

send us there! It is collecting money for this purpose. Shall this be? Come out! Will you be shipped off? A public meeting to oppose the same is to be held on Thursday evening, the 12th of April, at Zion Church, Church street. It will be addressed by many speakers. Let nothing prevent you, come out, crowd old Zion! Admittance free.

**REV. HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET**  
And Rev. J. Sella Martin, of Boston, will defend the principles of the African Civilization Society, this (Thursday) evening, April 12th, at Zion Church, corner Church and Leonard streets.

At a quarter before 8 o'clock, the audience must have numbered between 1,000 and 1,200 persons, all apparently of the highest respectability, and until eight o'clock an ominous calm pervaded it, such as always precedes a storm. At that hour Rev. H. H. Garnet, accompanied by Rev. J. Sella Martin, entered, and was greeted with a round of applause. The gentlemen took their seats in a front row in the middle aisle, directly facing the reporters, who had their places assigned them inside the altar railings, where were also congregated the getters up of the meeting, Messrs. Downing, Pennington, Simons, Wake, Givens, Powers, and others.

Mr. George T. Downing called the meeting to order, and remarked that it was known that there had been a meeting of the African Civilization Society held at the Cooper Institute. This meeting had convinced them that the said society is but a new edition of the old Colonization Society. A letter from Harriet Martineau had been received, setting forth that certain agents of this society were in Europe, representing that the endorsement of the free colored people of this country had been given to this movement. This meeting had been called, to ask an expression from the people of approbation or disapprobation to this proceeding. In a conference it had been agreed that certain gentlemen should act as officers of the meeting, and they had prepared also a number of resolutions which they would offer for its consideration. They had also agreed to limit the speakers to fifteen minutes, as there would be a number of speakers. He then moved the adoption of the regulations and the list of officers.

Mr. Garnet—I object to this proceeding. I hope citizens will not allow a padlock to be put upon their lips. Let us have a fair field and open fight here to-night—that is all we ask. (Applause.)

Mr. Downing—We have come here to-night as a united people; at least that is my mind, and I think that is the mind of those with whom I am associated. We wish to take no advantage of any individual. The arrangements we proposed we thought were best to subserve the end we had in view. You know there are several announced to speak, who would take an hour and a half if they should all speak but fifteen minutes each. This is a meeting of the public, and we do not want two or three to monopolize the time.

Rev. Mr. Garnet—This is a public meeting. Here gentlemen come and make their arrangements—all done in the dark and in secret places—and then come up here and tell us that these gentlemen whom they have appointed are to speak, and then allow us to get an opportunity if we can. I will pledge myself, if this meeting is conducted on the plan that meetings ought to be conducted, and shall be conducted, in the city of New York—(applause)—if gentlemen will meet us fairly upon the question, we will wait until they have fairly made their statements, and we will pledge ourselves that but two persons in the audience will take the trouble to reply to them. But I stand here as a citizen of New York, invited as one of the public to take a part in this meeting, to oppose this plan, got up in secret places, and dished up in the form of a public meeting. Let the meeting take its course. That is all we ask. (Cheering.)

Prof. Reason—Is not the question on the adoption of the officers?

Mr. Garnet—There is the trick of the matter. The rules and the election of officers come together, so that if we swallow the one, we must gulp down the other. (Laughter and cheering.)

The gentlemen on either side, as well as of the audience, gave their coats an extra hitch upon their shoulders, in preparation for the squall which was plainly visible at no great distance.

Mr. Downing—We do not come here to take advantage of any one. I am in a sacred place. We are very sorry indeed, by the way, that there were twenty or thirty of us who were associated, and every thing which was done in this secret conclave has been set forth here to-night. The arrangements were simply what we thought the best for all parties interested. I for one am perfectly willing to throw open the meeting, and have it open, instead of selecting certain persons to speak; but that was the arrangement we agreed in conference to ask you to adopt, and if it is not your pleasure, you will vote it down. Bear in mind who was the party first to charge motives. We have not charged motives. Our resolutions, which you will hear read, do not reflect upon motives. We have simply come here honestly to ask your verdict, and the reverend gentleman comes here to charge motives. (Great disorder, with applause and hisses.)

