

# THE LEADER.

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Associated Agents: William Dart, Paul Poinsett, Samuel L. Bennett, of Charleston; Wm. B. Nash, Columbia; Dean Dudley, Boston, Mass.; Rev. A. Waddell, Savannah.

THE LEADER can be obtained at the stores of T. W. Cardozo, corner of Henrietta and Ellis Streets; and at Simons & Denny, Market Street, opposite Ason.

## The State Convention.

The colored people of the State have been holding a Convention in this city. Delegates have been present from all parts of the State. Resolutions of importance have been presented, and discussed with calmness and candor. It is the first Convention of the kind ever assembled here, and it would not be true to say that its business has been transacted with that parliamentary precision which characterizes deliberative assemblies; but the speeches which have been made by the members upon the different resolutions, have all been discreet, practical, and tempered with moderation. Representative men have been here, and sentiments have been uttered far in advance of anything emanating from a South Carolina Convention before. And the world will recognize the proceedings as the grandest exhibition of progressive ideas which the State has ever known.

The evening sessions have been crowded with spectators, and great enthusiasm prevailed. Zion Church seems likely to become so identified with the history of the reorganized State of South Carolina, as Faneuil Hall is with the history of Massachusetts. Eloquent and patriotic speeches have abounded. Wisdom and statesmanship prevailed. The prosperity and future perpetuity of the nation has been considered as identified with the interest of the people. The "negro code" of the Legislature has been repudiated, and equality before the law demanded.

A memorial to Congress has been prepared, which asks that full justice may be done them. A petition to the State Legislature, an Address to the People of the State, and a Declaration of Rights. These documents are worthy of the consideration of every lover of his country. They will command the respect of civilized people everywhere, and win the admiration of liberty loving Americans. They were passed by the Convention too late for insertion, but will appear next week.

## Henry Ward Beecher.

The man whose name heads this article has uttered many noble words for freedom, at a time when it required a brave man so to do. We have always admired his independence as we now regret his error. He preached a discourse some weeks since at Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N. Y., not exactly in harmony with some of his previous declarations. The Copperhead papers of the North praised him for it and the secession journals of the South intimated that he had seen the errors of his way and was sensible at last. Mr. Beecher saw no harm in being complimented by rebels and traitors, but his friends did and were grieved at it.

He recently made another speech at the Cooper Institute, New York, in which he said that "the Southern States are almost as ready to support the Federal Government as the Northern States." It seems impossible for Mr. Beecher not to have known better. In Charleston to-day the proportion of Secessionists is greater than when the Secession ordinance was first passed. And the proportion will continue to increase so long as men of Mr. Beecher's stamp continue to make overtures to rebels. Again, he says: "We must not ask the Southerners to give up their convictions simply because the fortunes of war have gone against them." Their convictions are that they had a right to secede, but we must not ask them to give up their convictions. We ask that Mr. Beecher and the Secessionists give up their convictions upon this subject, because the judgment of God has gone against them.

A missionary, laboring among the colored people here, upon reading the recent speech we have alluded to, gave as his opinion that it was time for Mr. Beecher to come forward for prayers, and there are thousands of his colored friends here who would pray heartily for him. "While the lamp of life holds out to burn, eat."

Good News.—The Christian churches of the North have been the best allies of the Government during the late slaveholders' rebellion, and they are now their best allies in a righteous reconstruction. We see by last week's New York "Christian Advocate" that the Missionary Society of the Methodist E. Church, at their annual session on the 6th instant, fully alive to the religious wants of this section of the country, have generously appropriated three hundred thousand dollars to be expended in the Southern States the ensuing year. Twenty thousand dollars is to be used to educate promising colored young men in the South for the ministry. This is a noble example of generous aid, which we believe other Christian denominations at the North will follow, thereby giving the best kind of evidence to the world that they have been sincere in their devotion to the cause of the oppressed.

THE CHILDREN.—By request of General Saxton, the parents and children of the freedmen of this city assembled at Zion Church on Thursday afternoon. The Church was well filled. General Saxton addressed the meeting upon the importance of education, and urged the parents to send their children to the public schools.

