

A.M.F. PAPERS MAY 1 13

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Hot Springs - Ark.  
713 Park av. May 1st 1893.

My Dear Son,

I have just read your interesting article in the Inter Ocean in relation to the "whines" of the South about Northern "hate" &c. and must take the liberty to say a word about a little experience of mine on the occasion of a 4th of July celebration on a big barbecue in a grove of Hot Springs Township, a few years ago, to illustrate the ignorance, hate, & "gullibility" of the South.

The orator of the day was a Kentucky lawyer of some celebrity stopping at the Springs for a while.

The audience was mainly made up of the veterans of a party of the county & their families with a few visitors & I was one of them. The object of the meeting was more political than social

& the expenses paid by some Democratic  
Committee officials. But to the point, when  
the orator got warmed up on the question of  
Slavery between the North & the South, he  
said, the North should not blame the  
South for owning slaves for the first  
first imposed upon the South by free  
relating Yankees. That the first slaves  
sold in the South were by Boston Men-  
chants, which they had imported from  
Africa in their own ships! And then  
he tried to arouse a spirit of indignation &  
hate against the North for this great  
wrong which the South had suffered  
from the North! I was both pained &  
amused at his efforts. I thought once  
to question him on the stand & expose  
him before the audience, but when I  
knew it would make a row & do  
much harm I remained silent.

I will not make any comment to  
you, for you know that when the first  
slaves were sold in Jamestown, Va, you

in my bottom in 1620. That only in that  
max: plate too, the Pilgrim Fathers first  
landed in Plymouth rock & that Boston  
had no witness at that time, nor  
until a good while after.

How how men that did not exist  
could do business in a city not yet built  
& with ships not yet constructed, it takes  
a Southern politician to explain before  
an intelligent Southern white audience!  
No "jugglers" were allowed in the meeting,  
& the people went away well satisfied  
with the brilliant & intelligent address,  
of ignorance it held that "were a  
mighty heap of bliss lying loose around  
them!" How as the majority of the people  
do not read, how all we must all  
this stuff! - if your speech was allowed  
it would not help it much for a good  
while, for these democrats would not  
go to hear a Republican. I have had  
democratic papers for democrats & they won't  
read their own papers, for they were not born  
readers. Forgive this intrusion if you can.  
Most truly yours - A. Hammond.

Prob. I must tell you I was much interested  
in your story - "Out of the Sunset Sea"  
and I am more interested in the "Re-  
Standard's" notes than in anything I  
can find in any publication of the  
times - In them are the most important  
thoughts at the present time for all  
American citizens, or any other who  
love liberty & justice - or who have such  
should prevail whether they love it or not.  
It is no flattery to say so either, but  
how many there are that do not read  
or know anything about the importance  
of the subjects discussed - of the blind  
lead the blind, as in the South, or if  
intelligent scamp lead the blind what  
will the end be in our country?

May God's good angels  
bring us light & strength ahead the  
nation in the way of justice & peace.  
My Respectful - A. Hammond.