Rev. Mr. Garnet—I move to amend the motion, so that the gentlemen nominated as President, Vice Presidents and Secretaries be voted into office; I have no opposition to them. I do not want to hinder the organization of this meeting; but every body who knows me in New York knows that I never will sit still to see any such dark-lantern concern as that.

Mr. Robert Hamilton called for the reading of the call for the meeting, before taking any vote.

Mr. Ransom F. Wake—I object to the reading of any documents before the organization of the meeting.

Mr. Garnet insisted that both of the calls should be read.

Several persons objected to the reading of the handbill without signatures, as it was anonymous. After several attempts on the part of Mr. Downing to speak, amid loud and repeated cries for the call, the Secretary, Mr. J. V. Givens, came forward, much excited, and proceeded to read the call, with occasional comments, which gave much dissatisfaction to the audience as well as to the Committee. He was frequently interrupted by cries of 'Go on! go on!' 'Read! read!'

The respectability of the names attached to this call seemed to exercise a soothing effect on the audience, who apparently hailed with joy this resurrection, they being so well, so long, and so favorably known to this community. The reading through with, Mr. Garnet requested that the other call be read.

Here commenced a scene inside the railing best described when compared with a lot of toads caught in a July shower. Here might have been seen the gentleman of feline appendages, the cat-o'-nine-tails, (Mr. Jeremiah Powers), switching the air in hopeless rage, whilst Messrs. Wake and Downing flew about in the vain endeavor to discipline the force. All this while, the audience were vociferous in their demands for the other call.

The Secretary—It is not a call. (More cries of 'Read it,' 'read that call.' 'It shan't be read.') Mr. Downing—I will read it. Before I read it, I want to make a little explanation. ('No,' 'no,' 'Read that call,' and great confusion.)

Mr. Downing attempted to read, but could not be heard in the confusion which prevailed. Mr. Garnet—Let the Secretary read it. The Secretary took it to read. (Great cheering.)

Rev. J. Sella Martin—I came to New York to hear—('The call,' 'the call.'). Just a word, if you please. ('The call,' 'Read the call,'—great noise.) I want to say this. ('Read it,' 'Read the call,' 'Order,' 'Sit down.'). Just wait a minute, if you please, ladies and gentlemen.

Cries of 'The call,' 'Read it,' and about a dozen and a half standing about the platform making gesticulations, and adding to the confusion by suggestions which could not be heard.

The Secretary then commenced reading the eponymous call, and the confusion instantly ceased. The paper having been read, was alternately hissed and cheered.

Mr. Downing put the question upon the adoption of the following list of officers for the meeting, and it was agreed on unanimously:—

President—Wm. A. Tyson.  
Vice Presidents—Rev. Messrs. Gray, Pennington, Hall, Dorrell and Tilmon.

Secretaries—Messrs. John V. Givens, — Marshall, John W. Hunter, and John V. DeGrasse.

The name of Rev. J. N. Gloucester having been suggested for one of the Vice Presidents, Mr. Garnet informed the audience that Mr. G. was in Troy.

Rev. Mr. Gray, [the pastor of Zion's Church]—This is a public meeting. It has been understood that certain matters would be laid before this meeting, and I go in for every man implicated or concerned to speak here, and not to gag any man down. What principles I have within me, I am prepared to let the world know, and if I am opposed to any man's principles, I want to put him on a level platform to speak for himself. [Applause.] Let us adhere like gentlemen, like men prepared to do business. We have not come here to tear up and overthrow, but to deliberate upon the subject, and whoever is in the wrong, let the community know it. We can do nothing while the meeting is in confusion. Please to hear us, and let the community judge.

Something like order being restored, upon taking the stand, Mr. Tyson said that he was in favor of a fair hearing from all sides. At a meeting of this character, held in a church, it would be well to ask the presence and blessing of God. He would therefore call upon the Rev. Mr. Pennington, who offered a prayer, invoking God's presence, and imploring him to hasten the time when 'Ethiopia shall stretch forth her hands unto God,' and again take her place among the nations of the earth.