Mr. Ferguson, from England, made a short address, followed by Mr. Tomlinson. The children enlivened the occasion by singing several popular songs. Benediction by Robert Duncan.

DR. S. A. BOEHM, as will be seen by advertisement, has commenced the practice of medicine in this city. It is unnecessary to say more than in addition to the fact that he has served as surgeon in the army, he is also a regular graduate of the Maine Medical College.

# STATE CONVENTION.

Colored People in Council.

ZION CHURCH ROCKED AS THE CRADLE OF THE FREE.

## Reconstruction Begun.

LIBERTY AND UNION, NOW FOREVER.

(REPRODUCED FOR THE LEADER.)

MONDAY.

A State Convention of the colored people of South Carolina assembled at Zion Church, in this city, at ten o'clock on Monday, the 20th instant. The attendance of delegates was fair, a large number of the districts being fully represented. The object of the Convention is to take into consideration the various questions looking to the elevation and improvement of the condition of the freedmen, in a civil and educational point of view.

The Convention was temporarily organized by calling Mr. Thomas M. Holmes to the chair, and appointing Mr. John C. Desverney Secretary.

On motion of Mr. R. C. D. Large, a committee on credentials was appointed, consisting of Messrs. R. C. D. Large, W. B. Nash, Peter L. Miller, A. G. Baxter, and Paul Poinsett. The committee immediately presented their report, which was adopted.

It was moved by Mr. A. J. Ransier and carried, that a committee of five be appointed to arrange a permanent organization. The following delegates were appointed to compose that committee: Messrs. Ransier, White, Rainey, Wright and Rue.

It was moved by Mr. D. Large that the front seats on the right and left of the President be appropriated to the visiting clergymen—Carried. On motion of the same, Capt. C. S. B. Wall, of the U. S. Army, was invited to a seat upon the floor.

The report of the committee on the permanent organization was received and adopted. It was then moved that a committee of five be appointed to conduct the election of permanent officers for the Convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed to compose that committee, viz: Messrs. DeLarge, Desverney, Poinsett, Miller and Ransier. The committee proceeded to the discharge of their duty, and the election resulted as follows: For President, Thos. M. Holmes; Vice President, Jacob Mills, J. J. Wright, W. M. Simons; for Secretaries, J. C. Desverney, A. J. Ransier and E. B. Rainey.

A Committee of Finance was appointed, consisting of Messrs. Poinsett, Bonum and Dart. It was moved and carried, that Mr. Major Delaney of the U. S. Army, be invited to a seat on the floor, which courtesy he acknowledged in a few, pointed, and appropriate remarks.

On motion, the following members were appointed a committee on rules, viz: Messrs. Nash, Champlin, Brodie, Edwards and J. J. Wright.

On motion a committee on general business of the Convention was appointed, consisting of Messrs. DeLarge, Wright, Chisnut, Nash, Baxter, McPherson and Davis.

J. Price and J. Freeman were elected door keepers; and John Brown, sergeant-at-arms.

On motion, the Convention adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow (Tuesday) morning.

TUESDAY.

The Convention met, according to adjournment called to order by the President, and opened with prayer by the Rev. E. J. Adams. The minutes of yesterday were read and confirmed.

On motion of Mr. DeLarge, Judge Charles Cowley, of Lowell, Mass., was invited to a seat upon the floor, which courtesy he acknowledged in a few brief, but well-timed, remarks. He spoke of the Convention held in St. Luke's Church on the 7th of June last, and of the resolutions then passed, and the provisional State Committee then appointed. He also gave an account of his interview with President Johnson, on his return to the North, last June. The President assured him that neither General Gilmore, General Hatch, nor General Gurney had any authority to restrain the people from holding political conventions, provided that they were the cause of no disturbance among the people, and that all restrictions on political meetings should be at once removed.

He was gratified to meet this Convention of the colored people of South Carolina, and hoped that similar Conventions would be held from time to time till the colored men had secured all their rights, civil and political, which were enjoyed by white men. He hoped that the proceedings would be characterized by such sobriety, good sense, and moderation as would secure for the colored men the respect and admiration of the white people of the South, as well as of the North. He urged the importance of conciliating the good will of the dominant race, and of avoiding everything calculated to stir up unkind feelings between the two races.

