

THE STAR OF THE NORTH.

W. H. JACOBY, Publisher.

Truth and Right—God and our Country.

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The Bore in the Sanctum.

Again I hear that croaking step.

He's rapping at the door,

Too well I know the bidding sound

That utters in a bore,

I do not tremble when I meet

The stoutest of my foes,

But Heaven defend me from the friend

Who comes but never goes.

He drops into my easy chair,

And asks about the news;

He peers into my manuscript,

And gives his candid views;

He tells me where he likes the line,

And where he's forced to grieve,

He takes the strongest liberties,

But never takes his leave.

He reads my daily papers through

Before I've said a word,

He scans the lyrics (that I write),

And thinks it quite absurd;

He calmly smokes my last cigar,

And coolly asks for more;

He opens every thing he sees—

Except the eury door.

He talks about his fragile health,

And tells me of his pains,

He suffers from a score of ills,

Of which he never complains;

And how he struggled once with death

To keep the fiend at bay;

On theme like these away he goes—

But never goes away!

He tells me of the carping words

Some shallow critic wrote,

And every precious paragraph

Familiarly can quote.

He thinks the writer did me wrong,

He'd like to run him through!

He says a thousand pleasant things—

But never says "Adieu!"

Whenever he comes—that dreadful man—

Disgrace it as I may,

I know, that like an autumn rain,

He'll last throughout the day,

In vain I speak of urgent tasks,

In vain I scowl and pout;

A frown is no extinguisher—

It does not put him out!

I mean to take the knocker off,

Or cease upon the door,

Or hint to John that I have gone

To stay a month or more;

I do not tremble when I meet

The stoutest of my foes;

But Heaven defend me from the friend

Who never, never goes!

Whispering a Pious, A Case for School

Teachers—A Lancaster county paper re-

ports the following case: "Commonwealth

vs. David Miller. The defendant in this

case was a teacher of a public school in

Mont Joy, and was charged with commit-

ting an assault and battery on one of his pupils

named Sarah Royle, about ten years of age.

The testimony revealed the fact that the girl

Speech of the President to a Delegation of Colored Men.

The delegation of colored representatives

from different States of the country, now in

Washington to urge the interests of the

colored people before the government, had an

interview with the President this afternoon.

The delegation was as follows:

Fred. Douglass, of New York, George T.

Downing, representing the New England

States, Lewis H. Douglass, son of Fred.

Douglass, and Wm. E. Matthews, of Mary-

land, John Jones, of Illinois, John F. Cook,

of the District of Columbia, A. J. Reynolds,

of South Carolina, Joseph Oats, of Florida,

H. W. Ross, of Mississippi, Wm. Ripper, of

Pennsylvania, John M. Brown, and Alexan-

der Donlap, of Virginia, and Calvin Pepper

(white) of Virginia.

The President shook hands kindly with

each member of the delegation, Fred. Doug-

lass first advancing for that purpose. Geo.

T. Downing then addressed the President as

follows: We present ourselves to your ex-

cellency to make known with pleasure the

respect which we are glad to cherish for you

—a respect which is your due as our Chief

Magistrate. It is our desire for you to know

that we come feeling that we are friends,

meeting as friends. We should, however,

have manifested our friendship by not com-

ing to further tax your already much bur-

dened and valuable time. But we have

another object in calling. We are in a pas-

sage to equality before the law. God hath

made it by opening a red sea. We would

have your assistance through the same. We

come to you in the name of the United

States, and are delegated by some who have

unjustly worn iron manacles on their bod-

ies, by some whose minds have been tram-

meled by class legislation in States called

free.

The colored people of the States of Illi-

nois, Wisconsin, Alabama, Mississippi, Flor-

ida, South Carolina, North Carolina, Vir-
ginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, New

England States, and District of Columbia,
have specially delegated us to come. Our

coming is a marked circumstance nothing

determined here, that we are not satisfied

with an amendment prohibiting slavery, but

that we wish it enforced with appropriate

legislation. This is our desire. We ask for

it intelligently, with the knowledge and

conviction that the fathers of the revolu-

tion intended freedom for every American,

that they should be protected in their rights

as citizens and equal before the law.

Fred. Douglass advanced and addressed

the President, saying: Mr. President—We

are not here to enlighten you, sir, as to your

duties as the Chief Magistrate of the repub-

lic, but to show our respect, and to present

in brief the claims of our race to your favor-

able consideration. By the order of Divine

Providence you are placed in a position

where you have the power to save or de-

stroy us, to bless or blast us. I mean our

whole race. Your noble and humane pre-

decessor placed in our hands the power to

assist in saving the nation, and we do hope

that you, his able successor, will favorably

regard the placing in our hands of the bal-

lot, with which to save ourselves.

