

**FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING**  
OF THE  
**AMERICAN ANTI-SLAVERY SOCIETY.**  
New York, Wednesday, P. M. 4 o'clock. }  
May 2d, 1838. }

The American Anti-Slavery Society held its fifth annual meeting at the Broadway Tabernacle, in the city of New York, agreeable to the vote of last year and the call of the Executive Committee.

Lewis Tappan, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, called the meeting to order.  
In the absence of the President, Gerrit Smith, Esq., Vice President of the Society, took the chair.  
Prayer was offered by Rev. David Thurston, of Maine.

On motion of Joshua Leavitt, the Recording Secretary of the Society, Wm. M. Chace, Oliver Johnson and Charles L. Remond, were chosen additional Secretaries of the meeting.

On motion of Rev. David Root, it was voted that the fourth article of the Constitution be so construed as to include all, who have contributed to the funds of this Society, either directly or by contributions to the funds of an auxiliary society, as members of this Society.

On motion of Lewis Tappan, it was voted that a committee be appointed to bring forward business. The following gentlemen were chosen the committee, viz:

Henry T. Cheever, Maine; Samuel J. May, Mass.; David Root, N. H.; Orson S. Murray, Vt.; Austin F. Williams, Conn.; Wm. L. Chaplin, N. J.; Henry Grew, Penn.; Asa Fairbanks, R. I.; Chas. W. Denison, Del.; Aaron Wilcox, Ohio; H. B. Stanton, N. Y.; Joel Hawes, Conn.; G. Esten, N. J.; and J. G. Whittier, Penn.

The following motion was offered by Rev. A. St. Clair, of Mass.  
Resolved, That nothing in the Constitution of this Society shall be so construed as to deprive the delegates from any auxiliary societies of seats in its meetings or of the right of deliberating and acting—but that they be considered entitled to all the privileges hitherto enjoyed by delegates, by the uniform practice of the Society.

After discussion, on motion, the subject was referred to a committee to consider and report thereon, with instructions also, if they judge proper, to report any other amendments to the Constitution.

Messrs. Alanson St. Clair, Wm. Jay, Lewis Tappan, H. C. Wright, Edmund Quincy, were appointed the Committee.

Lewis Tappan, Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements, submitted several propositions to the meeting which were adopted.

- 1. That a Committee be appointed to examine the records of the Executive Committee and Sub-Committees.
- 2. That auditors be appointed to examine the Treasurer's, and Assistant Treasurer's Report.
- 3. That a Committee be appointed to examine the accounts, books, correspondence, and doings of the Publishing Agent for the past year.
- 4. That a Committee be appointed to examine the publications issued and sold by the Society.
- 5. That a committee be appointed on the Office Expenditures.
- 6. A committee to nominate officers for the ensuing year.

On motion of L. Tappan, it was voted, that the committee on Membership be directed to report on the expediency of amending the Constitution, so as to increase the numbers of the Executive Committee.

Adjourned to half-past 7 o'clock in the evening.  
WEDNESDAY EVENING, half-past 7, }  
May 3d, 1838. }

Rev. David Thurston in the chair.  
Statements were made by gentlemen from different sections of the country, in relation to the progress of the cause in their respective states.

The Society then adjourned to meet to-morrow, at 9 o'clock, A. M.  
THURSDAY MORNING, }  
May 3d, 1838. }

Meeting called to order by Gerrit Smith, Esq.  
Prayer by Rev. Henry Grew, Philadelphia.

The minutes of yesterday's proceeding were then read.—Rev. Mr. May, Chairman of the Committee on business, made a report of several resolutions. The report was accepted.

A resolution 'that we consider the Declaration of sentiments made by the Convention at Philadelphia, Dec. 4, 1837, a declaration of the principles of the American A. S. Society,' was debated the rest of the forenoon.

The following committees were announced from the chair, viz:

Committee to examine the records of the Executive Committee and Sub-Committees. Beriah Green, Whitesborough, N. Y.; H. G. Chapman, Boston, Mass.; Wm. Adams, Pawtucket, R. I. Auditors to examine the Treasurer's and Assistant Treasurer's Reports. Ellis G. Loring, Boston, Mass.; Robert Purvis, Philadelphia, Penn.; A. F. Williams, Farmington, Conn.

