

EDUCATION.

[In the city of New York, the colored people have the supervision of their own schools, according to a law, which has been enacted by state Legislature.—

They have a regular organized board, before whom Wm. Powell, (their President) delivered the following address at their last annual meeting.]

GENTLEMAN: Let each and all of us remember that, in order to carry out the letter and spirit of the Charter granted by the people of this state, we must endeavor to be faithful to the trust confided to us by the suffrages of our fellow citizens. There is also a great principle involved in this separate school legislation, but no selfish views to adopt. We have proclaimed our fitness to superintend and extend the means of Education to thousands of children unprovided for; we have claimed the right to *act* separately, though somewhat reluctantly unwilling to yield the principle, or to strengthen this invidious distinction; yet we are compelled to this last resort, and make the sacrifice from motives of necessity, or else suffer our children to grow up in ignorance, vice and dissipation. Here is your duty, and there the principle. The contest for educational rights commensurate to the

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wants of our children of this state, and the progress of the age, must be commenced anew. Many of our children are being qualified, or are competent to be admitted, and actually are knocking at the doors of the Free Academy in this city for admission—the common property of all the people of this State. We are told that they will not be allowed to enter (although unlawful to refuse them) on account of their *color*.

We must not shrink from our duty.— Our children must be *admitted* to the highest branches of Education, or else the State must make a provision for this unwarrantable outrage upon rights of sixty thousand tax-paying colored citizens.

Gentlemen: This Society has been in successful operation for nearly four years; hundreds of children have been brought under its influence, benefitted and rescued from the snares of idleness, and saved from the temptations of this City of Mysteries. We have not accomplished all the good we could wish; but in the teeth of the most violent opposition, unparalleled in the history of political organizations, and amid the flames of discord among our own people, while misrepresentations have been brought to bear upon our rude and inexperienced efforts, misrepresentations which could result, if their purpose was accomplished, in our destruc—

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