The Chairman said that several letters had been received from men in whose long-trying friendship and services the colored people could not but have confidence.

Mr. Wake then read letters from Gerrit Smith, John F. Waugh, Oliver Johnson, William Wells Brown, Robert Purvis, John C. Bowers, Ezra R. Johnson, William C. Nell, and Franklin Turner—all strongly in opposition to any and every scheme for the colonization of the colored people in Africa, on any pretence whatever. The one from Gerrit Smith was loudly cheered, and that of Mr. John F. Waugh read and re-read amid laughter and great applause.

The reading of the letters being concluded—

Mr. Garnet said: I wish to hear the letter read to which these letters were in reply. I wish to know whether the statements were true which called forth these replies. I believe there were representations in it which could not be sustained. I call for the reading of that letter. (Cries of 'The letter! the letter!')

Mr. Downing—I stand here an American; I stand here a colored man, feeling the consciousness of having rights, and I stand up here in defence of my rights. ('Letter!' 'Letter!') What reason is there for crying out 'Letter,' when an individual gets up, and you don't know but he is going to give that letter? ('Letter,' 'Letter.'). I have the floor, and no letter shall be read until my rights are respected. ('Letter,' 'letter.'). Fellow-citizens, it is out of place to read that letter now, because we have not decided whether any more letters shall be read or not. There are more letters—

Mr. Garnet—I thought so. (Laughter.)

Mr. Downing—I wish to state that the gentleman is out of place in calling for the letter, and he knows it. ('Letter, letter.'). Gentlemen, the fact is—

The rest of the sentence was lost in the cry for the letter from male and female voices, from the floor and from the gallery.

Mr. Garnet—I ask that the letter be read. In that letter I have been charged with being a Colonizationist, and in league with slaveholding. Now I want that letter read.

Mr. Downing moved that the reading of all the other letters be deferred. (Hisses and tumult, and cries of 'Read the letter!')

The President called the meeting to order, and said he hoped the colored men would have more respect for themselves than to copy after the rowdy meetings of white men. (Laughter.)

Mr. Gray—If there is a letter here, I say read it, let it be what it may. (Tremendous cheering.)

Mr. Downing—I want to explain the matter. ('The letter—read it first, and explain afterwards.')

Mr. Downing stated that the letter was not in the house, but he could state every word in it: 'Dear Sir—It has been reported in Europe'—

Mr. Garnet protested against any such proceedings. Gentlemen had read eight or ten letters denouncing him, and bringing charges against him, which, if true, would render him worthy of an ignominious death. He asked that the letter to which these eight or ten letters were a reply should be read. (Great confusion for several minutes.)

Mr. Downing at last succeeded in saying that Mr. Garnet's name was not mentioned in the letter. The letter was as follows—he would give his honor that he repeated it correctly: 'Dear Sir—It has been reported in Europe that the consent of the colored people in the United States, and of the Abolitionists, has been obtained in behalf of the African Civilization Society. We ask you whether the colored people in your place have expressed any such sentiment or not?—whether they approve of that Society or not?—whether they approve of emigration?' That is all that was said. We will publish the letter.

Mr. Garnet—It is extremely singular that gentlemen should have remembered to bring these eight or ten letters, and should forget to remember to bring this one. (Laughter.)

Amid much confusion, while Messrs. Downing, Garnet, and everybody else were trying to speak, Mr. Samuel J. Howard gave notice, as a trustee of the church, that unless order was restored, the lights would be put out and the house closed. Finally, Mr. Downing succeeded in obtaining the attention of the house to the reading of the following resolutions:—

Whereas, The African Civilization Society, in its representations abroad and its workings here at home, is pursuing a policy calculated to build up anew the partially-broken-down wall of prejudice which so hindered our elevation; and whereas, we have reason to believe that besides misleading our own people, it is regarded with favor by our haters, the Colonizationists, as a new name under which we can be induced, without suspicion, to deny our past hostility to their hated Society; therefore we consider it proper to declare our views of the African Civilization Society by the following resolutions:—

Resolved, That whereas Harriet Martineau has written a letter to this country asking for information in relation to the African Civilization Society, in which she says that certain agents of that Society are representing in Europe that 'the support of the Abolitionists and free people of color in the United States is obtained' in its favor, we, in response thereto, do declare to the world our uncompromising condemnation of and opposition to said Society; we declare said agents' representations to be not founded in fact.

