

### FREEDMEN'S RELIEF MEETING.

On Monday evening, the 16th inst., a large meeting was held in the Cooper Institute, under the auspices of the National Freedmen's Relief Association, in behalf of the suffering "contrabands" in the Department of the Mississippi. Rev. A. S. Fiske, the Chaplain of this class of people in that Department, was present, under instructions from Gen. Grant, to represent to the assembly their destitute condition, and solicit means for their relief.

The Rev. Dr. Tyng, on taking the chair, made a spirited address. Having alluded to the glorious results of the recent elections, he said they had been achieved on the avowed principle that rebellion was slavery, and slavery was rebellion. The rebellion was to be overwhelmed, and slavery was to be exterminated. The overwhelming of the rebellion would be the extermination of slavery, and the extermination of slavery would be the overwhelming of the rebellion. (Applause.) They had lived to see the whole current of public sentiment changed in regard to slavery, and he ventured to say that there was not one single village or township in the Northern States in which a majority of the people would not now sympathize with the slave seeking his liberty, and with those who were striving to elevate and bless him in its attainment. The time had come when there was no longer in the nation the spirit of mercy to slavery; and the men who held on to it, the people who held on to it, the Administration who held on to it, and the party who held on to it would go down where the Savior sent the hogs into which the devil entered. (Applause.) No gradual emancipation now. No compensated emancipation now. Now put the axe to the root of the tree and down with it—down with it. (Applause.) In regard to the emancipated slaves he said: In all that elevates the human character, black men and black women had shown themselves as exalted and glorious as any white men and white women in the land. The time had come when we should take them cordially by the hand, and say of each one of them, it is my brother, it is my sister, it is my fellow-citizen: the very rights which I have, he shall have; the respect which I demand, he shall receive; the countenance which I require, I will myself impart to him. The time has come when the distinction between black and white, as a distinction of reciprocal respect and regard, shall be one of those hateful things which we have buried beneath the pyramid under which copperheadism is interred till it rots for an eternity. (Applause.)