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[THE NEW NATIONAL ERA does not hold itself responsible for views expressed by correspondents. Well written and interesting communications will be gladly received.]

From West Virginia.

WHEELING, W. Va., April 30, 1874.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

DEAR EDITOR:—I seldom intrude an article upon the columns of your valuable paper, and hope a few lines at this time will not be burdensome to its many intelligent readers.

I have been a constant reader of your journal for more than three years, and have derived so much pleasure and information from its perusal, that I could not *think* of being without it at any cost. Set me down, then, in that long list of patrons who will support your enterprise, and send you a new subscriber whenever I can, as I have always done. It meets the wants of a large class of citizens, and there are none outside of Washington that desire its overthrow.

The ERA needs no defence from me. It asserts its own claim. The able articles that fill its columns every week commends it to every lover of Justice and Equality, regardless of race or color, and invests it with the power, which, wielded by the present editor, can easily shake and subvert any opposition that may be brought against it.

Let every colored man in the land look well to his own interest and that of his whole race, by welcoming to his household this organ, which is doing more to awaken, enlighten and elevate our people than any other paper in the United States. Strive to keep open every avenue, designed to diffuse light and intelligence among our ranks, that the gloom of ignorance, cast upon us by centuries of bondage, may melt away like the dew before the morning sun.

We are an important political element in this country. That sacred weapon, the ballot, is ours, and, for God's sake, let us keep posted, and use it where it will effect the greatest good to the greatest number. We should lose no opportunity to assist our claim to justice and exact equality in all matters pertaining to our civil and political rights. Let him that would withhold from us any privilege accorded to other citizens, be met as an enemy, and with the fundamental law of the land on our side, convince them of their error if possible, but vote for them *never*.

It grieves me that after so many pledges from both political parties, the "Supplementary Civil-Rights Bill" is not yet secured. They seem to handle it in Congress like a deadly poison. One day it is taken up, then we are buoyant with hope and expectation, only to be disappointed the next day by its being referred or laid on the table. Unless this bill is passed, and with it all that was asked by the lamented Sumner, I do not see what the wise legislators will have to show for their winter's work, since the financial affair has gone by the board? We are wearied by continued asking for a complete recognition of our manhood. I verily believe the salvation of the Republican party depends upon the passage of that bill, and I sincerely trust that before Congress shall adjourn, it shall be passed, and then the great temple will be complete.

I have just returned from a very pleasant visit to

PARKERSBURG,

at which place I found much more progress and intelligence among our people thna I had expected to find. The schools are good and moderately well attended, and the churches also. The city is beautifully situated, fine buildings adorn every street, and from the neighboring hills the scenery is delightful, and what added greatly to the pleasures of our party was a number of young ladies with winning manners, who escorted us about the city and pointed out all places of interest. We were entertained in the most hospitable manner at the residence of the well-known

ROBERT W. SIMMONS.

We shall long remember the cordiality with which we were received and entertained by the gentleman and his family. Mr. Simmons is a man of acknowledged ability, and having had the advantage of a good education, has long figured conspicuously in public affairs. He was one of the few colored delegates to the Philadelphia Convention in 1872, and is a warm friend of President Grant, by whom he has recently been tendered a foreign position. He says he believes Grant will stand firm upon the platform upon which he was elected, and hence will sign the Civil-Rights Bill, if passed. He expressed himself a warm friend of the ERA, and thinks the colored people should rally to its support because an organ is *needed* at the national capital, and it should be well sustained, regardless of the enemies an honest journal—such as it is—may have in Washington.

Mr. Simmons made an able speech at the Sumner memorial meeting, recently held in Parkersburg, which was highly complimented by the *State Journal*. We left him, fully impressed with the conviction that the President had made a happy selection, in appointing him to a foreign position. West Virginia may well congratulate herself that at last one of her colored men has been called to the front.

Yours for the right,

WM. F. GASKINS.

From Maryland.

CUMBERLAND, MD., April 20, 1873.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

Please correct in article of the 16th the following: Instead of "and most every hill-top"—it should read *almost every hill-top*—instead of "numbers this society over three *hundred* thousand"—it should read *they number over three hundred thousand.*

I thank you for the space in your valuable paper.

I give my hearty endorsement to the many opinions of subscribers in favor of the enlargement of your many contributors to this our only valuable sheet published in the District. May God bless you.

THOMAS A. DAVIS.

From New Jersey.

