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A FAIR TEST AND MEASURE OF CIVILIZATION IS THE INFLUENCE OF GOOD WOMEN.—Emerson.

### Negroes Condemn Harrison.

Our valued colored contemporary, the New York Age, which admitted that Cleveland was all right and then fought tooth and nail for the election of Harrison, now has a very long editorial under this startling title: "Ben Harrison a Traitor, Too!" This paper is edited by T. Thomas Fortune, one of the leading colored Republicans of the country, and is representative of its race in the North, especially that section of it which vote the Republican ticket. Its graphic denunciation of Harrison is too entertaining a comment on the President's present standing with the "colored troops" who fought so nobly for his renomination and reelection to lose. We make a liberal quotation:

"We have stood up squarely for Ben'amin Harrison as a man of conscience, but the appointment of Howell Jackson of Tennessee on the Supreme Bench shows one of two things: Either he wishes to spite the Republican party for not reflecting him, or else he is afraid the Afro-American will really become a citizen, and so puts the most radical of all state rights Democrats of the South on the bench to uphold the doctrine of the Dred Scott case. At all events he could have done nothing that would more thoroughly reconquer the Republican party to its defeat than this appointment, nor have shown a baser ingratitude to the Southern Republicans, to whose support his renomination is wholly due.

"On the day after his inauguration a citizen of the United States was publicly burned at the stake. Since that time more than a dozen others have been openly burned alive. During his administration one solitary white man, and only one, has been punished at the South for the murder of a black citizen. More than one Afro-American citizen a day has been murdered during that time—many of them openly and in avowed defiance and contempt of law. To all this and much more as bad as this he has not said a word, except: "The President regrets that he can do nothing!" This was his sole answer to eight millions of citizens asking security for their lives and the peaceful enjoyment of their rights.

"A few days since another man was burned with a publicity and demonic cruelty hardly ever matched by even the most barbarous peoples. Excursion trains were run to bring professing Christian thousands to view the revolting spectacle.

"The President, as if afraid the Nation might tire of such inhuman outrages, while the smell of burning flesh is still fresh in his nostrils, appoints a Southern state rights rebel, negro hater—an intense and virulent supporter of the very theory by which such infamies are excused and protected, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, in order that the barrier of its authority may once more be thrown across the path of progress and the denial of justice to a whole race be perpetuated as the distinctive principle of the American Republic. It is a fitting episode with which to close the drama of unimproved opportunity which will be known in history as the administration of "Harrison, the Little," and end the line of Judases who have betrayed the freedom of the citizen and the party of progress in America. Tyler, Fillmore, Johnson, Hayes and last, least and most inexcusable, Harrison! It is a list of vanishing renown, but ever growing infamy. History, thank God, is just, and she never whitewashes motive, however much the living sycophant may praise."

Editor Fortune, in this the day of his wrath, knows that we urged him to support that friend of white and black alike, Grover Cleveland, whose public acts are animated by considerations of justice instead of those of color. While taking a very different view of the appointment in question than that advanced by the Age, it is notorious that President Harrison practically betrayed the blacks, as he did the cause of civil service reform and of economical administration. He urged the outrageous force bill until it was defeated, and then went through the South and made conciliatory and complimentary speeches to the whites—a flop to reinstate himself in the favor of the people whom he had insulted. It is only fair to say that his administration fully justified the overwhelming rebuke it sustained at the polls. But for the big crops and business prosperity of the last year or two, it is not probable that Harrison could have carried a half-dozen States. In one way or another he has managed to generally antagonize his own party without gaining strength outside of it. The appointment of Judge Jackson, however, we believe to be a wise one. He laid aside partisanship and sectionalism, and diplomatically named an able and upright Democrat who could be confirmed. To deny the South representation on the supreme bench would hardly be consonant with the idea of an impartial judiciary.

