

AMERICAN FREEDMEN'S UNION COMMISSION.

Anniversary Meeting at the Academy of Music.

Speeches by Chief Justice Chase, Gen. Howard, Rev. Phillips Brooks, and Others.

At the Academy of Music, last evening, the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Freedmen's Union Commission held their first anniversary meeting.

Speech of Chief Justice Chase. Hon. S. P. Chase presided and delivered the following address:

My Friends: This is a meeting of the Pennsylvania Branch of the American Freedmen's Union Commission; but as president of the commission it is both my duty and my pleasure to take the chair.

Builders of Commonwealths are ever held in honor among men. Not less honor belongs to the restorers of Commonwealths, and the objects of abandoned colonies upon islands, I selected an officer of the army as an agent of the Treasury Department to proceed to the island and collect it.

The War Department, then under the charge of an honored citizen of this State (Simon Cameron), furnished that which was requested of them according to the understanding and terms of the plan.

One of the most interesting facts of this work is in the fact that the idea is realized in it. The people throughout the country have come here to-night as men and women interested in the great public work, and you act in co-operation with the Government.

When this distinguished Chief of the Freedmen's Bureau came forward, there was a perfect tumult of applause which lasted some time.

Education will be diffused through all the South and every man who has a hand in the labor of the South will be made twice the man that he was before.

Everything connected with this great question of restoration should be calmly considered, and I trust that the people will never consent to any arrangement which does not insure permanent peace, tranquility, union and prosperity of this land.

There are three things which the South needs to-day. First, education; second, political reconstruction; and third, a pure religion.

right kind—send us if you please, negroes—but don't send us Yankees. Why? Because they teach negroes to hate us; to sing offensive songs and to hate us; to sing offensive songs and to hate us.

The Government has done much in the institution of the Freedmen's Bureau. All respect for the people to send the proper sort of teachers. He has come in contact with Northern men of large means and large hearts, who only wanted to know the nature of this work to come up to its level.

He would say a few words in regard to the status of the freed people, and leave the place for those from abroad, and then gave some interesting statistics in regard to the education of our colored population.

There was a time when we could go to a camp of black men and be glad to do them honor. We should not have left the golden opportunity pass by without elevating them to the position which they are now occupying.

When this speaker was announced the applause was loud and long. He spoke at great length, and his address was not without sound argument, anecdote and wit.

When slavery was abolished, every body said that the negro was free. He is free, but he is a Democratic prophet. We have not had a war of races. It was said, too, that the negro would not work.

There is nothing that will give civil rights and save the country but the ballot. (Great applause.) The Freedmen's Bureau is in the South as in the North, but they only want a little enlightenment.

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