

In an editorial article, headed "A Sister in Black," which appeared in yesterday's DISPATCH, an oversight on the part of the proof reader somewhat obscured the point we wished to make in giving the name of the good and benevolent woman concerning whom the article was written. Everybody in Montgomery knows Anne Hale, however, and to all but a very few our tribute to her modest worth and beautiful life of charity was sufficiently obvious.

A SISTER IN BLACK.

There moves quietly, silently in our midst, gliding now into a bank, now into the office of a real estate agent, or of an architect, constantly to homes of affliction, to the bedside of the sick, a little, shrinking woman in black, to whom men pay the same reverent deference that they extend to those holy women whose lives are dedicated to good works. Regarding her there is no feeling of caste, no question of race issue; no man can look down upon this unobtrusive, gentle woman, aye *gentlewoman* in its good Anglo-Saxon sense; men recognize in her only the womanliness of the true woman.

Born a slave, yet during her whole life the companion and intimate associate of the most refined and cultivated families, her mind and her character have been fashioned after the best models. It would reveal secrets too sacred for the public knowledge to say how many people, reduced by the war, have had their wants relieved by this unobtrusive dispenser of charity. Of this phase of her life the newspapers can take no note; it would equally offend her and others.

Long ago she felt that the true needs of her race were not in the support of a multitude of church organizations, whose aggregate cost is enormously out of proportion to the means of its members, but rather in a centralized philanthropy, where physical suffering might be alleviated, instead of mere emotional paroxysms fostered. Her good husband shared this sensible as well as noble aspiration, and at his death left a lot for a colored people's hospital; and upon this foundation, not another cent contributed by either white or black, she has reared the beautiful and wholly practical and useful memorial to

her husband and children. This is a monument, not alone to them, but to the broadening and enlightened spirit of her race.

This charity, established unaided, by a colored woman, will teach her people more real wisdom than they could learn from a 1,000,000 sermons, or from 10,000 political agitators. It is a fixed, glowing, light giving point from which the lines of the future may be laid; the rock upon which Christianity itself is founded, and upon which the civilization of the blacks as well as the whites, must be builded, if they would emerge from the darkness of ignorance and superstition.

This retiring woman, who never thought of self, and never dreamed of fame, objects strenuously to all mention of her own name in connection with her good works; in no part of the hospital building does it appear, but we all know her, in spite of her "Humility, that low, sweet root,
"From which all heavenly virtues shoot,"
and
"shines a good deed in a naughty world,
That we must speak the name of Anne Hale."

Montgomery, Alabama

July 23^d - 1884

Judge Albion W. Fairgrie
Mayville N. Y.

Dear Sir: I enclose an editorial arti-
cle that I recently wrote, concerning
Anne Hale and her good work.

I am sure you will feel interest in the
subject, and I send you the paper on
that account.

Very truly yours
G. W. Craik