Committee to examine the accounts, books, Correspondence, and doings of the Publishing Agent for the past year. Edmund Quincy, Boston, Mass.; J. G. Whittier, Philadelphia, Penn.; Wm. Buffum, Smithfield, R. I. Committee to examine the publications issued and sold by the Society. Wm. Jay, Bedford, N. Y.; Henry Grew, Philadelphia, Penn.; John E. Fuller, Boston, Mass. Committee on office expenditures. Wendell Phillips, Boston, Mass.; W. L. Chaplin, Utica, N. Y.; Joel Hawes, Hartford, Conn. Committee to nominate officers for the year ensuing. H. T. Cheever, Maine; Amos Farnsworth, Mass.; Samuel Lee, N. H.; Orson S. Murray, Vermont.; Wm. Adams, R. I.; Doct. E. D. Hudson, Conn.; W. L. Chaplin, N. Y.; I. N. Dougherty, N. J.; Robert Purvis, Penn.; Charles W. Denison, Delaware.

The Committee on membership, &c., made a report which was laid upon the table.  
Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.  
THURSDAY AFTERNOON, }  
May 3d, 1838. }

Gerrit Smith, Esq., in the chair.  
Prayer by Rev. Dr. Cox, of Brooklyn, L. I.  
Lewis Tappan read a letter from Mr. Hitchcock, a missionary to the Sandwich Islands. On motion it was voted that this letter with extracts from others of the same import from Messrs. Green and Gulick, and from Mrs. Wade in Burmah, be printed and circulated among the members of the different religious bodies that are to meet in this city the coming week.

The Report of the Committee on membership and alterations of the Constitution was called up and the amendment to the 9th article was adopted. The further consideration of this report was laid upon the table until 9 o'clock, to-morrow morning. The 9th article, as amended, is as follows:

ART. IX.  
'Any Anti-Slavery Society, founded on the same principles, may become auxiliary to this Society, and be entitled to be represented at its meetings. The officers of auxiliary societies shall be ex-officio of the Parent Institution.'

Adjourned to half past 7 o'clock in the evening.  
THURSDAY EVENING, }  
May 3d, 1838. }

Arthur Tappan, President of the Society, in the chair.  
Prayer by Rev. Joel Hawes, of Hartford, Conn.  
Mr. May, Chairman of the business committee, submitted the following resolution, which, after discussion, was rejected; and on division, 19 rose in the affirmative, and 44 in the negative.

Resolved, That we earnestly desire that the agents and members of this Society, while engaged in advocating the pure and pacific principles of emancipation, may continue patient under their manifold provocations, forgiving their enemies, not relying upon physical strength for their defence against the violence of others, but by their patient endurance of evil, evince that the spirit of their whole mission was one of 'peace on earth and good will to men.'

FRIDAY, A. M., May 4, 1838.  
Gerrit Smith, Esq., in the chair.  
Prayer by Rev. J. C. Beaman, of Middletown, Ct.  
Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

On motion, it was voted that Dr. Hawes, of Conn. be excused from the committee on office expenditures. Mr. Monroe was appointed in his place.

The report of the committee on membership was called up, and the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a committee of five be raised, to whom shall be referred the proposed amendment of the 9th article; that this committee be instructed to revise

the whole Constitution of the American Anti-Slavery Society, and report to the Executive Committee the alterations they may think necessary; in order to their being published in the Liberator at least three months before the next annual meeting, so that the members of the Society may then be prepared to act upon them.

The following gentlemen are the committee:  
E. G. Loring, A. A. Phelps, D. L. Child, W. L. Chaplin, and J. T. Norton.

On motion, it was  
Resolved, That it is the duty of the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society, immediately to call the attention of abolitionists to the enterprise of establishing libraries containing a complete assortment of anti-slavery books in all the cities, towns and villages, and school districts throughout the country, and to devise means to accomplish this object.

On motion, voted that the report of the Executive Committee be laid on the table until to-morrow morning.  
Alvan Stewart, Esq., submitted the following resolution:

That the clause of the 2d article of this Society be struck out which admits 'that each state in which slavery exists has, by the Constitution of the United States, the exclusive right to legislate in regard to its abolition in said state.'

The meeting was addressed by Mr. Stewart, and Hon. W. Jay.  
The meeting adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock, P. M.  
FRIDAY AFTERNOON, May 4.

Gerrit Smith, Esq., in the chair.  
Prayer by Rev. Mr. Weeks, of Ohio.  
The committee to audit the Treasurer's report, resigned, for the want of time to attend to the duty, and the chair appointed the following gentlemen in their stead, viz.

Austin F. Williams, James S. Gibbons, and Dr. James McCune Smith.  
The debate on Mr. Stewart's proposition was renewed, and occupied the attention of the meeting the remainder of the afternoon.

Adjourned to 8 o'clock in the evening.  
FRIDAY EVENING, 8 o'clock.  
The President, Arthur Tappan, in the chair.

The debate upon Mr. Stewart's proposition to amend the Constitution resumed.  
Adjourned to 9 o'clock, A. M., to-morrow morning.  
SATURDAY MORNING, }  
May 5, 1838. }

Gerrit Smith, Esq., in the chair.  
Prayer by Rev. Mr. Robinson, of Maine.  
The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read.

