

new political issues. Lines of prejudice and hatred will fade before the advance of new ideas and economic interests. Party lines will be drawn upon questions of finance, of education and of morals. No longer will there be black parties and white parties, but parties in which blacks and whites heartily co-operate; no longer party lines of color, but parties formed on essential principles.

The education of the negro, the establishment of industries are to take years of patient toil. In his efforts for elevation the negro must have the sympathy and aid of the whites, both North and South. Every hope of the future prosperity of the South demands this. Every sacred memory of the past calls the North to her duty. From Plymouth Rock, where suffered the Pilgrim fathers, comes the cry, "Equality!" From Bunker Hill and Brandywine, where patriots fell for the rights of men, comes the cry, "All men are created equal!" From Shiloh and Atlanta—from a thousand battlefields, where sleep heroic dead—comes the call, "Equality of privilege to the negro!" From the rice fields of Carolina, from the cotton plantations of Alabama, from Virginia to far-off Texas, teeming with benighted negroes, from Clinton and Abilene—from a hundred places sacred for the shedding of the blood of negroes fighting for their rights—is echoed and re-echoed the cry, "Fulfil your pledges of political equality!" That the negro will do his part we cannot doubt. For his purpose, read his plea for education; for his fidelity, hear of the slave's devoted care for the wives and children of Southern soldiers as they marched to battle against his freedom. Would you know his courage? Ask the Union soldiers at Port Huron in '63 when the negro sergeant took the flag from the commanding officer with the words, "I'll bring back the flag to you in honor, or report to God the reason why;" and that night, as his comrades found his body in the enemy's works, the flag, drenched with the blood from his wounded side, covered him as a canopy of glory, while the soul of the negro answered the roll call before the throne of God. This is his record. From the past we judge the future. In it we read energy, perseverance and loyalty. Let the conscience and intelligence of the nation honor this loyalty; secure the negro in the rights it has conferred; protect him in the discharge of the duties it has imposed till the stars and stripes shall guarantee liberty and equality to every citizen, irrespective of "race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

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