

THE ALIENED AMERICAN.

To furnish News: To favor Literature, Science and Art: To aid the development, Educational, Mechanical and Social, of Colored Americans: To defend the Rights of Humanity.

VOLUME I.

CLEVELAND, OHIO: SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1853.

NUMBER 1.

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THE OLD FARM GATE.

BY RICHARD COE.

I love it I love it and oft pass it by,
With a sigh my breast and a tear in my eye,
As backward I gaze on the days that are past,
Too sunny and joyous and happy to last;
Oh! my life was young and my spirit late,
In the time that I dwell by the old farm gate.

How oft I have mounted that old gate astride,
With a rope and a stick, for a frolicsome ride,
And when it would open with a slow gentle force,
Oh! how we did weep as we went on our course,
Who so merry as I, as I fearlessly said,
On the broad topmost rail of the old farm gate!

And by turns we would ride on a real live horse,
We called his name "Raven" so black was his gloss,
And our plump little pony, so frolic and wild,
When he carried a man, was never so mild,
If he knew my sweet sister, the pert little Kate,
Was to ride on his back from the old farm gate.

And Trowler, our little dog Trowler was there,
With his bark of delight sounding loud on the air;
And if we were happy as happy could be,
Little Trowler, I'm sure, was as happy as we;
Oh! how we did weep as we went on our course,
At the foot of the tree by the old farm gate.

Long before we grew up my kind father died,
And soon my dear mother was laid by his side;
Then Tommy, and next my sweet little sister,
Oh! how we did weep as we went on our course,
And Willie will have it he saw little Kate,
Pass homeward to God through the old farm gate!

I love it I love it and still pass it by,
With a sigh in my breast and a tear in my eye,
As backward I gaze on the days that are past,
And wonder if I may yet rest me at last,
With father and mother, and sweet little Kate,
In the churchyard back of the old farm gate.

Original Tale.

CHARLES AND CLARA HAYES.

BY MRS. LUCIE S. DAY.

The mansion of Mr. Hayes was pleasantly situated on one of the bluffs which form a part of the bank of the Mississippi. It was evening; at that mansion all the pride of that section was gathered; sounds of revelry and mirth echoed through the apartments, bright forms flitted by the open windows, and woman's low musical laugh told of happy hearts within.

Come away from this crowded scene, and let us stroll toward the bank of the river. But another is here before us—Clara the daughter of Mr. Hayes. But why is she not with the other daughter of his, the admired of all? Her features, you see, are as perfect, her eye as intelligent, her form as graceful, as that other sister's. We soon learn she is—a slave. That settles all the mystery.

Another form approaches her—a tall youth. He whispers, "Sister." She looked up with a smile, but soon an expression of anxiety passed over her face, as she saw a stain of blood upon his breast, and on his brow the traces of recent passion, while his eye yet flashed with fire.

"Charles, what is the matter?"
"Matter? Am we not slaves, mere cyphers, who dare not call our lives, our souls, our own? Nothing belongs to us but thought and feeling. I will yet escape and tell my wrongs to those who will hear and sympathize. Hush! do not tell me that is just—I never felt his justice. What I am, they have made me, and if I sink down, down to deep despair, I sink under the pressure of their tyranny. All that I have learned, all that raised me above the brute, I gained myself, being my own teacher. I knew they wished me not to read, yet to do what they wished was no pleasure: Do not think me wild; I have been tempted almost beyond what I could bear. A little while ago, as I sat on yonder rock, gazing upon the bright stars, I wondered if they were worlds, inhabited like ours, and if so, were slaves there. There came many bitter thoughts; I spoke aloud, when suddenly I received a blow in the face, followed by these words—'Slave, let that teach you what to think!' I arose from the ground, almost blind with rage, and there stood master Henry, grinning with pleasure. It was too much. I glanced at him—there at the steep bank, something within me whispered and I obeyed. With all the strength of madness and revenge, I seized and held him over the water. Another instant, and he would have been a mangled corpse on the dark shores of this river; but I looked down and saw the reflection of the stars on the water. They looked like your bright eyes. I thought of you and spared him. But I will not live in this cottage; we will collect a few shillings, and long ere the morning we will be far from here."

Five years, with all their untold trials, have been added to the lives of the family, who are the subjects of this memoir. It was the Spring of 1830. The winter in that section of country had been unusually severe, and though it was now April, the snow still covered the ground,

not go. Do not say I do not love you; who else have I to love? Our mother is dead—our father is worse than none—I have no one to love but you. I dare not render your escape doubtful by going with you."