CAMDEN, N. J., May 5, 1874.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

You will be surprised no doubt to learn that New Jersey after having enjoyed the unenvied reputation of being out of the United States from time immemorial, has at length been resurrected, and now is upon the anxious seat patiently awaiting an opportunity to be admitted into the sisterhood of States. To begin with, New Jersey has had the honor in the person of Senator Frelinghuysen of reporting Senator Sumner's Supplimentary Civil Rights Bill in the Senate last week, and in doing so, he proved to the world that he had the moral courage to stand up in the face of opposition and battle for justice and equality, irrespective of tongue, color or chime, according to his conception of the Constitution as amended. How it thrilled my very soul when I read those noble sentiments which he uttered in speaking of the bill: "He invoked the calm, impartial, unpartizan consideration of the Senate; he asked its passage only as it should commend itself as consistent with the Constitution, and with justice to all classes of society." He alluded to a very important statistical fact which reads as follows: "The colored people now produce $100,000,000 worth of cotton per annum, and that they had done much to develope the resources of the country, and should be invested with all the rights." It seems to me that this fact itself should be sufficient to influence those who had been hitherto antagonistic to the bill to change their course. Mr. Thurman in moving to strike out the second section of the bill which imposed a fine of $500 for every violation, and the same to be paid to person or persons thus aggrieved which, in his judgment, he considered so monstrous proved conclusively that he must have been actuated more from prejudice than from a sense of justice and equity. On legislators may as well look the thing square in the face and make a clean breast of it; for, be assured that what the present administration fails to accomplish future ones will commence where they leave off, and finally complete it. Having digressed considerable from the subject of New Jersey's identity with the Union "*Revenons á nos moutons.*"

It appears that we are really to have a Metropolitan Church to be erected under the auspices of the Zion Wesley A. M. E. Church, on Sycamore street, St. Camden, N. J. On the 4th inst. the old one-story brick structure was demolished, and on its site is to be reared the above church. They have fitted up a temporary building on a large adjacent lot in which to worship until their new one is completed. The ceremonies of the laying of the corner-stone will take place on the 14th inst., on which occasion Bishops J. J. Moore and J. J. Clinton will officiate. Invitations have also been extended to the Grand Lodges of N. J., N. Y. and Pa., who will assist in the ceremonies of the laying of the corner-stone. There has been a Literary Association just formed here known by the name of the Youths' Union Association. It is composed of some of the most intelligent young colored men in Camden, their ages varying from 15 to 25 years. Having been invited to visit them, I was surprised at the degree of intelligence exhibited by them; and should they continue as they have commenced, I bespeak for them a glorious future.

J. A. NEWBY.

From Virginia.

WYTHEVILLE, VA., May 2, 1874.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

Pursuant to a call previously issued through the churches and societies of this village, the colored citizens of Wytheville and Wythe county assembled in mass meeting in the school-house, on Fifth street, on the 29th of April, for the purpose of paying their last tribute of respect to the late Charles Sumner.

The meeting was organized by electing Alexander Swan, Esq., president, and T. E. Hines secretary.

Rev. L. Maston, of the M. E. Church, opened the meeting with prayer.

On motion by W. R. Watkins, the house appointed a committee of three on resolutions.

During the absence of the committee short, sympathetic, condoling, and yet enthusiastic, speeches were made by Rev. L. Maston, W. R. Watkins, and Messrs. Hines, Mathews, Erving, Gaines, and Swan, all regarding the death of Hon. Charles Sumner as a national calamity.

Although it has been more than a month since the great friend of humanity and constant advocate of complete civil and political rights to the colored race departed this life, yet it was manifest from the interest of all present that they regard Charles Sumner as a true friend of our race, and shall always honor his memory.

The committee then presented the following resolutions, which were unanimously adopted:

WHEREAS, Almighty God, in His divine providence, was pleased to take from our midst the eminent friend of humanity, the great lover of freedom and right, Charles Sumner; that, by this sad bereavement, we are caused to mourn the loss of one who has ever been faithful to our race and the cause of humanity: therefore be it

Resolved, That by these resolutions we express, in part, our heartfelt sorrow and sympathies with the oppressed of all the world whose special friend was the honorable Senator from Massachusetts, who has so recently been called to his reward.

Resolved, That we honor the memory of the illustrious deceased, because his was a life-long warfare with the oppression that for ages ground the colored people of the United States to the dust, and, indifferent to public applause, he expoused our cause from a hatred of opression, and fought most manfully, crying in death, "Take care of my Civil Rights Bill."