A resolution with several questions to be pronounced to the candidates who may be before the people of the United States, for the offices of President and Vice-President, at the next election, was submitted by the business committee, and referred to a committee on political action.

Two other resolutions were submitted by the business committee, the first of which was adopted as follows:  
Resolved, That in our efforts to abolish slavery, we meet each other, not as members of any religious or political party; but as abolitionists, on the broad ground of common brotherhood and humanity, as moral and accountable beings, entitled to equal rights and privileges.

The other having reference to religious tests, was laid on the table.  
The debate was continued on Mr. Stewart's resolution. The vote being called, by yeas and nays, it was rejected, 46 voting in the affirmative, and 38 in the negative; two-thirds being required to alter the constitution.

Adjourned to 4 o'clock, P. M.  
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, May 5.  
Gerrit Smith, Esq., in the chair.

Prayer by Rev. O. Scott, of Mass.  
E. Wright, Jr., read portions of the Annual Report. On motion, the report was referred to an Executive Committee to dispose of.

Hon. Wm. Jay, from the committee on publications, submitted the following report:  
'The committee on the publications of this Society report, that, in their opinion, these publications are sound in doctrine, and well calculated to promote the great objects of the Society.'

The report was accepted, and the committee discharged.  
Adjourned till 8 o'clock this evening.  
SATURDAY EVENING.

Alvan Stewart, Esq., was called to the chair.  
A resolution from the business committee, in reference to the free colored people was laid on the table.

The committee on nominations submitted their report, which was accepted and laid on the table, and the committee were discharged.

The resolution having reference to religious tests was discussed.  
Adjourned to Monday morning, at 9 o'clock.  
MONDAY MORNING, }  
May 7, 1838. }

The meeting was called to order by Gerrit Smith, Esq.  
Prayer by Rev. Theodore S. Wright, of New York city.

Minutes read, verbally amended and approved.  
The chairman of the business committee read a number of resolutions which had been submitted to them. The two following were adopted:

1. Resolved, That the exigencies of the anti-slavery enterprise urgently demand the efficient and persevering efforts of this society—that its energies should be especially applied to secure a sufficient supply of books and publications for the instruction of the national mind in the grand principles of human rights, and the auxiliaries in states where they have not yet been formed.

2. Resolved, That in prosecuting its great work of reformation, this society, under God, must rely upon the confidence and steady support of its friends and auxiliaries.

The third resolution on state organization, after discussion, was referred to a committee, consisting of one from each state represented and one from the Executive Committee. L. Tappan, D. Thurston, D. Root, O. S. Murray, A. St. Clair, T. W. Dorr, W. L. Chaplin, J. C. Beaman, J. Leavitt, J. G. Whittier, S. Crothers and C. W. Denison were appointed the committee.

On motion of Oliver Johnson, the following resolutions were introduced as a substitute for that which was under discussion when the society adjourned on Saturday; and unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it is the glory of the anti-slavery cause, that its principles are of such fundamental importance to the welfare of the whole human family, that men who differ widely from each other on political and theological subjects, can labor harmoniously together for its promotion, and that no political party, or religious denomination, which is not in itself corrupt, has any thing to fear from its progress or final triumph.

Resolved, That while we hail with joy the efforts of our brethren of any religious denomination in which slavery exists, to purify their own church from the sin of slavery; we should deprecate the formation of any Anti-Slavery Society, which imposes a religious or political test for the purpose of rendering the anti-slavery cause subservient to the interests of a sect or party, or of opposing existing organizations.

The committee on the books, &c. of the publishing agent were discharged, on their own request, for the want of time to attend to the business, and Messrs. Thurston, Coddington and Grew were appointed in their place.  
Adjourned to half-past 3 o'clock this afternoon.  
MONDAY AFTERNOON, }  
May 7, 1838. }

GERRIT SMITH in the chair.  
Prayer by Rev. C. B. Ray of New York city.  
The committee on office expenditures were discharged at their own request, and Dr. J. McCune Smith, Jas. S. Gibbons and Dr. Thomas Ritter were appointed in their place.

The committee to whom was referred the subject of an arrangement between the Executive Committee and the state societies reported the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That it be recommended to such state or other auxiliaries as are disposed to take the charge of the abolition cause within their respective fields, to make arrangements with the Executive Committee of this society, guaranteeing to our treasury such stated payments as may be judged reasonable, and then assume within their own limits the entire direction of lecturers and agents in forming local societies, collecting funds, circulating memorials and establishing libraries; and that this society will not send its agents to labor for these objects in such states as carry out this plan, except in concurrence with the State Executive Committee.

