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PATRIOTIC SPEECH OF MAJOR GENERAL SICKLES, AT CHARLESTON, S. C. At the close of the oration at the stand on the Citadel Green, on the 4th of July, the procession moved to the residence of the Commanding General on Charlotte street, and in response to loud and repeated calls from the assembled multitude, Gen. Sickles appeared and addressed them as follows:

My FRIENDS!—I am happy to receive your demonstrations of regard. It is gratifying to observe your hearty appreciation of this anniversary. For you, the Declaration of Independence had a peculiar significance. To the nation it brought liberty; but to you it restored manhood. It is true enough, your race has awaited almost a hundred years for the fulfillment of the pledge made to civilization by the immortal authors of the Declaration of Independence.

Political events are near at hand in which, for the first time, you will exercise the high privilege of American citizens. You must try to discriminate well and choose wisely between the good and the bad examples you see. Remember that in politics, as in all things, an even temper and a respectful demeanor toward our adversaries detract nothing from the ardor of our convictions, nor from the tenacity with which we press our purposes; equanimity and courtesy always contribute to the success of our undertakings.

Do you remember Abraham Lincoln? Cries of "Yes," "Yes." Will you ever forget him? [Loud shouts of "No," "No," "No, never, never."] You must not cease to cherish and heed the teachings of that noble nature, those simple methods, the noble heart, and the guileless example of your gifted and lamented champion.

Here I will offer a suggestion. There are many plantations in these States not cultivated at all, or only half cultivated. If the owners, who can neither plant nor afford to keep their lands idle, would divide their useless lands into small farms of twenty acres each, and sell them at fair prices to honest, industrious and thrifty laborers, the cry of "confiscation" would soon be lost in the glee of busy labor; the noise of landless agitators would be hushed in the repose of a contented, happy peasantry.

When I was sent to the Carolinas, in the autumn of 1865, I was told that the freed people would never work for wages; that they could not be made to understand what it was to work for wages. Under that I heard a different complaint—that the freed people would not work without wages. [Loud cheers and laughter.] I was told, also, that it would never do to admit colored people to the courts of justice to assert their rights by suits at law, or to give testimony in controversies between man and man; for it was said you could not comprehend the meaning and obligation of an oath, or the forms of judicial proceedings. Now I hear that unless a colored man has a lawyer and a lawsuit, he does not consider himself a respectable citizen. [Laughter.] I was told, also, that it would be useless to establish schools for the instruction of the blacks. It was insisted they were not capable of learning; their heads were too thick and their brains too small.

And to those who look with distrust and fear upon your advancement, let me say to them that education to you, as to them and to all, is more than power—it is security, it is wealth, it is refinement, it is virtue, it is peace. [Cheers.] It is useless to tell me that Jamaica, and Hayti, and St. Domingo, and Martinique, prove anything else than that the French, the Spaniards, and the English failed in their colonial administration. These United States, Spanish America, Algeria, and the Indies, are amplified illustrations of the same historical example.

It may be the destiny of your race to carry back to the unknown tributaries of the Nile the amenities of a civilization better than that which tolerated the barbarism of the bandits who tore your fathers from their country and bartered them for gold. It seems that neither servitude nor freedom, neither cruelty or wrong, war or want, time or separation, have any more changed the elements of your oriental character than the climate of the temperate zone has altered the histive hue of your African complexion.

Formerly one huge bonnet trimmed, in nine cases out of ten, with a glaringly ugly ribbon, was worn with every dress, no matter how opposed in color one might be to the other. Now bonnets cost so little, and are so quickly made, that women generally can afford one to suit every toilet, and the result is the aggrandizement, not of the milliners, but those who sell millinery goods, and the adoption in this respect of a much more accurate and complete style of costume.

It is the style now for bridesmaids to wear bonnets, ornamented with long white veils divided in the centre but descending from each side, so as nearly to envelope the person. This seems to us neither appropriate nor in good taste.

A gentleman was describing to Douglas Jerrold the story of his courtship and marriage; how his wife had been brought up in a convent, and was on the point of taking the veil, when his presence burst upon her enraptured sight, and she accepted him as her husband. Jerrold listened to the end of the story, and then quietly remarked: "She simply thought you better than man."

A little girl, just past her fifth year, while chatting about the beaux that visited two of the sex in the same house, of more mature age, being asked, "What do you mean by beaux, Annie?" replied, "Why, I mean men that have not got much sense."

The President has conferred the commission of Lieutenant Colonel by brevet upon Captain W. C. Church, editor of the Army and Navy Journal, and formerly of the staff of Major General Silas Casey.

"broken-down politician," an "old dog" or a "little pup," and, therefore, I will let you pass until I return South, when I will inquire into your antecedents, and if you are worthy of notice I will teach you better manners.

M. JEFF. THOMPSON, of New Orleans. FOR THE LADIES. THE FASHION IN SUMMER BONNETS. The effort to enlarge the bonnets early in the season proved futile; indeed, has only succeeded in making them smaller than ever.

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James Russell Lowell has a peculiarly bright and brilliant article on "Louisiana and the Sentimentalists," in the July number of the North American Review. Cozens, the author of "Spargers Papers," will soon publish "The Sayings of Dr. Bushwacker and other Learned Men."

Special Notices. "This is truly the 'age of progress,' and the American people are, beyond doubt, far ahead of all others. This is clearly demonstrated by the Sewing Machine—which is, strictly speaking, an American invention."

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