

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Committee:—I am happy to have an opportunity to say a few words, at this time, though unexpectedly called. The Gentleman who last spoke, and myself, are both from the South. The principal difference between us, is, that Mr. Githell was born in a free State surrounded by the sweet influences of free schools, free churches, and a free Bible; whereas I was born a slave upon a plantation, brought up under the humiliating influences of the slave driver's lash. It is true, sir, I sometimes of my own free will, and sometimes by compulsion, attended what my brother calls "a church" and heard the "Missionary" to whom he has alluded preach that Gospel which is so peculiar to the South—"Servant obey thy master!"—This is the sum total of the "Gospel" which slaves have preached unto them.

I have always said, Mr. Chairman, that you get here the poorest specimens of slaves. My brother Githell asserts it as a fact and thereby he and myself are agreed. Now, sir, you have all seen Frederick Douglass, Mr. Brown, and other fugitive slaves, and if they are among the worst specimens then you need have no fear of letting loose those now in bondage! (Sensation and applause.) I should like to ask that gentleman, who has been allowed to walk our streets in peace, to enter our halls of justice, and, to appear before a Legislative Committee, to enter his protest against the enactment of a law to

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protect fugitive slaves, if Wm. Lloyd Garrison would be allowed to go down to Alabama and go before a similar committee to that which I am now addressing, and enter his protest against the imprisonment of free colored seamen? (Applause, but no reply from the slaveholder)

Mr. Githell has told you, gentlemen, that God in his own good time will abolish slavery. This is true, and he will most probably do this through the free agency of his children who have been blessed with a free gospel. The gentleman from Alabama does not seem to have confidence in the announcement made in the U.S. Senate, by Mr. Clay, some years since, that "By the bleaching process slavery was to die out."

Mr. Hayden concluded his eloquent remarks by a direct appeal to Mr. Githell, to know how he could stand up in an enlightened community, and before God, and claim fifty human beings as his slaves, each of whom is as much entitled to his freedom as Mr. G.

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