Mr. J. J. Wright of Beaufort reported the following rules for the government of the Convention.

There shall be two regular sessions daily. The morning session will commence at 9 o'clock, and adjourn at 3 o'clock, P. M. One-third of the enrolled members present shall constitute a business quorum. No member shall leave the Convention during the sittings without permission from the President; and no member shall be recognized, or motion received before the Convention, unless the speaker or mover is, at the time, within the bar of the Convention. No member shall be allowed to speak more than twice upon the same question, unless by special consent of the Convention, and not longer than ten minutes the first, and five minutes the second time. Matthias' Manual of McEllegat's Rules shall govern the proceedings of the Convention in all cases for which provisions are not herein stated.

On motion of Mr. Ransier, the reporters of the press were allowed seats on the floor of the house.

The following report of the Business Committee was read by the Chairman.

Whereas "knowledge is power, and an educated and intelligent people can neither be held in, nor reduced to, bondage, therefore:

Resolved: That we will insist upon the establishment of good schools for the thorough education of our children throughout the State; and that to this end we will contribute liberally of our means, and will earnestly and persistently forward every means calculated to elevate us to the rank and position of an enlightened and Christian people.

Resolved: That we solemnly urge the parents and guardians of the young and rising generation, by the aid and recollection of our former ignorance and degradation in the past, and by the bright and inspiring hopes in the future, to see that every child of proper age is kept in regular attendance at the same.

Resolved: That we appreciate with hearty overflowing with gratitude the noble and self-sacrificing spirit manifested by the various philanthropic and Christian associations of the North in providing teachers and establishing schools among us, and that we can only best testify such gratitude by heartily co-operating with them in their great work of love and humanity.

Mr. DeLarge moved that the consideration of these resolutions be postponed until 12 o'clock to-morrow, which was ordered.

Mr. Baxter moved that all resolutions brought before the house should be read twice before the final vote on their passage was taken. Upon the adoption, quite a spirited debate sprang up, which was participated in by Messrs. R. C. DeLarge, of Charleston, J. J. Wright, of Beaufort, J. A. Chesnut, of Camden, and Mr. Ransier, of Charleston.

Mr. DeLarge again, on the part of the Business Committee, presented a second set of resolutions on education, which received two readings, and, after some debate on motion, they were adopted.

Major Delaney, of the U. S. Army, was invited to address the Convention, whereupon, after some conversational explanation between the distinguished visitor and Mr. DeLarge, on the part of the Charleston delegation, he proceeded to deliver an eloquent and telling address, which was listened to with wrapt and riveted attention. He enforced the subject of education with great force and power; and advised the colored people to be active, but firm and conciliatory, and manifest destiny would solve the problem. He was frequently and loudly applauded, and closed amid a storm of cheers which brought down the house. He is the Patrick Henry of his race in this, the second revolution for the rights of the colored man.

Capt. Wall, U. S. Army, was also called out, and responded in a lively, spirited, and practical speech. He counseled calmness, firmness, and moderation. Do nothing rash. Track the line of duty. Work for the elevation of your race, but do it within legitimate bounds. Acquit yourselves like men who desire to be free. Do your duty to yourselves, your God, and your country, and all will be right in the end.

On motion, Major Delaney and Captain Wall were elected honorary members of the Convention.

Mr. DeLarge, from the Committee on Credentials, reported the arrival of delegates from Edisto and James Island. Their credentials were examined, and found correct, and their names entered on the rolls.

The Convention, on motion, then adjourned to meet again on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock.

## THE EVENING ENTERTAINMENT.

The regular session of the Convention, which according to the rules adopted, should have convened at 6 o'clock this evening, kindly gave place to a very pleasant and profitable social and intellectual entertainment. The affair was gotten up to assist in defraying the expenses of the Convention, and tickets of admission were sold at 25 cents. The spacious hall, including the galleries, were filled to overflowing at an early hour, and "all went merry as a school bell." The charms of music were not forgotten, and a skillful hand discoursed the moving melody of sweet sound, to which all hearts awarded the tribute of a willing response.

