

Miss Remond then rose, and said she was the representative, in the first place, of four millions of human beings held in Slavery, in a land boasting of its freedom—of 1,000,000 persons of colour, nominally free, but treated worse than criminals. She was the representative, also, of that body of abolitionists in the United States, reproachfully called Garrisonians; an epithet, however, which she deemed it an honour to appropriate. What was the crime of the millions thus enslaved? The head and front of their offending was the colour of their skin. She did not represent the politician of the country, nor even the religious sentiment of the country, for that had been corrupted by the influence of Slavery. Her audience must discriminate between the Northern and Southern States. The former were seventeen in number, and were called the Free States: the latter were sixteen, and in many of those slaves formed the majority of the population. In the former, labour was honourable, dignified, and respected; in the latter it was the badge of degradation; and the whites who were necessitated to toil were held in even more contempt than the slaves themselves. The gross number of actual shareholders was not more than 340,000, yet they controlled the public sentiment of the entire country as well as its domestic policy, through their combined influence in Congress. She pleaded especially on behalf of her own sex. Words were inadequate to express the depth of the infamy into which they were plunged by the cruelty and licentiousness of their brutal masters. If English women and English wives knew the unspeakable

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horrors to which their sex were exposed on Southern plantations, they would freight every westward gale with the voice of their moral indignation, and demand for the black woman the protection and rights enjoyed by the white. It was a dark and evil hour when the first slave-ship landed its unhallowed cargo upon the soil of Virginia. But it was a still darker one when the patriots of the revolution compromised their principles, and incorporated Slavery in the Federal Constitution. She (the lecturer) knew something of the trials and toils of the women of England—how, in the language of Hood, they were made to “Stitch, stitch, stitch,” till weariness and exhaustion overtook them. But there was this immeasurable difference between their condition and that of the slave-woman, that their persons were free and their progeny their own, while the slave-woman was the victim of the heartless lust of her master, and the children whom she bore were his property. The situation of the free coloured population was one of deep degradation. They were expelled from railway cars and steam-boats, and excluded, even in the house of God, from the privileges common to other worshippers. It was easy to be an abolitionist in England, but not so in the United States. Miss Remond then traced the career of Mr. Garrison from the year 1833 to the present time, and recounted, in a touching manner, the perils to which he had been exposed, the sacrifices he had made, and the progress which had been effected by his unwearied labours during the last quarter of a century. She

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had listened with indignation, a few nights before, to the statement that the slaves were happy and contented. If so, why had more than 40,000 fled to the free soil of Canada, and were ready to sell their lives in defence of the sovereignty of Queen Victoria? The lecturer read an affecting account of the sale at auction of a woman who was recommended on account of her being undistinguishable by complexion from the white race, for her unsullied virtue her personal beauty, and her elevated piety, and who, for these reasons, brought a high price, that she might become the mistress of some depraved monster. The lecturer paid a high tribute to Mr. Wendell Philipps, who, with Mr. Garrison had been traduced by the person whose assertions she had already noticed, and concluded by pointing out the value to the American anti-slavery cause of those expressions of sympathy which it was in the power of the people of England to send across the Atlantic, which would cheer the hearts of those engaged in the great struggle now going on, and tend greatly to advance the cause of negro emancipation.

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