The morn was near its dawning, and till Clara knelt in earnest prayer. Her uplifted face was covered with tears; her accents fell not unheard on the ear of Him who hath said by the mouth of his Apostles—"And if we know that He heard us, whatsoever we ask we know that we have the petition that we desired of Him." Clara seized hold upon that promise, and she felt that her entreaty for her brother's safety would be answered. From that long communion with God, and with comparative cheerfulness went about her daily task. When it was reported that Charles was to be found nowhere on the plantation, and the company of hunters went forth with blood-hounds, pistols and the other accompaniments which Slavery uses on such occasions, Clara's faith remained unshaken.

But let us look forward and watch the fate of that brother. All night has he been making his way through the thick forest—now parting, with already lacerated hands, the vines that clustered in his path; now crawling through the dense underwood—he made his way until the bright sun peeped through the overhanging leaves. Plunging farther still into the forest, he came to a brook, which he crossed and recrossed, then threw himself down to rest in the welcome shelter of a cane-brake. Here he lay still and unmolested until near noon, when he heard the bay of the leader of the hounds, who had separated from the others, and reached the stream. In he dashed—again he crossed, and came on through the rustling cane. Charles' heart beat wildly—he shuddered; it was only for a moment. Drawing his knife, he waited in silence the coming of his savage foe. The animal approached, and, for a moment, slunk beneath the acknowledged supremacy which flashes in the eye of man. Charles seized that moment, and catching him by the neck, buried the knife in his throat. He gave a low bay and all was over.

Charles had saved himself for a short time, but at a great risk, for when his pursuers discovered the dog, they would be certain that their victim was near. Just then, as he heard the bay of the dead hound's companions, there was a rustling near him in another direction, and a large animal of the wolf kind appeared, falling upon the dead dog to devour him. Charles, recrossing the brook as noiselessly as possible, pressed on until he was compelled to rest, from pure exhaustion.

He remained, until he was aware, from the quiet around, that his pursuers were gone. Thinking God in his heart for his preservation, he pursued his toilsome way until he found a place of rest on the free shores of Canada; British Monarchy being freer than American Republicanism.

Though among strangers, without money, and almost without clothing, he was comparatively happy. He knew that no one dared to lay hand upon him and say "you are mine." He found a friend good and true, in Mr. Stanhope, who, like himself, was a refugee from Slavery, and who, feeling for "those in bonds as bound with them," supplied him with the necessities of life, and procured him employment. Charles felt that what he earned was his own, and he went about his work with a will to accomplish it.

The light of Christianity at length dawned upon his mind: Clara's prayers were answered. Often did he wish to see that sister, but he knew that under present circumstances, it would be impossible. By industry and perseverance he gained a home; had land and a house of his own. This was a new and joyful era in his life. He had suffered enough to realize all that there is in life, of joy.

In the mean time, he had become attached to Mary, the daughter of Mr. Stanhope, his friend. It was true Charles had more knowledge of books than herself, for before he came from the South he could read and write, and since he had been free, had improved every opportunity. Mary's parents, being untalented themselves, did not pay that attention to her education which they should have done; but hers was the inward teaching of a meek and quiet spirit. She had that wisdom which "cometh from above," and when she gave her hand to Charles Hayes, she felt that there was duty involved in that as in everything else; consequently there was happiness in their relation to each other. One cloud alone darkened their horizon—a sister was in the far South. Charles had sent for her once; but the person sent was not able to obtain her, and it was reported she was sold.

Five years, with all their untold trials, have been added to the lives of the family, who are the subjects of this memoir. It was the Spring of 1830. The winter in that section of country had been unusually severe, and though it was now April, the snow still covered the ground,

and the wind blew piercingly through the naked branches of the trees. In the evening, around the clean hearth of his neat cottage, Mr. Hayes and his little family assembled for devotion. The father read a portion of the Scriptures, by the Prophet Isaiah, and the little children even, seemed to realize that it was the word of God. The last verse of the chapter he repeated—"And I will feed them that oppress thee with their own flesh; and they shall be drunken with their own blood, as with sweet wine: and all flesh shall know that I the Lord am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

The good man knelt in prayer. As he prayed, his face was suffused with joy, as, in the full confidence of faith, he asked for strength to accomplish every duty; but as he prayed for his brethren in the South, his voice faltered; and when he mentioned his sister, it failed him. His sympathies, tuned by the hand of Sorrow, overcame him. He began to doubt the promises of his God, as he had applied them to his sister, and to despair of ever again meeting her. This was that over-whelmed him. The family all wept with him. A few moments and he resumed his supplication. He settled down upon the promises; he believed and repeated the words—"I the Lord am thy Savior and thy Redeemer, the Mighty One of Jacob."

