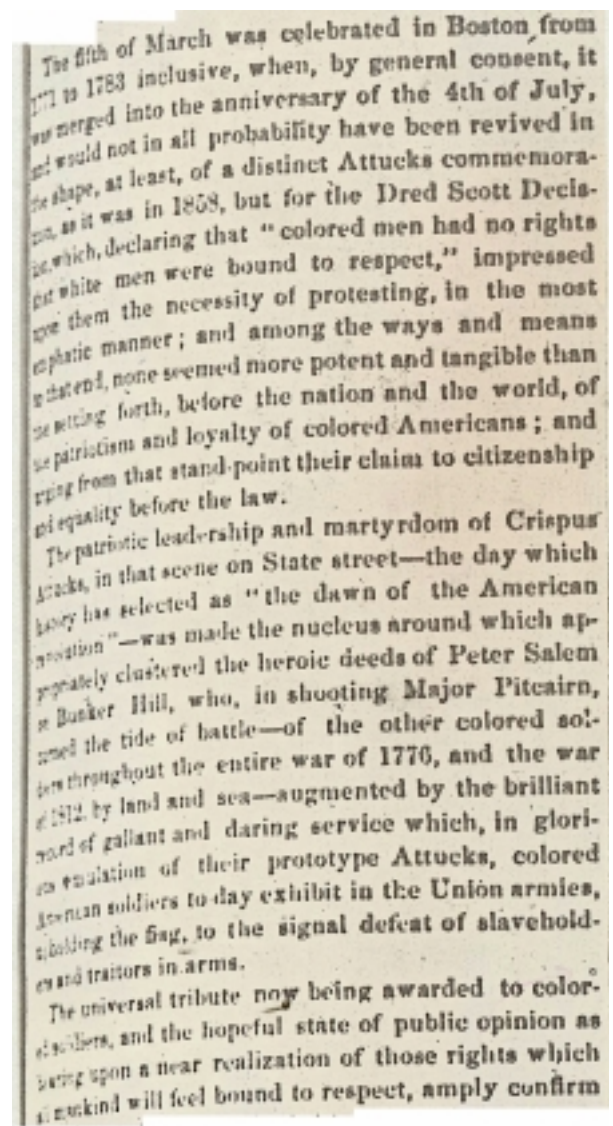


The fifth of March was celebrated in Boston from [1771] to 1783 inclusive, when, by general consent, it was merged into the anniversary of the 4th of July, and would not in all probability have been revived in the shape, at least, of a distinct Attucks commemoration, as it was in 1858, but for the Dred Scott Decision, which declaring that "colored men had no rights that white men were bound to respect," impressed [upon] them the necessity of protesting, in the most emphatic manner; and among the ways and means [to that] end, none seemed more potent and tangible than [the] setting forth, before the nation and the world, of [the] patriotism and loyalty of colored Americans; and [urging] from that stand-point their claim to citizenship [and] equality before the law.

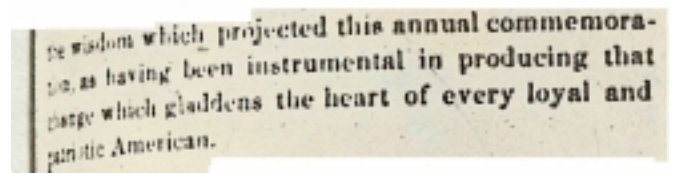
The patriotic leadership and martyrdom of Crispus Attucks, in that scene on State street—the day which [history] has selected as "the dawn of the American [Revolution]"—which made the nucleus around which appropriately clustered the heroic deeds of Peter Salem [at] Bunker Hill, who, in shooting Major Pitcairn, [turned] the tide of battle—of the other colored soldiers throughout the entire war of 1776, and the war of 1812, by land and sea—augmented by the brilliant [record] of gallant and daring service which, in glorious emulation of their prototype Attucks, colored American soldiers to-day exhibit in the Union armies, [...bolding] the flag, to the signal defeat of slaveholders and traitors in arms.

The universal tribute now being awarded to colored soldiers, and the hopeful state of public opinion as [bearing] upon a near realization of those rights which all mankind will feel bound to respect, amply confirm



March 24, 1865
Nell, William C.
Liberator

[the] wisdom which projected this annual commemoration as having been instrumental in producing that change which gladdens the heart of every loyal and patriotic American.



...the wisdom which projected this annual commemoration as having been instrumental in producing that change which gladdens the heart of every loyal and patriotic American.