



# INAUGURATION OF THE PRESIDENT.

## Many Brilliant Scenes at True Reformers' Hall.

### UNITED STATES SENATORS CABINET MEMBERS.

#### The Ladies of the Land.—A Realistic Display.

No event in the history of the colored people has elicited so much praise and occasioned so much comment as has the inauguration exercises of President William McKinley at the True Reformers' Hall, Friday night, Jan. 18, 1901.

The U. S. Senate was first called to order and Vice-President Theodore Roosevelt sworn in. Mr. E. A. Washington discharged his duty in a most dignified manner and his address was well worthy of the occasion.

Mr. Jacob Wright as Senator Quay was a success and his speech especially timely. Mr. W. P. Epps as Senator Tillman assumed all of the swaggering braggadocio of this leader of pitchfork reputation.

Mr. W. P. Burrell as Senator Mason understood all of the characteristics of the Illinoisan and caused much amusement. Dr. D. A. Ferguson had all of the dignity and peculiarities of Senator Frye.

Mr. Thomas Wyatt as Senator Blackburn; Mr. Wm. A. Johnson as Senator Platt; Mr. Ed. Ellis, Jr., as Senator Hanna; Mr. E. W. Brown as Senator Culberson; Mr. J. H. Blackwell as Senator Proctor; Mr. R. W. Williams as Senator Turley; Mr. A. E. Hawkins as Senator Daniel; Mr. J. J. Carter as Senator Clark; Mr. T. W. Taylor as Senator Gallinger and Mr. R. J. Kyles as Clerk and Mr. A. A. Jackson as sergeant-at-arms were successes and added much to the liveliness of the occasion.

Each Senator wore the evening dress coat and silk hat.

Dr. Sarah G. Jones as Mrs. McKinley was as queen in attire and demeanor as it was possible for the "first lady of the land" to be.

Mrs. Florence Isham as Mrs. Roosevelt was a decided success and her attire was in keeping with the character which she assumed. She was dignified and graceful.

Miss Bessie Whittle as niece of Mrs. McKinley did not fail to comply with all of the requirements of strict etiquette as did Miss Lula Forester and Miss Ida E. Crump. Miss Bessie Taylor as the wife of the Chinese Minister, was coy and agreeable, while Miss Bertha Thompson and Miss Drucilla Marks were silent attendants.

Miss Lena Isham as Mrs. John Hay did not fail to comply with the requirements of her position, and Miss Rosa Brooks as Mrs. Elihu Root was careful in her attention to her distinguished husband.

Mrs. Susie Jefferson as Mrs. Lyman J. Gage understood her duties and performed them. Miss Susie Crump as Mrs. John D. Long, by her ease and grace added to the happiness of her husband.

Miss Lizzie Burrell was attired in keeping with the amenities of polite society and was a source of pride to Attorney General Griggs.

Miss Lizzie Yancey, Mrs. E. A. Hitehook was all life and demonstrated her ability as the leader in social functions.

Miss Mary Scott represented to perfection Mrs. Charles Emory Smith and Miss Maggie Murray successfully displayed the traits of Mrs. James Wilson.

Then followed the inauguration exercises. The foreign ministers, headed by the U. S. Marshall, Q. W. Moon entered first. Then followed President McKinley in the person of John Mitchell, Jr., accompanied by Secretary John Hay, represented by George W. Lewis, Esq.

Then followed the members of the cabinet. The oath of office was administered by Chief Justice Fuller, as represented by Mr. W. W. Fields. He performed the duty without a hitch. This followed the inaugural address by the President. It was a comprehensive deliverance and was listened to with marked attention by those who had

packed the hall to witness the exercises.

Secretary Hay [Mr. Geo. W. Lewis] told of the duties of his office and gave valuable historical information in connection therewith.

Secretary Gage (Dr. R. E. Jones) discussed the money question and told of his experience along this line in France and Germany.

Secretary Root (Mr. John T. Taylor) was "short and sweet."

Secretary Long (Mr. A. W. Holmes) told all about the Navy and did not hurry himself in interesting the nation on its importance.

Attorney General Griggs (Mr. J. Thomas Hewin) was exhaustive and deep in his account of the origin of his portfolio. He handled facts of law with skill and familiarity.

Postmaster General Smith (Mr. W. E. Hope) had all kinds of plans for the improvement of the service and the impression produced was that most of the money of his department would be expended at Richmond.

