

**THE COLORED RACE IN AMERICA.**

ISSUED BY THE HOWARD ASSOCIATION, LONDON, 1899.

During the past year, the Howard Association has, on various occasions, received from those Southern States very grievous accounts of cruelties inflicted both upon prisoners and others of the colored race, and in particular, in the convict camps and chain gangs, where a shocking condition of affairs exists.

**THE CONVICT CAMPS AND CHAIN GANGS.**

There are comparatively very few prison buildings in the South. Offenders are chiefly leased out, for open air work, to contractors or bidders, who pay their labor, so much a head, to the state or county, and then become absolute masters of such prisoners; so that the taxpayer is entirely relieved from the burden of criminals, who actually become a source of large revenue to the state and to individuals. This may, at first sight, seem to be a great advance upon the general systems of the North and of Europe, which are so costly to the community. But in reality the lease system produces the most terrible sufferings and fatalities to many thousands annually.

**A REVIVAL OF SLAVERY.**

It is practically, a revival of slavery, and on a very extensive scale. In Florida, public sales of convicts (most of whom are negroes) occasionally take place, when they are sold by auction to the highest bidder, for various periods, up to four years. Usually the sentences in the South (on colored people) even for minor offences, such as stealing eggs, are for very long periods.

There are several classes of leased convicts. Firstly, those under the immediate supervision of the state, in camps, or farms, corresponding somewhat to British convict establishments. These, though open to grave objection are comparatively free from the grossest evils, and have, of late years, undergone considerable improvement in several of the states. Secondly, there are the county camps, which are worse. And, lastly, and worst of all, there are the numerous gangs farmed out to private sub-contractors, or bidders, who, in many cases, "sweat" their victims to death by excessive labor, wretched food, brutal violence and the grossest neglect of sanitary requirements. And of course, religious and moral obligations are utterly ignored in most instances.

In the best prisons of the Northern States, as in New York (at Elmira,) Massachusetts, (at Concord Junction and Snerborne,) Illinois, (at Joliet and Pontiac,) Ohio, (at Columbus,) Minnesota, (at Stillwater,) and in Pennsylvania, Michigan, Rhode Island and other states, the reformation of the prisoner is, at least, earnestly attempted, and often successfully achieved. But in southern camps and chain gangs it is the very reverse.

**"INFERNOS"**

The "captains" employed by the sub-contractors are often of the class depicted in "Legree" in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Their conduct to the female convict is indescribable. A large number of illegitimate births take place in these camps. The wretched children born in them are, in some instances, permanently retained as slaves. And the breeding of such has become an avowed purpose, at least in one state. Woe to the women or girls who are sent to such camps! Their life is, and must be, an inferno. Men and women frequently run away and are then chased with bloodhounds and guns; those killed being sometimes registered as "escaped."

The colored population furnishes about nine-tenths of the southern convicts, and it is reliably stated that a considerable portion of them are either quite innocent or are punished by long sentences for the most trifling offences, and frequently, on merely trump-up charges. It is to the interest of the local officials and contractors that the number of convicts should be as large as possible and their detention as prolonged as it can be made.

**CHILDREN IN THE CHAIN GANGS.**

A very sad feature in these chain gangs is the number of young children sent to them. A leading philanthropist of Baltimore, Mr. G. S. Griffith, president of the Maryland Society for the Protection of Children, was pained to find in the gangs so many children from nine years of age and upwards! In one of the better class of chain gangs, in North Carolina, he found 55 persons, including three women and 1 boy of 11 years of age. And he says: "These men women and boys, all sleep under a tent 70 by 24 feet." This promiscuous and most demoralizing association of the various ages and sexes, by day and night, is the usual feature of the private camps, and sometimes, even of the state establishments.

Judge Chandler of Georgia, says: "My experience is that when a boy is sent to the chain gang, he is ruined." Judge Berry of Atlanta, says: "I have seen too many cases where boys have been ruined by being sent to the chain gangs." Then what must they be for girls?