And whereas, we, as American citizens, and a component part of the body politic, are yet denied the full enjoyment of all the rights and privileges for which Mr. Sumner labored so zealously, and to which we are justly entited as freemen and Americans: therefore be it

Resolved, That we beg and demand of Congress the immediate passage of the "Civil Rights Bill," or a similar enactment, that we may be released from this humiliating proscription.

MOSES JOHNSON,
GEO. B. HOLLIDAY,
T. E. HINES,
Committee.

The meeting then adjourned.

Very respectfully,

W. R. WATKINS.

From Mississippi.

COLUMBUS, Miss., April 25, 1874.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

Pursuant to the adjournment of the meeting, called by the Rev. J. F. Boulden on the 14th of April, to deliver an eulogy on the life of the Hon. Charles Sumner, a large number of persons assembled at the court house on the 25th inst.

Notwithstanding the paralyzed condition of our people, by reason of the great freshet in our river, and the overflow of all within three and four miles of its legitimate bed, a deep interest was manifested in the occasion.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Thaddeus N. James who stated the object of the meeting. Mr. R. C. Harrison, Esq., was elected clerk of the meeting.

The committee appointed at the previous meeting to draft resolutions, expressive of the feeling of the people on the death of Mr. Sumner then made their report as follows:

Mr. Chairman:—Your committee appointed to draft resolutions expressive of the feelings of the people here in reference to the death of the Hon. Charles Sumner, beg leave to report that they have attended to that duty to the best of their ability.

WHEREAS, it has pleased the all-wise and beneficent Father of us all, on the 11th day of March, 1874, to remove from our midst that earnest philanthropist and great statesman, the Honorable Charles Sumner; and, whereas, the suffering and oppressed people of these United States owe a debt of lasting gratitude to his memory for his unswerving fidelity and devotion in pleading for their rights before the law as citizens, our language is inadequate to express the sorrow we feel, and the sympathy we have; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we sympathize with Massachusetts in this loss of one of her best and ablest sons.

Resolved, That we sympathize with the nation in the loss of one of its brightest stars, wisest counsellors and greatest statesmen.

Resolved, That we feel most keenly the loss of Mr. Sumner as the true friend and advocate of our Civil and Political Rights in Congress.

Committee: Henry Baker, J. N. Bishop, J. F. Boulden.

Pending the adoption of the above, the Rev. J. F. Boulden was requested to address the meeting, and he came forward and depicted the private and public life and character of Mr. Sumner in most glorious colors as a philanthropist, a scholar, statesman, a champion of liberty—equal rights to all men and all of which was heartily accepted as the sentiment of the meeting.

The following resolution was then added to those before presented, and the whole unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a copy of the doings of this meeting be sent to the *Jackson Pilot*, the Government Printing Office, and the NEW NATIONAL ERA, for publication.

The meeting then adjourned, perfect harmony having prevailed throughout.

THADDEUS N. JAMES, *Chairman.*
R. C. HARRISON, *Clerk.*

From West Virginia.

WHEELING, VA., May 7, 1874.

To the Editor of the New National Era:

Per caption I am here, surrounded by hills, except where the Ohio river sweeps along in its majestic course. I shall remain here probably during the winter. Folks here are enterprising, intelligent, and hospitable. I have visited Bridgeport, Trenton, and Mount Pleasant, in Ohio. These places contain a goodly number of our people, who are making some progress up the hill with difficulty, although slowly, yet steadily and perseveringly, wending their way to the summit, though some of the barriers appear almost insuperable and impassable. Wheeling itself is a dull, dreary-looking place, and is only relieved from its monotonous appearance when you look at the surrounding hills and the Ohio river. The weather for the last ten days in this vicinity has been unusally cold and inclement—almost incessant rain, with an occasional snowstorm and frost. The sun now shines, but still cold. What is the matter with our people in the metropolis? Are they determined to let self-aggrandizement and self-conceit prejudice our cause?

Yours for the right,

WM. E. WALKER.

[Communicated.]

Moral Reflections No. 11.

"Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God."—1st Peter, 3; 18.

All moral government must be founded on law. Law implies penalty, and there can be no violation of law under a perfect government without the execution of the penalty upon the offender. The exercise of the pardoning comes out of the imperfection of the government, and tends still further to weaken it.

Can God, as the Great Moral Governor, forgive us? Without a Divine Revelation, reason would unhesitatingly say, No.

But may not the Divine Being admit or furnish a substitute for man's suffering, and thus show mercy to the offender?