Reviewing the alleged perfidy of preceding Presidents, the Age, when it reaches Harrison, says: "By this one act he did more to destroy free government than in his whole three years of service as a soldier he did to support it. Even the stock of Judases has deteriorated as the motive for betrayal has grown more and more despicable. He is not only a traitor but an ingrate." It also claims that he laid "the lash of disapproval and condemnation on the backs of 8,000,000 of citizens by refusing them recognition in connection with the world's fair." When asked to give a Negro a minor judgeship, the Age says President Harrison replied: "I would not like to practice before a Negro judge and do not think I ought to require others to do what I would not like to do myself!" This is the man who wanted a bill passed to put the South under ignorant Negro domination. One more excerpt will be enough:

"Of the Judases who have sold American liberty, in order to continue the oppression and debasement of Afro-Americans, Benjamin Harrison has clearly won the distinction of having sold the freedom he professed to prize for the least price and the meanest motive. \* \* \* Others erred from self-interest, prejudice or weakness; he alone from spite, and with a single purpose to perpetuate an open, confessed and inexcusable wrong! May the blood of those he has betrayed testify against him in that day when in nakedness and weakness, he shall hear the words, 'Fornas-

much, as ye did it not unto the least of these, my brethren, ye did it not unto Me!" It is easy to see that Benjamin Harrison does not stand well with the colored Republicans. They feel that they have been flattered and used, and then basely betrayed. It would seem that eight millions of people ought to exercise some potency in the administration of affairs. Meanwhile, the infernal outrages perpetrated by wicked mobs upon colored men at the South are sure to bring retribution. We are glad to note that the Democratic Gov. Hogg of Texas is taking steps to protect the blacks and punish their daring persecutors. No community can be held guiltless while it condones crimes against civilization, such as have recently disgraced Texas.

We will make our way as

#### SEN. HARRISON A. TAYLOR, 1901

The Supreme Court of the United States is the highest judicial body in the country. In all matters of the rights and liberties of the people its interpretations of the laws based upon the Constitution are final. There cannot be any appeal from the decisions of the Supreme Court of the United States. From the foundation of the Republic each party in its turn has striven to control the opinion of the Court in the interest either of the strict or the liberal construction of the Constitution and the laws based upon it. Only twice in the history of the Government has a President appointed a Supreme Court Judge who held views contrary to his own and those of his party.

We have stood up squarely for BRAXTON HARRISON as a man of conscience, but the appointment of HOWELL JACKSON of Tennessee on the Supreme Bench shows one of two things: Either he wishes to spite the Republican party for not re-electing him or else he is afraid the Afro-American will really become a citizen, and so puts the most radical of all State Rights Democrats of the South on the bench to uphold the doctrine of the Dred Scott case. At all events he could have done nothing that would more thoroughly reconcile the Republican party to its defeat than this appointment, nor have shown a baser ingratitude to the Southern Republicans to whose support his re-nomination is wholly due.

On the day after his inauguration a citizen of the United States was publicly burned at the stake. Since that time more than a dozen others have been openly burned alive. During his administration one solitary white man, and only one, has been punished at the South for the murder of a black citizen. More than one Afro-American citizen a day has been murdered during that time—many of them openly and in avowed defiance and contempt of law. To all this and much more we had as this, he has not said a word, except: "The President regrets that he can do nothing!" This was his sole answer to eight millions of citizens asking security for their lives and the peaceful enjoyment of their rights.

A few days since, another man was burned with a publicity and demonstration rarely ever matched by even the most barbarous peoples. Excursion trains were run to bring profiting Christian thousands to view the resulting spectacle.

The President, as if afraid the Nation might tire of such inhuman outrages, while the smell of burning flesh is still fresh in his nostrils, appoints a Southern State Rights rebel, Neuro-later—an avowed and virulent supporter of the very theory by which such infamies are excused and protected to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court, in order that the barrier of its authority may once more be thrown across the path of progress and the denial of justice to a whole race be perpetuated as the distinctive principle of the American Republic. It is a fitting episode with which to close the drama of unimproved opportunity which will be known in history as the administration of HARRISON, the Little, and end the line of JUVENALS who have betrayed the freedom of the citizen and the party of progress in America. TYLER, FRIZZELL, JOHNSON, HAYS, and last, best and most execrable, HARRISON I. It is a list of vanishing renown but ever growing infamy. History, thank God, is just and she never whitewashes motives, however much the living sycophant may praise.