Secretary Hitehook (Mr. W. H. Anderson) had all of the characteristics, except color of the distinguished Missourian and promised to favor the Mitchell Anti-Lynching Bill.

Secretary Wilson (Mr. Maurice Barrett) understood all about Agriculture.

Chaplain Milburn (Rev. J. E. Jones) while not blind did the honors for the occasion in strict accordance with the requirements of the occasion.

Admiral Dewey (Mr. E. C. Burke) was a laughable success and General Miles (Mr. W. I. Johnson) drew forth a whirlwind of applause over his crusade against embalmed beef. They were voted a success.

Sir Julian Pauncefote (Mr. John O. Lewis) was cautious and diplomatic. Ambassador M. Cambon (Prof. J. R. L. Diggs) spoke real French with the skill of a Frenchman. He was the subject of many compliments. Mr. W. P. Burrell, who knows nothing about the language kindly interpreted his remarks for the benefit of the public. Lord Ostellow (Mr. D. J. Farrar) was too overcome to speak.

Wu Ting Fang (Mr. Cornelius Robinson) a typical Chinaman was all right.

Mr. Edward S. Blyden (Mr. E. H. Thurston) understood the program and spoke well.

Mr. George C. Preston of Haiti (Prof. D. W. Davis) was careful and diplomatic as well as timely and enlightening in his remarks.

Basa, Micado of Japan (Mr. J. H. Logan) was silent, paying all of his attention to his wife.

Mr. Q. W. Moon was voted a success, having apparently presided on many similar inauguration occasions.

Then followed the introduction of the ladies to the President, and then the grand march to the banquet hall where the presidential ball was presided over by the President. The room was a scene of loveliness.

The President's table was in the forward part of the dining hall. It was decorated with palms, ferns and flowers.

The hall above was magnificently decorated with flags and bunting. Back of the stage was a life-sized picture of Mr. John Mitchell, Jr., the acting president.

The Committee deserves much credit for the magnificent success of the affair. Mrs. E. T. Hill, president; Mrs. Joanna Thompson, treasurer; Miss P. A. Mesdith, secretary; Miss Sallie Boiesseau, assistant; R. T. Hill, manager.

—Mr. Joseph J. McIntosh has been confined to his room, 200 E. Leigh St., since the grippe for the past two weeks. He is improving under the skillful treatment of Dr. E. R. Jefferson and expects to be out at an early date.

## THE QUESTION.

"THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE,  
NEW YORK, N. Y., JAN. 18, 1901.

MANAGING EDITOR,  
"THE PLANET,"  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA,

DEAR SIR:—

A correspondent writes to us from Birmingham, Ala., predicting that the disfranchisement of the Negroes will eliminate the race question from politics and that it will rapidly be followed by a breaking up of the "Solid South."

He is both enthusiastic and emphatic in declaring that Alabama, and subsequently a number of other Southern States, will soon be in the Republican column.

Will you kindly give the TRIBUNE your views on this matter?

Yours very truly,  
JAMES MARTIN,  
NEWS EDITOR.

## THE ANSWER.

Office of the PLANET,  
311 N. Fourth Street,  
RICHMOND, VA., Jan. 21, 1901.

Editor of the New York Tribune:

Will the elimination of the Negroes from politics cause a breaking up of the "Solid South" and subsequently result in soon placing Alabama and other southern states in the Republican column?

This is, I believe substantially the question propounded to me and the one upon which I shall endeavor to express an opinion.

It would be well after diagnosing a disease, to ascertain the cause which produced it. I think doctors, both in political economy and medicine, agree that no permanent cure of a disease of either individuals or nations can be produced until the effect is discovered and the cause removed. To adopt a treatment contrary to these well-known principles is to engage in vagaries, and resort to quackery.

When the south became solid.

The solidity of the south antedates the bestowal of the right of suffrage upon the citizen of color. It therefore was not the cause of the very condition which its removal is expected to eradicate.

Indeed, the solidity of the South even antedates the Missouri Compromise—a measure which it was hoped would form a common basis of agreement between the North and the South, allay friction and permit the two sections to dwell in peace and harmony within the broad confines of the national domain.

Like all compromises with wrong, it failed of its purpose. And right here, permit me to remark that this very proposition for the elimination of the Negroes as a political factor is akin to Mr. Clay's famous compromise proposition, which ultimately tended to aggravate both parties and resulted in an outbreak more threatening and dangerous than the one which it sought to avoid.