The following resolutions were presented by the Business Committee and adopted:

Resolved, That Saml. E. Cornish, Wm. Yates, C. B. Ray, of N. Y. Jehiel C. Beaman, of Conn. Henry Grew, of Penn. and Ch. W. Dennison, of Del. be a committee to report at an early day to the Executive Committee on the following topics:

1st. The importance of agricultural pursuits for free colored men.

2d. The importance of mechanical trades and the necessity of close and undeviating attention to mechanical occupations.

3d. The kind of education most needed by colored youth.

4th. The necessity of colored men, who could be MEN and FREEMEN, having a periodical of THEIR OWN—devoted exclusively to their interests, and conducted by THEMSELVES.

Whereas, Thomas L. Jennings, Rev. Theodore S. Wright, Charles B. Ray and Wm. Yates have appeared before the Business Committee of this society and stated that the Colored American is in need of immediate and more extended support—and that it is wished in behalf of the same to present its claims to the support of the present meeting of the American Anti-Slavery Society,—Therefore,

Resolved, That an opportunity to present such claims be given; and afterwards that slips of paper be circulated to obtain the names of such as are inclined to subscribe—and of such as are willing to give pledges to get other subscribers.

Resolved, That this society regards the 'COLORED AMERICAN' as an efficient and useful auxiliary in the

cause of human rights, and entitled to the patronage and support of the friends of that cause, in all parts of the country.

Resolved, That the recent decision of the 'Reform Convention' of Pennsylvania, disfranchising 40,000 citizens on account of their complexion, and depriving them of rights which they have enjoyed for nearly half a century, is a mournful evidence of the power of slavery over the legislature of a free state, and an additional incentive to increased exertion on our part for the overthrow of the execrable system.

Resolved, That our fellow-citizens thus threatened with disfranchisement, by their calm, manly and dignified 'Appeal' against the proceedings of the 'Reform Convention,' have entitled themselves to our respect and sympathy.

Resolved, That whatever may be the event, whether the people of Pennsylvania shall approve or reject the proposal of the Reform Convention, we recommend our injured fellow citizens to a course of calmness and forbearance,—not voluntarily relinquishing any of their rights; but patiently and firmly enduring their present trial in the assurance that the day of their deliverance is not far distant.

Resolved, That we shall deprecate the organization of any abolition political party, but that we recommend to abolitionists throughout the country to interrogate candidates for office with reference to their opinions on subjects connected with the abolition of slavery, and to vote irrespective of party for those only who will advocate the principles of universal liberty.

Adjourned till eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

TUESDAY MORNING, }  
May 8, 1838. }

In the absence of the President and Vice-Presidents, Rev. David Thurston of Maine was called to the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer by Rev. George Stairs, of Utica.

The minutes of yesterday's proceedings were read. Resolved, That we recommend to Abolitionists to abstain as far as practicable from the use of the products of slave labor.

On report of the Business Committee it was Resolved, That the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society be directed, at a proper time, to cause the following inquiries to be addressed to the several gentlemen who may be before the people of the United States as candidates for the offices of President and Vice President, at the next election:

1. Are you in favor of abolishing slavery in the District of Columbia,—for the honor and welfare of the nation?

2. Are you in favor of so regulating the commerce between the respective states that human beings shall not be made subjects of such trade?

3. Are you opposed to the annexation of Texas to this Union, under any circumstances, so long as slaves are held therein?

4. Are you in favor of acknowledging the independence of Hayti, and of establishing commercial relations with that nation on the same terms with the most favored nations?

Resolved, That we observe with feelings of horror and execration, an export slave-trade, commenced and prosecuted between the United States and Texas; and earnestly call on every patriot, and especially on members of Congress, to instant, persevering, and effectual exertions to put a stop to this nefarious traffic, and thus prevent our country from becoming the Guinea of the New World.

The report of the Committee of Nominations was taken up and adopted, and the following were elected as officers of the American Anti-Slavery Society for the ensuing year. [List in our next.]

The Committee on the records of the Executive Committee reported,

That they have found the books in good order, indicating great enterprise, activity and fidelity on the part of our Executive Committee, and marked and happy progress in the history of our cause.

They would respectfully suggest the apprehension that labors unduly severe have been imposed upon the publishing agent and assistant treasurer, and recommend that particular attention to this matter be given by the Ex. Committee.

The report was adopted.

Resolved, That the prejudice against our colored brethren, so extensively cherished in the public mind, and presenting a barrier of direful efficacy to the advancement of our noble enterprise, is anti-Christian and anti-republican, and demands our continued holy exertions for its entire abolition.

Resolved, That George Bourne, Charles W. Denison, Wm. Lloyd Garrison, Beriah Green, Samuel J. May, Amos A. Phelps, O. Scott, John G. Whittier, and Hiram Wilson, be a committee to prepare a declaration which shall announce the judgment of the American Anti-Slavery Society concerning the common error that our enterprise is of a political and not religious character.

