

[Mr. FRANCIS arose, and addressed Mr. SMITH
As follows:]

GERRIT SMITH, Esq.— I am here this afternoon, a representative of an association of Colored ladies in the city of Buffalo. I assure you, it gives me great pleasure to meet you for the first time, in the town where you reside. The name of Peterboro, has for many years been endeared to me, from the recollection of the happy association, and time honored virtues, which have found their way out beyond its geographic boundaries. Your noble deeds have been heralded abroad throughout our land, leading many to admire and imitate your virtues. They have also been wafted to the opposite shore of the broad atlantic, and mingled freely with the glad rejoicings of the philanthropic of other lands. Why then, let me ask, may not the Colored ladies of Buffalo, be permitted to mingle their voices, and assist in contributing to the praise of him, in whose heart no selfish spirit can find a lodgment, or out from which, no circumscribed benevolence has ever emanated. Ever since, the stratagems of that arch-fiend of Satan, the American Colonization Society, were made plain to you sir, and your cecession from it, has the expansion of your great mind for doing good, been more and more visible. Your noble sacrifices, from that hour to the present, have been brought to bear upon the general welfare of your fellow men. Judicious, you have been, yet uncompromising—unyielding, yet guided by reason. The emblematic representations on this pitcher, the oak, olive, and mari-

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gold, although they have their signification from the dark ages, their intent, when applied to your case, will have no less a bearing. Throughout the earliest ages of Greece and Rome, the oak and olive, which you see here combined, were held in high regard, even to reverence. The oak was consecrated to Jupiter, and the olive to Minerva, intending to represent hospitality and peace. With that, or a similar view, no doubt, the ladies of Buffalo, conceived them fit emblems of your modus of action. The channel through your course of action, might be justly set forth, and strongly represented. Not that I should be so understood, as to have it supposed for a moment, that I place upon an equilibrium the principles of heathen mythology, with the progress of the 19th century. The hospitality which the oak wreath on this pitcher, is intended to shadow forth, consists not in the wild fantasy of the heathens ; that it was coeval with the earth, and afforded food and shelter to the first inhabitants ; not simply, because it was made sacred to Jupiter, whom it sheltered at his birth on Mount Lycius in Arcadia ; not that we believe the oaks in the grove of Dodona in Eperus, near the magnificent temple of Jupiter, actually gave forth the oracles which the priestesses promulgated. Neither do we wish to apply it as the Romans, as a reward for great military achievements ; but as a symbol of majesty and strength, we are willing to unite. Such strength, GERRIT SMITH, as the majesty of your conduct

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has rendered to the oppressed and down trodden, that hospitality which knows no bounds, and bestows liberally on all who need your aid. Scipio Africanus refused to wear the civic crown' made into a wreath of green oak, for saving the life of his father at the battle of Trebia, on the ground, that it carried with it, its own reward—*In precisely the same condition, do you, Gerrit Smith, stand before the enlightened nations of the earth. That brow needs no wreath to remind the inquirer after truth of the principles you possess. With your name, in all coming generations will be associated all that is great and noble.* I present this pitcher to you then, not in the light of a costly diadem, to be looked upon with that kind of reverence that acknowledges one human being in the creation, superior to another, and thus answering the demands of aristocratic buffoonery. This is not the desire of the ladies I represent, neither is it my desire. The cries of the poor slave have reached your ear. You have listened to his cries—he has received your cognizance in fleeing from the prison house of bondage. You have received him, and protected him. The nominally free Colored man, has not been an indifferent spectator to your acts of benevolence. He too, has received your good council and aid. While some three thousand in this State alone, by your individual means, have been enfranchised and permitted, where it requires two hundred and fifty dollars worth of real estate to vote, to enjoy that inalienable right and privilege as

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other freemen. For these things, this small memento has been presented. These were the feelings which actuated the members of the association from whence it emanated, and of which, I again, repeat, I have the honor to represent. Through the President of that body, in behalf of the association, I now tender this pitcher to yourself and lady. Receive it in this light ; from it, may coming generations catch your spirits, learn wisdom, and imitate your examples. *May the olive branch of peace wave over you and your family—and may the representation of the marigolds there interspersed, denoting sacred affection, ever continue.*

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