, three pamphlets which we ask that you read without prejudice, but with a feeling of broad-mindedness, and a desire to help settle a troublesome problem that confronts your race.

Knowing your broadness of vision, and your liberality of soul, leads me to feel that you will judge the subject matter of the pamphlets with fairness to my race that has suffered in slavery for two hundred and fifty years, and still confronted with obstacles to be sympathetically overcome.

With very best wishes for your health and success, and hoping for an immediate reply,

I have the honor to be

Your humble and obedient servant,

*Marcus Farver*  
President-General  
UNIVERSAL NEGRO IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION,