

*Yours Very truly*  
*Geo. W. Thompson*

AN AUTHENTIC HISTORY  
OF THE  
DOUGLASS MONUMENT

BIOGRAPHICAL FACTS AND INCIDENTS  
IN THE  
LIFE OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS

HIS DEATH AT ANACOSTA, D. C., AND FUNERAL AT WASHINGTON,  
D. C., AND ROCHESTER, N. Y.,

TOGETHER WITH

PORTRAITS AND ILLUSTRATIONS OF IMPORTANT INCIDENTS OF THE  
FOUR YEARS' STRUGGLE TO COMPLETE THE WORK.

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BY J. W. THOMPSON.

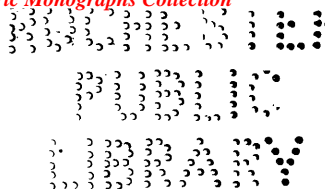
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"Patriots have toiled, and in their country's cause bled nobly;  
and their deeds, as they deserve, receive proud recompense".

ROCHESTER, N. Y.  
ROCHESTER HERALD PRESS  
1903.

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## INTRODUCTION

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At the request of friends, the author has consented to give an authentic history of the Douglass monument at Rochester, N. Y., unveiled June 9, 1899, together with a short biographical sketch of facts and incidents in the life of Frederick Douglass, his death and funeral at Washington, D. C., the arrival of his remains and funeral at Rochester, N. Y., and many interesting facts with which the public are not yet acquainted.

This little volume will doubtless be read by all with keen interest and will be a valuable addition to the history of Frederick Douglass and his country, it being the first monument erected by popular contribution, to the memory of an Afro-American statesman, and carried on to completion by one of his own race. Its history will be an inspiration for generations to come, inciting American manhood to love of country and unconquerable devotion to the great cause of liberty and justice to all mankind, as such was the lesson taught in the "North Star," which paper was established in Rochester during the year of 1847.

THE AUTHOR.

Rochester, N. Y.

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# HISTORY OF THE DOUGLASS MONUMENT

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## CHAPTER I.

### BIOGRAPHICAL FACTS AND INCIDENTS IN THE LIFE OF DOUGLASS.

Frederick Douglass was born in Tuckahoe, Talbot county, eastern shore, Maryland, in February, 1817. His mother's name was Harriet. She was a slave owned by Colonel Edward Lloyd, a wealthy planter. Few slaves knew anything of their fathers and Douglass was one of this kind. Whisperings among the slaves, however, led to the belief that the master was also the father.

Until seven years of age Douglass was reared by his grandmother, then he was sent to the plantation home where he witnessed scenes of most atrocious cruelty and barbarity, even murder. At the age of ten he was sent to Baltimore to live with a relative of his master. There he learned to read and write. And while there the first seeds of freedom were sown. Unlike other slaves he was allowed to hire himself out and keep what money he earned during his leisure time. He entered the employ of a shipbuilder at \$3 a week.

Long had he cherished the resolve that one day he should be free. It was his dream by night and his chief thought by day. Many times he attempted to escape but obstacles hindered. Persistence won the victory and on September 3, 1838, he eluded his master and fled to Philadelphia. Thence

to New York and from there to New Bedford, Mass., where he married his first wife, Anna Murray, and lived for two or three years supporting himself by day labor on the docks and in the workshops.

While there he changed his name from Lloyd to Bailey and later to Douglass. He was aided in his efforts for self education by William Lloyd Garrison.

The starting point in Douglass' career as a national character was in the summer of 1841 when he attended an anti-slavery convention in Nantucket. There he made a fiery abolition speech which set the entire North agog. Press, clubs, societies and churches took up the slogan, and everywhere Douglass was in demand as a platform speaker.

Abolitionists offered him the agency of the Massachusetts anti-slavery society. Acting in this capacity he toured the New England states and for years his eloquent voice rang out in appeal from a thousand platforms for the emancipation of the colored man.

Thence he went to Europe in 1845 and lectured on slavery to enthusiastic audiences.

Douglass touched England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales and vividly pictured the misery of the American negro. Great men of letters, wealth and political prominence enlisted in his aid. Thousands of petitions were sent to the president supplementing the plea of the orator.

Up until this time Douglass was still a human chattel. He was the recognized lawful property of Colonel Lloyd. He might be captured and again reduced to bondage. Friends in England feared the contingency and \$750 was soon subscribed to have him manumitted in due form of law. That was one year after he sailed abroad, yet he remained there another year before returning home.

Upon his return to this country in 1847, Douglass came to Rochester and began the publication of the "North Star"

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which was later changed to "Frederick Douglass Paper," a weekly journal. Regarding this venture, Douglass, in an autobiography written by himself in 1855, says:

"Intimation of my purpose reached my friends in Boston, and I was prepared to find them heartily opposed to it. Some went further. \* \* \* I can easily pardon those who have denounced me as ambitious and presumptuous in view of my persistence in this enterprise. I was but nine years from slavery. In point of mental experience I was but nine years old. That one in such circumstances should aspire to establish a printing press among an educated people might well be considered, if not ambitious, quite silly. My American friends looked at me with astonishment! 'A woodsawyer' offering himself to the public as an editor. A slave brought up in the very depths of ignorance assuming to instruct the highly civilized people of the North in the principles of liberty, justice and humanity! The thing looked absurd! Nevertheless I persevered."

History records the famous John Brown raid in 1859 at Harpers' Ferry. Douglass was implicated in it by some. Governor Wise of Virginia believed it and he made a requisition upon the governor of Michigan for the arrest of Douglass. Such exchanges of courtesies between governors was common and a search was made for Douglass, who was thought to be in Detroit. But he was spirited away in the night and off into Canada, whence he escaped to England.

After the bubble of excitement had burst he returned to this country, coming to Rochester, N. Y. He resurrected the "North Star," and soon his vigorous pen lashed the slaveholders of the south. Shortly thereafter the civil war broke out.

Then Douglass urged upon President Lincoln the employment of colored troops and the proclamation of emancipation. For two years the president hesitated, but in 1863 he

gave permission to enlist such troops. Douglass set to work and enlisted many negroes, especially filling the 54th and 55th Massachusetts regiments with them. Throughout the war he was a warm supporter of the martyr president, Abraham Lincoln.

After the white-winged dove of peace had spread her wings over the land, Douglass discontinued his paper. He applied himself to the preparation and delivery of lectures before Lyceums. But he again picked up the pen in 1870, when he became editor of the "New National Era," in Washington, which was continued by his sons, Lewis and Frederick, Jr.

Now, Douglass' star shone in another firmament. He entered the field of politics. He was appointed assistant secretary to the commission to Santo Domingo. A year later he was appointed, by President Grant, one of the territorial council of the District of Columbia. In 1872 he was elected the presidential elector at large from New York state. He was chosen to carry the electoral vote to Washington, something never before done in the history of the United States.

Four years later he was appointed United States marshal for the District of Columbia by President Hayes, which office he retained until 1881, after which he became recorder of deeds in the district. In 1886 he was removed by President Cleveland.

Yearning to again visit the friends he had made in England, Douglass set sail. He remained a year abroad and was royally received by the hoi polloi and nobility alike.

As a litterateur Douglass was unique and original and had the gift of a forceful, sententious pen. His published works are entitled: "Narrative of My Experience in Slavery," (Boston, 1844), "My Bondage and My Freedom" (Rochester, 1855), "Life and Times of Frederick Douglass" (Hartford, 1885).

During the nine years following Douglass was much on the public platform. He became a strong advocate of equal suffrage for women. Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Susan B. Anthony were great friends of Douglass.

#### TITLE DEED OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

The reader will be gratified to see the title deeds of transfer and emancipation, by which this man is proved to have been once a chattel, and subsequently to have obtained possession of himself. We reprint from an English publication, entitled "Monthly Illustrations of American Slavery":

"Know all men by these Presents, That I, Thomas Auld, of Talbot county, and State of Maryland, for and in consideration of the sum of one hundred dollars current money to me in hand paid by Hugh Auld, of the city of Baltimore, in the said State, at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof, I, the said Thomas Auld, do hereby acknowledge, have granted, bargained, and sold, and by these presents do grant, bargain, and sell unto the said Hugh Auld, his executors, administrators, and assigns, one negro man, by the name of Frederick Baily, or Douglass, as he calls himself,—he is now about 28 years of age,—to have and to hold the said negro man for life. And I, the said Thomas Auld, for myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators, all and singular, the said Frederick Baily, alias Douglass, unto the said Hugh Auld, his executors, administrators and assigns, against me, the said Thomas Auld, my executors and administrators, and against all and every other person or persons whatsoever, shall and will warrant and forever defend by these presents. In witness whereof, I set my hand and seal, this thirteenth day of November, eighteen hundred and forty-six.

"THOMAS AULD.

"Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of

"Wrighton Jones,

"John C. Leas."

The authenticity of this Bill of Sale is attested by N. Harrington, "a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, and for the county of Talbot;" dated same day as above.

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"To all whom it may concern: Be it known, that I, Hugh Auld, of the city of Baltimore, in Baltimore county, in the State of Maryland, for divers good causes and considerations, me thereunto moving, have released from Slavery, liberated, manumitted, and set free, and by these presents do hereby release from Slavery, liberate, manumit, and set free, my negro man, named Frederick Baily, otherwise called Frederick Douglass, being of the age of 28 years, or thereabouts, and able to work and gain a sufficient livelihood and maintenance; and him the said negro man, named Frederick Baily, otherwise called Frederick Douglass, I do declare to be henceforth free, manumitted, and discharged from all manner of servitude to me, my executors or administrators forever.

"In witness whereof, I the said Hugh Auld, have hereunto set my hand and seal, the fifth of December, in the year one thousand eight hundred and forty-six.

"HUGH AULD.

"Sealed and delivered in presence of:

"T. Hanson Belt,

"James N. S. T. Wright."

The attestation of this Deed of Manumission is signed by T. Hanson Belt, a "Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland, in and for the city of Baltimore," dated "on the day and year aforesaid."

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Note—Some time previous to the date of his legal freedom, it appears that Frederick Douglass had been transferred, as a little token of fraternal affection, from one brother to the other. But before Hugh Auld could lawfully execute a deed for F. D.'s manumission, it became necessary

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that he should show how he had obtained him. Hence the "Bill of Sale," already quoted.

As the phrase, "for divers good causes and considerations, me thereunto moving," may appear to some a little mysterious, the following is annexed by way of explanation:

"Baltimore, December 12, 1846. Received from ———  
———, of ——— ———, by the hands of ——— ———,  
the sum of seven hundred and eleven dollars and ninety-six  
cents, in full of the consideration of a certain Deed of Man-  
umission of a negro man known by the name of Frederick  
Baily, otherwise Douglass, formerly my slave for life, bear-  
ing date on the fifth of December, eighteen hundred and  
forty-six.



## CHAPTER II.

### DEATH OF THE GREAT EX-SLAVE STATESMAN.

Frederick Douglass, the great ex-slave statesman, died suddenly February 20, 1895, at his home on Anacostia Heights, D. C., aged 78 years.

Mr. Douglass had been about the city of Washington a greater part of the day, and was in the best of spirits. In the morning Mr. Douglass was driven to Washington, accompanied by his wife, Helen Douglass.

She left him at the congressional library, and he continued to Mezerott Hall, where he attended the sessions of the Women's Council, returning to Cedar Hill, his residence, between 5 and 6 o'clock.

After dinner he had a chat in the hallway with his wife about the doings of the council. He grew very enthusiastic in his exclamations regarding one of the events of the day when he fell upon his knees with his hands clasped.

Mrs. Douglass, thinking this was part of his description, was not alarmed, but as she looked he sank lower and lower, and finally lay stretched upon the floor, breathing his last.

Realizing that he was ill, she raised his head, and then understood that he was dying. She was alone in the house, and rushed to the front door with cries for help.

Some men who were near by quickly responded and attempted to restore the dying man. One of them called Dr. J. Stewart Harrison, and, while he was injecting a restorative into the patient's arm, Mr. Douglass passed away, seemingly without pain.

Mr. Douglass had lived for some time at Cedar Hill with his wife and one servant.

He has two sons and a daughter, the children of his first

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wife, living in Washington. They are Louis H. and Charles R. Douglass and Mrs. R. Douglass Sprague.

Mr. Douglass was to have delivered a lecture that night at Hillsdale African Church, near his home, and was waiting for a carriage when talking to his wife. The carriage arrived just as he died.

Mrs. Douglass said her husband had apparently been in the best of health lately, and had showed unusual vigor for one of his years.

The news of the death of Mr. Douglass reached the National Council of Women during the evening session.

Mrs. May Wright Sewall, the president of the council, announced it to the audience as follows:

"A report as unwelcome as sad and solemn has come to us of the sudden and most unexpected death of Frederick Douglass.

"The news cannot be received with silence by the council. That historic figure which individually and intellectually was the symbol of the wonderful transition through which this generation has lived, has been with us in our council during both of our sessions to-day.

"When he arrived an escort was directed to conduct him to the platform. We felt that the platform was honored by his presence. I am sure there was no divided sentiment on this subject although we have here women whose families are related to all political parties of our country, and connected by ancestry with both sides of the great question.

"It is surely to be regarded as a historic coincidence that this man, who embodied a century of struggle between freedom and oppression, spent his last hours a witness of the united efforts of those who have come from so many different places and along such various avenues to formulate some plan for a new expression of freedom in the relation of woman to the world, to society, and to the State."

Mr. Douglass was a regularly enrolled member of the National Woman's Suffrage Association and has always attended its conventions.

It was probably with a view to consistency in this respect that he appeared at Metzert Hall.

Although it was a secret business session of the council, Mr. Douglass was allowed to remain, and when the meeting had been called to order by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, the president of the council, she appointed Miss Susan B. Anthony and Rev. Anna H. Shaw a committee to escort him to the platform.

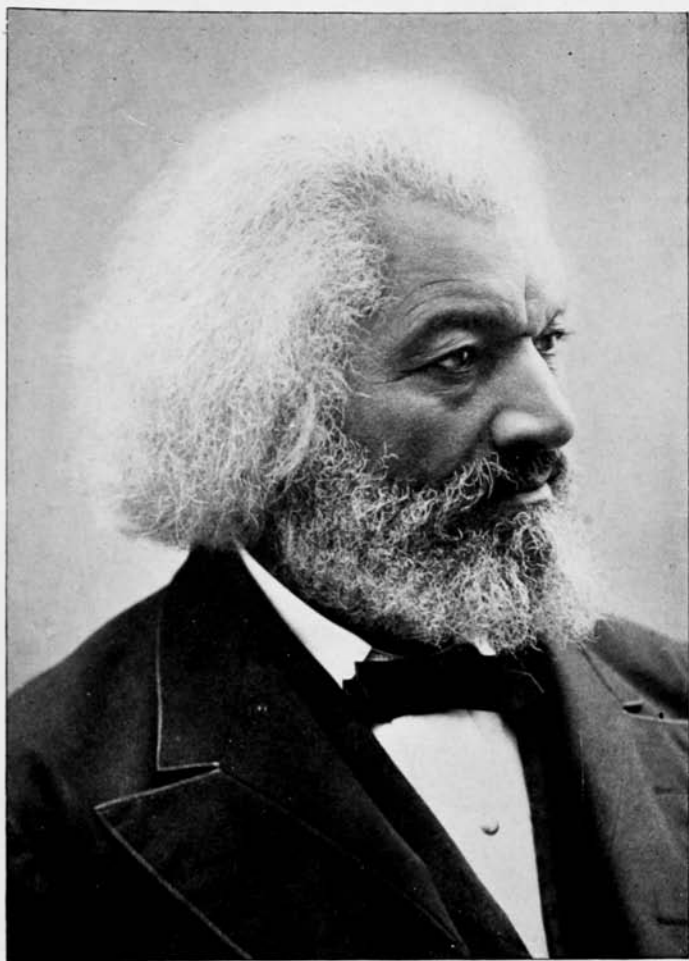
Mrs. Sewall presented Mr. Douglass to the council, and contenting himself with a bow in response to the applause that greeted the announcement, he took a seat beside Miss Anthony, his life-long friend. When Miss Anthony heard of Mr. Douglass' death at the evening session of the council, she was very much affected.

Miss Anthony and Mr. Douglass formed an intimate friendship when both resided in Rochester, N. Y., and that friendship has continued for many decades.

One incident in connection with their relations was recalled by Miss Anthony. During the early days of the anti-slavery agitation, Miss Anthony and her venerable associate, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, appeared at an anti-slavery meeting where Frederick Douglass was taking a prominent part.

Women were not welcome as public speakers in those days, and Mr. Douglass had agreed to read an address prepared by Mrs. Stanton. His rendition of her written remarks did not suit that lady, and, stepping forward, she took the paper from his hands with the remark:

"Here, Frederick, let me read it." And she did so, thus marking the initiative in the appearance of women as actors in public gatherings.



FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

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## LAST RITES IN WASHINGTON, D. C.

The remains of Frederick Douglass were conveyed early in the morning of February 25th to the Metropolitan Methodist Episcopal Church, there to lie in state until the funeral services in the afternoon. Before the removal from Cedar Hill, Anacostia, Mr. Douglass' late residence, brief services for the immediate relatives were conducted by the Rev. Hugh R. Stevenson, of the Anacostia Baptist Church. The service consisted simply of a prayer and the reading of the Scriptures.

The body was then conveyed to the church which was beautifully decorated with flowers.

As the time for the services approached the crowd in the street increased to such proportions that passage was almost impossible, and early the church was well filled with those admitted by special card, general admission being denied until after the beginning of the services. Delegations of representative colored men and women were present from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Annapolis, the Baltimore delegation, more than 100 strong, being headed by Bishop Wayland. The body of the great freedman resting in a plain but massive oak casket, was placed in front of the altar guarded by an officer in uniform from the General Russell A. Alger Camp, 25, G. A. R.

A simple bunch of lilies decorated the casket but about the altar and the pulpit was banked a wonderful profusion of flowers in appropriate designs. Among the floral tributes besides the beautiful set pieces sent by the Haytien Government, was a cross by Capt. B. F. Auld, of Baltimore, a son of Mr. Douglass' former master. Flowers were also sent by the scholars of many of the schools for colored children in the district.

The services were somewhat delayed, and it was after 2 o'clock when the funeral procession filed into the church.

Among the guests of special honor were: Justice Harlin, of the Supreme Court, Senators Sherman and Hoar and a number of members of the House of Representatives. There was also a large delegation from the Woman's Council. The faculty of Howard University attended in a body.

The funeral services which began at 3 o'clock, were conducted by Rev. J. G. Jenifer, D. D., pastor. Bishops Turner and Wayman took part, and John W. Hutchinson, the last of the famous Hutchinson family of abolition singers and a life-long friend of the deceased, sang a solo. The sermon was preached by Dr. Jenifer, and brief eulogistic remarks were made by Rev. Dr. Rankin, President of Howard University; Rev. Hugh T. Stevenson, of Anacostia Baptist Church, and Rev. Dr. J. F. Grimke.

The honorary pall bearers were ex-Senator B. K. Bruce, W. H. A. Wormley, Hon. John R. Lynch, John F. Cook, E. C. Messer, P. B. S. Pinchbeck, Dr. C. B. Purvis, Leonard C. Bailey, John H. Brooks, J. H. Meriweather, Dr. John R. Francis, F. J. Barbadoes, Capt. D. L. Pitcher, B. E. Messer and Congressman George W. Murray.

Speaking as the long time pastor of Mr. Douglass, Dr. Jenifer said: "Mr. Douglass was a Christian. He broke with the American Church and with the Christian dogma when he said that it sanctioned and sustained the enslavement and bondage of a brother. He held Christ to be above creed and above the church. In this terrific soul conflict he blundered into bewilderment, but his deliverance came and he has often spoken to me of the joy of his soul in God."

During the services, a letter from Elizabeth Cady Stanton was read which, after reviewing her first meeting with Douglass, closed as follows: "As an orator, writer and editor, Douglass holds an honored place among the gifted men of his day. As a man of business and a public officer he has been pre-eminently successful; honest and upright in all his

dealings, he bears an enviable reputation. As a husband, father, neighbor and friend—in all social relations—he has been faithful and steadfast to the end. He was the only man I ever knew who understood the degradation of the disfranchisement of women. Through all the long years of our struggle he has been a familiar figure on our platform with always an inspiring word to say. In the very first convention he helped me to carry the resolution I had penned, demanding woman suffrage. Frederick Douglass is not dead. His grand character will long be an object lesson in our National history. His lofty sentiments of liberty, justice and equality, echoed on every platform over our broad land, must influence and inspire many coming generations.”

Remarks followed by Miss Susan B. Anthony. Mrs. May Wright Sewall, president of the Woman's Council, also spoke.

M. J. Nicholas, who came to represent Mr. Haentjens, Haytien Minister to this country, spoke in French. Then followed an address by ex-United States Minister Durham, who formerly represented the United States in Hayti. Remarks were also offered by Rev. Dr. W. D. Derrick, of New York.

A touching incident of the service was the tribute paid to Mr. Douglass by John Hutchinson, of Boston, who himself an extremely aged man with snowy beard and long white locks reaching down over his shoulders, is said to be the last of the well known Hutchinson family with whom Douglass was associated in slavery days. The old man had come all the way from Boston to be present at the funeral and sing an old abolition song with which, by Douglass' side, he had inspired many an audience in New England and abroad against the evil of slavery. He made a few reminiscent remarks and then sang the song, at the conclusion of which there were few dry eyes in the audience.

The benediction was pronounced by Bishop Williams. Instead of diminishing, the crowd which gathered around the

church and in the street, had increased during the service so that it was almost impossible for the funeral procession to make its way to the carriages outside. The services were extremely long and it was after 5 o'clock when they were concluded. The body was escorted to the depot by letter carriers of the district as well as by a large number of personal friends of the deceased. The remains were put aboard the 7.10 train for Rochester.



## CHAPTER III

### ELABORATE PREPARATIONS FOR THE FUNERAL BY ROCHESTER'S COMMON COUNCIL.

Action by Rochester, N. Y., Common Council.

Special Meeting, February 23, 1895.

Ald. Merton E. Lewis, president of the Board, in the chair.

Present—Aldermen Calihan, McMillan, Green, Adams, Edelman, Ashton, Dewey, Cook, Pauckner, Lewis and Harris—11.

Mayor's Office,  
Rochester, N. Y., Feb. 23, 1895.

Theodore S. Pulver, City Clerk:

Sir—You will please call a special meeting of the Common Council for this, Saturday afternoon, at 2.30 o'clock, to take such action as may be necessary and appropriate in connection with the funeral of the Hon. Frederick Douglass, for many years a respected resident of this city.

MERTON E. LEWIS,  
Acting Mayor.

Ald McMillan—

Mr. President—I rise to a question of privilege and beg leave to submit the following memorial and resolutions on the death of our former fellow townsman, the Honorable Frederick Douglass.

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### MEMORIAL.

At his residence in Washington, February 20, 1895, Frederick Douglass, a former resident of Rochester, died, and this Council have met this afternoon to honor his memory.

Frederick Douglass was born in Tuckahoe, near Easton.

Talbot county, Maryland, February 14, 1817. His early boyhood was passed in slavery upon the plantation of Colonel Lloyd. When about nine years of age he learned to read and write; September 3, 1838, he escaped from slavery and took up his residence in New Bedford, Mass., where he was first married. It was here he met and was assisted in his efforts to secure an education by William Lloyd Garrison. In 1841, Mr. Douglass made a speech at an anti-slavery convention at Nantucket which brought him before the attention of the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society and this society at once employed him as one of its agents; for them he lectured through New England for about four years, upon the subject which he was so eminently qualified by nature and experience to speak. So successful was he that in 1845 he made a tour of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales, receiving marked attention everywhere. Rochester was honored by his making it his home in 1847, and here he resided for the most part until 1870.

When he first settled in Rochester he began the publication of a paper known as the "North Star," an organ devoted to the abolition of slavery, and which he continued a greater part of the time until the emancipation of his race removed the cause for its existence.