Resolved, That this 'condemnation of and opposition to' this Society is not because of any indifference on our part to the civilization of Africa, or any other part of God's earth that needs civilizing; it is not because we would not have a pure Christianity carried there; it is not because we would not have any man go anywhere to benefit his condition; it is not because we are opposed to the cultivation of cotton in Africa; but because we believe the African Civilization Society to be no other than an auxiliary to the negro-hating American Colonization Society; (applause, and cries of order;) and that both are alike exercising a depressing influence upon the welfare of a colored man in this country, and would have him have the same.

Resolved, That both Societies partake of a like deceptive character; that we place as much confidence in one as in the other when they assert, through Conventions or otherwise, that they would colonize us only with our own consent; we believe that our op-

pressors—those supporting these Societies with their moneys, hiring colored men to advocate these interests—would use direct coercive measures to force us from our homes, whenever they should deem it their policy so to do.

Resolved, That as the Republican party is deceptively advancing the ideas, for political ends, of 'shipping off the negro,' with the sole purpose of parrying off the charge of being 'negro-worshippers,' it is unfortunate that a Society with a colored man for its figure-head should exist favoring their ends.

Resolved, That the existence of this African Civilization Society is further deplorable, because it holds out to those who would have us out of the country, the idea that we may be induced to leave, and thereby feeds and gives strength to a prejudice existing against us; because it keeps needful deeds from being done here for us, which might otherwise be done.

Resolved, That we wish it to be firmly fixed in the minds of our fellow-countrymen, the American people, that we, as a body, in any number, do not intend to leave this, our home—that we intend to stay here—(applause)—to have our children enjoy a victory over hate and wrong, the promise of which is every day indicating itself.

Resolved, That we have not a single worthy, able man to spare from our midst, because of the needful work to be done here—(applause and laughter)—that Africa needs no useful men, and that, in fact, judging from the recent reliable accounts therefrom, there are industry, intelligence, enterprise, and a morality true of the country, which would put to the blush many of those whom the Society would send there; which would alike be true of very many of the dominant class of our countrymen.

Resolved, That we earnestly solicit the Rev. Messrs. Smith, Cuyler, McClintock, Hague, Bourne, Tyng and others, co-workers in behalf of the African Civilization Society, to do something for us here—here, at home—by breaking down caste in their churches, in their schools, in their shops, in the matter of the elective franchise, as an earnest of sincerity on their part in prating so loudly and so incessantly about their regard for us in connection with the evangelizing and civilizing of Africans, to which prating they have lately added the cultivation of cotton.

Resolved, That 'The African Civilization Society,' having called at different times to its platform gentlemen who are not only friends of, but members and open defenders of 'The American Colonization Society,' has, by this course, shown a desire to break down the wall of separation between this last named Society, and our known opposition to and detestation of it; and inviting for itself the new name of 'Deceptive Auxiliary to the American Colonization Society,' and we brand it as such.

Resolved, That our hope for the emancipation of the slave in this country does not rest either on the cultivation of cotton in Africa, nor on the building up of a negro nationality there; but on the radical change of public opinion here, to be brought about by a continued anti-slavery agitation.

Mr. Downing moved the acceptance of the resolutions. Mr. Garnet objected. Here again rose a scene of confusion begging description. Mr. Downing advanced towards Mr. Garnet, and a conference of several minutes' duration ensued.

Mr. Powers came forward, and moved that the speakers be restricted to fifteen minutes each.

Mr. Garnet (who all this time had his back to the parties) charged Mr. Downing with having instigated the motion for the purpose of shutting off debate. Mr. Downing referred to Mr. Martin, who suggested that Mr. Garnet was in an error.

Mr. Downing—Then he is a liar; Mr. Garnet stands here a convicted liar—convicted on the testimony of his own friend.