How then can the elimination of the Negroes from politics cause a breaking up of the "Solid South"? But what is the real cause of the South's solidity? Is it really the Negroes' politics or is it based upon the old-time hatred of the Northerner? Let us see:

A REVIEW OF THE PAST.

Fifty years ago the Southerner was wealthy. He rolled in opulence, and disdained to toil. When the Westerner spoke of cattle, he bragged of slaves. No where in the world were the individual owners of property so akin in their deportment and possessions to the kingly aristocracy of the Old World.

Then began the anti-slavery agitation and the Puritanic lectures on the evils of slavery,—all of which was an attack upon the wealth of the Southland. Then came the Missouri Compromise, the John Brown Raid, the Emancipation Proclamation and the South's dream of conquest and vision of glory had passed away forever. Kingly men and queenly women to whom poverty was unknown and labor a thing to be abhorred found themselves penniless, and their wealth destroyed.

The solidity of the past was intensified and the Yankees were blamed for all their misfortunes. To be brief,

this constitutes the cause of the solidity of the South to-day. They want their Negroes again. This being impossible as they now well-know; they want the value of what they considered and even now regard as their legitimate property.

### THE CURE FOR THE AILMENT.

In other words, if the northerners led by President McKinley will recommend, and Congress will enact a measure, putting a fair valuation upon every Negro man, woman and child owned by the southerners at the close of the war, and a commission appointed for the distribution of the fund the foundation of all of the trouble will have been removed and hardly a sound will be heard, except in isolated quarters concerning the Negro and the vote which he exercises.

To show you to what extent the South believes it has been wronged and robbed, I have only to refer you to the statistics bearing upon the production of corn, wheat and oats in eleven southern States.

### AN APPEAL TO STATISTICS.

The Department of Agriculture shows in its report for 1899 that the states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Tennessee and Arkansas produced 408,327, 278 bushels of corn, the value of which was \$171,334,721; 82,557,954 bushels of wheat, the value of which was \$24,441,418; 56,858,755 bushels of oats, the value of which was \$18,355,337, the aggregate value for one year being \$24,131,478. The Negroes of the South in 1899 produced 11,235,583 bushels of cotton, which was about 99% of the entire cotton consumption of the world. On a basis of 487 pounds to the bale and 8 cents per pound in the world's market, the value of the product for one year only was \$487,730,621.88. Add this, if you please, to the value of the product of corn, wheat and oats for one year and you have the mammoth revenue of \$581,381,997.88 more than 90% of which is being produced by these much maligned Negroes, and which value is added not only to the wealth of the south, but to the country at large. This estimate does not include the sugar, molasses and tobacco produced by the Negroes of the Southland.

### DID NOT WANT THEM TO LEAVE.

I think then, sir, I violate no confidence when I say that the Negro is a producer, and as such is no impediment to the progress of the South. This accounts too for the attitude of southern planters, who when an exodus of this people was threatened stood in the roads with their shot-guns forbidding them to leave and notifying labor agents that convenient sapplings awaited their bodies should they persist in inducing this wealth producing people to leave their old time plantations of the Southland.

And these Negroes were not using the words of Naomi, "Interest me not to leave thee, or to return from following after thee; for whither thou goest, I will go; and where thou lodgest, I will lodge; thy people shall be my people and thy God my God; where thou diest, I will die and there will I be buried."

### CLAIMED AS THEIR PROPERTY.

You will note that this annual wealth was produced by these Negroes whom tens of thousands of Southerners regard as their legitimate property, wrongfully wrested from their possession by the mighty power of the North. This then, sir, constitutes the true cause of the solidity of the South.

When these same misguided people look upon their estates, gone to destruction in many portions of which

grass-hoppers are said to be sitting upon the stumps with tears in their eyes, bewailing the poverty of the land, and see installed in some of the most aristocratic plantation mansions, in the Southland, Negroes as masters and overseers, it is here that you have the subsidiary cause of the solidity of the South.

### ANOTHER FACTOR IN THE DISCUSSION.

And again, the "poor whites" constitute another factor in the discussion of this question. When they see Negroes in possession of comfortable residences with their sons and daughters educated, driving their own teams and engaging in all of the branches of business, it tends to increase the race prejudice.

When they notice Negro editors, lawyers, surgeons, physicians, dentists, bank presidents and cashiers, authors, inventors, theologians, insurance managers and presidents, college professors and presidents, electricians, machinists and skilled mechanics, it tends to increase race prejudice and make the south solid.

