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THE NEWTON EN

"Here Shall the Press the People's Rights Maintain, Unawed by I

\$2.00 a Year. } NEWTON, N. C., SATURDAY, MARCH

Garfield's Inaugural Address.

The following is the text of General Garfield's inaugural address:

Fellow Citizens: We stand to-day upon an eminence which overlooks a hundred years of national life, a century crowded with perils but crowned with triumphs of liberty. Before continuing the onward march, let us pause on this height for a moment to strengthen our faith and renew our hopes by a glance at the pathway along which our people have traveled. It is now three days more than a hundred years since the adoption of the first written constitution of the United States, the articles of confederation and perpetual union. The new republic was then beset with danger on every hand. It had not conquered a place in the family of nations. The decisive battle of the war for independence, whose centennial anniversary will soon be gratefully celebrated at Yorktown, had not yet been fought. Colonists were struggling, not only against the armies of a great nation, but against the settled opinions of mankind, for the world did not believe that the supreme authority of the government could be safely entrusted to the guardianship of the people themselves. We can not overestimate the fervent love of liberty, intelligent, courage and saving common sense with which our fathers made the great experiment of self-government. When they found, after a short trial, that the Confederacy of States was too weak to meet the necessities of a vigorous and expanding republic, they boldly set it aside, and, in its stead, established a national union, founded directly upon the will of the people, endowed with full powers of self-preservation and with ample authority for the accomplishment of its great objects. Under this constitution the boundaries of freedom have been enlarged, the foundations of order and peace have been strengthened, and the growth of our people in all the better elements of national life has indicated the wisdom of the founders and given new hope to their descendants.

Under this constitution our people long ago made themselves safe against the danger from without, secured for their mariners and flag equality of rights on all the seas; under this constitution twenty-five States have been added to the Union with the constitutions and laws framed and enforced by their own citizens; to secure the manifold blessings of local self-government. The jurisdiction of this constitution now covers an area fifty times greater than that of the original thirteen States and a population twenty times greater than that of 1780.

THE SUPREME TRIAL OF THE CONSTITUTION

came at last under the tremendous pressure of the civil war. We ourselves are witnesses that the Union emerged from the blood and fire, made stronger for all the beneficent purposes of government, and now at the close of this first century of growth with inspirations of its history in their hearts, our people have lately reviewed the condition of the nation, passed judgment upon the conduct and opinions of political parties and have registered their will concerning the future administration of the government. To interpret and to execute that will in accordance with the constitution are the paramount duties of the executive.

Even from this brief review it is manifest that the nation is resolutely facing to the front, resolved to employ its best energies in developing the great possibilities of the future, sacredly preserving whatever has been gained to liberty and good government during the century. Our people are determined to leave behind them all these bitter controversies concerning things which have been irrevocably settled, and the further discussion of which can only stir up strife and delay the onward march.

THE SUPREMACY OF THE NATION.

and its laws should be no longer the subject of debate. That discussion

which for a half century threatened the existence of the Union, was closed at last in the high court of war by a decree from which there is no appeal. That constitution and laws, made in pursuance thereof are and shall continue to be the supreme law of the land, binding alike upon the States and people. This decree does not disturb the autonomy of States nor interfere with any of their necessary rights of local self-government, but it does fix and establish the permanent supremacy of the Union, speaking with the voice of battle and through the amended constitution, has fulfilled the great promise of 1776, by proclaiming liberty throughout the land to all the inhabitants thereof.

THE ELEVATION OF THE NEGRO
race from slavery to full rights of citizenship is the most important political change we have known since the adoption of the constitution of 1787. No thoughtful man can fail to appreciate its benefits upon our institutions and people. It has freed us from the probable danger of war and dissolution. It has added immensely to the moral and industrial forces of our people. It has liberated master as well as slave from the relation which wronged and enfeebled both. It has surrendered to their own guardianship, the manhood of more than 5,000,000 of people; has opened to each one of them a career of freedom and usefulness. It has given inspiration to the power of self help in both races by making labor more honorable to one and more necessary to the other. The influence of this force will grow greater and bear richer fruit with coming years. No doubt the great change has caused serious disturbances to our Southern communities. This is to be deplored though it was perhaps unavoidable. But those who resisted the change should remember that under our institutions there was

NO MIDDLE GROUND FOR THE NEGRO,
between slavery and equal citizenship. There can be no permanent disfranchised peasantry in the United States. Freedom can never yield its fullness of blessings so long as the law or its administration places the smallest obstacle in the pathway of any virtuous citizen. The emancipated race has already made remarkable progress with unquestioning devotion to the Union and with a patience and gentleness not born of fear, they have followed the light as God gave them to see the light. They are rapidly laying the material foundations of self-support, widening the circle of intelligence and beginning to enjoy blessings that gather around the homes of the industrious poor. They deserve the generous encouragement of all good men. So far as my authority can lawfully extend they shall enjoy the full and equal protection of the constitution and laws. Full and free enjoyment of equal suffrage is still in question, and a frank statement may aid the solution.