Voted, That when we adjourn, it be till four o'clock this afternoon. The Society then adjourned to attend the public exercises of the Anniversary.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON, }  
May 8th, 1838. }

In the absence of the President and Vice Presidents, William Buffum, of Rhode Island, was called to the chair.

The following resolutions were presented by the business committee, and adopted:

Resolved, That while we rejoice at the success of many hundreds of self-emancipated slaves, who by the exercise of their inalienable rights, have, during the past year, gained a secure retreat under the protection of a government which holds no compromise with SLAVERY; we yet cannot but regret the loss to our own country, of so many intelligent, industrious and valuable citizens, whose influence is needed in the great work of emancipation and elevation now before us.

Resolved, That any person who aids in restoring the fugitive to his master, and in reimposing the chains of slavery upon a fellow-being, whether acting as a public officer or otherwise, is guilty of a crime against freedom, humanity and religion—and should be regarded as the abettor of a base and cruel despotism.

Resolved, That we recommend to abolitionists, especially in the cities and larger villages and towns, to appoint committees of vigilance, whose duty it shall be to assist fugitives from slavery, in making their escape, or in a legal vindication of their rights.

Resolved, That our hearts have been cheered by the intelligence which has reached us, of the energetic measures adopted by our faithful co-adjutors in England, for the complete emancipation of the slaves in the West Indies, and the overthrow of the system of apprenticeship; and that we rejoice in the evidence, which recent events have furnished us, that through the instrumentality of our eloquent friend, Geo. Thompson, and his associates and fellow-laborers, the people of Great Britain are rising in their might to destroy the last vestige of slavery in their colonies.

Resolved, That this Society highly approve of the plan of permanent quarterly subscriptions, as adopted by the N. Y. State A. S. Society, and recommend it to friends of the cause throughout the country for immediate and general adoption.

Statements were made by Lewis C. Gunn, recently returned from Hayti, showing the disadvantages and oppressions connected with the system of colonization and apprenticeship in that island.

The business of the Society having been harmoniously brought to a close, this great and interesting meeting was adjourned sine die.

ABSTRACT

Of the fifth Annual Report of the Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society.

The Executive Committee of the American Anti-Slavery Society, present their fifth annual report with renewed confidence that the enterprise which has been committed to their care, enjoys the favor of Almighty God. The seal which He has always set upon every successful and glorious reformation, he has suffered to be stamped upon this. Our principles now speaking through the blood of the martyred LOVEJOY, partake visibly of that efficacy which eighteen centuries ago smote into dust the chains of idolatry; and which has in later times, made the rulers of Christendom, the servants instead of the lords of their people.

Though far less labor has been expended by the committee than heretofore in extending the organization of Auxiliaries, the reports which have reached us show 340 societies organized since the last anniversary; making the whole number upon the list 1346.

State Societies have been organized in ILLINOIS, DELAWARE, and CONNECTICUT, and measures are in progress for another in INDIANA. The nine State Societies previously in existence, have continued in energetic and successful action.

That of Vermont has paid to the American Society during the year, double the amount of its pledge at the last anniversary. That of Massachusetts has exceeded its munificent pledge of \$10,000; and that of New York has commenced and is successfully prosecuting a plan for establishing a select Anti-Slavery library in every school district in the State. The Societies of Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York and Ohio, support each a newspaper of its own, devoted to the common cause. That of Pennsylvania supports two; one on each side of the mountains.\*

The Liberator, which was last year under the patronage of the Massachusetts Society, commenced its eighth volume as an independent establishment.

number of important conventions, embracing numerous delegates from States, has been much longer than in any former year.

Although the unprecedented commercial embarrassments of the country have cut off or greatly diminished many of the sources from which the society has hitherto derived its funds, it will be seen from the reports of the Treasurer and publishing agent, that the receipts during the year have been \$44,000, being an increase over the receipts of last year of \$5,000. Those who have examined the detailed acknowledgments in the Emancipator, will have perceived that a much larger proportion of the donations than in former years consists of small sums contributed among the mass of the people—a fact which clearly indicates the solid advancement of our cause.

The issues from the press during the year have been as follows:—

Human Rights,	Copies,
Emancipator,	187,316.
Circulars & Prints,	193,800.
Bound Volumes,	42,100.
Tracts & Pamphlets,	12,051.
Slaves' Friend,	72,732.
Anti-Slavery Record,	97,600.
Total,	416,502.