### VALUE OF PROPERTY IN VIRGINIA.

When they note the statistics and find that the value of the Negroes' property in Virginia alone for the fiscal year ending September 30th, 1900, according to the report of Public Assessor Marye, Auditor of Public Accounts is now \$15,856,570 as against \$12,000,000 the year previous and that these same Negroes now own 993,541 acres of land, it tends to increase race prejudice and incidentally the solidity of the South. Couple with this the fact that the Negroes of the United States alone own over \$500,000,000 worth of property and you will see another subsidiary cause for the increase of race prejudice and the solidity of the South.

### WAS NOT A MISTAKE.

Possibly, it will be needless for me to state that I am one of the many Negroes who do not believe that the enfranchisement of the Negroes was a mistake. It was a right earned upon the plantation and won upon the battle field.

A man who will not question the right to vote of a foreigner, who has just left Oastle Garden should hardly be permitted to pass upon the qualification of a citizen who has for more than 280 years added to the material wealth of the Republic.

### REPUBLICAN PARTY HELD RESPONSIBLE.

I need hardly add that the North is symbolized in the Republican Party of the nation. It is held by the South, responsible, notably Alabama, for the abolition of slavery, the launching of a Civil War, and virtually all of the evils to that section which has followed in its wake.

And again, the South is not opposed to the enfranchisement of the Negro, so long as the result of the Negro's enfranchisement is to its interest. As paradoxical as this statement may seem to be the great mass of Southerners would join with the Negroes to prevent the taking from them by national enactment, their rights at the polls. This is because they are now enjoying the rights by virtue of this very enfranchisement. The personal attachment of certain white men for certain Negroes is very much like that existing between a man and his wife. They will abuse each other at times, but rarely will they permit other people to do it.

### MISSISSIPPI AND LOUISIANA AS EXAMPLES.

In further proof of the fact that  
(Continued on Eighth Page.)

## THE FIRST HONOR PUPILS.

- EAST-END SCHOOL.
- Sixth Grammar—Mr. J. Andrew Bowler teacher: Estelle Barrett, Ella Cross, Daisy Gilliam, Carrie Graves, Madeline Harris, Ross Taylor, Carter Jones.
  - Third Grammar—Miss Rosa B. Yancy, teacher: Virginia Lee, Rosa Moss R. as Toast.
  - First Grammar—Miss Lucy V. Bolling, teacher: Janora Jackson, Willie Williams.
  - Eighth Primary—Miss Annie M. Jackson, teacher: Janora Jackson, Willie Williams.
  - Seventh Primary—Miss Nannie O. Wyatt, teacher: Ethel G. Washney, Edna Browne, Sarah Braxton, Lillie Flippin, Annie Gray, Isabel Johnson, Charles Starke, Hezekiah Randolph, Arthur Holmes, Herbert Fleming, Annie Johnson.
  - Sixth Primary—Miss L. A. Willis, teacher: Earle Harris, Hester Braxton, Bertha Holcomb, Annie Atkinson, Mary Christie, Mattie Barnes, Lily Brown, Ruby Claiborne, India Crawley, Marie Robinson.
  - Fifth Primary—Miss Mary E. Willis, teacher: Emma Hill, Mary E. Taniel, Judetta Temple, Horace Lewis, Wm. Waddell, Ethel Brown, Beatrice Christian.
  - 4th Primary—Miss Maud E. Moudin, teacher: Martha Thomas, Ida Thompson, Henry James, George Tompkins, Percy Jones, Robert Peterson, Adele Johnson, Ophelia Scott.
  - Third Primary—Miss Annie S. Keene, teacher: William Preston, Lizzie Bland, Rosa White, Aurelia Hunter, Olivia Scott, William Langley, Pearl Morton, Frank Morton, Lucille Brooks, Robert Jackson, Cleopatra Scott, Lonnie Burton, Bertha Anderson, Thomas Brandon, Carrie Peterson, Gabriel Brooks, Blanche Robinson, Bennie Bland, Carrie Smith, Elijah Gordon, Mammie Smith.
  - Second Primary—Miss Lula G. Hawkins, teacher: Hazel Bland, Maggie Coleman, Hattie Hunter, Melinda Harris, Bessie Kirby, Bessie Morton, Ruby Johnson, Bessie Scott, Katie Shelton, Fanny Wright, Nannie Valentine, Felix G. Washney, Joseph Harris, Willie Morton, John Taylor.
  - First Primary—Miss Lula G. Hawkins, teacher: Bessie Allen, Bertha Johnson, Mary Ivason, Della Turner, Florence Wingfield, Rosa Howard, Ernest Warwick, Floyd Spriggs, John Wingfield, Judson Clark, Frank Norman, Virginia Williams, Isabel Hood, Elizabeth Jackson, Esther Oyley, Alma Thompson, Luberta Ashton, Ruth Storrs.

