

BROWN & HAYWOOD, STAINED GLASS WORKS,

DEALERS IN PLATE, WINDOW AND BEVELED GLASS,

MINNEAPOLIS.
Second Ave. and Third St. N.,
Telephone 150-2.

OFFICES AND WORKROOMS:

ST. PAUL.
133 East Fifth Street.
Telephone 439-2.

6270

"AMERICA" IN BLACK.

189

WHAT A "SWEET LAND OF LIB- ERTY" THIS IS FOR NEGROES!

Judge Tourgee on the Recent Lynch-
ings and on the Proposed African
Day of Fasting and Prayer.

EDITOR BUFFALO EXPRESS:—I have just re-
ceived the inclosed copy of an anthem writ-
ten by a colored lady of St. Paul, for use on
the 31st inst., when the colored people of the
United States will hold a day of fasting and
prayer, that He will grant them justice, pro-
tection and equality of rights in the United
States of America.

It will be a strange spectacle, 7,000,000 of
colored Christians asking God to intercede
for them that they may receive justice at the
hands of the Christian white people of the
United States. It is a glorious answer to
those who claim the race to be unfit for self-
government, to those who nullify the Consti-
tution to deprive it of the rights of citizen-
ship, to those who in the 16 months last past
have burned eight colored citizens alive,
flayed one alive, disjointed another and shot
or hanged almost 200 more, for the gratifica-
tion of crowds of white Christians in our land.

This noble anthem attests the true spirit of
a race which has been foremost in proportion
to the number of freemen in its ranks in
every war the Nation has waged, except that
with Mexico, the purpose of which was the
extension of slavery. In pathos, in just in-
dignation, in noble self-assertion, in unflin-
ing faith in God and Liberty, it would be
hard to find anything in the whole range of
patriotic song to excel it. There is no doubt
it will become the National anthem of the
colored people, and it would be well if it
could be sung, also, in the white churches
until the rights of the American citizen are
not graded by the color of the skin; until
free speech is not forbidden in one
third of our land and until Christian civiliza-
tion is not afraid nor ashamed to do justice to
a man with a black skin, nor unwilling to
grant equal right and equal opportunity to a
people who for two centuries and a half it
made the mere instruments of its pleasure,
the helpless victims of its lusts and the pa-
tient sufferers of inconceivable oppression.
American Christianity cannot long endure
the stain of a "sweet land of liberty," with
the Constitution nullified in one third of the
Union, in order that the brutal spirit engen-
dered by slavery may still find gratification
in brutal torture and wholesale denial of
rights to the colored citizen who earned his
citizenship by fighting for a nation which, by
the mouth of its Supreme Court, had declared
that no man of African descent could ever be
made a citizen of the United States or of any
State of the Union.

I hope you will make room for this noble
anthem in some issue of this week.

Sincerely yours, ALBION W. TOURGEE,
Mayville, May 26th.

(Tune) AMERICA.

O Country, 'tis for thee
Pledged to fair Liberty—
For thee we cry:
Land where our fathers came,
Land of our mothers' shame,
Land of our toil and pain,
Must thou too die?

Die to the sense of wrong,
While on thy lips, the song,
Of liberty?
False to thy sacred trust?
False to thy hallowed just?
False to the true and just
Who died for thee?

Shame on thy starry crown!
No black hand tore it down!
In days of strife,
But blood of bond and free,
Thy black sons gave to thee,
And saved by loyalty
A nation's life.

"These black sons have no right
For which thou needs't to fight!"
Thou now dost say.

We hurl thy sentence back
From million throats of black.
Pray God, thou clear the track
For Freedom's way!

Shall justice longer call
From legislative hall
To thee in vain?
Where is thy boasted power,
Thine is the waiting hour,
Rise, and no longer cower,
Remove thy stain.

Then shall we sing of thee,
Land of the noble free,
Thy name we love;
Ours too, this land so bright,
Ours, Freedom's holy light;
Protect us by its might
Just God above!

—Rosa Hazard Hazel.