Mr. Douglass filled many positions of trust with eminent credit to himself and his country. In 1871 he was appointed assistant secretary to the commission of Santo Domingo and later by President Grant as a member of the Territorial Council of the District of Columbia. In 1872 he was elector at large for the state of New York and the messenger of the Electoral College. From 1876 to 1881 he was United States marshal for the District of Columbia, and recorder of deeds for that district from 1881 to 1886. But it was as an orator and author that Mr. Douglass was perhaps best known from the time when he fired the hearts and zeal of the New Eng-

land abolitionists until his last public appearance a few years since. He was an orator whose oratory was spontaneous, natural and convincing and the citizens of Rochester have not forgotten the occasions when he held as if by magic, the large audiences which would congregate to hear him. As an author he achieved distinction by his works: "Narrative of My Experience in Slavery," "My Bondage and My Freedom," published here in 1855, and "Life and Times of Frederick Douglass."

Rochester is proud that he is one of her sons and that he will rest in her beautiful city of the dead.

In his life and life work, our youth can find much worthy of emulation and its lesson to all cannot be lost.

"Whoe'er amidst the sons  
Of reason, valor, liberty, and virtue  
Displays distinguish'd merit, is a noble  
Of Nature's own creating."

Resolved, That we do hereby tender to the family and relatives of Honorable Frederick Douglass our sympathy in their affliction, and that this memorial be spread upon the minutes of this Council, a copy of this memorial and these resolutions be sent to his family, and further,

Resolved, That the family of Mr. Douglass be requested to permit his body to lie in state in the City Hall on the day of the funeral, and further

Resolved, That this Common Council attend the funeral services in a body.

Adopted.

Ald. Pauckner moved that a committee of five members of the Council be appointed to make arrangements for the funeral of Mr. Douglass. Carried.

The Chair appointed as such committee: Aldermen Pauckner, Adams, Ashton, Green and Harris.

On motion of Ald. Dewey the board then adjourned.

## MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENTS.

The committee of the Common Council, consisting of Aldermen Pauckner, Green, Harris, Adams and Ashton, met at Mayor Lewis' office February 25 and made arrangements for the funeral. All members of the committee were present as was Mayor Lewis and several interested in the completion of the arrangements. Ald. Pauckner acted as chairman.

The first business to come before the meeting was the selection of a church in which the funeral exercises should be held, Joseph Farley and Frank Van Doorn were present in behalf of Plymouth Church congregation, to offer that house of worship, in which to hold the services. It was stated that inasmuch as Mr. Douglass had attended Plymouth Church when in Rochester, that it would be appropriate to hold the services at that church. The committee decided to have the funeral services in Central Church at 2 o'clock February 26. Rev. W. C. Gannett officiated at the funeral.

J. W. Thompson appeared at the meeting and stated that the Douglass League desired to act as a guard of honor in conducting the remains to the city hall and later to Mt. Hope cemetery. The offer was accepted. Mr. Thompson was asked to appoint the active and honorary bearers which he did.

These gentlemen were appointed as active bearers: Charles P. Lee, William Allen, A. H. Harris, R. J. Jeffrey, R. L. Kent, H. A. Spencer, F. S. Cunningham and Charles B. Lee. Mr. Thompson also appointed William Oliver, Hon. H. S. Greenleaf, J. K. Post and Hon. John Van Voorhis honorary-bearers. Mayor Lewis suggested that several of the ex-Mayors of the city act as honorary bearers and it was decided that the four gentlemen named above and ex-Mayors Henry L. Fish, William Carroll, Richard Curran, Charles W. Briggs, George G. Clarkson and N. C. Bradstreet complete the list.

Superintendent of Police J. P. Cleary entered the meeting

and proposed that four members of the national guard and a like number of policemen act as a guard of honor in the City Hall. Superintendent Cleary also suggested that a cordon of police act as an additional escort from the depot and to the cemetery. It was decided to have the policemen act as an escort and to have four men stationed in the City Hall as a guard of honor. In relation to the national guard it was thought best to confer with Capt. Henderson to ascertain whether they would wish to turn out. All other organizations which wished to march were requested to report to Superintendent Cleary at 6 o'clock that evening, February 24.

It was stated at the committee meeting that Charles Douglass, son of the dead statesman, was captain of a military organization in Washington, and that it would be appropriate for any military companies wishing to be in line to do so. A band was secured to lead the funeral procession and accompany the escort from the station.

Of this committee, Aldermen Adams and Ashton went as far as Canandaigua to meet the train, and accompanied the funeral party to Rochester. At the station the party was met by one of the most imposing gatherings that has ever awaited the arrival of the remains of a private citizen. The Mayor and the Board of Aldermen were there; the Douglass League, a guard of honor from the Eighth Separate Company, and committees from several municipal and other organizations, but, most impressive of all, was the crowd. The people were there and that showed, beyond the shadow of a doubt, what they thought. The crowd, like all the crowds at every gathering place throughout the day, was representative in the highest sense. It included the leading business and professional men of the community; gray-haired citizens, whose life in Rochester dates to the older time when Douglass was here; white and colored children of the present time, and all the classes that intervene in age and character. This crowd

filled the station and its approaches so that it was difficult for those directly connected with the ceremony of reception to make their way to the train.

The party that accompanied the body of the orator from Washington consisted, in part, of Mrs. Frederick Douglass, widow of the celebrated statesman; Messrs. Lewis H. and Charles R. Douglass, sons; Mrs. R. Douglass Sprague, daughter; Misses Estelle and Harriet Sprague, granddaughters, and Joseph H. Douglass, grandson. General John A. Eton and Professor George W. Cook, representing the Howard University, were also present, and Rev. J. H. Chilcote of Asbury Church, Washington. General Eaton was ex-commissioner of education.

As the passengers alighted from the train and moved out of the station the crowd surged in with so much determination that it was all the large force of police on hand could do to keep a way clear for the procession. While it moved, the 54th Regiment Band played a funeral march, and after the casket had been placed in the hearse, the march to the city hall, via North Clinton street, East and West Main streets and the city hall, was begun. First came the 54th Regiment Band, then carriages containing the committee of the Common Council and the remaining members of that body, then the honorary bearers and the active bearers; then the hearse, under the escort of the Douglass League, followed by other carriages containing friends and relatives.

The cortege reached the city hall by way of Fitzhugh street and the casket was placed at the central point of the ground floor, where the main and transverse halls unite. The interior of the building was draped with emblems of mourning and with a profusion of flags, the latter predominating. There was also a profusion of flowers and palms and the effect was beautiful in the extreme.

At the city hall, the custody of the body was given over

to a guard of honor consisting of four members of the 8th Separate Company, under command of a corporal, and four officers of the police department, commanded by a lieutenant.

This is a bare statement of one of the most impressive scenes that has ever been seen in Rochester. All along the line of march the streets were thronged and the crowd stood with bared head, and in silence, as it passed; then as though by common consent the people fell into line and followed on to the city hall to take their turn with the waiting multitude in looking upon the face of the dead. Although everything practical was done to hasten the movements of the crowd it remained undiminished, so far as any one could see, until it became necessary to remove the casket to the church, at 3 o'clock in the afternoon.

The higher grades of the public schools were dismissed at 10 o'clock, and, in charge of their teachers, passed the dais upon which lay the body of the man, who, when their parents were school children, had been compelled to plead for the right to send his own little ones to the public schools of Rochester, because they were black. The thousands who passed the catafalque, in silent and respectful interest, included many who were unborn during the stirring days of the active life of Douglass and other thousands who did not set foot upon American soil until after it was all done. But, with one and all, there was the same evidence of sorrow and of respect.

## CHAPTER IV

### FUNERAL CEREMONIES AT CENTRAL PRESBY- TERIAN CHURCH.

When the time came for the ceremonies at the church, it was necessary to force a way to the casket and to clear the building. The line of march was formed on Fitzhugh street with the right resting on West Main street and was, perhaps, the most imposing that was ever seen in the city of Rochester to march so short a distance. It was as follows:

Captain McDermott, four lieutenants and forty-eight men from the police drill corps.

54th Regiment Band.

Eighth Separate Company, commanded by Captain Henderson, 65 men.

Mayor M. E. Lewis and members of the Common Council, including the committee.

Police commissioners.

The hearse, followed by the active and honorary bearers and Douglass League, T. E. Platner, commanding, as escort.

The family, relatives and friends of the deceased.

The active bearers were the following members of Douglass League: Charles P. Lee, William Allen, A. H. Harris, R. J. Jeffrey, R. L. Kent, H. A. Spencer, F. S. Cunningham and C. B. Lee.