To this we should also answer, To our finite minds it seems impossible, but we cannot tell. If a substitute is imagined, who shall he be, and what shall he suffer? Neither of these questions could ever have been answered by men or angels. It would seem that no mere creature could undertake this work, and God alone could prescribe what that suffering should be.

We infer, then, that the mercy of God is a doctrine of pure revelation; that God can pardon the sinner, and how, and yet sustain the honor and stability of his government, is not made known to us in the Gospel. When mercy and truth have met together, righteousness and peace embraced each other.

When this scheme of salvation, as revealed in the Gospel is made known, it accords fully with man's reason, and meets all the demands of a wise and perfect government.

As a governmental expedient, it vindicates the law, and shows that sin cannot go unpardoned. In it all moral beings throughout God's universe will learn the severity of His justice, and render obedience to His will. And the operation of the system on subjects of pardon must necessarily tend to excite their gratitude and love, and thus strengthen and perfect their character.

Christ, the Divine Saviour, the God man, the equal with the Father, obeying the law, though Himself the Law-Giver, and in His human nature suffering all that the Father laid upon Him, even to the ignominious and painful death of the Cross, is indeed "the wisdom and the power of God unto salvation." The angels desire to look into this mystery. It wonderfully reveals, as never otherwise could have been revealed, God's mercy, truth, justice, and love. All these attributes shine forth gloriously from the Cross, "O, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God!" "Thanks be to God for His unspeakable gift!"

A. A.

WASHINGTON CITY, February 26, 1874.

Obituary on T. N. C. Liverpool, of Cincinnati.

DEAR SIR: The shining example of pure purpose and great character exhibited in the private and public life of the late T. N. C. Liverpool, of Cincinnati, whose death was announced through your correspondent, "Depugh," deserve formal notice, through your journal, as an incentive to those in whose interest it is published. He was quiet and sober in thought and speech, a man of great courage, direct effort, no hollow show; he possessed great force and decision of moral character; he was temperate in all his habits, and while just and uncompromising in his fidelity to trust, he was charitable, industrious, and punctual in all his business relations. In fact, he was a straight forward person of manly ways, for he never shirked an issue of public policy; though it brought him in the breach, he would assume the responsibility and stand forth a man among men, to abide the results, and to defend his position according to the dictates of his conscience. He believed in the religion of right, with a hope of immortality deeply anchored within the veil of its precepts. Messrs. Corbin, Easton, and some times the gentleman and scholar, Peter H. Clark, would furnish the heavy timber for the old *Colored Citizen*, but Liverpool stood by and directed where they would lay, virtually directing the policy of the paper, and hence one of the most efficient editors. He was a clear and forcible talker; not learned as a writer—that is, his periods were not well rounded; nor did he always use the professional or scientific words belonging to the subject of his articles; his sentences were short, and sometimes abrupt, using often popular and domestic terms in the expression of his thoughts; but he was probably one of the best understood writers for that paper. He was not hasty in advancing an idea—that is, he could stand still and listen at others in error, though in possession of all the facts himself. Every day for several years he sat near me in the same room, transposing, marking out, interlining, reading to the ear and taste of each other, and yet with what charity he would suggest the necessary corrections, accepting the same for himself, which was the best evidence of his strength. He was a young man comparatively, and yet he did his part for his race faithfully and well.

J. P. SAMPSON.

[Communicated.]

Lincoln University, Pa.

A Tribute to William R. Clay.

With the clock's slow tick
Comes the tidings of death;
O! death's cold hand loves
Those dearly loved by us;
Now he's gone from us
Where beauty's stream does flow
And pleasure's day no sunset knows.

WHEREAS, It has pleased God in his all-wise providence to call away one of our classmates; and, while in his death we submit to the hand of the Divine Redeemer, who rules all things for his own glory and the good of man, yet we do feel that we have lost a friend, even a brother. He became a member of our class in the autumn of 1871, and by his general appearance and sociality, he soon gained the affections not of his classmates only, but of the students at large. While in his healthful days he exhibited talents equal to the best of his class, and bade fair to make a light in the world, and to bear with us the responsibilities of life. But Christ has called him home. We have lost him, and the loss makes our burden heavier. We, with sorrowful hearts, remember his last visit to this place, and his last walks through these classic halls; for, as we walked and talked, he with high hopes, spoke of returning; we also hoped, for all things we knew to be possible with God, though our hearts did burn within us, for, perhaps we could see more than he. Now, he's gone! Yet, he's not dead, but sleepeth in Christ. Then we should not grieve, since he has only paid the debt, all sooner or later must pay: wherefore,

Resolved, That we, his classmates, deeply lament his loss, and that we perpetuate his memory by ever cherishing his dying sentiments, which were: "Tell my classmates to meet me in Heaven, for I love them, and the Lord will hear them if they pray."

