The exercises commenced with prayer, after which an address was delivered by Rev. James C. White.] Mr. White, being introduced, remarked that he should speak, not of the antedeluvians, the Egyptians, or Sandwich Islanders, but he should merely address a few remarks to those who were present on topics with which they were immediately connected. He should not speak particularly of that great act by which 800,000 bondmen were set free, great event though that was, but of matters nearer home. He thought that colored people over estimated the difficulties under which they live, and the disabilities under which they lab[o]r. Colored people should place theirs aims higher, and consider that when they do well for themselves, others will do well for them, and respect them. They should remember who they are, and why they are. Time was when it [w]as the great[-] est boast to say, "I am a Roman," and some think it a great thing to [say], "I am an Am[eri]can;" but he [wa]nted every color[-] ed man to be able to stand up and say, ["I] am a man!" The same God is the a[u]thor of all, white and black, and it is not the brotherhood, but the fatherhood, that should be the great thought of their hearts, to urge them on to noble acts and words.

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