Of these publications the Committee cannot forbear to characterize two as marking an era in the Anti-Slavery cause. The work on emancipation in the West Indies, the joint production of Rev. JAMES A. TROOME of Kentucky, and the late JOSEPH HORACE KIMBALL, Esq., of New Hampshire (over whose grave the friends of humanity have good cause to weep,) leaves nothing to be wished for in the way of testimony and experience in favor of the safety and profitability of immediate emancipation, and its superiority on all points of expediency over any gradual method, in any possible condition of the slave. We have too much confidence in the candor of our countrymen at large to believe, that they can withstand such statements of fact, or withhold their co-operation from an enterprise which is borne out by the now settled results of sufficiently large and varied experiments, while it is opposed only by unsubstantial hypothesis or the fantastic products of the imagination.

The other work to which we allude is an essay on 'the power of Congress over slavery in the District of Columbia,' first published in the form of letters under the signature of Wylthe, in the N. Y. Evening Post. The writer of this essay, bringing the light of history in a focal blaze upon his question, has not only shown that Congress has power under the constitution to abolish slavery in the District, and annihilated the position of Mr. Van Buren and Mr. Clay, that this power cannot be exercised consistently with implied good faith towards the States that ceded the District; but has demonstrated that implied good faith required of the States themselves that slavery should long since have been abolished within their own limits.

Another publication of much interest, is the narrative of James Williams, a fugitive from slavery in Alabama, giving a view of the interior of southern institutions. It is sufficient to say that no pains were spared to apply to the veracity of the narrator every test that the circumstances of the case admitted, and a large number of gentlemen were well satisfied that there could be no imposition in the story without attributing to its author such powers of mind, as few men, either white or black, could justly lay claim to. It was published in connection with abundant facts, showing its statements to be at least within the bounds of probability. So far as any contradiction has yet been made at the South, it is of a nature to confirm rather than shake belief.

The Committee have taken measures which they hope will result in placing these works in the hands of all our fellow-citizens throughout the land.

There have been in the service of the Society during the last year 33 travelling agents, the aggregate of whose time in the employment of the Society has been 27 years.

Three of these agents, as heretofore, have devoted themselves to the interests of our free colored brethren. This labor and expense have been paid a thousand fold, by the laudable, and to some extent successful efforts of our colored brethren, to conquer by good conduct the prejudice that has so cruelly oppressed them. In Ohio they are in large numbers purchasing new land and applying themselves to the clearing and cultivation of the soil. Encouraging progress has also been made in that State toward the abolition of the iniquitous laws under which they suffer. The agent who has labored east of the mountains, has published a valuable collection of facts and arguments in regard to the disabilities of colored men, which cannot fail to aid in the restoration of their rights. We might easily submit proofs, that temperance, industry and education, are doing their proper work among our colored friends. A still stronger indication that they will soon look out of countenance the supercilious pride of color, is the fact that a weekly newspaper, The Colored American, established, supported, and edited altogether by themselves, can challenge comparison, both in a moral and literary point of view, with newspapers of the highest class among us.

Aware of the importance of meeting the call for information from the lips of the living lecturer, and that not one of a hundred, or perhaps thousand of such calls could be answered by the travelling lecturers, who were or could be employed, the committee has resorted to the employment of local agents. These are professional and other gentlemen, who make short excursions in their own vicinity, as their other engagements will permit, the committee furnishing them gratuitously the Society's publications, and paying their expenses incurred in the service of the Society. About seventy-five individuals have accepted this office, and the amount of labor performed has been incalculably great, at a very moderate expense to the Society.

In pursuance of the resolutions of the Society, at its last annual meeting, the committee has turned much of its attention to the subject of petitioning Congress and the State Legislatures; and it is with unfeigned thanks to God, that we refer to the noble response of our fellow-citizens. Petitions for the abolition of slavery in the District of Columbia and in the territories, and of the slave-trade between the States, have been poured into Congress beyond any precedent. And since, by the resolution of the House of Representatives of December 21st, 1837, all such petitions have been laid upon the table, 'without being debated, printed, read or referred,' remonstrances have been forwarded to that branch against this violation of the constitutional right of petition. Petitions and remonstrances have been addressed to Congress, from all parts of the North, against the annexation to the United States, of the slaveholding republic of Texas, or any new slaveholding State. The Committee has been able to ascertain the number of petitioners on these various subjects only in the House of Representatives, the clerk of the Senate having refused their agent permission to enumerate those who addressed that body. The petitioners to the House of Representatives, from the commencement of the extra session to the 1st of May, were as follows:

	Men.	Women.	Total.
For abolition in the District,	51,366	78,632	130,168
Against the annexation of Texas,	104,973	77,419	182,392
Rescinding the gag resolution,	21,015	10,821	31,836
Against admitting any new slave State,	11,770	10,391	22,161
For abolition of the slave-trade between the States,	11,864	11,541	23,405

For abolition of slavery in the Territories, 9,120 12,083 21,212  
At the extra session for rescinding the gag resolution of Jan. 21, 1837. 3,377 3,277

Total, 213,394 201,077 414,471  
The number in the Senate is estimated to have been about two-thirds as great as that in the House.