Resolved, That we condole with the family and friends of the deceased for grieving is natural to man, but why it can not bring him back? Therefore, let us, as David, rise and eat, remembering he cannot come to us, but we can go to him.

Resolved, That we, his classmates, wear a badge of mourning, thirty days, in honor of him, our classmate and brother.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to the NEW NATIONAL ERA, to the *Christian Recorder*, to the *Oxford Press*, and to the family of the deceased.

Committee in behalf of the class:

S. A. WAUGH.
J. V. SHOBER.
D. L. DONNELL.

Speech of Hon. Alexander White, of Alabama, in the House of Representatives, May 6, 1874.

The House being in Committee of the Whole, and having under consideration the bill (H. R. No. 2986) to appropriate $3,000,000 in aid of the centennial celebration and international exhibition of 1876—

Mr. WHITE said:

Mr. CHAIRMAN: I rise on this occasion rather to express the deep interest which, as an American and as an Alabamian, I feel in the subject under consideration than to make any formal speech. As I was approaching the Capitol but a while since, passing along the streets, I heard the chiming of the bells, and as I got nearer I recognized that they were ringing "Hail Columbia." By an easy transition my thoughts swept over our country, and the reflection pressed upon my mind that over our vast territorial domain, in every city, in every town, and in every hamlet, there was or might be ringing forth the tones of the church-going bell, calling upon the people to exercise the highest privilege which any government can bestow, that of worshipping God each according to the dictates of his own conscience; and I feel that every American might well join in sympathy with the ringing of the chimes, and exultingly exclaim, "Hail Columbia, happy land."

And, sir, to whom do we owe this unprecedented, this exalted condition? To what is it traceable? To the event which we propose to commemorate and the men who proclaimed the Declaration of American Independence.

Looking at this subject from this point alone, I confess I have no hestancy as to what my action shall be, and as to what I think ought to be the action of the American Congress, nor as to what action will alone secure the approbation of a great and magnanimous people.

Why, sir, we are told we should not pass this bill providing for the celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the nation's birthday, as though it was some ordinary event. I put it to gentlemen, when was it in the history of the world any nation ever proposed to celebrate its one hundredth birthday? Look back along the pages of history and tell me where in its remotest search we can find any nation which had grown to consideration in wealth and power such as prompted it at the end of one hundred years to celebrate its centennial as a national jubilee. We propose to celebrate that anniversary of the United States of America as a day notable in our own life as a nation and an epoch in the history of man, by calling together of the people from the thirty-seven States and the Territories of the Union, and by the convocation of all nations, for a common exhition in all the useful arts of the inventions and improvements of a civilization unequaled in developed industries in the annals of the world.

Rome was one hundred and fifty years old when she entered upon her wars with the Samnites, the first manifestation of that spirit of aggression upon her neighbors which led her in the course of ages to be the conqueror and the mistress of the world. The Grecian States had passed through thirteen centuries of obscurity before they inaugurated the expedition in which Agamemnon, "king of men," led forth the Grecian heroes to avenge the wrongs of Menelaus. This event, the celebration of which is contemplated by the bill under consideration, is unexampled in the history of the world, and one which might well be the subject for the profoundest and, as I conceive, the most grateful reflection on the part of the entire American people.

But, Mr. chairman, what is the character of the objections we hear made to this bill and this celebration? I could not but be impressed with it. I hear gentlemen here haggling over the dollars and cents which it will cost. Not a hundred years ago the men met in Independence Hall, in the city of Philadelphia, who bore within their true hearts and in their exalted spirits the fate of this nation and the destinies of the world. Did they talk about their not being able to pay? Did they derisively ask where the money was to come from to sustain their noble efforts for the deliverance of the American people from tyranny and oppression? Did they not know that they were incurring expense? Did any man in that assembly attempt to interpose a question like that which was put yesterday by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. E. R. Hoar] to the gentleman from New York, [Mr. Tremain,] "Where is the money to come from?" Did any man in that assembly talk about gold, as we heard to-day from the gentleman from New Jersey, [Mr. Phelps?] When I heard his remarks about the mode in which he thought the centennial would most honorably and successfully culminate, I was strongly reminded of another occasion in the history of this country, one familiar to you all. It was on the occasion of the delivery of the celebrated speech of Patrick Henry, when he described the exultant scenes which followed the successful termination of our protracted and often doubtful war of the Revolution, when he pictured a free people rejoicing over a country disenthralled and made independent, and when, in the midst of the firing of guns and the ringing of bells and the shouts of the rejoicing multitude, there was heard the hoarse voice of an army contractor crying out "Beef!" "Beef!" "Beef!" Sir, I say to the gentleman from New Jersey [Mr. Phelps] his cry to-day is the same cry. He comes here, and in the midst of the preparation for the great event of the anniversary of the independence of this country he cries out "Gold!" "Gold!" "Gold!" That, to his mind, is the one thing needful, which is to postpone all else, to constrain and prevent the American people from celebrating as a nation the anniversary of this the most significant event in its history, and one of the most important in the calendar of time.