**BRUTAL "CAPTAINS."**

Fearful brutalities are perpetrated by these "captains" in the lonely, remote places where many of the gangs are located, as in forests and mines. Sometimes convicts have been flayed alive! On one prisoner's corpse forty injuries were found. He had been literally beaten to pieces. Another had been disgustingly dismembered by kicks, and there was a great hole gaping in his side. A young white girl of seventeen years, after being repeatedly outraged by the officers of the camp, fled to the woods. She was overtaken by bloodhounds, her clothes stripped off, and she was then flogged in the presence of jeering men. Another poor girl, similar treated, gave birth to a child, but both mother and offspring were speedily relieved by death. Women and girls are habitually subjected to the grossest indecencies and exposures. In one camp was found a woman who had had seven children whilst there, and another had had six there. And such cases are legion!

Christian America sends hundreds

of missionaries to Asia and Africa. But is there not here a vast mission field for effort and influence?

**A LITTLE RECENT IMPROVEMENT IN SOME STATES.**

The State of Mississippi, Arkansas, and the Carolinas, all need great reforms in this matter; but especially Florida and Georgia. Their forest terpentine works and their phosphate mines are often awful spots, morally and physically. Louisiana is making some special efforts at improvement. Alabama and Texas are perhaps better than formerly. Yet a prison chaplain in Texas writes to Howard Association (1898.) "Practically there has been no advance in the lease system of our convicts. It can only be an evil."

**GENERAL OPPRESSION OF THE COLORED RACE.**

The Howard Association has also received, in connection with these sad accounts of southern camps and chain gangs, much information showing that they form but one portion or still a vaster system of oppression of the colored race generally in the Southern States. The Voice of Missions, Atlanta, December, 1898 contains a long and terrible indictment of the white race for the treatment of the colored people since 1865.

It says: "The Cuban War and its results and the American massacres are nothing when compared with the thirty years of 'whitcapping,' chasing by bloodhounds, murdering, burning at the stake, lynching, flogging, swindling, robbing, defamation of character, injustice, false imprisonment and oppression, which the colored people of America have passed through, and are still undergoing." "This year 300 have been lynched and murdered by our white Christian friends and no voice but our own weak cry has been raised in protest." "Many negroes were shot by the white democrats in North and South Carolina during the November elections of 1898. Recently also, many unoffending colored people have been driven away from their homes and farms in the South by violent and covetous white neighbors."

The same journal complains of the silence of the pulpit, both North and South, respecting these evils, and remarked that even the United States Supreme Court at Washington has always turned scale against the colored race. Also that several of the Southern States have disfranchised the negroes by wholesale, in violation of the Federal Constitution, whilst returning them all as voters for the purpose of their own proportionate representation in Congress. It is known that some prominent politician and legislators at Washington have made large fortunes as convict contractors.

**THE LYNCHINGS.**

In the Richmond Planet, July 23rd 1898, a bishop is quoted as saying: "Enough colored men have been lynched to death to reach a mile high, if laid one upon another—and nearly as many women and children to make a similar pile." These lynchings are defended by many persons on the ground of their necessity of protecting white women from negro assaults. No doubt, occasionally such crimes of this kind have been committed by them, but they have been immensely outnumbered by similar outrages by whites upon the females of the weaker race.

The colored people have need to clear themselves from complicity with such crimes, and also to cultivate more honesty and truthfulness. Nor can they expect to be much respected until they manifest more self-respect and become less characterized, as a people, by their everlasting grin and giggle. Lord Chesterfield said—"I never knew a 'Merry-Andrew' a respected man." But the colored people are too often such fools, and until as a race, they manage to make themselves both respected and feared, they are not likely to get the justice which is due to them. Buffoons will be despised.

**CONVICT MORTALITY.**

Even the aggregate of lynchings is very small in comparison with the enormous mortality of the convicts in the camps and chain gangs. Whereas in English convict prisons the death rate is under 7 per 1000 per annum, it ranges in these camps from 75 to over 200 per 1000 yearly.

**WHO WILL HELP.**

The Voice of Missions mournfully remarks:—"Here are no advocates of human rights in the United States today. Charles Sumner is dead, Abraham Lincoln is gone, Wendell Phillips, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Frederick Douglass and Harriett Beecher Stowe have all passed away; and with them went the last great advocates of human rights." This complaint is, however, too pessimistic.

