The Christian Advocate.

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CHARLESTON S.C., September 26, 1868.

FOR PRESIDENT:

ULYSSES S. GRANT,

OF ILLINOIS

FOR VICE PRESIDENT:

SCHUYLER COLFAX,

OF INDIANA.

ONLY FIFTY CENTS.

We wish at this time greatly to extend the circulation of THE ADVOCATE. To place it within the reach of all, we will send the paper from now until the first of next January for the small sum of Fifty Cents. Those who take it until January will have an opportunity of knowing what the paper is, and can decide for themselves in regard to its usefulness for the coming year. From the present up to the time of the Presidential election, will be a very important period in the history of our country. All will be anxious to know in regard to the politics, prospects, and results. This will be an important period in this section for such a paper in advancing the interests of the cause of Christ. We are anxious to secure a large list of subscribers within the bounds of this conference. Which one of our preachers will give us the largest list? Let each preacher take this matter before his congregation, and see what can be done to introduce the paper without delay. Let no one fail to try the experiment and write for the result. Do not leave it for a more convenient season.

DEMORALIZED COUNTRIES.

Almost all important revolutions have been preceded in this section, the ancient people are evidently in a state of intellectual and moral debasement, which should evoke the sympathy and call forth the earnest efforts of the friends of human progress. A state of slavery like that which was formerly cherished here, was an unnatural state of society, which has left a baneful influence upon all classes. The barbarism of slavery has proved a painful reality, as the consequences of all classes of society abundantly prove. But for this the recent horrors of the Bloody Bill war would never have been inaugurated and perpetuated with the outrages upon humanity that were a marked feature in this struggle, and will not soon be forgotten. Those who suppose that in slavery only the slaves (as the editors greatly mistake in regard to the nature of this institution) were injured, are very much mistaken. To a great extent the system gave an broaded license to the lowest passions of the master, and cherished the evil passions which were poisonous to the intellectual and moral improvement of the community. While it thus had a withering influence upon the real interests of the whites, it was still more destructive to the welfare of its immediate victims.

In a recent number of the *News*, we are treated to an article on the tendency of the African to drift back again into barbarism. The editor admits that in Charleston, and where schools have been established, this tendency has been partially counteracted. In referring to those in the country, the editor says:

"Where once there was industry and productiveness, idleness and vacation drags prevail to a greater extent than anywhere else in the civilized world; and the Christianity of the negroes, we confess, of a very high order, is in too many cases adulterated with superstitious and heathen superstition. The enterprising farmer who has lately explored that once beautiful belt of swamp lands which skirts the coast of South Carolina, in search of game—for the region has now little else to attract—will tell you that in those localities which the negroes exclusively inhabit, they prove stealthily at you from the underbrush, and scamper away on your approach like so many wild animals. He will tell you that great numbers of them scarcely live in cabin houses, and have come back to the worship of the Fetish and the Obi, with as blind a zeal as if they had never heard of the Gospel of Truth. This inherent tendency to barbarism, these indications of natural depravity, can be overcome, under present circumstances, only by the persistent devotion and unwearying labors of the missionary."

The writer thinks that this barbarous state is owing to Emancipation. These groans over the debased condition of the former slaves of our country, were never heard until since the act of freedom. The *News* says:

"Under the institution of slavery, the all-pervading control of the white man trained a race of savages to become a docile and civilized people. That control has been withdrawn but for three years, and what do we behold?

We evidently behold the fact, always too obvious, that slavery forms no permanent basis of civilization. It only bends its victims into certain imperfect forms of civilization, by the pressure of brute force, from which they must relapse, as soon as it is removed, into their primitive condition. Slavery never proposed or designed the intellectual or moral elevation of its victims. It made it a crime for the slave to learn to read. If the slave ever obtained any real culture, it was in spite of the system and by means which were the accidents rather than the object of it. It was the only labor of slavery to make the slave profitable to his owner. On the plantation the only thought for his culture was the lash—his only school was the daily and deep lesson of physical toil—a tool which added no new comfort to his home, but went solely to enrich the oppressor. The very method under which he labored unsettled and unfitted every element of that manhood. The slaves were civilized under the influence only so far as the force which was required to make him work upon the plantation under the eye and whip of an overseer or slave driver. Now, lash and driver are absent, and emancipation alone responsible for his want of the needful cultivation and strong hold upon the forms of civilized life?