It is alleged that in many communities negro citizens are practically DENIED THE FREEDOM OF THE BALLOT. In so far as the truth of this allegation is admitted, it is answered that in many places honest local government is impossible if the mass of the uneducated negroes are allowed to vote. These are grave allegations. So far as the latter is true, it is only a palliation that can be offered for the opposing freedom of the ballot. Bad local government is certainly a great evil which ought to be prevented, but to violate the freedom and sanctity of suffering is more than an evil; it is a crime which if persisted in will destroy the government itself. Suicide is not a remedy. If in other lands it would be high treason to compass the death of the King, it should be counted no less a crime here to strangle our sovereign power and stifle its voice. It has been said that "unsettled questions have no pity for the repose of nations." It should be said with the utmost emphasis that this question of suffrage will never give repose or safety to States or nations until each within its own

jurisdiction makes and keeps the ballot free and sure by the strong sanction of the law. But the danger which arises from

IGNORANCE IN THE VOTERS
cannot be denied. It covers a field far wider than that of negro suffrage and the present condition of that race. It is a danger that lurks and hides in the sources and fountains of power in every State. We have no standard by which to measure the disaster that may be brought upon us by ignorance and vice in citizens, when joined to corruption and fraud in suffrage. The voters of the Union who make and unmake the constitutions and upon whose will hangs the destinies of our government can transmit their supreme authority to no successors save the coming generations of voters who are the sole heirs of sovereign power. If that generation comes to its inheritance blinded by ignorance and corrupted by vice the fall of the Republic will be certain and remediless. The census has already sounded the alarm in the appalling figures which mark how the dangerously high tide of illiteracy has reached among our voters, and their children. To the South this question is of supreme importance. But the responsibility for the existence of slavery did not rest upon such alone. The nation itself is responsible for the extension of the suffrage, and is under special obligations to aid in removing the illiteracy which it has added to the voting population, for the North and South alike. There is

BUT ONE REMEDY.

All constitutional power of the nation and of the States, and all volunteer forces of the people should be summoned to meet this danger by the saving influence of universal education. It is the high privilege and sacred duty of those now living to educate their successors and fit them by intelligence and virtue, for the inheritance which awaits them. In this beneficent work sections and races should be forgotten and partisanship unknown. Let our people find a new meaning in divining the oracle which declares that "a little child shall lead them," for our little children will soon control the destinies of the republic. My countrymen, we do not now differ in our judgement concerning the controversies of past generations, and fifty years hence our children will not be divided in their opinions concerning our controversies. They will surely bless their fathers and their fathers' God that the union was preserved, that slavery was overthrown, and that both races were made equal before the law. We may hasten or we may retard but we cannot prevent the final reconciliation. Is it not possible for us now to make a truce with time by anticipating and accepting its inevitable verdict? Enterprises of the highest importance to our moral and material well being invite us, and offer ample scope for the employment of our best power. Let all our people, leaving behind them the battle-fields of past issues, move forward, and in the strength of liberty and the restored union, win the grander victories of peace.

THE INTERESTS OF AGRICULTURE

deserve more attention from the Government than they have yet received. The farms of the United States afford homes and employment for more than one-half of our people and furnish much the largest part of all our exports. As the government lights our coasts for the benefit of commerce, so it should give tillers of the soil the best lights of practical science and experience. Our manufactures are rapidly making us industrially independent, and are proving to capital and labor new and profitable fields of employment. Their steady and healthy growth should still be maintained. Our facilities for transportation should be promoted by the continued improvement of our harbors and great interior waterways, and by the increase of our tonnage on the ocean. The development of the world's commerce has led an urgent demand for

shortening the great sea voyage around Cape Horn by constructing ship canals or railways

ACROSS THE ISTHMS

which unites two continents.

And now, fellow citizens, I am about to assume the great trust which you have committed to my hands. I appeal to you for that earnest and thoughtful support which makes this government in fact, as it is in law, the government of the people. I shall greatly rely upon the wisdom and patriotism of Congress and of those who may share with me the responsibilities and duties of the administration; and above all, upon our efforts to promote the welfare of this great people and their government, I reverently invoke the support and blessings of Almighty God.

A Talk With Artemus Ward.

I met Artemus Ward but once. I was quite young at the time, and was acting as city editor of the *Star*, published at Schenectady, New York. While I was city editor of that sheet I met Artemus. I was standing on a bridge at the time, and in talking about newspaper work, was about to say something in regard to my heavy editorial responsibility, but Ward checked me by saying:

"What creek is this?"

"Creek!" I exclaimed. "Why, this is the Erie Canal."

"How far is it navigable?"

"Why, of course, it is navigable from one end to the other."

"Well," solemnly replied Ward, "that beats all the streams that I ever heard of. By the way, I think I can make out some large boats anchored up the stream there, what are they, propellers or side-wheelers?"

I replied that they were mere canal boats, and were moved by horse power.

"Ah! I didn't think the stream was as shallow as that," replied Artemus.

"As shallow as what?"

"Why, you say that those boats are pulled along by horses. Now, of course, they must walk along in front of the boat, mustn't they. I used to run a stone boat on my lamented Uncle John's farm, and I distinctly remember that the horses walked along in front."

I mentally declared that I had never before met with such ignorance. I spent some time in explaining the peculiarities of the big ditch, and just as I had begun to think that at last I had set the stranger right on the subject, he knocked my hopes into kindling wood by remarking:

"I suppose that when the stream dries up in summer they put the boats on wheels, don't they?"

Then I began again and explained every feature in the canal, from New York to Erie. How attentively he listened to my words. I can still see that melancholy face, lit by the sad light of the stars, and those mournful eyes looking into mine so earnestly; and again I hear, as I did then, after I had talked for nearly half an hour, going fully into the details of boating, the low, pathetic drawl:

"Any saw-mills on this stream that you know of?"

Shortly after some gentlemen came along who seemed to be acquainted with my obtuse friend. Presently one called him Artemus, and then I commenced to reflect. I always reflect best when I'm hid away somewhere, so I went and hid myself.—*Detroit Free Press.*

ITS ACTION IS SURE AND SAFE.

The celebrated Remedy Kidney-Wort can now be obtained in the usual dry vegetable form, or in liquid form. It is put in the latter way for the especial convenience of those who cannot readily prepare it. It will be found very concentrated and will act with equal efficiency in either case. Be sure and read the new advertisement for particulars.—*South and West.*