Immediately a half-dozen fists shot from Mr. Garnet's eyes, but he made no resentment. Considerable murmuring among the audience indicated disapprobation, and cries of 'Put him out!' ran through the house. Mr. Downing again attempted to speak, but was immediately interrupted. An effort by Mr. Garnet was equally unsuccessful; the greatest confusion prevailed, amid which the trustees declared that they would put out the lights—the reporters escaped to the pulpit, excepting those of the *Express* and the *Anglo-Saxon*, (here two extremes met,) and no one could be heard except a few in groups, which were to be seen all over the house, contending, with violent gesticulations, for their several opinions.

Mr. Downing—Fellow-citizens! for the first time in my life, I sustain to you the relation of a slave. (Cheers and groans.) Fellow-citizens—(cries of 'Sit down,' 'Put him out,' &c.) This state of things continued several minutes, when Mr. Garnet mounted a chair, and called upon the audience to hear Mr. Downing.)

Mr. Wake—Slaves! slaves! obey your master! (pointing to Mr. Garnet.) He bids you hear Mr. Downing. Slaves! obey your master!

Canes and fists became very unsteady by this time, in the possession of their owners, and everything betokened a representation of 'Donnybrook Fair.' Gentlemen might be seen everywhere jumping around in pantomimic performances, which would have compelled the Ravel family to yield the hat.

Finding it totally impossible to proceed further in order, Rev. Mr. Gray came forward and announced the meeting closed, and at the same time Mr. Garnet made a motion that the resolutions be tabled, put it to vote, and it was carried. The meeting then dispersed amid loud cheers for Mr. Garnet.

Thus ended one of the most unsatisfactory and unhappy demonstrations ever made in this city, and fairly illustrated the truthfulness of the suggestion of one of our dailies, that there is much work here for a Civilization Society.

Since the foregoing was written, we have received a copy of 'that letter,' which reads as follows:—

DEAR SIR—It has been reported in Europe and elsewhere, that the colored people of America are in favor of the movement known as the African Civilization Society. This we believe to be a misrepresentation; we believe this Society to be no other than an auxiliary to the hateful American Colonization Society. A demonstration to that effect is to be made, within ten days, in this city. We have been instructed to address you, and request of you a short letter, to be read at that demonstration.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.  
New York, April 3, 1860.

**THE COLORED CITIZENS OF NEW YORK AND THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.**

An overwhelming audience assembled in Zion church, on Thursday evening, 12th inst., in response to the following call, appended to which are the names of many of our most respectable citizens opposed to the African Civilization Society:—

**THE AFRICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY, OTHERWISE THE AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY.**

The colored people of New York and vicinity are called upon to pass judgment on the African Civilization Society, at a public meeting to be held at Zion church, on Thursday evening, April 12th, 1860, and to declare openly whether they approve of or condemn that society. The undersigned believe that in its operations and influence it is of kin to the old colonization scheme—a supporter of prejudice—and hence a co-worker in the ranks of our enemies. Fellow-citizens; we want a verdict from you! The old society having failed to drive us away from the country, shall this, its child, succeed in coaxing us from our homes under the pretence of our becoming legislators in Africa, and of raising cotton for English capitalists? The meeting will commence at 8 o'clock, and will be addressed by Rev. Dr. J. W. C. Pennington, Chas. L. Reason, Rev. Samuel T. Gray, John V. Givens, Geo. T. Downing, Rev. Jeremiah V. Thomas, Ransom F. Wake, J. J. Simons, and Jeremiah Powers.

Rev. S. T. Gray, Jeremiah Powers, Daniel Nelson, Daniel Tilghman, William Leonard, Ransom F. Wake, William J. Hodges, John V. Givens, Dr. J. W. C. Pennington, Miller Pierce, Wm. A. Tyson, Geo. T. Downing, Peter P. Simons, Rev. Chas. B. Ray, John L. Hudson, J. J. Simons, Rev. J. V. Thomas, Chas. L. Reason.

The following handbills were extensively circulated, and were highly instrumental in swelling the immense throng:—

**COLORED MEN, READ!**  
It is said we should be slaves! It is said we should go to Africa! A new society has been formed to