The honorary bearers were: Hon. H. S. Greenleaf, Hon. John Van Voorhis, J. K. Post, William Oliver, E. A. Frost, and ex-Mayors Henry L. Fish, William Carroll and Charles W. Briggs.

The line of march as directed by Superintendent of Police Cleary was through Fitzhugh to Church street to the Central Church. The policemen formed in line at the Church street entrance to the house of worship and the procession entered



at this side and marched down in front where the remains were deposited in front of the altar. Five hundred seats were reserved for the family, relatives, friends and escort.

The procession moved by way of Fitzhugh street, West Main street and Sophia street and stacked arms, the details of the guard of honor accompanying the remains of the dead orator to the church, while the street was held by the company at large.

Long before the procession reached the street, all the seats in the great auditorium, except the 500 reserved for the immediate friends of Mr. Douglass, were filled and the street was thronged with people who would have been glad to obtain admission but could not do so. The casket was placed in front of the platform and was surrounded by the wealth of floral gifts that had come from this city, from Washington, Boston, Mass., and elsewhere. Every seat and every available bit of standing room in the great church was occupied when the services began.

Seated upon the platform were Rev. Dr. H. H. Stebbins, of the Central Church; Rev. Dr. William R. Taylor, of the Brick Church; Rev. Dr. J. P. Sankey, of the United Presbyterian Church; Rev. H. Clay Peepels, of the Park Avenue Baptist Church; Rev. Dr. W. C. Gannett, of the Unitarian Church; Rev. G. W. Peck, of the North Presbyterian Church; Rev. Wesley Ely, of Zion Methodist Church; Rev. Dr. J. E. Mason, presiding elder of the African Methodist Episcopal Church of the district; Sherman D. Richardson, Miss Mary Anthony and many others. Mayor M. E. Lewis and the aldermanic committee, consisting of Messrs. Pauckner, Harris, Ashton, Adams, Green, McMillan and Superintendent of Police Joseph Cleary also occupied seats on the platform, as representatives of the municipal government.

It is not easy to say anything about the services from first to last, without the danger of growing over-eloquent. The

church full of people that sat or stood through the long service was one that it would be difficult to draw on any occasion, however important, and impossible to bring together upon an occasion of less significance. The last time that the church held such a gathering was when Douglass sat on the platform with President Harrison on the Sunday before the unveiling of the soldiers' monument in May, 1892.

After the procession had passed down the aisle, and the casket had been placed before the altar, Dr. Taylor of the Brick Church, led in the opening prayer. After this Sherman D. Richardson read the following poem:

I saw the slave of Maryland  
Upon the soil of freedom stand.  
The waves that once the Mayflower bore  
Were dashing on New England's shore.  
The Stars and Stripes showed Northern will  
On breezes from old Bunker Hill,  
And as he drank in liberty,  
I saw the man from serfdom free.

I saw him like a monarch stand,  
With Lincoln's edict in his hand;  
With lips infused from heaven's fire,  
With thoughts that would all time inspire,  
Transfigured on Columbia's sod;  
A living type from Freedom's God;  
Incarnate soul of Liberty  
He stood—A race and land were free.

I saw again God's Pioneer,  
In grand repose upon his 'bier.  
The lines that showed the reaper's path,  
Were softened with death's aftermath.  
But yet that face more grandly taught  
Of will and power, of battles fought,  
Of victories won for Liberty—  
The crown at last, the soul was free.

At the conclusion of the poem, and after music by the choir, Miss Mary Anthony, who was one of the warmest and staunchest friends of Mr. Douglass, in his days of trial, read a spirited sketch of his life and work.

Then, after another musical selection, came the address of the day, delivered by Rev. Dr. W. C. Gannett, which was, in part, as follows:

"This is an impressive moment in our city history. There was a man who lived in one of its humbler homes whose name barred him from the doors of the wealthier mansions of our city. This man has come home to a little circle of his best beloved ones. He has come, as it were, alone, and our city has gone forth to meet him at its gates. He has been welcomed for once in the most impressive way. His remains have laid in our city hall. Our school children have looked upon his face, that they may in the future tell their children that they have looked on the face of Frederick Douglass. What a difference! Think of the contrast! What does it all mean? It means two things. It is a personal tribute and it is an impersonal tribute. It is personal tribute to the man who has exemplified before the eyes of all America the inspiring example of a man who made himself. America is the land of opportunities. But not all men in this land can use their opportunities. Here was a man who used to the utmost all the opportunities that America held forth to him and when opportunities were not at hand he made them. Nature gave him birth, nature deprived him of father and almost of mother. He was born seventy-eight years ago, forty years before anti-slavery was heard of as a watchword.

"That was his home, his welcome to the earth. It was heaven to be born a slave in Maryland. He was born at a time when the laws of that state were links to hold the black man to the ground, and you know what the North did in the way of keeping the law which required that fugitives from

slavery should be sent back to bondage. You know what the public opinion in the North was against the slave. You know that Northern law sent back a slave, if he escaped, to his Southern master. He had no school, not even the college of the wood pile to which so many of our Northern statesmen point so often with pride. All the school he knew was the lash with which his cruel master laid on his back with force.

"The kind mistress he had three or four years gave him in her innocence the A, B, C's. A hard master gave him the lash. Both caused him to be Frederick Douglass. Read in his autobiography how the boy made up his mind to obey his master until he was abused unlawfully. Read the story of two hours' combat between the master and slave. He did not hurt his master, but he did not let his master strike him. At the end Douglass was a free man in his soul. He had dared death and nothing else had any terror for him. This was the last flogging Frederick Douglass ever received.

"Then came the escape. He went to a little anti-slavery convention in New England and made a little speech. The next day Douglass found himself famous. New England suddenly discovered that it had discovered an orator and you who heard him knew his eloquence came from his heart. Meanwhile history was making. All the rivers in the great valley to the west run into one. All the streams in national life were running into one stream during the years 1860 and 1861 and that stream was slavery. The war followed. Then history was being made and the war being done, Douglass became an American citizen; he became presidential elector for New York state; Douglass became the honored minister of the United States to Hayti; Douglass became the honored guest in all the North; Douglass became a part of the country's history.

"He is not simply a self-made man, although he was one of the greatest. A man self-made but large hearted. Who ever



THE DOUGLASS MONUMENT.

had better opportunity to be great hearted? Who ever needed to be a greater hearted man more than Frederick Douglass? Think of the chronic results for which he labored almost to the end of his life. Notwithstanding that the lash had been lifted from his back, still he encountered shrugs of the shoulders, lifting of the eyebrows and an edging away from his fellow men when he approached them, always under that opportunity of insult.

“His great heart had a chronic forgiveness. The sweetness of his nature grew in the latter part of his life till it touched the features of his face. Charity, ever growing charity, should always accompany our thoughts of Fred Douglass, because his life was charity personified. No sweeter nature could be imagined. How true it is, the word of Emerson: ‘The things of the man of which we visited were once in the dark and the cold.’ There will never be a tribute like this awaiting us when we come to our last day. Yea, and often he lived in the darkness of coldness and insult, to-day we bring him into the sunlight of true appreciation.

“But that was not all. It is not simply a tribute to the man. The personal tribute rises and loses itself in a grander and nobler thought. It becomes transfigured into an impersonal thought. We are in an era of change on a great subject. White people here are honoring a black people. An exception? Yes. Great men are always exceptions. An exception? Yes, but an instance as well, an example of how the world’s feeling is changing. Not only that. I like to think over our 140,000 people of Rochester and pick out the two or three or four who will be called our first citizens twenty or thirty years hence. Very few in Rochester are famous through the North; very few are famous through the nation; very few are famous throughout the world. Yet the papers of two continents had editorials about the man whose remains lie before us. We have but one

bronze monument in our streets. Will the next be that of Fred Douglass, the black man, the ex-slave, the renowned orator, the distinguished American citizen? I think it will be. In and around our soldiers' monument we group the history of war. It is not only the monument of Lincoln, although Lincoln's figure is represented there. It is the monument of the war.

"The nation to-day, thank God, is not only celebrating its emancipation from slavery, but also its emancipation from the slavery of prejudice and from the slavery of caste and color. Let me end with one great word. It is his word. There are but six words in the sentence and it is one of the great sentences worthy to be painted on church walls and worthy to be included in such a book as the Bible. It is: 'One with God is a majority.'"

