

LEE, WASHINGTON AND BASSETT.

Certain gentlemen have been thrown into such a fury by Prof. Bassett's eulogy of Booker T. Washington they have over-looked the fact that, in a way, Prof. Washington has been a very close copyist of General Lee. Did the black man in this case, as in so many other cases, take the white man for his model? A cat may look at a king. Has this particular black man, born in a condition so humble that he had to give himself a name, been inspired in his work by the example of one of the knightliest and most attractive white men of his age?

After delivering up his sword, General Lee, at the close of the civil war, faced a situation gloomy in the extreme. The South was in ruins. Her people were bankrupt and discouraged. They needed the best advice and the best guidance possible. As he had led them in war, it was plain that he must lead them in peace. His course must be a lamp unto their feet. He made the choice which was characteristic of a man of the highest character and intelligence. He did not lend his name for a money consideration to the shady schemes of a gigantic lottery enterprise. He did not take up his headquarters at the nearest tavern, fill his stomach with mean whisky, and spend his time "cussing his luck" and the Yankees. He put himself at the head of an educational institution, and gave all of himself to preparing young men of the South for their duties as citizens under the restored Union. It was an admirable and a patriotic service admirably performed. The stoutest champion of the Union cause could but view it with enthusiastic approbation.

When Booker Washington came to man's estate he looked about him and saw the people of his race and section sunk in ignorance and helplessness. He sympathized with them and wanted to assist them. With the capacity of leadership and the ambition to lead, he gave himself wholly to the work of practical education. He put aside the temptations of politics, and addressed himself to what, so far as he then could see, was a mission with but little personal return outside of a sense of duty done. He set an example to the young of his race of inestimable value. He comforted the older members by inspiring them with hope for their children. His work began to tell, and he found himself honored by men of both races of the highest attainments. Statesmen of international reputation, bishops of the church, educators of renown, became his personal friends and assisted him in his endeavors. He is now known all over the world, and interest in the man and his mission is profound and sincere.

Can anybody faminiar with the highest type of the manhood of the old South doubt what the attitude of General Lee would be toward Booker T. Washington, if he were alive to-day? Is it not safe to say that the famous Negro educator would have no more helpful friend than the great man who took off the headgear of a general-in-chief and put on that of a college president? Would General Lee hesitate to listen to the Negro's account of the progress of the latter's work, or hesitate about assisting him with suggestions? And can any man doubt what

the reply of General Lee would be to any jack-leg statesman or cross-roads rabble-raiser who might offer an impudent protest against such a course?—*Evening Star.*

LATE PARAGRAPHS.

Mr. William H. Steward, editor of The American Baptist at Louisville, Ky., the most prominent Baptist layman in the country, is in the city for a few days, the guest of Mr. Davis on 11th St., N. W. Mr. Steward has just returned from a pleasant trip to Arkansas where he attended the 38th Anniversary of the Baptist State Convention, at which convention \$12,000 was raised.

The city is overrun with strangers, little and big, wise and otherwise. The attraction seems to be the convening of the 58th Congress, the meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Afro-American Convention and the National Suffrage Convention, which convenes in this city next week.

Mr. A. B. Cosey, attorney at law, and an active and aggressive leader in New Jersey politics is in the city preliminary to the National Suffrage Convention. Mr. Cosey has been prominently mentioned as the permanent chairman and president of the National Suffrage Convention. He is being urged to accept the position, for the reason that he is a successful lawyer, that he is a tower of strength in New Jersey and that he has the time, means and prestige to lead the forces of the convention. Then too, there is a protest against the preacher politicians. Mr. Cosey, if elected, would make a capital presiding officer, and a useful president.

CLASSES IN FINE ART NEEDLE WORK.

Miss Johnson, of Niagara Falls, N. Y., is now in the city, and will open this week an elaborate display of Fine Art Needle Work, to be seen in the window of Mrs. Clark's "Emporium," True Reformers Hall, U St., N. W. Day and evening classes will be formed to which she will give her personal attention and cordially invites inspection. tf

A PIONEER JOURNALIST.

The Colored American, Washington, D. C., of which Mr. E. E. Cooper is editor, is always brimful of news with pointed and strong editorials on the live issues of the day. Mr. Cooper is one of the pioneer journalists of the race, and is well versed in the newspaper business all along the line.—We congratulate him in the marked success, to which he has brought The Colored American.—*Nashville Clarion.*

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Saunk Joyce was sold to Mecklenburg, Va., several years before the Civil War, to Cunnigan, a Negro trader. His mother, Willie, was a slave on the Joyce plantation. He had one sister, Betty, who is anxious to find him. Any information will be gladly received.

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