

"The Segregation Question" Letter to the Editor, February 22, 1915

The Segregation Question.

To the Editor of THE TIMES:

From my observation of conditions in Washington, I believe that the suggestion of "J.F.N." to have separate residential districts for the white and colored races is highly desirable.

In this connection I would like to invite his attention to Alexandria county, just across the Potomac river from Washington, where his idea is successfully carried out. While there is no law on the statute books segregating races, there is an understanding with property owners and real estate men that land is to be sold and houses rented to colored people in certain restricted sections.

This is particularly true at Clarendon, where there is not a colored family within the radius of more than a mile from the election station and post office. The result is that, even though we have not as yet organized police force, there is very little disorder. The car from Washington, via Queen City, arriving at Clarendon at about 7 a.m., has been named the "Cooks' Tourist Special".

It is true that half, or possibly a majority of our citizens are Virginians born, though we have a large cosmopolitan--Connecticut lives next door to Georgia, Maryland is a neighbor to Canada, and Texas lives just around the corner from Pennsylvania.

W.W.M. Clarendon, Va. February 19, 1915