The exercises of the evening were begun by calling on the platform, Judge Cowley, of Lowell, Mass. He is a lawyer of considerable repute, and was Judge Advocate on Commodore Dahlgren's staff. He made a pleasing, plain and practical speech, which was fully appreciated and heartily endorsed by the audience. It was plain to perceive that in his devotion to the law, he had not neglected the passing events of the political world for the last decade.

After a stirring interlude from the band, Major Delaney was introduced to the audience. He made one of his happiest efforts, and that is saying a good deal, when they are all happy. He completely charmed and carried away the crowded and eager auditory in one of his powerful and passionate appeals. We will venture even an attempt at a sketch of the Major's speech. We could not do him justice—Only they who heard and felt it can properly appreciate it. He dwelt on discipline and obedience to the laws, and showed what had been accomplished by it both in the Crimean War and in the late revolution.

Rev. E. J. Adams was then announced, and made an admirable speech in his way. He is a pleasant speaker, and wins upon the attention of his audience as he progresses. His reasoning is sound and logical, and he is not disposed to undervalue the lighter graces of popular oratory. He has a cultivated mind, which he has improved by travel and observation. He has mingled with the native African upon his native soil and thinks he is not in all cases the untutored savage that some people take him for. He never rises to speak until he has something to say, and the moment he is done he takes his seat. This is a secret of oratory which should be better understood and appreciated among the great body of our public speakers.

Judge Moore was then introduced, and spoke of the delicate position in which he was placed as a South Carolinian, as a speaker before a convention of colored citizens. He had no hand in freeing the slaves, but since a convention of his own fellow-citizens had passed an ordinance of emancipation, and declared the slaves free, he saw no inconsistency in his addressing them as freedmen. Slavery, according to the constituted law of the State, is now dead.

and beyond restoration. The purpose was surrendered, and the grades might as well be given up. There can be no middle ground between slavery and freedom. There is no political purgatory, no half-way house, where legal abolition is to be administered. The logic of events must be recognized and appreciated. The great battle has been fought and won, and it is sheer madness now to attempt to dodge the responsibility. The South fought gallantly, and commanded the admiration of even of our enemies and of the world. Fate decided against us. Slavery was the stake, and we lost it and it is now the part of patriots and Christians to lay down our arms, and accept, as quiet, peaceable and law-abiding citizens, the condition of things as they are. It is not our fault, but our misfortune. He that does the best his circumstances will admit, does well, such nobly; angels can do no more. Let us yield like men, and cease the bitter strife, even of words. We need not delude ourselves with the idea that this war is to be fought over again. Secession is dead. It did with slavery, and will never be revived. The experiment of the last four years ought to satisfy even the most stubborn and obstinate. The Government is stronger to-day than it ever was. It has proved its ability to maintain, intact, its integrity in the face of one of the most gigantic and obstinate revolutions the world ever saw. The Republic is now a fixed fact; a permanent institution, a house built upon a rock, against which the storms of faction and sectionalism may beat in vain. If we of the South will learn wisdom from the past, and are true to ourselves, a career of happiness and prosperity is before us, of which we now in the day of our gloom and despondency, may little dream.

W. B. Scott, Editor and proprietor of the "Colored Tennessean," pointed out a call for a speech, and gave his audience a touch of North Carolina oratory with a Tennessee cross. He was an orator, "a Bunker Hill," and should not attempt anything on the sky-rocket or spread eagle order. But in a strain of good, sound sense he gave his audience a plain, practical talk on the rise, progress, and present state of the cause and prospects of the freedmen of Tennessee. He expressed himself hopeful of the future, and thought that matters and things pertaining to the good of the colored race are being pressed forward to a sure if not a speedy accomplishment. He spoke in the highest terms of the efforts of Provisional Governor Browder and the Hon. Henry S. Foote, late of the rebel Congress, for their generous and praiseworthy efforts in behalf of the freedmen. He spoke of the assistance they had rendered in organizing and sustaining the "Colored Tennessean" newspaper.

WEDNESDAY.