Yet even the Society of Friends (Quakers) in America, once the foremost champions of the negro, through their J. G. Whittier, Thomas Garrett, Isaac B. Hopper, Levi Coffin, Francis T. King and other good men, have of late years, become strangely silent and apparently apathetic, as to the oppressed race.

**SELF HELP.**

However, a people of twelve million ought no longer to be mainly dependent upon or looking to others for their own protection. They must now chiefly turn to schemes of self-help—or remain oppressed.

**THE PROBLEM.**

An American correspondent of the Howard Association writes (1899):—"The negro trouble has become so great that, I fear, the difficulty can never be settled but with blood."

The problem is indeed a vast one, and of pressing import to the United States, both North and South. Is the Christianity of that great nation to remain impotent for the solution? Are the colored people to be driven to what now appears to be their only means of relief—by self-help, through imitating the methods of their adversaries in the formation of Secret Societies and powerful and compact, Organized Unions, for defence and offence? It is only thus, that they can make themselves what they must be, somehow respected and feared as a race? But what else are they to do, unless the white race bestirs itself for other efforts than continuing oppression?

**PERHAPS YOU'RE A MATTOID**

Probability That You Are One and Don't Know It.

Perhaps you don't know what a "mattoid" is. Shortly, he is a sane man with claims to genius, but possessed of some marked peculiarity that inclines one to doubt of his complete sanity.

There have been sane men of genius and mad men of genius—the latter preponderate—but a mattoid forms a link between the two.

According to Lombroso, the great criminologist, mattoids are more frequent among men than women, and the classes where they most abound are the literary, artistic and religious.

Preference for colored inks, just as also a fondness for special words or phrases, marks a man as a mattoid. If such a sign is true it is perhaps a little flattering to one's vanity to think that such an eccentricity may be proof of latent genius hitherto unsuspected.

The commonest variety of mattoid is the "graphomaniac," otherwise the confirmed scribbler. The man who spoils ream after ream of paper in writing of nothing in particular, who writes in a feeble, formless style and shows marks of exclamation as from a pepper-box—such is a mattoid. Many women writers and minor poets come under this head.

It is reassuring to know that the "graphomaniac," however abnormal his literary productions, is found to have a normal cranium and physiognomy.

Personal preoccupation and aggressive egotism are bad signs. But because Whitman, Rosseau, Musset and De Quincey wrote much of themselves, and did not always veil their various personalities under the editorial "we," it seems a little rude, not to say harsh, to call them mattoids. Wagner, under the influence of a peculiar mood, affirmed that he could not work if he did not have in his room a red flamingo mat. Could he have realized (without intention of punning) that such a trait was mattoidal?

Peter the Great, when he was in England, often sat up till 2 in the morning with Lord Caermarthen, drinking brandy, and pepper! Nevertheless, he invariably rose at 4.

The fact that Napoleon could not pass through a street without counting all the windows would certainly earn for him the esteem of most eccentricities.

But it is not necessary to go on enumerating historical instances of eccentricity. Let the reader look around among his or her circle of friends and show an exaggerated fondness for detail, a passion for animals or an irrefragable fancy for punning. All these are in danger of developing into mattoids.

Collectors of stamps or old shoes, inventors of weird drinks—such as gorgonzola and bay rum—and especially inveterate "scorchers," all are morbid subjects.

The man who went mad in his efforts to walk on the ceiling like a fly was a mattoid of the very deepest dye. In fact, any degree of excessive originality is a dangerous thing in a counsellor where the eyes of the law look with suspicion upon all who are not quite ordinary, though in these days of self-advertisement it is hard to find people who are "ordinary"—everybody is so clever.

**"As Clean as a Whistle."**

The origin of saying "as clean as a whistle" is ascribed to the "whistle tankard" of olden times, in which the whistle came into play when the tankard was emptied or "cleared out" to announce to the waiter that more liquor was required.

There are 672 known volcanoes in the world, of which 270 are active; 80 in America, 24 in Asia, 20 in Africa. Java has 109, of which 28 are active. In New Zealand, within an area of 127 miles, there are 63, ranging from 196 feet to 900 feet in height.