I admire the earnestness and the ability with which the gentleman presses his financial scheme; but I submit that there are other things that are good and worthy the consideration of an American Congress, besides a "resumption of specie payments."

Now, sir, to recur for one moment to the scene to which I have called attention, and to those who were the actors in that grandest drama of human action. What would Hancock think of the question propounded yesterday by the distinguished gentleman from Massachusetts? What would Gerry and Jefferson and Carroll and Sherman and Franklin, and all that illustrious assembly that was gathered there—what would they think, could they know that we were questioning and canvassing whether the would celebrate the centennial of the day consecrated by them to liberty; whether the American people, the recipients of its inestimable blessings, shall celebrate it or decline to celebrate it, because it may involve the expenditure by the nation of a few million dollars?

The gentleman from the Chicago district [Mr. Ward] says that he and his constituents cannot bear this expenditure; and he made a remark which I think was scarcely consistent with his usual fairness, that he has observed that those constituencies which pay the least into the Treasury of the United States are the most fervid or the most eager in behalf of the passage of this bill. He proclaims rather vauntingly that Chicago pays a large proportion of the taxes of this Government. Now, how is it that Chicago pays that large proportion of the taxes? Under what auspices has she reached the point that she is able to do so? Fifty years ago Chicago could only boast of a few log huts; and if she will just exchange conditions as to wealth with us down in Alabama we will cheerfully pay her proportion of the taxation toward the celebration of this anniversary, and will throw in a few millions or so beside.

I wish now, Mr. chairman, to say something on this subject as a Southern man and an Alabamian. I will leave this discussion of dollars and cents to those who have preceded and to those who are to follow me in this debate. I will merely say further in regard to this, that when a nation, no matter what intellect may guide or genius preside over it, no matter what may be its success in the attainment of riches and dominion—when it forgets its honor, when it rejects those noble sentiments which alone inspire men and communities to great deeds, no matter how prosperous it may seem to be, there is within it rottenness, and it is on the road to decline and decay and death. The lessons of history everywhere recognize the fact that it is only in the heroic ages, or under the influence of sentiments which spring from heroic ages, that nations have ever accomplished great things in the world.

But we at the South are peculiarly interested in this subject in a utilitarian point of view. Gentlemen, we do not know our own country. Any one who will mingle with the members on this floor will be struck with the fact of how little we know of each other in distant and remote sections of the United States. Members here from the Northwest and the North and from the far West, though they may have traveled through the South and are familiar with her general topographical outlines, and to some extent with her people and public men, yet know little comparatively of the South.

Let me tell you, gentlemen, what Englishmen say in regard to my own State; for they have been looking into the coal and iron resources of the South. There are in Alabama, says the London *Advertiser*, twenty-eight thousand million tons of coal; enough to supply the whole world for the next two thousand years. And, says a very intelligent writer, and I know to a very great extent of my own personal knowledge that his statement is true, there are iron ore and limestone in juxtaposition to it to work up all this coal in making iron. We have in Alabama a vein of iron ore which, commencing in the State of New York—being there about fifteen inches in width—is to be traced all along until you reach Tennessee, where it develops largely; then into Georgia; and in Alabama it spreads out until a man can ride a hundred miles over a bed of iron ore fifteen feet in thickness and forty feet in width, and his horse's hoof will never be off the iron ore. And we have within a few miles of it parallel lines of coal continuous and inexhaustible. We want the world and we want the people of the United States first to realize the fact that pig-iron can be made in Alabama at fifteen dollars a ton. I know this to be the truth, for I have it from iron-men who make iron there, and who inform me that in New York it brings a higher price (pig-iron I mean) than Pennsylvania iron.