A prayer and the pronouncing of the benediction by Dr. H. H. Stebbins closed the services at the church, but the crowd which had gained access to the building joined the hundreds who had lingered outside, and waited until the casket had been placed in the hearse, until the relatives and immediate friends had taken their places and the procession, headed by its cordon of police and by the militia, had taken up its march toward Mt. Hope. The band and the dual escort went only to the gates of the cemetery. Beyond that point the funeral was like that of any other citizen. There was a brief prayer by the Rev. W. R. Taylor in the chapel, after which the same clergyman spoke the few words of formal committal to the receiving vault, where the body remained until spring, and was then buried in the family lot, 26, Sec. T.

There was a noticeable increase in the number of arrivals upon incoming local trains on all lines, showing the high esteem in which the great man was held in all this region.

## CHAPTER V

### RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY VARIOUS OFFICIAL BODIES.

BY THE MONUMENT COMMITTEE.

Resolved, That in the death of the Hon. Frederick Douglass, this city sustains the loss of an eminent citizen, whose life and services in behalf of human rights will illumine one of the most interesting and exciting chapters in the history of the nineteenth century. In Rochester his earlier struggles for equality and humanity were commenced. His phenomenal success and honorable career, combined as they were with strict integrity, inspired by unfaltering zeal for his life's mission in behalf of his race, commanding for him, as citizen, patriot, emancipator and statesman, the respect and admiration of the civilized world, unite to render him one of the unique characters in history.

We deem it appropriate that in our city, where he built his first home as a freeman, he should find his last resting place, and that here the last sad rites should be performed over his mortal remains, by interment in the same fair city of the dead where repose so many of his former compatriots.

Recalling the fact that his home in our city commanded a view of Mt. Hope and of the adjacent grounds, now known as Highland Park, we would respectfully suggest to the honorable, the Common Council, and to the Board of Park Commissioners of Rochester, that appropriate action be taken to change the name of that park to Douglass Park, and that we hereby request the co-operation of all to the end that at the earliest practical date, a life size or heroic statue of the distinguished fellow citizen, whose death is so generally deplored, but whose memory we will ever honor, be erected on the loftiest spot therein.



Resolved, That we will attend the funeral of the deceased as a body.

Resolved, That we tender the family of the deceased, dwelling in the shadow of their great sorrow, our heartfelt sympathy.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be communicated to the honorable, the Common Council, and to the Board of Park Commissioners of Rochester.

H. S. GREENLEAF,  
C. S. BAKER,  
GEORGE A. BENTON,  
JOHN W THOMPSON,  
HENRY A. SPENCER,  
CHARLES P. LEE,  
Committee.

BY THE DOUGLASS LEAGUE.

A special meeting of Douglass League, an organization of colored men named in honor of the dead leader, was held at its headquarters last evening. This memorial upon the death of Mr. Douglass was adopted:

Whereas, God in His wisdom has removed from the scenes of an active life our most distinguished brother member, Hon. Frederick Douglass; and

Whereas, We feel that his death leaves a vacancy which cannot be filled; therefore

Resolved, That by the death of Mr. Douglass this organization loses its most illustrious member, the race a trusted friend and counselor, the country one of its greatest orators, an able diplomat, a wise statesman and a patriotic citizen, and the whole civilized world a shining light.

Resolved, That we recognize in him a leader whose ability was of the highest order, his wisdom far reaching and in whose integrity we sincerely believed and implicitly trusted.

Resolved, That we will ever honor his name and cherish

his memory and hand down to our children and children's children the example he has set for their emulation.

Resolved, That when we take in consideration the condition which surrounded his birth, and pursued him in his flight toward the polar star, still harrassed in the land of suppressed freedom until his manumission was purchased with gold, yet followed during his whole life by an unjust, unreasonable prejudice, which had its birth in slavery; the severity of which prejudice was diminished only by his intellectual power and force of character, may be truly called one of the world's greatest men.

Resolved, That in memory of our departed brother, the headquarters of the league be draped and each member wear a badge of mourning for the space of thirty days.

Resolved, That these resolutions be recorded on the minutes, published in the daily papers and a copy sent to the heart-stricken family.

Resolved, That we extend our sincere condolence to the sorrowing family in this their great bereavement, and that we attend the funeral in a body.

J. W. THOMPSON,  
A. H. HARRIS,  
R. L. KENT,

Committee.

BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

At a meeting of the Board of Education the following memorial was adopted:

In the death of Hon. Frederick Douglass the people of this country sustain a great loss and the people of his race will miss a staunch friend and a noble example. Upright in manhood, the strength and purity of his personality will command respect and honor in all future time.

As a former citizen of Rochester, as a friend and patron of our public schools, Mr. Douglass will be personally re-

membered by our citizens with great pride. It is well to honor the memory of that distinguished citizen whose life will serve as an example to the rising generation of sterling and stalwart Americans. He was generous and kind; he never betrayed a friend or a cause and in his personal life he was a distinguished example; be it

Resolved, That this board record its appreciation of his great services to his country and the cause of freedom.

As a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased orator the pupils of the Free Academy and of the upper grades of the grammar schools visited City Hall and viewed the remains.

BY THE STATE ASSEMBLY.

Hon. James M. E. O'Grady, of Rochester, introduced and the Assembly adopted the following:

Resolved, That the Assembly hears with regret of the sudden and unexpected death of the Hon. Frederick Douglass of Washington, born in slavery, thrown upon his own resources at an early date, self educated entirely, and endowed with great natural ability he successfully filled the positions of orator, editor, diplomat and statesman.

His death removes one of the foremost citizens and most striking figures of the republic as well as the most distinguished member of his race of modern times.

As a former resident of this state and who has been signally honored by our citizens, it is fitting that we should take public notice of his death.

## CHAPTER VI.

### ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE MOVEMENT TO ERECT A MONUMENT.

At a meeting of Eureka Lodge, No. 36, F. and A. M., held in the city of Rochester, N. Y., November 20, 1894, after making a short address, J. W. Thompson made a motion that a committee be appointed for the purpose of erecting a monument in memory of the Afro-American soldiers and sailors who had fallen in the Civil War. Mr. Thompson was elected chairman of the committee and authorized to appoint others to act with him. At the next meeting he announced the following committee: Hon. George A. Benton, Hon. Charles S. Baker, Hon. William Purcell, Hon. H. S. Greenleaf, treasurer, Hon. Richard Curran, Messrs. R. L. Kent, Thomas E. Platner, H. A. Spencer, C. J. Vincent, Leon J. Du Bois and F. S. Cunningham. Before the committee had a meeting the chairman sent a communication to Hon. Frederick Douglass in regard to the project. In answer the following was received:

Mr. J. W. Thompson:      Anacostia, D. C., Dec. 3, 1894.

My Dear Sir—I am more than pleased with the patriotic purpose to erect in Rochester a monument in honor of the colored soldiers who, under great discouragements, at the moment of the national peril volunteered to go to the front and fight for their country—when assured in advance that neither by our own government nor that of the confederates would they be accorded the equal rights of peace or of war. The colored soldier fought with a halter about his neck, but he fought all the same. I shall be proud if I shall live to see the proposed monument erected in the city of Rochester, where the best years of my life were spent in the service of our people—and which to this day seems like my home.

Yours very truly,      FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

December 21, the same year, appeals were made for funds in all of the city newspapers and splendid editorials appeared approving the effort to honor the memory of the heroes in granite and bronze, those who died for their country's flag. The movement met with some opposition from unexpected quarters among the colored people, who claimed that one soldiers' monument represented all who were killed in the Civil War. Chairman Thompson did not see it in that light, as he stated at a meeting held in Zion's Church. "I have visited the monument in Washington's Square," said he, "and made an examination of the bronze figures. The features of three represent the American white soldier and sailor, one the Irish soldier and one the German, while the Afro-American is not represented in features." The next day after this meeting Hon. H. S. Greenleaf, Hon. Charles S. Baker and Chairman Thompson met in Mr. Baker's office and decided to erect a shaft in memory of the soldiers and sailors and place upon it a bronze statute in honor of Frederick Douglass. The committee then entered upon its duties and the soliciting of funds began for the purpose.

