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OUR VISIT TO BOSTON.

Our recent visit to Boston will long be remembered. It was not only a source of much pleasure to each individual member of our party, but of instruction likewise. It afforded us an opportunity of not merely enjoying the attractions of a great city, but of learning the customs and habits of its enterprising citizens; and more than this, it afforded a party of Southerners an opportunity of viewing the Northern character in its best light, and of realizing the folly of sectional prejudices. This pleasant commingling of Northern and Southern editors in the amenities of social life must be beneficial to both. It makes us all realize that we are the fellow-citizens of a common country, with the same origin in the past, with the same destiny in the future, and with the same interests in the present. It will make us have a more kindly feeling to one another, make us more lenient to each other's faults, and appreciate more highly each other's virtues. If the people of the North and the people of the South could see more of one another,—could get nearer to each other's hearts,—the animosities of the past would be buried in the graves of our dead heroes, and all sectional prejudices and passions be entirely obliterated. If the visit of a portion of the editors of North Carolina to the Capital of New England will in any degree tend to bring about "this consummation so devoutly to be wished for," it will be a matter for public congratulation and happy shall we ever be that we were one of that party!

We had anticipated a delightful visit, but our brightest anticipations were more than realized. There was everything to render it pleasant, and not the slightest incident occurred to mar its pleasure. We Southerners have always heard of our warm hearts and generous hospitality, but if we may judge of Northerners by those whom we met in Boston and Lowell, they surely have equal cause for such a boast, and it affords us peculiar pleasure to publicly state this. Every possible attention and courtesy was extended to our party, and in the most delicate and graceful manner. Men who bore on their bodies the scars of Southern bullets were as cordial in their greetings, as if we were a band of brothers, and sitting around the same festive board those who wore the blue and they who wore the gray vied in their expressions of good will and in the interchange of pleasant sentiments.

But doubtless our readers wish to hear something about the city itself, and so we will attempt to give some of our impressions. The visitor to Boston is first impressed with the character of its streets. They being short, narrow, and running in every direction like labyrinths. It is certainly the easiest city to get lost in that a stranger ever visited, but then everybody is very kind in giving directions to the bewildered visitor, and frequently strangers would walk with members of our party several squares out of their way to show them the places for which they inquired. The Bostonians certainly have "devious ways." The streets are always crowded and the narrow sidewalks are sometimes jammed with the multitudes that throng them. Everybody seems to be in a hurry and the crowds go rushing along as if to a fire. The incessant rattling of innumerable vehicles on the rock pavements makes a hideous din, and the busy bustle of the city's turmoil is in striking contrast to the dull quiet of our country towns. Of course there are numerous handsome buildings, both public and private. The hotels are particularly imposing structures and are among the finest in the world. The eye soon wearies however of gazing upon such masses of granite, marble, brick and mortar, and longs to rest upon something green and refreshing, and hence it is that the Public Garden and the celebrated Boston Common are such favorite resorts. These embrace an area of about sixty acres and being situated near the centre of the city are much resorted to and afford a delightful retreat from the city's din and bustle.

Boston is the wealthiest city in the world in proportion to its population, and its great wealth is seen on every side. The city expends a million and a half dollars a year on its public schools, and is noted for the high grade of its schools and the standard of the studies pursued therein. Through the courtesy of Hon. E. C. Carrigan, a member of the State Board of Education, we visited one of the schools, called the High and Latin School. The buildings connected with this school cost three quarters of a million dollars and are the best furnished public school buildings in the world. In the buildings are a completely equipped gymnasium, a large armory, two large lecture halls, two libraries and numerous rooms for recitations. There are nearly sixty thousand children attending the public schools of the city, and fifty-one per cent of them are Irish. Boston does its work with unlimited hand in the education and comfort of its poor children, and gives every child an opportunity of becoming an intelligent and useful citizen. Among the most beneficial institutions of the city are the savings banks, in which the savings of the laboring classes are invested in stocks or being squandered. It is estimated that in the saving banks of Massachusetts the sum deposited two hundred and forty million dollars. If a savings bank could be established in every county in the South our people would soon become more prosperous. It takes no astute political economist to perceive the truth of this assertion. We Southerners might learn much to our profit from the Northern people. We might emulate their wonderful enterprise, their untiring energy, and their systematic methods of doing whatever they undertake. When we looked around and thought of the natural disadvantages under which they labored, their cold climate and sterile soil, and beheld the evidences of so much wealth and prosperity, we could but admire the industry and energy of our Northern friends and wish that the secret of success might be imparted to us of the sunny south. If the "Yankees" have succeeded so wonderfully in New England what might they not do in our more favored clime.

The government of Boston consisted in a mayor, twelve aldermen and seventy two councilmen, all elected by a vote of the people. The present government of the city is democratic. It seems rather strange that the democrats have elected a Republican [illegible] when the Republicans have elected a democrat [illegible] when all the members of the entire [illegible] and the guests of the evening had been presented to the [illegible] of honor to the toast [illegible] and [illegible] Governor [illegible] and [illegible] and responded in a very [illegible] manner. [illegible] Governor [illegible] and [illegible] and [illegible] and