TYLER was hardly so much to blame. He had the bias of interest and environment to plead in excuse of his pro-slavery. FRIZZELL hoped to catch votes by giving the slave-ocrats a free charter to "catch niggers," and so become President by election as he had by accident. JOHNSON was willing to restore the rebels to power in order to prevent the Afro-American from becoming a citizen. He sold his party in order to save the Dred Scott decision, because he had the "poor whites'" instinctive dread that an Afro-American might become his equal. HAYS believed his hands were tied so that he could do nothing to prevent the overthrow of free government in the South, and was rather glad they were tied because it saved him a deal of trouble in trying to keep things right. He did not betray the Republicans of the South, he merely left their helplessness in the hands of their enemies. HARRISON put a State Rights Democrat on the Supreme Bench to spite the voters of his party for not re-electing him, and to keep the Nation from protecting its citizens in the enjoyment of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, in the old slave States. By this one act he did more to destroy free government than in his whole three years of service as a soldier he did to support it. Even the stock of JUVENALS has grown more and more despicable. He is not only a traitor but an ingrate.

This action of President HARRISON—his expiring farewell kick at the last shred of liberal principle and last pretence of desire for justice and freedom in his party—was not unexpected by the Afro-Americans who have kept a watchful eye upon his course. As a politician he nursed the Afro-American office-holders that he might use them to secure his re-nomination. But when there came an opportunity to lay the lash of disapproval and condemnation on the backs of 8,000,000 of citizens by refusing them recognition in connection with the World's Fair, he did it; and the word went forth that, except as a menial and a scullion, the Afro-American citizen should have no place or recognition in the Columbian Exposition.

Asked to appoint an Afro-American to a life position under the government, upon the new Court of Appeals, and failing that upon the Court of Claims, and confronted with the fact that there was no lack of men of good ability presented, he is said to have remarked to one who spoke to him upon the subject—"I would not like to practice before a Negro judge and do not think I ought to require others to do what I would not like to do myself!"

When he had a chance to put a man on the Supreme Bench who holds the views his party professes, as regards the supremacy of the Nation and its duty to protect the lives and rights of its citizens he chose one noted for the intensity of his belief that the State is greater than the Nation, because he wished to spite the party which failed to re-elect him and feared that the Afro-American would yet attain, despite all the obstacles in his path, the plane of equal citizenship, of protected right and privilege.

Of the JUVENALS who have sold American liberty in order to continue the oppression and debasement of Afro-Americans, BRAX-

TON HARRISON has clearly won the distinction of having sold the freedom he professes to prize for the least price and the meanest motive.

When Afro-Americans meet again on the thirty-first of May to replicate Almighty God for mercy and to intercede for the forgiveness of those who have done wrong without cause, let them not forget the last of those presidents who have used the power of a great Nation to perpetuate injustice and uphold the infamous theory that a State has an undeniable right to permit her citizens to murder, torture, degrade and oppress citizens of the United States and uphold her borders, in vain, to that just judicial mockery, "The peace of God and the United States!"

In the history of the great struggle for liberty on the African continent, which will yet be written by a black hand throbbing with that God-given sense of wrong which is the only hope of an oppressed people, let it be written against his name:

"This is the little man, who in order to show his gratitude to Southern Republicans to whose votes in convention he owed his nomination and in order to punish the Afro-Americans who refused to vote for his re-election, put the seal upon the policy of National surrender by appointing to the Supreme Bench of the United States the bitterest enemy of the Southern Republican and the stoutest believer in the doctrine of 'State Supremacy,' and the divine right and privilege of the white man to oppress and degrade the colored citizen, whom he could find among the lesser luminaries of the Federal judiciary. Others eyed from a self-interest, prejudice or weakness; he alone from spite, and with a single purpose to perpetuate an open, confessed and inexcusable wrong! May the blood of those he has betrayed testify against him in that day when in his weakness and weakness, he shall hear the words, 'Forasmuch as ye did it not unto the least of these, my brethren, ye did it not unto me!'"