(Continued on Third Page.)

Dr. Sarah G. Jones, the only colored female physician in the state, and who owns one of the finest brick houses in Richmond as far as colored people are concerned and with the exception of Dr. E. E. Jones drives the finest teams, was referred to as "Sarah."

Mr. John O. Lewis, who has just erected several houses at about \$8,000, was spoken of as "an all yellow Negro, named John Lewis."

Prof. D. Webster Davis, instructor, author, poet, lecturer and pastor, was announced to be "the blackest Negro in Richmond, with few exceptions" and "cast a shadow before him, even in the dark st. He was a chunky coon, but pulled off his little speech just as though he really represented something worthy of a place on the map."

Mr. R. H. Thurston, teacher, was called, "the Negro named Thurston."

### OUR LADY PHYSICIAN INSULTED.

The caste held a meeting Monday night at the residence of Miss Pattie A. Meredith and a committee appointed to wait on the Times and other daily journals to protest against the ungenerous treatment of the unappointed consisted of Mr. E. T. Hill, Dr. E. E. Jones, Prof. D. W. Davis, Rev. Dr. J. E. Jones and Mr. Jacob T. Wright. The sequel will show that the mission was a success and a great deal of good accomplished.

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### B. Y. P. U.

The Baptist Young People's Union of Fifth Street Baptist Church held its regular Tuesday night meeting Jan. 18th, at 8:30 and owing to the fact that the president was still unable to be out, Mr. York Harris presided.

The lesson was read from Eccl. 12:1. Prayer was offered by Mr. Singleton, "Youthful Consolation" being the subject for the evening, was given by Miss Emma Williams, who read a beautifully prepared paper, which showed that she had given the subject much study. Nearly every one present had something to say on the subject. During the meeting many were shown the beautiful and soul inspiring hymns sung and all went away feeling benefited and glad of having turned out to the house of the Lord.

## SCANDALOUS TREATMENT.

Our Best Citizens Ridiculed.  
PUT ON A LEVEL WITH THE DIVES OF RICHMOND.  
Colored Citizens Protest.]

Much indignation was caused among the colored population by an article which appeared in the Richmond, Va., Times of Sunday, Jan. 20th, on the inauguration entertainment given at True Reformers' Hall, Friday night Jan. 18th for the benefit of the First Baptist Church.

Mrs. Irene Hill, the accomplished wife of Mr. R. T. Hill, was the moving spirit in the affair and he had the management of the arrangements for the inauguration of President McKinley.

To give an idea of the scandalous manner in which the ab'ect, most refined, as well as the most responsible colored citizens were treated, we have but to refer to certain statements made by the reporter.

### MR. EPPS DESIGNATED.

Mr. W. P. Epps, teacher in Henri Co Baptist Church, clerk of the Ebenezer Public Schools, and the owner of property valued at \$1500 was referred to as "the moon of gold standing."

E. W. Brown, editor of the Reformer was called "a slender Negro with a big foot." Mr. W. P. Burrell was announced as "the wind-bag of the occasion," and additional remarks made that "the ab'ectures of the Upper House were present in the persons of well-known Jackson Ward editor, exclusive of a few others."

Mr. Jake Wright, a letter-carrier, who pays taxes on about \$2500 worth of property was represented as "a Negro in Africa" who bears a good reputation in police circles.

### MAJOR WASHINGTON'S GREETING.

Cashier E. A. Washington of the Nickel Savings Bank was spoken of as "a tall, stately Negro in a Prince Albert coat and light trousers and that his mouth was quite large enough to fit the case, being suggestive of expansion."

Mr. W. E. Fields, a letter-carrier, was referred to as "a Negro named Fields." Capt. Benj. A. Graves and Lieut. Abram L. Morton, teachers, were referred to as "dusky-hued local military sons."

Mr. Q. William Moon, teacher, was called "a big tall Negro named Q. W. Moon."

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