The Convention was called to order by the Chair, and was opened with prayer by the Rev. Wm. Lyall. The roll was called, and the minutes of the previous day read and confirmed. The Committee on Credentials reported the arrival of delegates—through then Chairman, Mr. DeLarge—from Greenville and Johns Island. Their credentials were examined and found correct.

The special order, being a set of resolutions introduced by the Business Committee on yesterday, was then called for. After being read Mr. Robert C. D. Large made a motion to amend the same, by striking out the sentence—"heretofore cause us to make distinctions among ourselves." Mr. Ransier then moved to amend the amendment, by striking out "all," after the words "Be it Resolved," and ending with a reference to "the monster slavery." The amendment was then put and carried; which is as follows:

Resolved—That, as the old institution of slavery has passed away, we cherish in our hearts no malice or hatred towards those who have held our brethren as slaves; but that we extend the right hand of fellowship to all, and make it our special aim to establish unity, peace, and love among all men.

Resolved—That we encourage among the freedmen industry, economy, and education.

Mr. D. Large, on the part of the Business Committee, submitted a resolution complimentary to Gen. Rufus Saxton. The resolution received its second reading, and, on motion, was passed. The following is the resolution as passed on its second reading:

Resolved—That we, the delegates, in Convention assembled, presenting the colored people of South Carolina, return our gratitude and sincere thanks to Brevet Major-General Rufus Saxton for the impartial manner in which he has guarded and protected the freedmen of this department; manifesting in all his intercourse with us the spirit of the soldier, the patriot, and the Christian.

Mr. Paul Poinsett read a resolution providing a State Central Committee, which was referred to the Business Committee.

Mr. D. Large then reported resolutions, which were re-committed as amended, and, upon motion, they were unanimously adopted.

Mr. Myers, from Richland, next introduced and read a resolution setting forth our desire to live peaceably with all men.

Capt. O. S. B. Wall, by invitation, addressed the Convention at some length, which was, of course, well received.

The Committee reported resolutions relative to absent members.

The hour of adjournment having arrived, the Convention, on motion, took a recess until 6 o'clock, P. M. The Convention met at 6 o'clock. The Throne of Grace was addressed by Jas. T. Sarratt. The roll was called, and the minutes of the morning session were read and confirmed.

The unfinished business was next called up, being a resolution relative to the imposition of fines upon absent members, which was debated by Mr. Ransier, D. Large, Nash, Edwards, and Chesnut. After receiving its second reading, Mr. Ransier moved an amendment, which was put and lost.

The previous question being called up, the vote was then taken upon the resolution, as reported by the Committee, which was also lost. Mr. Ransier moved that any delegate whose seat may be found vacant five minutes after the roll call, upon his arrival in the hall must report to the President; and upon his failure to give a reasonable excuse, he shall be reprimanded by the Chair.

Mr. Ransier moved that three additional sergeants-at-arms be appointed, which was carried.

Messrs. Samuel Bing, Abraham Williams, and McAlpin were severally appointed under that resolution.

Mr. DeLarge, from the Business Committee, reported a resolution introduced by Mr. Poinsett, and, on motion of Mr. Ransier, it was made the special order for eight o'clock this evening.

The vote was subsequently re-considered, however, upon motion of Mr. Poinsett, at the suggestion of several gentlemen.

It was then made the special order for to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

The Committee on Credentials reported the arrival of delegates from Sumter, viz: Matt. Brooks, Grant Singleton, and Marcus Saunders. Their credentials were found correct and their names enrolled.

Upon motion, the Convention took a recess, in order to give place to the exercises of the evening entertainment.

## EVENING ENTERTAINMENT.

The regular business of the afternoon session was suspended, and the Convention resolved itself into a social, confidential mass meeting to hear the speakers which had been appointed to make addresses. The house was densely crowded, and the strictest order and decorum prevailed.

The first speaker which occupied the stand was the Rev. J. Gibbs. He made a telling, spirit-stirring speech, and was rapturously applauded. He took a moderate, common-sense view upon the present state of the country as bearing upon the prospects and interests of the freedmen. He advised educated thought, as knowledge is the power they now most need.