It was at a different hour of the same evening that a low knock was heard at the door, and as Mr. Hayes opened it, a familiar voice whispered—"Brother!"

Yes, that brother and sister were united. The man who don't take a paper was in town yesterday. He brought a whole family in a two horse wagon. He still believed that General Taylor was President and wanted to know if the "Kansaskians" had taken Cuba, and if so where they had taken it. He had sold his corn for twenty-five cents, the price being thirty-two, but upon going to deposit the money, they told him it was mostly counterfeit. The only hard money he had was some three cent pieces, and those some sharper had "run on him" for half cents. His old lady smoked a cob pipe, and would not believe any thing else could be used. One of the boys went to a blacksmith's shop to get measured for a pair of shoes, and another mistook the market house for a church. After hanging his hat on a meat hook, he promptly took a seat on a high-backed chair, and listened to an auctioneer, whom he thought to be the preacher. He left before "meetin was out" and had no great opinion of the sermon.

We approached the old gentleman and tried to get him to subscribe, but he could not listen to it. He was opposed to "infernal improvements" and he thought larin' was a "wicked invention, and cultivated nothing but vanity and vexation." None of his family ever learned to read, but one boy, and he taught school awhile and then went to study divinity.

A GENEROUS ACT.—In the course of an eloquent sermon, preached last Sabbath evening, upon the "Employers to the employed," Rev. Henry Ward Beecher related an act of generosity on the part of an Insurance Company of this city, which is well worthy of consideration. He said that a young man of his congregation, living in Brooklyn, occupied a situation in an Insurance Company's office in this city. A few months after entering upon his duties in this office he was taken sick, inasmuch that he was unable to attend to his business, and was compelled to be absent from the office. Now what course did the officers of said company pursue? Did they send him word that they had filled his place and would no longer require his services? No! they went themselves, daily, to visit him at his humble house in Brooklyn, relieved his wants, soothed his pains, spoke consolation to his mind, and continued his salary from the day he entered their office, until he died. And was this all? No! After all these kindly acts of charity, they voted \$100 to his desolate widow! ("Go thou and do likewise!"—N. Y. Tribune.)

THE TRUE GENTLEMAN.—He is a true gentleman who adds most manhood to his gentility; he depends, not upon his riches, nor the fineness of his cloth, but upon his intellect, his honesty and his truth. You may always recognize him. Though he may wear different aspects—as the painter, the poet, the sailor, the pill-vender, the lawyer—the man rises superior to all circumstances. You never think of the riches of a true man, but of the man himself. You never at his dinners and think but of the vintages you have tasted, for the man eclipses his gas-light. In his house, where McDonald sits is the head of the table, not where the roast beef and delectable is placed. He is always true to others and to himself; earnest in all his many purposes. Is he rich, he has no more or less dignity than were he poor. Kosuth—the poor editor in Buda Pesth, the hated of the government, the loved of the poor—was none the less of a gentleman than when he held us all enraptured with his eloquence, with this fine land for his forum and the stars of America for his sounding board.

The true gentleman treats all men as if they were his equals: his manners are for the poor as well as for the rich, and those manners well proportioned for all men.

One day the elder Adams was driving a southern gentleman through Quincy, in a gig. On the road he met a negro, who raised his hat and bowed to the gentleman. The President returned the salute much to the horror of his companion, who remarked that he never expected to see such an act.

"Why not," answered the President, "the man bowed and spoke first; would you have me exhibit less manners than a negro?" Thus it is always with the true gentleman; and the true lady is but a sweeter copy of the same thing; a diamond from the same mine, but a purer brighter gem, worthy of being borne upon the breast of the true man.—Theodore Parker.

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OFFICIAL.

Ohio State Convention of Colored Freemen.

COLUMBUS, Jan. 18, 1853.

Pursuant to call of the State Central Committee of the State of Ohio, the colored citizens of the State, met in convention in the 2nd Baptist Church. The convention was called to order by appointing SAMUEL COX of Lorain, President pro tem, and ALEX. FERGUSON, Secretary. On motion of H. F. Douglass.

Resolved, That each county be allowed nine delegates.

On motion, persons not delegated by their respective communities were admitted to membership. The following delegates were enrolled:

Belmont County—James S. T. Jones.
Champaign County—Wm. Waring.
Clark County—Wm. P. Morgan.
Columbiana County—James Davis.
Cuyahoga County—William H. Day, A. J. Gordon, John Brown, R. B. Leach, George Vosburgh, Thomas Carroll, Philip Williams.

