

ISSUES OF THE HOUR.

The Bronzed American Eliminated From the Situation—A Problem for Politicians and Leaders to Solve—A Word to Messrs. Hanna, Dick, Lyons and Hill.

The saddest sight which I witnessed during the National Republican Convention at Philadelphia, in this year of grace and military heroes and the decadence of Negro leadership—the absence of the old wheel horses of the race who in the years ago participated in party councils, and were properly recognized on important committees. The gradual elimination of the Negro from active membership and participation in the deliberations of the national republican committee is now going on and the time is not far distant when this important branch of the great party of equal rights will have either eliminated the Negro entirely from membership or so minimized his representation therein that he will simply be a figurehead member.

The fear of offending Negro voters this year only prevented the National Committee from taking steps at the recent meeting at Philadelphia to reduce southern representation in national conventions. When such reduction does take place, we may be reasonably certain that the lily white brand of southern republicans will be preferred over the Negro. For nothing was more clearly demonstrated by the votes in the contested election cases before the committee on contests at Philadelphia than that the lily white republicans of the South were in particularly good odor with the majority of that committee.

The notorious Gen. Rosser of Virginia who has recently become a convert to republicanism will receive more consideration at the hands of the republican party than any distinguished Negro in the party who has given the best years of his life to its success and prosperity. For all such proselytes, the republican party will kill the fatted calf and make merry, and the best offices at its disposal are none too good for these latter day republicans who were only recently in open rebellion against the authority of the United States. The Negro need not expect to secure any additional representation in the national republican committee or to long enjoy the limited representation which he now has on that committee. For nothing is more surely written in the book of fate than that the passing of the Negro is soon to eventuate, in so far as it respects his right to a voice in the shaping of party policies.

He will be supplanted in time by "loyal" white republicans at the South who have heretofore kept out of the republican party because of the presence of the Negro in the Sanhedrim—the National Republican Committee. These exclusive southern republicans could not afford to be associated with Negroes, however cultured and refined, for social reasons, and in deference to their wishes, the present crop of northern white republicans are going to make it possible for their white southern brethren to come into the fold by removing the objections which have so long kept them outside of the breastworks. The Hon. Judson Lyons and the Hon. James Hill, are a hopeless minority in that body, and their influence does not and will not influence.

When the committee of colored men appointed to wait upon the committee on resolutions June 19 to demand the incorporation in the platform of a plank against lynching and disfran-

chisement, these distinguished white republican committeemen treated these Negro gentlemen with scant courtesy and would not even see them, but sent out Hon James Hill of Mississippi to receive their message, and that gentleman stated, we are informed, that the committee could only give three minutes to the consideration of the important business upon which they had called. This is a straw, and if it doesn't indicate which way the wind is blowing, what does? Would a load of bricks be necessary to make it plainer?

The platform as adopted among other things declares: "It was the plain purpose of the XVth Amendment to the Constitution to prevent discrimination on account of race or color in regard to the elective franchise. Devices of state governments whether by statutory or constitutional enactment, to avoid the purpose of this amendment are revolutionary and should be condemned." This is very lucid and very soothing indeed. We knew almost as much as this before the committee on platform reduced its weighty thoughts to writing, and evolved this glittering generality. It does not say that the republican party, speaking through its representatives, condemns this manifest wrong perpetrated upon free citizens by Southern States that have lately resorted to various devices to rob them of their citizenship, nor does it say what is to be the policy of the republican party in respect to the breaking down of these political barriers erected by the arbitrary power of the white men of the South and in defiance of the letter and the spirit of the Federal Constitution. Nor does it urge that honest public sentiment be concentrated and crystallized and hurled against this damnable iniquity which not only disgraces the whole South but the whole country. The declaration is a plain evasion of duty, a miserable subterfuge, a magniloquent absurdity, an articulate ambulant vanity of protection for Americans it says: "The American government MUST protect the person and the property of every citizen whenever they are placed in peril." The Negro who can extract any comfort out of this sentence is welcome to it, for it means to us as a class no more than the first paragraphs quoted. Both these declarations are particularly remarkable for what they do not say and do not imply. The Committee on Platform in framing these wonderful words merely discovers to the critical and observant reader its peculiar talent in the construction of phrases and its ability to say nothing with rare scholarship and erudition. Whether Messrs Lyons and Hill had any part in this wonderful platform performance I know not. I hope not, however, for it would not be creditable to their proverbial good sense and deep penetration.

