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1918

# Birth of a Nation, Theatre Program, 1918, Fitchburg Massachusetts

D. W. Griffith

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**Birth of a Nation, Theatre Program, 1918, Fitchburg Massachusetts**

**D. W. Griffith**

Single-fold (4 pp.) program for the showing of D. W. Griffith's Birth of a Nation at the Cumings Theatre in Fitchburg, Massachusetts in 1918. The program has an old, mostly flattened, horizontal fold through the middle along with other light, general wear and aging. The interior has the cast list and a discussion of the production. The back panel features ads for coming attractions. Nice local movie program which was controversial when it premiered and has become even more so because of its glorification of the Ku Klux Klan and stereotypically racist depiction of African-American freedmen.

#16516    \$150.00    1918    U-AfAmPaper

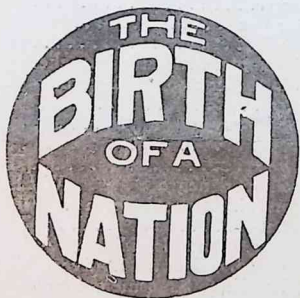
# CUMINGS THEATRE

WEEK OF SEPT. 6th, 1915

Master Photo Play Co.

Presents

D. W. GRIFFITH'S



A Historical Drama in Two Acts,  
Founded on Thomas Dixon's Story,  
"THE CLANSMAN"

NOTE—THERE WILL BE AN INTERMISSION  
OF 8 MINUTES BETWEEN ACTS I AND II.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Col. Ben Cameron . . . . . HENRY WALTHALL  
Margaret Cameron, elder sister . . . . . MIRIAM COOPER  
Flora, the pet sister . . . . . MAE MARSH  
Mrs. Cameron . . . . . JOSEPHINE CROWELL  
Dr. Cameron . . . . . SPOTTISWOODE AIKEN  
Wade Cameron, the second son . . . . . J. A. BERINGER  
Duke Cameron, the youngest son . . . . . JOHN FRENCH  
Mammy, their faithful old servant . . . . . JENNIE LEE  
Hon. Austin Stoneman, Leader of the House . . . . . RALPH LEWIS  
Elsie, his daughter . . . . . LILLIAN GISH  
Phil, his elder son . . . . . ELMER CLIFTON  
Tod, the younger son . . . . . ROBERT HARRON  
Jeff, the blacksmith . . . . . WALLACE REED  
Lydia Brown, Stoneman's mulatto housekeeper . . . . . MARY ALDEN  
Silas Lynch, mulatto Lieutenant-Governor . . . . . GEO. SEIGMANN  
Abraham Lincoln . . . . . JOSEPH HENABERY  
John Wilkes Booth . . . . . RAOUL WALSH  
Gen. U. S. Grant . . . . . DONALD CRISP  
Gen. Robt. E. Lee . . . . . HOWARD GAYE  
Nelse, an old-fashioned negro . . . . . WILLIAM DE VAULL  
Jake, a black man faithful unto death. . . . . WILLIAM FREEMAN  
Stoneman's servant . . . . . THOMAS WILSON  
Cabinet Members, Generals, Military Aides and Attaches,  
Secretaries, Senators, Representatives, Visitors, Soldiers,  
Abolitionists, Ku Klux Klansmen, Plantation Crowds and  
Mobs.

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## THE GRIFFITH TRADE MARK

All pictures produced by David W. Griffith have the name Griffith in the upper corners of the film and the initials D. G. on the lower border line. There are no exceptions to this rule. Mr. Griffith has several new productions under way which will be announced from time to time. His next big production will be "The Mother and the Law," a story of modern life in America.

Entire production under the personal direction of D. W. Griffith  
Photograph by G. W. Bitzer                      Music by Joseph Carl Briel

## A NATION IS BORN

Among our fathers lived a poet-leader who dreamed a new vision of humanity—that out of the conflicting interests and character of thirteen American States, stretching their territories from the frosts of the north to the tropic jungles of Florida, there could be built one mighty people. For eighty years this vision remained a dream—sectionalism and disunity the grimmest realities of our life.

Lord Cornwallis, the British Commander, had surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia, to the allied armies of the Kingdom of France and the original thirteen States, by name—New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia. Through seventy-five years of growth and conflict these States clung to their individual sovereignty, feeling with jealous alarm the slow but resistless growth of a national spirit within the body of the Federal Union. This new being was stirred at last into conscious life by Daniel Webster's immortal words—"LIBERTY AND UNION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE, NOW AND FOREVER!"

The issue, which our fathers had not dared to face—whether the State or the Union should ultimately have supreme rule—was joined in 1861 over the problem of the Negro.

The South held with passionate conviction that we were a Republic of Republics, each State free and sovereign. The North, under the leadership of Abraham Lincoln, held that the Union was indestructible and its sovereignty supreme.

Until Lincoln's day the right of each State to peaceful secession was scarcely disputed, North or South. New England had more than once threatened to withdraw long before South Carolina in her blind rage led the way.

And yet unconsciously the new being within had grown into a living soul, and, in the mortal agony of four years of Civil War and eight years of more horrible Reconstruction, a Nation was born.

# CUMING'S

WEEK OF SEPT. 13th

WORLD FILM CORP. PRESENTS VIVIAN MARTIN In

"The Little Dutch Girl"

DIAMOND FROM THE SKY

"THE GODDESS"

METRO FEATURE

GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN

With EMMET CORRIGAN

ROMANCE OF ELAINE.

# BIJOU OPENS

MONDAY SEPT. 13th

WITH HIGH CLASS VAUDEVILLE AND  
MOTION PICTURES

# SHEA'S

THE HOME OF THE PARAMOUNT

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D. W. Griffith's The birth of a nation  
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