Personal.

My dear Sir:

I give it up. I have stood up stoutly for Harrison as a man of conscience, but the appointment of Howell Jackson, on the Supreme Bench shows one of two things: Either he wishes to spite the Republican party for not electing him, or else he is afraid the colored man will really become a citizen, and so puts the most radical of all the State-Rights Democrats of the South on the bench to uphold the doctrine

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2008

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.

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 has been punished at the South for the murder of a colored citizen. More than one colored

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

~~[illegible]~~ citizen a day has been murdered during that time — many ~~most~~ of them openly and in avowed defiance and contempt of law.) To all this and, much more as bad as this, ~~He~~ he has not said a word except ~~that~~ "the President regrets that he can do nothing!"

Yesterday another man was burned with a publicity and demoniac cruelty hardly ever matched ~~never displayed~~ by even the most barbarous people. Excursion trains were run to bring Christian thousands to view the revolting spectacle! The President is afraid the Nation may tire of such inhuman

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

outrages ~~spectacle~~ and so while the smell of burning flesh is still in his nostrils appoints a southern, state=rights, rebel negro=hater, to put the barrier across the of the Supreme Court's authority ~~in the way of justice~~, path of national progress and justice to the colored man. It is a very fitting episode with which to close the drama of which will be known in history as the unimproved opportunity and end administration of Harrison the Little the line of Judases who have betrayed the freedom of the citizen and the party of progress in America. ~~in the~~

Tyler
Fillmore
Hayes Johnson
Harrison!

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

It is a list of vanishing renown but ever growing infamy. History, thank God, is just and she never whitewashes negation, however much the living sycophant may praise.

Tyler ~~[illegible]~~ was hardly so much to blame for he had the bias of ~~[illegible]~~ interest and environment to plead in excuse for his apostasy.

Fillmore hoped to catch votes by giving the slaveocrats a free-charter to "catch niggers".

Johnson, was willing to restore the rebels to power in order to prevent the negro from becoming a citizen. He sold his party in order to save the Dred Scott decision.

Hayes 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

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

tied because it saved him a deal of trouble in trying to keep things right.

Harrison put a States-rights Democrat on the ~~bench~~ Supreme Court to spite the voters of his party for not re-electing him and to keep the nation from protecting its ~~black~~ citizens in the enjoyment of life liberty and the pursuit of happiness in the old slave states.

Even the clock of Judaism has deteriorated as the mo-

tive for betrayal has grown more and more despicable.

This action of President Harrison — this ~~last~~ expiring, fare-well kick at the last shred of liberal principle and ~~just pretense~~ last pretence of ~~justice~~ ~~[illegible]~~ desire for justice and freedom in his party — was not unexpected by the colored people of the country who have kept a watchful eye upon his course. As a politician he ~~has~~ nursed the colored office-holder that he might use him to se-

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

cure his election. 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 Worlds' Fair, he did it; and the world went forth that except as a menial and a scullion, the colored ~~he~~ should have no place or recognition in the Columbian Exhibition.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2011

Asked to appoint a colored man to a life-position under the government, 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" — We wish to give President Harrison full credit for always saying Negro and not "Nigger" — and do not think I ought to require others to do

what I would wish to see to do myself!"

When he had a chance to put a man on the Supreme Court who held the views his party professes ~~records upon~~, 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 ~~shite~~ the party which failed to re-elect him and feared that the colored men

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

would yet ~~achieve~~ attain ~~to~~ despite all the obstacles in his ~~[illegible]~~ path, the plane of equal citizenship, ~~and~~ of protected right and privilege!

Of the Judases who have sold American liberty, ~~[illegible]~~ in order to continue the oppression and debasement of the colored people ~~[illegible]~~ of the United States, Benjamin Harrison has clearly won the distinction of having sold the ~~God he has~~ freedom he professed to adore for the least price and the meanest motive.

When the Colored people meet again on the thirty-first of May, to supplicate Almighty God for mercy and to ~~$~~ intercede for the ~~[illegible]~~ forgiveness of ~~[illegible]~~ those who~~t~~ have done them wrong without cause, let them not forget the last and least of those who have ~~betrayed~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~their~~ used the power of a great Nation to perpetuate ~~and~~ injustice and uphold the infamous ~~[illegible]~~ theory that a state has an undeniable right to permit her citizens to murder, torture degrade and oppress ~~the~~ citizens of the United States ~~residing~~

residing within (in vain tried in that judicial mockery "The peace of God and the United States!")
her borders at will.

In the history of the great struggle for liberty on the American 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 vote the colored voters who refused to vote for his election and to reward the colored [redacted] Republicans of the South to whose votes in convention he owed his nomination

"This is the little man who in order to show his gratitude to Southern Republicans to secure votes in convention he owed his nomination and in order to ~~[illegible]~~ punish the ~~[illegible]~~ colored citizens who refused to vote for his election, put the seal upon the policy of National surrender ~~to the [illegible]~~ by appointing to the Supreme Bench, the bitterest enemy of the Southern Republicans, and the stoutest believer in ~~the~~ 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 erred from ~~prejudice~~ self-interest, prejudice or weakness; he alone from spite and with a single purpose to perpetuate wrong."

grown big enough and strong enough and brave enough to condemn openly, ~~to~~ boldly and emphatically those who betray the liberties of their people.

Yours truly

Albion W Tourgee

I think it would be advisable to pull proof sheets enough of this to send to ~~all the~~ many of the leading papers. A lot of them will copy it now they are hot and the man will squirm to his last day over such a farewell from the party he thought he owned.