We have there also a greater number of fine marbles than decorates this magnificent building. We have mountains of these. We have building stone that is not surpassed in the world. And I think if we could get you once to go to Alabama, if you could look upon our broad forests of pine as, in beautiful green, their lofty tops wave like the waters of the sea under the impulse of the gentle wind; if you could see our noble rivers, our mountains, and our valleys, which an English nobleman who traveled through Alabama since the war pronounced equal to Switzerland in their scenery; if we could have you go there and look at that land, remembering that over it all is our glorious climate never exhausting with heat or freezing with cold, where a man can work out of doors all the year round without inconvenience, I think you would listen to our cry, you men of the Northwest, to come to Alabama, to come with your capital and skilled labor, to enrich it and become rich yourselves—to that land where the wandering Indian tribes who had traversed more than one-half of this continent in search of a home, when they reached it and looked abroad on its beauties and loveliness, declared "Alabama,—here let us rest." We have a State where may dwell comfortably and well, ay, prosperously and rich, ten millions people, and we have only one million.

These, Mr. Chairman, are some of the reasons that influence my mind in a utilitarian point of view to favor this bill. Its purpose is a national one. I would not be willing to concede to the old Keystone State nor to the city of Brotherly Love the honor of alone commemorating this great event. All honor to the State of Pennsylvania and the city of Philadelphia for their generous contributions to this great object. They have proven themselves worthy of their illustrious founder and of Independence Hall.

But this work belongs to the nation, and the nation should do it. It is a nation's heritage, and a nation's obligation is upon us that we should do justice to the memory of the men of that day, to that glorious era, and to the still more glorious principles eternal in their influence upon the future of mankind, "that all men are born free and equal that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these, are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. These principles, sir, had never before been flung from mortal lips to the winds. Their announcement marked an era in the cycles of humanity.

But Mr. Chairman, I am detaining the committee longer than I had intended. Sir, I sympathize with the spirit of those noble men in Independence Hall on the 4th of July, 1776, who felt that life and liberty to themselves and to the American people were involved in the issue, and feel that on this subject the action of Congress should be in consonance with and responsive to the heroism which proclaimed that "sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish, we pledge our lives, our fortunes"—not $1,000,000 or 2,000,000, not this much, but all—"our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor to this cause."

Upon the moral and patriotic influenfies of a celebration such as is contemplated by this bill I will not enlarge: but I think, sir, that he who has studied the history of man and the history of republics, and who looks around upon our country and its condition, may well have couse to reflect whether it is not good for us that we should gather again in old Independence Hall and around the altar there, and amid its consecrated associations renew again that patriotism which glowed in the hearts of the signers of Declaration of Independence, that love of liberty which enthused the entire people and led our revolutionary fathers to final victory and independence, and to which we can directly trace all we are, all that we have been, and all that we hope to be as a free and a great people.

Rebellion Against the Inevitable.

The May number of *Scribner's Monthly* contains an article on the "Co-Education of the White and Colored Races," which is one of the most unrepublican and unchristian productions that we have ever read. It shows that the slaveholding spirit has outlived the patriarchal institution. Wisely abstaining from much allusion to the precepts and example of Jesus, although the South prides herself upon her orthodoxy, and having very little to say of equal rights of all men, although its author probably votes the "Democratic" ticket, it assumes that the contempt of the whites for the blacks is so strong and irresistible that it is unwise to adopt a Civil Rights Bill. It threatens that, unless there is a due recognition of caste prejudices in public education at the South, the common-school system in fifteen States will be a failure, the mass of the white people preferring ignorance to co-education as the lot of their children.

We are told that "social laws are laws of nature, and hence invariable and inflexible, as well as divine:" and that even in Boston the co-education of the races is "barely tolerated," because of soical repugnance. But this wretched sophistry was exposed and rejected a long time ago. Once, indeed, the prejudice against color was stronger at the North than at the South, and it was responsible for many shameful acts of cruel injustice, including negro cars, negro schools and negro pews. But it has yielded to humane and Christian principles, until our colored citizens are in the full and unquestioned enjoyment of equal rights in public conveyances and the common schools. The once "invariable," "inflexible" and "divine law" of caste is now recognized as variable, flexible, if not infernal.