Petitions have also been presented to the several State Legislatures of the free States, whose sessions have occurred since our last annual meeting, praying for the abolition of such laws as make distinctions among citizens on account of color, for the extension of the right of trial by jury to persons claimed as fugitive slaves, and for resolutions on the subject of the annexation of Texas, the right of petition, slavery in the District of Columbia, &c. The State action thus called forth, has been, in a high degree, cheering. Vermont and Massachusetts have, with scarcely any reservation, responded favorably to the prayers of their petitioners, and taken decidedly abolition ground. Favorable action has also been had in one, if not both branches of the Legislatures of Maine, Rhode Island, New York, Ohio, and Michigan, on the questions of Texas and the right of petition.

The present occasion does not afford time to give even an index of the important events bearing on the cause of the slave, that have occurred during the last year. A multitude of religious bodies at the north, have thoroughly taken the side of the slave, and those national organizations which have so long endeavored to sanctify the plunder of the poor by bringing it into the household of Christ, are convulsed. Governors and legislatures, who, two or three years ago, talked of prosecuting abolitionists at common law, or suppressing their sentiments by penal enactments, have exchanged menace for courtesy, and even granted the use of their halls for public abolition lectures. The voice of genuine abolitionism has been heard on the floors of both houses of Congress, and disgraceful as are the unconstitutional measures by which the slaveholders have sought to drown it, they have proved that it will yet be heard effectually.— Since the insurrectionary meeting in the capitol, of Dec. 20th, and the presentation of the extraordinary resolutions of Mr. Calhoun in the Senate, there can be no doubt, with any man of sufficient reflection, that the south, under the impulse of a regenerated public sentiment at the north, will sooner arrive at a general abolition of slavery, than at a dissolution of the Union. The great southern scheme of bringing into the Union an immense territory, to be cut up into slaveholding states, whereby to invigorate the slave system, and give it the permanent control of our republic, checked by northern remonstrance, has fallen back upon diplomatic craft. The enterprise is henceforth to be carried by sapping and not by storm. The attitude assumed by our Executive towards Mexico, imposing upon her, as a condition of peace with us, the immediate adjustment of a description of claims which, against her sister republics, are not enforced, and passing over in silence the enormous grievances of which she has to complain, in the invasion and dismemberment of her territory by our citizens, indicates a determination to achieve the favorite enterprise of the south, at whatever sacrifice of the interests of liberty and the honor of the nation. Four judicial decisions, given during the year, are important in themselves, and as signs of the times. The Supreme Court of Connecticut has adopted the doctrine of Massachusetts, that a slave, brought by his master's consent, becomes free on reaching her soil.— The Supreme Court of Ohio has pronounced color no presumption of slavery in that state. The District Court of the United States has laid down the opposite doctrine in New Jersey. The Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has vied with the (so called) Reform Convention, in stripping the colored tax-payers of Pennsylvania, of the right of suffrage, now peaceably enjoyed for forty-seven years. Here is the justice of a Jeffries entering the lists, with the foulest prejudice that ever trampled on reason, to see which should have the credit of tearing the principles of Franklin from the charter of his adopted state! This year has taught America a lesson in regard to the incompatibility of law and slavery, which she must profit by or perish. Slavery has demanded the sacrifice of one of the purest and most irreproachable presses in the country, and a northern community has been found that relaxed the arm of law, and permitted the savage executioners of this mandate to pursue their victim openly with the instruments of death—to destroy press after press—and, at last, to deliberately shoot the heroic editor through the heart. Yes, while sworn murderers were watching for the noble-hearted LOVEJOY, at the corners of the streets, there were men of high character—ministers of law, both human and divine—men pledged by eternal sanctions to protect every citizen in the exercise of his rights, who volunteered as confederates, and pointing to the pistols and 'bowie knives,' of the mob, bid him bow the knee to slavery, and surrender his American liberty! In his fall, his doctrine rose. He has done more in his death than he could have done in his life, and the day seems not far distant when his murderers will garnish and honor his sepulchre.

Full as is the south of 'threatening and slaughter,' against the friends of emancipation, her conscience and reason are at work. She begins to foresee the day when the circumambient sentiment of the world will take away the gains of her cruel system, and when expediency will join with conscience for its abolition. 'Let our FEARS,' said Mr. Jenkins, in his place in the legislature of Mississippi, 'be as great as they may; let our abhorrence of their hellish doctrines be as strong as imagination can conceive, let us SUPPRESS OUR FEARS; let us not afford them (the abolitionists) the triumph of knowing that we consider that they have any probability of success—let our course be one of silence and determination. Sir, let us not notice the visionary projects of these enthusiasts of the north, or at least, not appear to notice them!'