Delaware County—William Hope.
Erie County—J. J. Pierce.
Fairfield County—Jeremiah Bowman.
Fayette County—S. G. Smothers.
Franklin County—C. H. Langston, John Booker, John Brown, D. Jenkins, L. D. Taylor, H. F. Douglass, John T. Ward, Edward Davis.

Greene County—Anthony Young, John R. Bowles, Wilson Evans, Dempsey Roberts.
Hamilton County—Alexander Ferguson, B. Bowser.
Licking County—Page.
Lorain County—E. Archer, W. Walden, Sterling Hathcock.
Lorain County—John Watson, S. Cox, J. Mercer Langston.

Miami County—James H. Yancey.
Morroe County—Isiah Martin.
Montgomery County—John Johnson, Thos. Jefferson.
Pickaway County—E. R. Randolph.
Ross County—J. F. Roberts, T. J. Jean, Wm. Norman.

Seneca County—Darius Roberts.
Stark County—Wm. T. Holliday.
Union County—A. J. Scott, Wm. Hill.
On motion, the following gentlemen were appointed a committee on nominations:

Jno. T. Ward, J. J. Pierce, Thos. Jefferson, R. B. Leach, J. Mercer Langston.
On motion, the convention adjourned to meet at half past 2 P. M.

Afternoon Session.
President Cox in the chair. Prayer by the Rev. Jeremiah Bowman of Fairfield.

After reading the minutes of the forenoon session, the committee on nominations reported the following:
For President, ANDREW JACKSON of Cuyahoga.
For Vice Presidents, J. J. Pierce of Erie, H. F. Douglass of Franklin, J. Mercer Langston of Lorain, Alexander Ferguson of Hamilton, Wm. Norman of Ross, Thos. Jefferson of Montgomery, D. Roberts of Seneca.

Secretaries, C. H. Langston of Franklin, John R. Bowles of Greene, Jas. H. Yancey of Miami, Rev. E. Davis of Franklin.
Chaplain, Rev. I. Martin of Morroe.
On motion of L. D. Taylor, it was Resolved, That there be a committee of nine appointed to report business for the consideration of the convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed: Business Committee, Wm. Day, John Johnson, John F. James, Alex. Ferguson, S. Cox, Anthony Young, James Davis, J. Mercer Langston, and L. D. Taylor.
Mr. L. D. Taylor presented the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That there be a committee of five members, to prepare rules to govern our deliberations.

The following gentlemen were appointed: D. Jenkins, John Watson, John Booker, R. B. Leach, James H. Yancey.
L. D. Taylor presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That as birth gives citizenship, we claim under the Constitution and Declaration of the United States, and the Constitution of this State, our rights as citizens; therefore, laws that deprive us of our rights, or that deprive us of our citizenship are unconstitutional, thereby null and void; and as we are taxed, we have and claim the right to vote.

The following resolution was offered by C. H. Langston:
Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to request the House of Representatives now in session in this city, to allow one of the members of the colored community to deliver a lecture before the House, in session, the claims of the colored people of Ohio.

These gentlemen were appointed said committee: C. H. Langston, D. Jenkins, J. T. Ward.

On motion, the convention took a recess until 7 o'clock in the evening.

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cause of civilization, religion and free institutions; and for the West: "The free blacks are a nuisance, scarcely to be reached in their debasement, by the heavenly light." We feel that to encourage such a society, however christian its professions, would be unchristian, or to countenance any bill in the State or National Legislature appropriating public money to forward that society's objects, would be not only unconstitutional, but self-degrading.

Resolved, That the Bill introduced into the Ohio Senate, lately known as "Quincy's Bill," "To prevent the further settlement of Blacks and Mulattoes in Ohio," is diabolically worthy of its author. That while we will cheerfully keep and support every good law enacted to govern American citizens, we will never obey this Bill, should it assume the form of law, as we feel it to be at war with our self-respect, as well as with the great principles of justice, and that like the "Fugitive Bill," being unconstitutional, like it, it should be discontinued and regarded as the last.

The first resolution was then taken up, and pending a motion for its adoption, W. H. Day addressed the convention at some length on the evils of slavery, its influence on political parties and the servility of the church and clergy of the country to its mandates.

The second resolution was taken up, and on motion of E. Davis, was adopted. The constitution growing out of said resolution was taken up and adopted Article by Article, without alteration or amendment, to Article 9th.

The hour for recess having arrived the convention took a recess till 2 o'clock P. M.

