Editor's Note

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Since this winter issue of the Trotter Institute Review coincides with Black History Month, we are dedicating this issue to an important figure in Afro-American history—William Monroe Trotter, after whom the Institute was named.

The lead article is the transcript of a speech given by Massachusetts State Representative Byron Rushing during the Black History Month ceremony at the Massachusetts State House on February 1, 1987, on the importance of knowing black history. The other articles and the poem in this issue were taken from presentations made at a symposium on William Monroe Trotter during the re-opening celebration last Fall of the African Meeting House in Boston. Honored guests at the symposium included Trotter's two nieces and a grandniece.

The African Meeting House is the oldest black church building still standing in the United States. February would be a good month to visit the newly re-opened Meeting House.

Mrs. Peggy Trotter Dammond Preacely, grandniece of William Monroe Trotter, reading her poem “Uncle Monroe.”

Mrs. Virginia Trotter Rose, niece of William Monroe Trotter, at the Celebration of the Opening of the African Meeting House.

Mrs. Ellen Craft Dammond, niece of William Monroe Trotter, speaking at the Celebration.

Mrs. Gladys Pinderhughes and her grandson, Charles Pinderhughes, Jr. Mrs. Pinderhughes participated in the protests of the film Birth of A Nation with William Monroe Trotter.

Dr. William A. Edwards making his presentation on William Monroe Trotter.

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