

REVELS AND REBELS.

On the 25th of February, Hiram R. Revels, a Patriot, took his seat in the United States Senate as the successor of Jefferson Davis, a Traitor. We observe that some of our contemporaries, in alluding to this interesting event, have gone into so minute a description of the new incumbent as to gossip about the color of his skin. As it has never been our editorial practice, in mentioning the accession of new senators, to dilate on the exact shade of their eyes, or the precise tint of their lips, or the definite hue of their hair; so in the present case it would be indelicate for us to allude to any natural peculiarity in Senator Revels which may happen to render his personal appearance different from that of his compeers in the Senate Chamber. We have never seen the gentleman himself, and therefore cannot say, from ocular evidence, whether or not there is any truth in the report that he is black. But, then, we have never seen certain other senators, and cannot say, as an eye-witness, whether or not these are white. In order to the more accurate information of the public at large, we suggest that when the newspaper correspondents at Washington hereafter take pains to mention (for instance) that Senator Revels is black, they should take equal pains to mention (for instance) that Senator Bayard is white. According to the Constitution, rightly interpreted, we believe that no picturesque distinction can be conferred on a senator from Mississippi to the exclusion of a similar chromatic recognition of a senator from Delaware. And yet "a more excellent way" would be to suppress such trifling details altogether. Would the generality of mankind esteem Senator Bayard any more highly if he were black, or Senator Revels any less highly if he were white? No. Indeed, it seems to us that, whether in politics or in society, to be too sensitive concerning a gentleman's color is as great a breach of decorum as to be too curious concerning a lady's age. Every gentleman has a gentlemanly color, just as every live lady has a ladylike age. Moreover, is not Justice blind? Does she not wear a bandage over her eyes? Then what business has she to know the complexion of Mr. Revels, or of Mr. Bayard, or of any other senator? We lay it down as a fundamental proposition that the American citizen ought to have no color. Nay more, and ought to have no sex.