

Mr. Reymond was received on rising with most enthusiastic applause. He said he appeared before them with mingled feelings of diffidence, gratitude, and pain. He felt honoured in being associated with Garrison and Rogers, and he felt pained that he had to speak of crimes committed upon the coloured population. These crimes had been perpetrated for a long series of years, and not only followed the coloured people in all the ordinary affairs of life, but was sustained, with even increased malignity, within the walls of the meeting-house, towering with its spire towards Heaven, to remind the stranger that Christianity has a footing within this region of legalized murder. (Hear.) I speak with warmth upon this subject, and the more so that I know I stand among a people who breathe the air of liberty, and before whom I can speak with freedom and boldness, without let or hindrance. (Cheers.) The time has gone by when our lips must be sealed and our mouths gagged upon the question of human rights. I feel deeply this exhibition of your kindness; and I also feel the importance of the privilege that I am associated with Garrison in the glorious work of freedom to the slave. I feel constrained to adopt the language of your O'Connell, when he said he did not care for what colour, or in what clime, slavery manifested itself, he would go for its immediate and total abolition. My wish is, to take sides with the abused and oppressed slave; and if ever the time arrive when I fail in this duty, may life fail with me. I shall say nothing here that I would not say at home; and, although it is the home of the slave, I am not alienated from it, and I can say of it, "with all thy faults I

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love thee still." I am prepared as ever, when I return to it, to enter the arena with the monster, and heard him in his den. I stood by my friend Mr. Garrison when he was in the hands of a Boston mob, and I [saw] him dragged through the town with a halter round his body, and would I be ungrateful for his services to the coloured race did I desert him if similarly situated again? In spite of all their ill treatment and their wrongs, the poor slaves had suffered patiently, and entertained the hope that the day of their deliverance was at hand. You have learned from the lips of my friends that we have tremendous opposition to contend with; in fact, the popular impression was against us; and if the effect of British West India emancipation is not to shame America out of slavery, England, Scotland, and Ireland have still another resource left to accomplish it; for if they fail in shaming them out of it, they must just starve them out of it, and that they are quite able to do. (Loud cheers.) Mr. Reymond then turned to the political aspect of the question, Mr. Van Buren, said he, committed himself to slavery when he acquired the presidential chair; and now he was in danger of losing his election in favor of Harrison; and Henry Clay, in a silvery-toned speech, had given his bid in the same way for slaveholding support; but he found he had committed a mistake, for he lost his election at the nomination meeting. The conduct of the American slaveholders was similar to that of the sailor who maintained with his companion that he had never been caught in a lie. "Yes, that's true," said the other; "but I have chased you from one lie to another in quick [succession]." So it

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was with the slave-dealers. We [have] chased them from one lie to another, and will yet chase them, till they are compelled to give in. The British public had an important work before them. They must send across the Atlantic the voice of [censure] and condemnation. They must fasten on Americans the wicked hypocrisy and the daring inconsistency which their conduct displayed. Loud and long had they boasted of their freedom. They had reasoned and written upon, they had sung and spoken of, their liberty; and yet they presented to the world a specimen of the most oppressive tyranny. And yet Americans took it upon them to prophecy of the downfall of thrones and the ridiculousness of monarchies – (Loud laughter) – and from the day they declared themselves independent, the charter of their liberties had gone forth to the world declaring that all men are equal. (Laughter.) The slaves now numbered more than the whole population in the War of Independence, when they defied the world in arms, and yet this free nation presented the anomaly of retaining three millions of its inhabitants in disgusting bondage. Mr. Raymond contrasted the disposition of the Americans to punish crime when committed against the white population, and their callous indifference to the black population, however cruelly used, and gave several instances of it, but we are sorry we are unable to find room for these. He gave several instances of their thorough aversion to educate the slaves, and combatted the notion of amalgamation by showing that no such thing took place in the free states, and only existed in the slave districts. Having alluded to the case of the Amistad schooner

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