John Chesnut of Camden was the next speaker. He dwelt on the subject of labor, a topic of most vital interest just at this time. He handled his subject well, and thinks that the freedmen will work, and work well and willingly if the proper opportunities are afforded them. His speech abounded in good sense and sound logic.

Rev. H. H. Can was called out, and responded in a speech of direct point and concentrated thought. He has a military way of massing his arguments, and hurling them like an avalanche against the weaker portion of the lines of his opponent. He has a fine command of language, and seems to be at home in the higher domain of popular oratory. He uses words to express his ideas, and not to adorn them, and never sacrifices clearness to sound. The fruit predominates over the flowers, and those who hear him once will find the difference as compared to the intellectual impost. His subjects were Free Soil and the Labor Question, out of which he treated in an able and masterly manner.

A. J. Ransier, one of the Secretaries, was the next speaker. He confined himself mostly to the question, "What has God done, and what can he still do?" He gave some illustrious examples to show how Athens had done, and a direct from the past what could do in the future. He made some very good points, and was frequently applauded. Coming in this instance, he had wounded Abel, but he did not slay him.

In response to a call from the Chairman, R. C. D. Large, of the Charleston delegation, appeared upon the stand, and entertained the large and intelligent audience for fifteen minutes in a sprightly and lively strain, which indicated a quick perception and a fluent delivery. His oratory was the graceful, poetical and well timed, and he commanded the undivided attention of the house during his address. He chose for his subject, "Equality before the law," which he discussed with a force and a liberty which is not often attained by those who have not made public speaking the great subject of their lives. He was clear, pointed, and comprehensive, and exhibited a knowledge of the relations of political equality not often possessed outside of the legal profession. He did the subject justice and himself much credit, being frequently interrupted by the applause of the crowded auditory.

J. J. Wright, Attorney-at-law and a delegate from Beaufort, closed the high full exercises of the evening, in a speech which occupied a wide and comprehensive range of thought. He touched with a light and graceful hand a variety of topics, and, like the humming-bird, extracted nectarine sweets from every opening flower. He passed with airy step and elegant ease "from grave to gay, from lively to severe," and yet never got into swimming water, nor became lost in the "tangled wilderness of sweets," through which he was led by the line of thought. His analysis of the physique of the negro and his physiological, phenological, and corporeal peculiarities was both pleasing and instructive. It was true that the Ethiopian could not change his skin—the white man, in some instances, had changed it for him, and had given such a delicate touch to the lights and shades that it is hard to tell where Africa ends and Caucasus commences.

THURSDAY—MORNING.

The Convention was opened with prayer by Rev. J. C. Gibbs. Minutes of the evening of Wednesday were read, corrected and approved.

The first business, by assignment, was the resolution upon a State Central Committee. It was discussed by Messrs. Desverney, Wright of Beaufort, Poinsett, Gass, DeLarge and others. It was finally recommitted with instructions.

While this resolution was being considered, Major-General Saxton, and Captain Ketchum, of his staff, came in. On motion, they were invited to take seats with the Convention. Upon accepting the invitation, General Saxton remarked that he had not come to make a speech, but to pay his respects to the Convention. He was deeply sensible of the importance of the Convention, and sympathized with its object, which was the cause of union and liberty for all. The principles which you are advocating are embodied in the Declaration of Independence, "that all men are created equal." Every freedman is entitled to certain rights, which all men should recognize. Heartily sympathizing with you in your noble work, I hope the time will soon come when you can enjoy the rights of freedom.

Captain Ketchum said that the general sentiment of the colored people of the North was to have been adopted by the country at large. The by-laws of the North gave proof of this. It was happy to greet you in Convention, and believe that the time will come when all your rights will be established as a law.

The Committee reported several other resolutions. Several good speeches were made, but no important business transacted.

## EVENING ENTERTAINMENT.

After the regular battle of the day, the evening skirmish by the sharpshooters is looked forward to with peculiar interest. This prophetic display of the torpedoes of poetry and sky-rockets of oratory sped along their fiery track, and the whizz and buzz and frequent explosion made the "grand, gloomy, and awful" largely predominant. The speakers were greeted by the usual crowded and eager auditory. The hall and galleries were crowded to suffocation, which will suit fully two thousand persons.

