

Dedans St, near
St. Dennis St, San Francisco, Ca.
5/10, '90.

Mr. William H. Burge,
Hartford, Ct.

Dear and honored Friend:

Possibly not in this life will you
be permitted to know the good you have done in
your self denying efforts for a despised peo-
ple and yet children of God.

Worthy to exercise in words the
gratitude we would pour out from our hearts,
we can only express of our great Deliverer as
shown in mercy sent in love, We thank Thee,
O Lord for the gift to the world of Albion Burge.
May Thy precious grace befall to his pre-
servative: Grant him new inspiration, in-
creased energy and courage to carry on the
great work which has last honored him,
And from the depths of every soul upon
whom has fallen the slight of a brother's scorn,
throughout our native land the cry is heard,
God bless our beloved Albion Burge.

Our people are so made to feel here
in the South the severity of making a dark skin or
the semblance of a mixed blooded people.

More civil as well as political rights
are denied us with impunity with no other
explanation than, "We do not want your satnage."

A gentleman, ^{to} ~~with~~ ^{honesty} dressed, leading a pretty
child of light blue eyes a second rate drug store to
at a game of soccer. He is preceded by a dirty
faced, ragged boy, a driver of a charcoal wagon who drinks
his soda, says his name and turns out. At the
same time, more away from the fountain after being
told, we cannot see colored people, an inebriate
with breath reeking with the fumes of liquor, and gen-
erally for his daily appearance, but in any case
it is a surprise. During the last 7 months I have
seen a remarkable time in every Southern State
except Virginia and find that proscriptive
civil rights on account of race is invariably the rule.

But can we wonder at this, Mr. Durgess, when
it is considered that not only among our enemies
are we denied civil rights, but we are often
abused in the house of our friends. Instances
can be cited. Ill treatment is common on account
of color in most of our leading metropolitan
cities, Boston, Chicago and San Fran-
cisco being notable exceptions.

Notice if you please the regularity
with which the sacred question of Human
rights, ^{at all times to the negro} is relegated to the rear of our platform
in the enunciation of Republican doctrine
during presidential campaigns, while
such questions as "The Party," etc., etc.
are boldly presented as the leading issue
of the day; but I hasten to my own garden.
It is a grateful recollection that the eloquent
son of "Harold's" unkind servant, Allison W.
Durgess has already drawn attention to this fact.

With the passing of the present anomaly
in human nature, the typical Southerner, the
world will lose one of its greatest intellectual
and moral curiosities. "Let us alone," he

erier. No one is more capable of managing the ne-
gative than we". Eternity alone will reveal to
what extent he has been "managed" in his solicitation
our brother. Do we despair, and la-
ment our unhappy condition in idleness
and tears. God forbid. The prospect of our
^{early} ~~second~~ emancipation may be gloomy, but
the answer to that part of the prayer framed by
the Son of God Himself, "Thy Kingdom come"
must ultimately find its highest expression
in the establishment of His gospel in the
hearts of men. Until that time, we must
brook with patience the condescension of our Cauca-
sian brother in the Lord who sweetly reminds us
to Hearen's kitchen, or conditioned upon "good be-
havior," we may be permitted to serve him in some
capacity in the Celestial city.

The deprivation of civil and
political rights (we have not asked for more)
is not deterring our youth from striving after
the higher education as is evidenced by
the largely increasing numbers in our colleges
and Universities, white as well as colored.

Two other factors indispensable to
our fitness for the highest citizenship
have been duly recognized - Christianity and
wealth. The writer himself with a
large family and but little means is trying
hard to qualify for his dear Master's work, the
intrusion of whose personality in this letter will,

I must be accepted apologetically for
all errors. Humbly trusting that in all
wise and ever living Father who gave the
world such men as Garrison, Phillips, Sum-
ner, Whittier, Douglass, Cady and many
others, shall finally work out our salvation
in His glory, I am, honored Sir, one
of men who will ever hold enshrined
in his heart of hearts the name of Abner
M. Douglass. May God ever bless you.

Thos. R. Griffing.

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