We shall submit no argument on that

point. The fact that we are the subjects of

government and subject to taxation—sub-

ject to volunteer in the service of your coun-

try—subject to being drafted, subject to bear

the burdens of the State, makes it not im-

proper that we should ask to share in the

privileges of this condition. I have no

speech to make on this occasion. I simply

submit these observations as a limited ex-

pression of the views and feelings of the

delegation with which I have come.

The following is substantially the response

of the President: In reply to some of your

inquiries, and in a common sense way. Yes,

I have said, and I repeat it here, that if the

colored man in the United States could find

no other Moses, or any Moses that would

be more able and efficient than myself, I

would be his Moses to lead him from bond-

age to freedom; that I would pass him from

a land where he had lived in slavery to a

land (if it were in our reach) of freedom.—

Yes, I would be willing to pass with him

through the Red-Sea the land of promise,

to the land of liberty; but I am not willing,

under other circumstances, to adopt a pol-

icy which will only result in the sacrifice of

his life and the shedding of his blood.

We talk about justice—we talk about

right. We say the white man has been in

the wrong in keeping the black man in sla-

very as long as he has. That is all true.—

Again we talk about the Declaration of In-

dependence, and equality before the law.—

You understand all that, and know how to

appreciate it. But now let us look each

other in the face. Let us go to the great

mass of colored men throughout the slave

States. Let us take the condition in which

they are at the present time (and it is bad

enough we all know) and suppose by some

magic you could say to every one, "You

shall vote to-morrow." How much would

that ameliorate their condition at this time?

Mr. Douglass—Mr. President: Do you

wish—

The President—I am not quite through

yet. Slavery has been abolished. A great

national guarantee has been given—one that

cannot be revoked. I was getting at the

relation that subsisted between the white man

and the colored man. A very small por-

tion of white persons, compared with the

whole number of such, owned the colored

people of the South. I might instance the

State of Tennessee in illustration. There

were twenty-seven non-slaveholders to one

slaveholder, and yet the slave power con-

trolled that State. Let us talk about the

matter as it is.

Although the colored man was in slavery

there, and owned as property in the sense

and in the language of that locality and of

that community yet in comparing his con-

dition and his position there with the non-

slaveholders, he usually estimated his im-

portance just in proportion to the number of

slaves that his master owned with the non-

slaveholder. Have you never lived upon a

plantation?

Mr. Douglass—I have, your Excellency.

The President—When you could look over

and see a man, who had a large family,

struggling hard upon a poor piece of land,

you thought a great deal less of him than

you did of your own master.

Mr. Douglass—Not I.

The President—Well, I know such was

the case with a large majority of you in

those sections. Where such is the case, we

know there is an enemy, we know there is

a hate. The poor white man, on the other

hand, was opposed to the slave and his

master, for the colored man and his mas-

ter combined kept him in slavery by depriving

him of a fair participation in the labor and

production of the rich lands of the country.

Don't you know that a colored man in going

to hunt a master (as they call it) for the

next year, preferred hiring to a man who

owned slaves rather than one who did not

I know the fact, at all events.

Mr. Douglass—Because they treated him

better.

The President—They did not consider it

quite as respectable to hire to a man who

did not own negroes as to hire to one who

did.

Mr. Douglass—Because he wouldn't be

treated as well.

The President—Then that is another

argument in favor of what I am going to

say. It shows that the colored man appreci-

ated the slave owner more highly than he did

the man who didn't own slaves. Hence the

enmity between the colored man and the

non-slaveholders. The white man was per-

mitted to vote before government was de-

rired from him. He is part and parcel of

the political machinery, not by rebellion or

revolution.

And when you come back to the subjects

of this war you find that the abolition of

slavery was not one of the objects. Con-

gress, and the President himself, declared

that it was waged on our part in order to

suppress the rebellion. The abolition of

slavery has come as an incident to the

suppression of a great rebellion—as an inci-

dent and as an incident we should give it

the proper direction. The colored man went

into this rebellion a slave. By the operation

of the rebellion he came out a freeman.

equal to freemen in other portions of the

country. Then there is a great deal done

for him on this point. The non-slaveholder

who was forced into the rebellion, and was

as loyal as those that lived beyond the lim-

its of the State, was carried into it, and his

property, in a number of instances the lives

of such were sacrificed, and he who has

survived has come out of it with nothing

gained, but a great deal lost.

Now, upon a principle of justice, should

they be placed in a condition different from

what they were before. On the one hand

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