True abolition fires are kindling up in that Switzerland of America, the mountains of eastern Tennessee. Kentucky, strongly as she is compelled by her sister slave states to anathematize the abolitionists, can no longer conceal her dissatisfaction with slavery.

Abroad, the most cheering events have taken place. Montserrat, one of the British colonies, has resolved to exchange the modified slavery of apprenticeship for the entire abolition which has succeeded so happily in Antigua and Bermuda. Barbadoes, with its 90,000 apprentices, is debating the question whether it shall follow in the same course. France, with her 260,000 colonial slaves, is addressing herself to pursue the track of England—her colored slaveholders, who hold about one-eighth part of her slaves, having spontaneously offered to free them, and petitioned for a general abolition. England herself, from the mightiest minds of her parliament to the operatives of her workshops, is rousing her energies to retrieve the errors of her immortal act of 1834. She is now convinced of the folly of all preparations for the enjoyment of inalienable rights. She knows now to a certainty, that there are no human hands in which a whip can be placed that shall do the work of wages. Hayti has at length obtained from France a full recognition of the freedom, sovereignty, and independence which she has actually possessed for the last thirty-four years. Our wicked prejudice must now furnish the

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only shadow of a reason for refusing to establish with her those international relations which interest and justice alike demand.

In view of these developments of the struggle which is going on so victoriously for truth against oppression—the committee recommend the more thorough, systematic, and permanent diffusion of anti-slavery publications; the extension of our organization by societies and conventions; the right use of suffrage; perseverance in petitioning, adding, to the prayers which we must not cease to offer till they are granted, one for the recognition of Haytian Independence; and, last but not least, offering the fraternal hand of fellowship and assistance to our colored brethren in their struggle for the full standing of men, and American citizens.

In the prosecution of such an object by such means—of human liberty by truth and brotherly love—we can never tire nor doubt of success. Our victory is no less sure than the laws of seed-time and harvest; and though tears may mingle with the seed which is now scattered amidst the frosts and snows of retiring winter, the sheaves shall yet be brought home, with shouts of unmingled joy, in the sunshine of unclouded peace.

The acceptance and publication of the Report was moved by WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON, of Boston, Mass. and seconded by R. P. G. WARREN, of Schenectady, N. Y. the venerable father of the Rev. Theodore S. Wright of New York city.

On motion of JAMES G. BIRNEY, Esq. one of the Corresponding Secretaries of the Society.

Resolved, That our grateful acknowledgments are due to Almighty God for His smiles upon the anti-slavery cause the past year, and that we devoutly commend to Him the enslaved, with increased confidence in the speedy accomplishment of His promise that the rod of the oppressor shall be broken, and the oppressed go free.

On motion of EDMUND QUINCY, Esq. of Boston, Mass. seconded by the Hon. Peleg Sprague, of Mass.

Resolved, That the doctrines of civil and religious liberty which our Puritan ancestors transplanted to these shores, which were fostered and defended by our revolutionary fathers, are identical with those principles of freedom, the blessings of which it is the object of the anti-slavery enterprise to extend and secure to all our countrymen.

On motion of JAMES McCURIE SMITH, M. D. of the city of New York, a native of this city, and a graduate of the University of Glasgow, in Scotland.

Resolved, That we contemplate with heartfelt satisfaction, the noble efforts that are making by the abolitionists in Great Britain and France for the total cessation of slavery, and its concomitant the slave-trade, and pledge to them our co-operation until, by the blessing of God, both these cruel customs shall wholly cease.

On motion of GEORGE SMITH, of Peterboro', N. Y.

Resolved, That a just and kind treatment of the colored people of the free states would contribute greatly to the termination of American slavery.

On motion of ALVAN STEWART, Esq. of Utica, N. Y.

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States in laying the petitions of hundreds of thousands of petitioners on the subject of slavery, upon the table, 'without debate, reading, reference, or printing, and with no farther action whatever thereon,' has been guilty of an alarming violation of the Federal Constitution.

Notices were read, among which was, by request, the notice of the New York Colonization Society meeting. The audience united in singing the verse,

From all that dwell, &c.

The Benediction was pronounced by Rev. Theodore S. Wright, of this city; and the vast congregation, the most of whom had remained riveted in solemn and deep attention for nearly five hours, slowly retired.

In our next, we shall give a sketch of the able speeches delivered, with the letters which were read from President Beecher, Dr. F. Julius LeMayne, Hon. John Quincy Adams, and Hon. F. H. Elmore, of S. C.