Afternoon Session.
President took the chair. Prayer by Isiah Martin. The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

The chairman of the State Central Committee stated that the Railroad Agents could not allow delegates to pass on the road free of charge, unless there should be going the same way, which number could not be obtained. Therefore, each member must pay full fare returning home.

The remaining 10th and 11th articles of the constitution of the Ohio State Anti-Slavery Society, were adopted.

The third resolution was then taken up, and while under consideration, J. M. Langston addressed the convention on the importance of establishing and supporting an efficient newspaper. He said we had no medium through which we can tell our wrongs to the world. He hoped the paper would be supported.

Resolution No. 3 was unanimously adopted.

The fourth resolution was then taken up, and while the motion was pending, the convention was addressed in support of the resolution by E. Davis, James Davis, J. Bowman, T. G. Gene and others. H. F. Douglass moved that the following amendment be added to the resolution, "That the Colored Churches be recommended to take higher anti-slavery ground." After some remarks from H. F. Douglass, W. H. Day, and C. H. Langston the amendment was, on leave withdrawn. The resolution was adopted.

The fifth resolution was taken up, and pending its consideration, J. M. Langston said he would have the convention understand the principles of the Maine Liquor Law. He then read extracts from a sermon of Mr. — giving a concise view of the principles of the law. He then discussed at length on the evils of intemperance, and the great evil of liquor drinking among the colored people of Ohio. He thought these practices ought to be corrected.

The resolution was then adopted unanimously. The hour for recess having arrived, the convention took a recess till 7 o'clock in the evening.

Evening Session.
The President having taken the chair, the convention was opened by singing by Messrs. S. Cox and John Watson of Lorain.

The Secretary's report was read and approved. D. Jenkins from the committee appointed to request a hearing from the Legislature, reported that the House of Representatives have had the subject under consideration: the resolution granting us a hearing before their body was lost by a majority of two.

The sixth resolution was then taken up, remarked upon by W. H. Day and adopted.

The 7th resolution was then, on motion, adopted, after some remarks of explanation by Mr. Day, setting forth the practicability and importance of the cotton-flax movement.

The eighth resolution was then taken up, and adopted, after remarks upon its importance by W. H. Day and J. Watson.

the truth of the resolution from colonization and other documents. The resolution was then adopted.

The eleventh resolution was then taken up and adopted.

The twelfth resolution was adopted after some remarks by W. H. Day. On motion of J. F. James it was

Resolved, That the delegates to this Convention constitute the Ohio State Anti-Slavery Society.

It was further Resolved, That we now proceed to elect officers of the Society.

The following persons were elected: President—A. J. Gordon of Cuyahoga. Vice President—D. Jenkins of Franklin. Secy.—W. H. Day of Cuyahoga. Treasurer—John Watson of Lorain.

Executive Committee—J. H. Yancey of Miami; J. R. Bowles of Greene; E. Davis and H. F. Douglass of Franklin; S. V. Jones of Belmont; John Brown of Cuyahoga; Thomas Jefferson of Montgomery.

On motion of Wm. H. Day, J. Mercer Langston was appointed Lecturer for the society.

The delegates then, on motion, were called up to pay their initiation fees. Amount paid in \$5.50.

The Convention then adjourned till 9 o'clock Friday morning.

FRIDAY, JAN. 21.
Forenoon Session.—The President in the chair, the scripture was read, and prayer offered by the chaplain. The minutes of the preceding session were read and approved.

D. Jenkins moved that so much of the proceedings of the last session as elected the Lecturer and the officers of the Ohio Anti-Slavery Society be reconsidered.

John Booker also, moved to amend the motion, so as to reconsider the resolution making the members of the convention constitute the Ohio State Anti-Slavery Society, which was adopted.

It was then moved by J. M. Langston that the members of the convention now come forward and pay in their initiation fee to the Ohio State Anti-Slavery Society, which was adopted.

J. Bowman's resolution was taken up and referred to the Business Committee.

The resolution appointing a place for holding the next convention, was on motion taken up and was amended so as to make Dayton the place for holding the next State Convention.

The following gentlemen were appointed State Central Committee for Ohio: Thomas Jefferson, Dayton, Montgomery co. Samuel Rouse, John Johnson.

C. H. Langston, Columbus, Franklin co. W. H. Day, Cleveland, Cuyahoga co. Wm. H. Day presented the following: Resolved, That this Convention hereby recommend to the people of this State, the recent work, compiled by Mr. Wm. C. Nell, of Boston, upon the services of Colored Americans in the wars of 1776 and 1812.