The American government has always protected the person and the property of every citizen—abroad—but it has always made a bluff at performing a like service for its citizens at home, especially black citizens. It is ready now to expend millions of dollars and to sacrifice thousands of lives to protect the lives and property of the missionaries in China who have been for years trying to inoculate the "heathen Chinese" with western ideas of civilization and western religion. The government is kinder and more considerate of the rights and dignity of American citizenship abroad than it has ever shown itself to be at home. We know of no instance where it has ever thrown the aegis of its protection around outraged citizens on "our" own shores. As Bishop Holly pointedly says, "A race

vaunting its materialistic achievements in the arts of destruction as well as utility also boasts because of its brute strength that it is destined to dominate the whole earth in their self conceited ambition! But in their stolid stupidity they forget that the inheritance of the earth is not promised to the haughty and proud but to the meek and humble; not to those who desire to dominate over their feeble fellows but to those who by love serve one another."

American brag and bluster just now permeates the entire country, and has crossed the seas where it is doing duty lauding American prowess on sea and land and spelling brotherhood with five letters: P-O-W-E-R. After the conquest of the Philippines is complete, the partition of China accomplished and the subjugation of Turkey, which is to be frightened to death by an American war vessel, is a fixed fact, the great American nation will turn its attention to conquering one or two new worlds. Just now it is drunken with power, flushed with victory, strong in its own strength, and I fear has forgotten that God rules this Universe and that righteousness only can exalt any nation.

We are on the threshold of a new century, and awful responsibilities devolve upon this nation. If in discharge them it eliminates the element of righteousness as successfully as it has eliminated the Negro, while coming forward as a world power, it will need no prophet or seer to read the final chapter in its history. No nation has ever long survived which has forgotten that God still has an interest in the destiny and progress of the human race, or that He has pointed out the way through which it may become a mighty instrument in His hands for the regeneration and redemption of the whole human family.

"The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof."
The Anglo-Saxon race has gotten the idea that the earth belongs to it—the way it is staking off claims in Africa, Asia, North and South America and wherever it gets a foothold.

BRUCE GRIT.
Albany, New York, July 2, 1900.

AN HONORED TRIBUTE.

America's Leading Weekly Tells of Mrs. Terrell's Worth and Sterling Qualities.

Mrs. Mary Church Terrell, of Washington, D. C., occupies to the educated, intelligent colored women of this country the relation in which Booker Wash-



MARY CHURCH TERRELL.

ington stands to the African race. She is an acknowledged leader, a woman of exceptional natural ability developed by years of continental travel and study of the languages in Paris, Berlin, Lausanne, and Florence. A graduate of Oberlin, she is the first colored woman in the United States to receive an offer to serve on the faculty of a college of Oberlin's standing. She was also the

CRITICAL PERIODS

In Woman's Life Are Made Dangerous by Pelvic Catarrh.



Mrs. Mathilde Richter.

Mrs. Mathilde Richter, Doniphan Neb., says:

"I suffered from catarrh for many years, but since I have been taking Pe-ru-na I feel strong and well. I would advise all people to try Pe-ru-na. As I used Pe-ru-na and Man-a-lin while I was passing through the change of life, I am positively convinced your beneficial remedies have relieved me from all my ills."

Pe-ru-na has raised more women from beds of sickness and set them to work again than any other remedy. Pelvic catarrh is the bane of womankind. Pe-ru-na is the bane of catarrh in all forms and stages. Mrs. Col. Hamilton, Columbus, O., says: "I recommend Pe-ru-na to women, believing it to be especially beneficial to them."

Send for a free book written by Dr. Hartman, entitled "Health and Beauty." Address Dr. Hartman, Columbus, O.

first colored woman to be made trustee of the public schools of Washington. After returning from abroad she taught in the high school of Washington for some time previous to her marriage to Mr. R. H. Terrell, a District lawyer. It was because of her approaching marriage that she refused the offered registrarship of Oberlin College. Her time is largely devoted to work for the colored people. She has been president of the Bethel Literary and Historical Society, chairman of the educational committee, Colored Woman's League, and leader of a class in English literature made up largely of her intimate friends. At the last convention of the National Woman Suffrage Association, held in Washington, Mrs. Terrell gave, under the head of "The Justice of Woman Suffrage," a most scholarly argument. One of the happy features of that occasion was the presentation to Mrs. Terrell of a beautiful marble bust of Harriet Beecher Stowe by the latter's sister, Mrs. Isabella Beecher Hooker. Mrs. Hooker recently made public mention of Mrs. Terrell as follows: "At a convention composed of the brainiest women of the United States, Mrs. Mary Church Terrell has proved herself to be an orator among orators. She is a speaker of superior ability, fine presence, and strong magnetic power; graceful, eloquent, logical. Mrs. Terrell is one of the coming women of America."—Leslie's Weekly.

Ernest Hogan's minstrel company, discriminated against by an ocean liner, scored a great victory. Twenty-nine passengers won separate judgments of \$2,250 each. In all the Hogan people got \$62,250 damages in Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, against the Canadian Australian Royal Mail Steamship Company. The steamship managers will doubtless adopt a new policy—on the side of the American mainland—after this.