On the night of February 20, 1895, news reached the city that Frederick Douglass died suddenly at his Anacostia home. Mr. Thompson made the announcement in the morning newspapers that the monument would be erected in memory of the late Frederick Douglass. In 1896 and 1897 the financial condition of the country was in a worse state than it had been since 1873. Money was hard to collect. The most of the committee after a short struggle turned in their books or refused to try longer to do anything, but the chairman declined to give up the work, and in 1897 he appointed as members of the committee Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey, T. Thomas Fortune, New York Age; Bishop Alexander Walters, N. J.; Thomas H. Barnes, Olean, N. Y.; E. R. Spaulding, Owego, N. Y.; Benjamin F. Cleggett, Geneva, N. Y.;

Theodore Duffin, Geneva, N. Y.; Rev. James E. Mason, D. D., Rochester, N. Y. With these newly appointed members to the committee, J. W. Thompson continued his effort to raise the needed \$10,000 to complete the work, and the grand completion and unveiling was the proudest day of his life.

MR. J. W. THOMPSON BEFORE THE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Thompson appeared before the finance committee at Albany, N. Y., January 24, 1897, and asked an appropriation of \$5,000 for the Monument Fund. Mr. Thompson said: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

To stand within the walls of this capitol building the very essence of architectural beauty and elegance, the wealthiest and most influential state in the union, to address this honorable and respected committee of the Assembly of the state of New York on this occasion, for a few brief moments asking an appropriation to aid us in erecting a monument to the memory of the late Frederick Douglass, in the city of Rochester, N. Y., where he resided for nearly forty years, I esteem it the honor of my life.

I shall make no effort, however, to speak for this ex-slave leader and statesman who has fallen by the will of the Almighty, after reaching the highest round in the ladder of fame. Last Friday as I stood at the foot of his grave, watching the six United States flags placed there by myself last Decoration day, and as they were being tossed by the winter's wind, I said to myself the remains of Frederick Douglass wrapped in the narrow confinement of the grave, resting under our National flags in their magnificent silence, are more eloquent than any words that could be used by me to-day, I shall therefore give a few reasons why the state should make the appropriation asked for.

Frederick Douglass escaped from slavery in the year 1838. He went to New Bedford, Mass., and worked in a ship yard

for nearly two years. There the *Liberator*, a newspaper edited by William Lloyd Garrison, fell into his hands. He said the sentiments expressed in that paper against slavery were the sentiments of his own soul. He left that city and went to Europe, and on his return to Rochester, N. Y., he established a newspaper known as the "North Star," in the interest of freedom and justice, by which he created a sentiment against human slavery that caused hundreds of thousands of New York's bravest men to declare that they would march to the front and put down the horrible and wretched curse of slavery. They went with thousands from other states but the work was not accomplished until the Afro-American was adorned with the uniform of the United States and marched side by side with their brothers to the field of battle in defence of the American flag, and in this Frederick Douglass was an important factor. He traveled in every state this side of the Mason and Dixon line soliciting volunteers to preserve our glorious Union. In this he declared as a citizen of the United States and the great state of New York, I shall do my duty. He was chosen by the citizens of Rochester to deliver a Fourth of July oration in the year 1855. Later on he came very near being elected a member of Assembly from the city of Rochester. He was a great orator, and a prominent figure in the history of our state; he was a Presidential elector from this state; he attended many National Conventions and received votes for the highest office in the gift of the American people. He was Minister to Hayti; he was United States Marshal under President Hayes; he was Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia. So great was his ability and his high character that at his death the State Assembly adjourned in respect to his memory; the 26th day of February, 1895, his remains were received in Rochester in the honored presence of the Mayor and Common Council of that city and thousands of

citizens with uncovered heads; his remains lay in state in the City Hall, schools were closed that teachers and scholars might view for the last time the picturesque form of Frederick Douglass.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if you will grant us the appropriation asked we will add to that the \$2,500 already pledged; we will solicit the balance and unveil the monument of Frederick Douglass very shortly, and will place those features and form in bronze that these same children and the people of the world may know that the citizens of the Empire State regard a man and a statesman as such, regardless of his color or previous condition. Now, sir, grant our appeal and gladden the hearts of millions of our citizens; grant this appeal and we shall rear a monument which shall testify that we are not unmindful of him and his noble work. Far beyond that—by the erection of such a memorial we may leave a witness which shall speak long after our tongues are hushed, a witness whose silent testimony shall be eloquent, which shall be a inspiration for generations to come, inciting American manhood to love of country; to unconquerable devotions to a great cause, telling our boys that the humbleness of birth is no insurmountable barrier to eminence, that all doors swing open to those who keep their heart right, and give themselves with unremitting toil and high purpose to the work which lies before them.

Happy am I to speak for his monument, and happy, thrice happy, will be those who by your recommendation will be given an opportunity to vote for this appropriation.

THE BILL AS PASSED FEB. 3, 1897.

The bill, changed by the Finance Committee from \$5,000 to \$3,000, was introduced by W W. Armstrong, as follows: An ACT making an appropriation to assist in the erection of a monument to the memory of the late Frederick Douglass, at his former place of residence within this state.



The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The sum of three thousand dollars is hereby appropriated out of any moneys in the treasury not otherwise appropriated for the purpose of assisting in the erection of a monument to the memory of the late Frederick Douglass at the city of Rochester, N. Y., his former place of residence within this state for which contributions are now being publicly solicited of the citizens of this state by the colored people, and the comptroller is hereby authorized to pay the same to the committee having the same in charge whenever it shall be satisfactorily shown by such committee that the collectible subscriptions for such purpose together with the sum hereby appropriated will be sufficient to purchase and erect such monument.

Sec. 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

The bill as amended passed in the Assembly and Senate unanimously and was signed by Governor Frank S. Black. The whole sum was paid to Chairman Thompson during August and September, 1898.

#### THE ROLL OF HONOR.

The names of those who donated their services to help raise the funds by assisting in entertainments were: Miss Susan B. Anthony, Miss Mary E. Sampson, Rev. Anna Shaw, Philadelphia; Mrs. Victoria E. Mathews, New York; Prof. Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee, Ala.; Hon. J. M. E. O'Grady; Miss Florence Sprague; Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey, Mrs. J. W. Thompson; Col. J. S. Graham; Col. N. P. Pond; Col. Sherman D. Richardson; Mrs. A. E. Stockton; Ludwig Schenck; Frank Mandeville; Miss May Lepeon; Miss Olive Franklin; Miss Maude Bannister; Miss Marion Curtis; J. F. Marshall; Prof. James H. Cash; Arthur Coleman; J. Frank Washington; J. W. Thompson; D. L. Ainsworth; Miss Ma-

line Thomas; Miss Ella M. Young; Miss Carrie Sprague; Thomas H. Barnes; Miss Pearl Fundy; Elliott Sprague.

The juveniles took part in helping to build the monument by presenting a little drama entitled "The Ten Virgins," taken from incidents found in the twenty-fifth chapter of St. Matthew. The bride was Mary Burks, and the groom, Edward Buckingham. The ten virgins were: Pauline L. Thompson, Emma Miller, Gladys Myers, Emma Gibbs, Kittie Mason, Elsie Townes, Gertrude A. Thompson, Vera Burks, Ethel Gilbert, LaBell M. Kent, Chriselda Cash, Abbie Franklin.

Much credit is due Messrs. Ira S. Wile and Percival DeW Oviatt, two prominent young men of Rochester, N. Y., for their efforts to raise the sum necessary to take up the note that had been given the Smith Granite Company by John W. Thompson, chairman of the committee, for \$2,000. The entertainment took place at the Lyceum Theater February 20, 1899, but less than \$200 was realized. The participants of the effort were some of the best local talent, among them being Mrs. O. W. Moore, elocutionist; University of Rochester Mandolin Club; the Cedar Hill Quartette; Henry J. Schlegel, soloist; George E. Fisher; Charles E. Van Laer; Charles R. Osgood, soloist; Robert P. Levis; Richard Sutherland; Walter W. Arnold; George P. Culp, and M. S. Taylor.

The patronesses were Mrs. R. Sibley, Mrs. W. E. Hoyt, Mrs. C. W. Dodge, Mrs. W. Eastwood, Mrs. W. H. Montgomery, Mrs. W. S. Little, Mrs. F. S. Newell, Mrs. Joseph O'Connor and Mrs. Martin W. Cooke.