The foreign advocates and patrons of slavery now appear to take peculiar satisfaction in constantly parading before the public the ignorance and brutal stupidity of the negro, and by this means [illegible] the two countries in its absolute control of its victims, leaves them in such a state of brutality and ignorance. If slavery had existed two centuries longer in this country, the slaves would have still been as ignorant and debased as now. They cannot be educated and improved in slavery. If this were really done, slavery would be annihilated by this very means. The only chance for his elevation to any permanent form of civilization is by his education in a state of freedom.

We presume there is too much truth in what the *News* is saying about the poor, unfortunate victims of slavery who have been recently emancipated. The children in our own country need the schoolhouses, the church, and the labors of the missionary. We pray our brethren of the North to come over and help us. We hope of our Missionary Society to place us more adequately in the field of foreign shores until we have done more for those at home who are perishing for the bread of life—those who have been robbed in slavery of the fruits of their daily labor, and kept in ignorance to serve the necessary purposes of those who trade in the souls and bodies of their fellow men. The unrequited toils of these poor slaves have largely contributed to the wealth and prosperity of the nation, and we owe it to them, and to ourselves, that we give them the means of becoming good citizens and intelligent Christians. Here is a large field for school teachers and faithful ministers of the Gospel, and Ethiopia is emphatically stretching out her hands towards us, asking for help.

REV. T. W. LEWIS.—We have the pleasure of frequently hearing, by private letters from this Brother. He is "on the wing," but evidently finds but little time to give an account for the *Advocate*. In his temporary absence from the state he has been attending the New England camp meetings, representing the interest of our work in the South, procuring subscriptions for the "Advocate," and preparing, with renewed strength and increased force, to return to his extensive field of labor in our State. He expects to be on his rounds, upon the Charleston Districts, by the last of October.

WOODENWARE.

The *Mercury* says:

"The town of Winchendon, Mass., claims to manufacture more woden ware than any other town in the world. Two of the largest firms turn out $600,000 and $200,000 worth per year respectively, and the smaller establishments of the place make up the aggregate annual product of the woodenware interest mount up to over $1,000,000. There is more material for all kinds of woodenware, oak, cypress, cedar, &c., available to Orangeburg, Branchville, Milway, and other villages near the Edisto river alone, than would supply staves, trees, buckets, hubs, spokes, &c., to all of South Carolina.

Are we always to send our money to Winchendon; or shall we try to get out of the old groove and keep people busy about Midway and Orangeburg? Won't some body put up a barrel mill at Branchville, and use some of the white oak from the adjacent swamp?"

South Carolina may expect to go to the North for all kinds of well-manufactured articles, as long as the *Mercury* and those of its clique at the Soth follow their old game of slander and driving from the State, as worthless carpet-baggers, all honest and industrious mechanics who would come fro the North with capital and means to employ laborers and convert the vast amount of raw material, now worthless, in the State into useful articles, that will be readily sold for cash, and give new impulse to the languishing finant interest of the State. We know many of these men at the North, who could gladly come South but for the vindictive and reckless hostility of Slavery politicians against the introduction of their occupations; but the common laborers and the quiet of their Northern homes where they are not likely to be cursed and shadowed by the lawless political politicians who have been debased and demoralized by the barbarism of slavery. They are now living where the colored man is respected and he receives for his thriving industry and economy, and where his children have the chance of becoming educated, and may share the social advantages of refined and intelligent society. No one there calls the mechanics "carpet-baggers" because