**An Inherited Secret.**

In Nagasaki, Japan, there is a fireworks maker who manufactures pyrotechnic birds of great size that, when exploded, sail in a lifelike manner through the air, and perform many movements exactly like those of living birds. The secret of making these wonderful things has been in the possession of the eldest child of the family of each generation for more than four hundred years.

The reason a blow on the ear may do irreparable injury is that the air, being driven suddenly and violently against the drum of the ear, might rupture the membrane and cause incurable deafness. The ears should never be pulled nor meddled with in any way except to wash them in the gentlest manner, the orifice being cleansed with a fold of the washcloth rolled into a little cone.

The original thirteen states contained 325,785 square miles, or 208,502,400 acres. In 1898 the United States contained 2,720,160 square miles, or 1,688,373,360 acres, in organized states. It also contained 886,270 square miles, or 567,212,800 acres, of territory not organized as states.

The German emperor, when receiving foreign representatives or military attaches of foreign powers, always wears the uniform of the army of the country the visitor represents, and sometimes during a leave he will change his uniform five or six times.

An ostrich cannot kick backward. When the time has come for the bird to be despoiled of its feathers, its head is inserted in a bag and the plucker stands behind his victim. A blow from its foot has vigor enough to kill a man.

The Siamese have so strong a superstition against even numbers that they will have none of them. The number of the rooms in a house, of windows or doors in a room, even of rungs on a ladder, must always be odd.

In Sydney, New South Wales, the street car lines are owned by the municipality, and no fares are charged. Homeless folk, it is said, use them at night instead of going to cheap lodging houses.

Russian photographers shame delinquent customers by hanging their pictures upside down in their glass cases. This method soon compels them to pay up.

**THE SENSE OF TASTE.**

Experiments That Have Brought Out Some Curious Discoveries.

Curious experiments by Prof. G. T. W. Patrick of the University of Iowa, show that our ideas about the sense of taste have been all wrong. He experimented on an anomic—that is, a person absolutely without the sense of smell. He experimented also on normal subjects, with most interesting results. His conclusions are as follows:

There are only four simple taste sensations, namely, sweet, bitter, sour and salt. It is said by some that there are only two, sweet and bitter. All other sensations which are commonly called tastes are complex results of sensations of smells, touch, temperature and sight. The means by which we distinguish almost all of our common food and drinks is not the sense of taste so much as it is the sense of smell, touch, temperature and sight.

All the fine differences by which we distinguish the various fruits, meats and drinks depend not upon taste at all, but upon these other senses. Pure sensations of taste add hardly more than a certain emotional element to the complex sensations. Sweet things we call "good" and bitter things we call "bad," while salt and sour add a certain piquancy, which is pleasing when not excessive.

A partial proof of these facts may be given by merely blindfolding the eyes and closing the nose and taking various kinds of foods and drinks into the mouth without swallowing them. It will then be found that it is quite impossible to distinguish many of the commonest foods and drinks. If the further precaution be taken to eliminate as much as possible the senses of touch and temperature upon the tongue by representing the material in liquid form or chopped into small bits, the results are still more striking.

It is always difficult to eliminate the sense of smell in normal subjects. Professor Patrick was able, however, by experimenting with a subject possessing no sense of smell whatever, and comparing the results with those obtained from normal subjects, to get more accurate results as to the more important part played by smell in distinguishing foods and drinks.

It is, of course, generally known that what is popularly mistaken for the taste of coffee, tea and wine is only their aroma or odor. By these experiments, however, it was shown that coffee and tea have a distinct taste, which is simply bitter and cannot be distinguished from a weak solution of quinine. A weak infusion of coffee or tea, however, cannot be distinguished from water.

Even with normal subjects, with the eyes and nose closed, twenty experiments with coffee gave the following results: It was called "coffee" once, "bitter" eleven times, "quinine" four times, "tea" three times and "milk" once.

In the recognition of foods and drinks, as well as in their enjoyment, the sense of sight plays a much more prominent part than is usually supposed. With normal subjects blindfolded it was found impossible to distinguish many of our common foods and drinks. Different kinds of meat and meat broths, as well as the different kinds of bread, were often confused.