The animus of this article, which is said to have been written by one of the leading educators of Virginia, shows still more plainly the need of passing a Civil Rights Bill without delay. It is based upon the assumption that colored loyalists are to be made to know their places as a servile class, in spite of emancipation, bearing the brand of inferiority to their ex-masters at every place, excepting the ballot box, and enjoying the begrudged right of suffrage as the gift of their country, not of their State. So far as legislation can ensure it, this is the right time to establish fair and equal regulations of the public school system. The present is the critical moment for the decision of the question whether race-distinctions are to be fostered or obliterated in our republic.

If the government is firm now and true to the swarthy citizens who helped to save it, there may be a sharp struggle against the co-education, but it will probably be a short one. The mass of white people at the South cannot afford to persist in sacrificing the education of their children upon the altar of their unreasonable hatred toward their neighbors who were once owned, but are now free. The success of such institutions as the college at Berea, in Kentucky, proves that co-education is wise and practicable.

With such an avowed determination on the part of intelligent Southern men to maintain and prolong oppressive distinctions, Charles Sumner's anxiety about the fate of his Civil Rights Bill was clearly warranted. If the country fails to enact laws which shall teach the haughty and imperious caste prejudice that it is to yield and not to conquer, it will be extremely unjust and ungrateful, and the future will show that, although the body of slavery may be dead, its spirit is still alive and triumphant! Don't let the Civil Rights Bill fail.—*Christian Register.*

Mr. Douglass And The Freedman's Bank.

It was not without a feeling akin to regret that we notice a short time since that Mr. Frederick Douglass had been made President of the Freedman's Bank in Washington and had accepted the position. We, in common with thouands of others throughout the country, are desirous of seeing the grand and successful life of the great colored orator and philanthropist finished and rounded off without opprobrium or reproach, by even so much as suspicion of wrong. Hence, while we believe that the integrity of Mr. Douglass was proof against the inducements of any position in which he could be placed, it appeared possible that in this era of of defalcations, embezzlements, and investigations, he might, through the dishonesty of subordinates and the malice of enemies become involved in scandals that, by association at least, would tarnish his fame. This feeling may have been caused by the difficulties already encountered by the Freedman's Bank when Mr. Douglass took charge of it.

The bank is again in trouble, and the newspapers are busily engaged in discussing its affairs. Our readers understand, of course, that this institution is made the depository of the small earnings of the freedmen, and is one of the most important of the system of agencies provided by public spirited men for lifting the lately enslaved class out of the degradation and dependence imposed by their long bondage. Now it is charged that what is known as the "Washington Ring," a real or a mythical organization—the public hardly understands which, yet—has been using this Freedman's Bank to further its speculative interests, and that they have plunged the institution into bankruptcy. It cannot be denied that the bank is in trouble, and that it will require careful management to extricate it successfully, and render to the depositors their dues, but those interested have the assurance of Mr. Douglass, the President, that if they will only be patient, and if the outside world will let the friends of the institution alone, the depositors will be paid, *with interest*. The trouble is, however, that such reckless, sensational sheets as the New York *Sun* are constantly publishing reports of the institution which excite the fears of the simple-minded freedmen, and induce runs on the bank that would imperil any of like character.—*Rochester Express.*

IN MEMORIAM.

An angel awaited in silence and love,
And bore my beloved to mansions above;
And sad is my heart, I cease not to weep;
Ever his memory sacred I'll keep.

Shall I know thee in Heaven, beloved of my heart?
Shall I clasp thy dear hand never, never, to part?
Shall I know thy sweet voice as I knew it on earth?
From thy eyes will thy love for me beam forth?

Beyond art thou now waiting for me,
That we may climb the hills of mystery;
Oh! sad was the stroke that severed the tie
That left me below—took thee up on high.

Side by side we had toiled together;
Joys and sorrows had shared together,
Till our souls were united as one—
The strong one taken, the weak left to mourn.

But stronger and purer our love shall be,
When, together, we dwell in eternity;
Thou art happier with our children above,
Encircled in the arms of Infinite love.

But we miss thy presence wherever we go,
And ever we shall while we journey below;
I trace in my dreams as life's blissful day
Thoughts of my beloved as time rolls away.

We shall soon reach the end, the road is not long;
The day is far spent, time will soon be gone;
I am nearing the stream at eventide—
Shall soon meet my love on the other side.

Oh! we wait for the dawn of that morrow
Which shall free us from all earthly sorrow;
When we shall pass through the golden gate,
Where all our loved ones fondly wait.

To welcome us gladly with loving hands,
And dwell for aye in the "Fatherland;"
Where a ransomed *world* at last will dwell
With the Saviour who "doeth all things well."

MRS. L. M. GREENE,
Manassas, Va.