The ball was opened by Mr. Edwin Combs, of Massachusetts. He read and criticized a leading editorial in one of the city papers on the subject of the honesty, industry, and general capabilities for self-government as exhibited by the freedmen under the new regime. Mr. Combs touched the article in question rather "foggy," abounding more in topographical and editorial blunder than in sound sense and logical conclusions. The speaker handled a fine article without groves, and proved the utter fallacy of the popular idea that Editors either do, or should know every thing.

Sergeant T. W. Long, of the 68th S. C. colored troops, was next called to the stand, and made a Davy Crockett, *ad va tandem* speech that had considerable point and power. He proposed to take the bell off Massachusetts and put it upon South Carolina. He was puffed so out of order that the things that are Caesar's, and he would not pluck a single feather from the glorious 54th Massachusetts Regiment. But the first South Carolina colored Regiment had precedence in point of organization. She was "first in the cross, and last at the grave"; and while the annals of this war shall be written up, it will be found that she has made her mark not only upon the bloody field of battle, but upon the illumined scroll of freedom.

Rev. B. F. Randolph responded to a call by the President in a speech abounding in eloquence and enforced by a serious earnestness which pressed the minds and commanded the attention of the house. He is a pleasing speaker, calm, deliberate, and took the position that though like the ladies, "we cannot read is almost lost." We regret our inability to give the prominent points of this excellent address.

Mr. Allen Coffin, the editor of the *Leader*, was then introduced, and, though laboring under the effects of a severe late indisposition, yet he was enabled to address the house in a pleasing and instructive strain for some fifteen minutes. He commenced with a reply to a suggestion that Long was had attempted to induce Massachusetts to dislodge her laurels with South Carolina. Mr. Coffin thought she was able to do this as she had done to spare her proud but feckly sister. It was said that the loved South Carolina less, but that he loved Massachusetts more.

He spoke of suffrage, and advocated the rights of the colored man to the elective franchise. He believed that "all men are created equal." He was equally interested in the right of suffrage with the colored man, because he had never exercised that right, although not denied him by the law, but because he considered the Constitution, which protected slavery, "a covenant with death and an agreement with hell," and he declared his intention never to vote until that seed of a freedman was alike granted to all.

Dr. M. G. Jamplin, of the Charleston Delegation, was the next speaker. He defended the freedmen again at the charge of idleness and improvidence, and insisted that they were doing admirably for the chances they had. The privileges and advantages hitherto accorded them had been, like angels' visits, few and far between. But with all these outside pressures, some of them had managed to pick up a few scraps of knowledge and a little money, and with that limited stock he hoped they would now make a new start under more favorable auspices. He thought the future was more bright and promising than some anticipated, and that after a while, when time had effaced some of the bitter memories of the late conflict, the white man and the black man would consent to be friends and neighbors, and live together in peace and harmony.

Mr. R. C. D. Large, of the Charleston Delegation, was the last speaker, and closed the exercises of the evening by a running commentary upon some things of a city journal at the election and position of the freedmen in general. He made out his case well, and showed that "not was but the golden stamp; the man's skin, or all that." The conflict of arms is past—that that can win for us is already won. But here is a question to be solved—a moral battle to be fought. The simple act of emancipation if it stops there is not worth much. We are not freedmen till we attain to all the rights and privileges of freeman. Without those, we still have to be governed by laws that we have no voice in making, and submit to taxation without representation. This is the very burden of the heroes of '76 fought through a score years war to rid themselves of, and this is what we are now contending for; and if we are true to ourselves and our country it will be awarded us.

(We have the proceedings of the Convention up to Friday night. The documents, minutes, &c., will appear next week.)

We would call the attention of the public to the fine stock of Groceries and Crockery at T. W. Cardozo's store, corner Henrietta and Elizabeth Streets. We sincerely hope that the colored portion of the community will patronize those of their own class in preference to others.

In the Tennessee Senate Mr. Trimble offered a resolution against the leaders of a rebellion, clothing with these significant words: "That for their emence and great crimes against their fellow-men and the United States they forfeited their lives, and deserts, and to suffer the extreme penalty of the law."