One subject, a woman noted for her skill in cooking, made the following judgments: Raw potato chopped she called acorns; boiled pumpkin she said was something sweet and flat; fresh pear she called sweet berry slightly fermented; roast pork she called boiled beef; raw turnip, chopped, she called cabbage sweetened; raw apple was grape juice; roast turkey was called beef, and horseradish she said was something she had never tasted.

**So Easy to Go Down Hill.**

A recent traveler, in giving a description of his climbing Mount Popocatepetl, in Mexico, and visiting its crater, says that they were able to return from the top of the mountain to the snow-line in fifteen minutes, covering a distance which had required them six hours to ascend. One sees things like that often in common life. A man struggles for years to build up a good reputation for honesty and integrity among his fellow-men, and then in an unguarded hour he takes a fatal toboggan-slide that hurls him in a single act below where he began to climb twenty or thirty years ago. It is those who persevere unto the end who win the crown, and no one can afford to grow careless or to cease to be watchful against temptation.

**Requested An American Tune.**

A native merchant of Manila, while undergoing his last illness, expressed a desire to have "one of those beautiful American tunes" played at his funeral. He could not give its name, but a friend knew the tune he meant, and so the funeral passed on to the cemetery, the band playing "A hot time in the old town to-night."

The floor of the rotunda in the London coal exchange, where the merchants gather, is very unique. It is composed of inlaid woods, arranged in the form of a mariner's compass, within a border of Greek fret. Upwards of 4,000 pieces of wood are employed. Almost every British variety is included in this scheme of decoration.

When one receives an invitation to a wedding in Cairo, Egypt, it is an important event, because instead of being asked for a 10-minutes' church ceremony or a brief evening reception, the invitation reads for three days. There is feasting during all this time, and the house and street are liberally decorated with flags and lanterns.

The lord chancellor of England is never allowed, under any circumstances, to make a journey which involves a sea voyage, however short the passage. He is supposed to have the great seal in his immediate keeping, day and night, under all circumstances and its safety is not to be risked.

That plants when injured suffer from fever is a new discovery by a British botanist. Plants suffer in a similar manner to animals under like conditions. The rate of respiration increases and the temperature rises, reaching a maximum within twenty-four hours.

The wool on the back of a sheep is a shepherd's barometer. The curlier the wool the finer will be the weather.

Get dates. Save money and time. Equal to and cheaper than

**Atlantic City,**

For Excursions and up-to-date Amusements, Churches and Organizations.

Go



**ROUND BAY,**

The Palasades of the Chesapeake Summer Resorts on The

**Severn River,**

Twenty per cent paid to excursionists. Apply to the office of the Box 1109 I Street, northwest.

Six miles from Annapolis—Base Ball, Croquet, Boating, Fishing, ridding, Saltwater baths, mineral water. Fare from Washington.

Round trip, \$1.25

**CHESTNUT GROVE,**

Has been lately fitted up for Day Meetings and Camp Meetings. The Grove has been enclosed by a Wire Fence, a Ticket Office built, a Well sunk to the depth of 40 feet, yielding an ample supply of Cool Water. Twenty Cents on a Dollar will be paid to all Churches and other Organizations upon the Sale of 100 Whole Tickets. The Dates are being taken fast. Be in time and secure your Dates Before the Season Opens.

**S. R. HUGHES, AGENT**

No. 1318 N. Fremont Street, or at Main Office, Record Building, St. Paul and Fayette Streets.

**YOUR CREDIT IS GOOD**

**RHODES, WALKER and Burks**

1013 7th Street, northwest.

Who carry a complete line of Furniture Parlor Bed-room and Dining-room, Stoves Carpets and Mattings. Rugs, Lace Curtains, Comforts, Blankets Lamps clocks, Portiers, Curtains, Baby Carriages.

Easy Payment to All.

**LEE'S TAKE-OUT KINK.**



**LEE'S TAKEOUT KINK**

The only article ever manufactured that actually takes the KINKS out of the hair. It will make the hair straight soft, pliable and beautiful. Nicely perfumed Guaranteed pure and harmless. One bottle will convince the most doubtful that it will do all that we claim for it

Lee Medicant Company.

S. Heller, 7.0 7th street northwest