This entertainment for so noble a cause took place just four years to the very day after the death of the statesman for whose monument the fund was to be applied. It was a notable fact that the night was the coldest of the winter which had much to do with the small attendance.

ACTION BY A. M. E. ZION CONFERENCE, JUNE 4, 1898.

J. H. Anderson, D. D., offered the following resolutions which were unanimously approved:

Whereas, We have heard with pleasure from Mr. J. W. Thompson, of Rochester, N. Y., that the proposed Douglass monument to be erected in Rochester is an accomplished fact so far as the collection of funds is concerned, there having been appropriated \$3,000 by the state of New York, \$1,000 by the Haytien government and about \$2,000 raised by his own efforts, thus there being about \$6,000 raised of the \$7,000 necessary to erect the monument; therefore,

Resolved, That we heartily commend the energy, tact and successful efforts of Mr. Thompson, and that the New York Annual Conference of the A. M. E. Zion Church, of which Frederick Douglass was an honored member, contribute \$100.00 to this highly commendable enterprise in which is involved the interests of the entire negro race in America.

## CHAPTER VII.

### SELECTION OF A SITE FOR THE MONUMENT AT ROCHESTER, N. Y.

Shortly after the passage of the bill appropriating three thousand dollars to the Douglass monument fund, Chairman Thompson was requested by many citizens to have the monument placed in Plymouth Park. The chairman appeared before the Park Board and made the request which was referred to a committee at the next meeting. The request was granted by a unanimous vote after all of the property owners had been consulted and their permission given. Many people complimented the committee upon their excellent choice for the statue of Douglass, as when placed at that park it could be seen many blocks away and would show to a great advantage from Plymouth Avenue. This was during 1897. The events of the succeeding year, however, demonstrated the fact that there were objections to the monument of the great statesman being placed in Plymouth Park, which had been asked for by the committee and granted by the Park Commissioners. This objection counted for but little, however, as there were many other sites offered. A large number of admirers of Mr. Douglass were open in their criticism of the committee for selecting the park, giving as their reason that it would only be seen by persons going that way, while the statue of Douglass was an object lesson and ought to be in the heart of the city. For that reason Chairman Thompson raised no objections believing the site near the Central station the best.

At a meeting of the Park Commissioners January 30, 1898, the following protest was raised:

To the Park Commission of the City of Rochester:

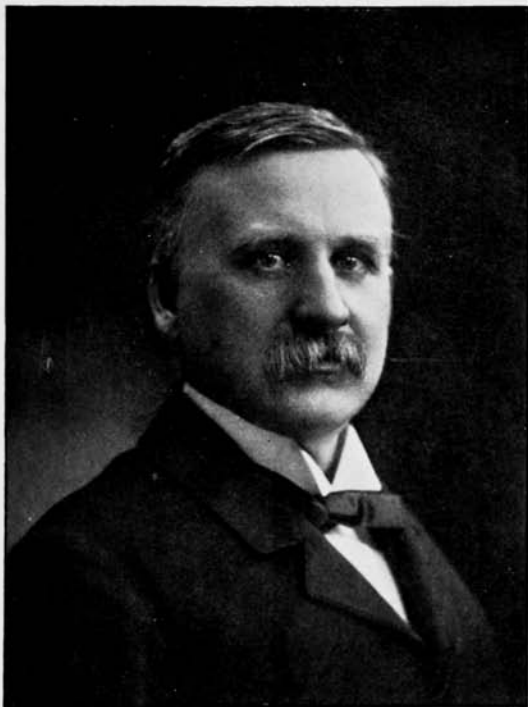
Gentlemen—We, the undersigned, residents and property owners around Plymouth Park, are informed that it is the purpose of your body to place in Plymouth Park the statue

of the late Frederick Douglass. While we feel with other citizens of Rochester that the honor is due his memory, still we think a larger park would be more appropriate. Therefore we ask your honorable body to select some other location, as we protest most emphatically against its being placed in Plymouth Park.

Signed—Helen M. Hess, L. Powis, Mary Powis, Immaculate Conception Church Association, per the Rev. James F. O'Hare, M. L. Hughes, Winifred Egan, Margaret B. Marshall, F. J. Hess, E. J. Kelsey.

After President Moore had stated that permission had already been granted to erect the monument in Plymouth Park and that such action had only been taken after the views of the property owners in the vicinity had been obtained, the privilege of the floor was granted to John W. Thompson, chairman of the Douglass Memorial Committee. Mr. Thompson said that there was no desire on his part to force the monument on any one. Personally, he favored Plymouth Park, but if the residents there did not want it, he would leave the matter in the hands of the board. Mr. Thompson said that he was sure that Mr. Douglass, if he were alive, would not care to have a monument to his memory placed in a park where it might be objectionable to the people.

A general discussion of the matter followed, several Commissioners participating in the debate. Commissioner Graham suggested that the matter ought to be treated in a public spirit. He did not think Plymouth Park was the best place for the monument. A much better place would be at the entrance to one of the large parks, particularly Genesee Valley Park. Another good place would be on the triangle at the corner of North St. Paul Street and Central Avenue, opposite the Central Railroad station, where thousands of people passing through the city could get a look at the monument which the city of Rochester had erected in honor of Douglass,



HON. GEORGE A. BENTON

the greatest of his race. The discussion was ended by having the matter referred to the City Park Committee with instructions to report back at the next meeting of the board. Meanwhile this committee was to confer with a committee from the Douglass Monument Committee.

It was said by some that the cause of the objections to placing the monument in the park was on account of the smallness of the park, while it was hinted by many that the protest was brought about by race prejudice on the part of the signers. The writer who attended during the four years it took for the erection of the monument every entertainment or meeting of any kind for the Douglass monument, or where the name of Douglass was discussed, desires to say, to the everlasting credit of the citizens of Rochester, N. Y., that he never observed any feeling of race prejudice in regard to the monument to Frederick Douglass. Every site in the city was offered except the one in question.

The joint committee, consisting of the city property committee of the Common Council, the City Park Committee of the Park Board, and the Douglass Monument Committee, met in the rooms of the Park Commissioners at 4 o'clock February 10, 1898. The following were present: J. W. Thompson, chairman, and Hon. George A. Benton, R. L. Kent and Benjamin Simms of the Monument Committee; Chairman Moore of the Park Board; Chairman Elwood, of the City Park Committee, and Commissioners Wright and Ritter; Chairman Pauckner, of the City Property Committee of the Common Council, and Aldermen Rauber, Edelman and Tracy.

Alderman Pauckner was elected chairman of the joint committee and Secretary Stone of the Park Board, secretary for the joint meeting. Mr. Thompson was then called on to state the object of the meeting and the status of the monument movement.

Mr. Thompson arose and said: "Some time ago in behalf of the monument committee, I made application to the park board for Plymouth Park for the purpose of obtaining a site for the Douglass monument. The commissioners granted the site by a unanimous vote. Afterwards a protest was filed by the residents in the vicinity of Plymouth Park. If Frederick Douglass were alive, I am sure that he would not want to see his statue placed among people who did not want it there. That is the feeling of his friends. To-day I come to ask you, so far as I am personally concerned, and I think that I voice the sentiments of a large part of our committee, that the proposed monument be given a site in the triangle at the corner of North St. Paul Street and Central Avenue.

"I think it will be an appropriate place for the memorial of the man who is the first statesman of my race to have a monument. The spot to which I refer is one situated in the heart of the city, and those who pass through the city from east to west will see the monument as well. There are objections to the site as it exists to-day, but I am assured that it can be made much more sightly by raising the surface of the tract in question and grading it properly, which I have been assured will be done."

Commissioner Wright agreed with Mr. Thompson. He thought that the triangle was the place above all others. People passing through on the trains would be sure to see the monument and Rochester was better known to many people as the home of Frederick Douglass than in any other way. He had when traveling many times met people who would speak of this city and refer to it as the home of Frederick Douglass. People passing through would be sure to see and speak of the monument. Mr. Wright thought that the size of the spot in question, 90x50 feet, as sufficient to afford ample room for a site. Highland Park, which had been mentioned, he considered too remote from the heart of the city;



too few people would see the monument there. It ought to have a place of exceeding great prominence.

R. L. Kent also thought that the triangle was the proper place for a monument to Douglass. He believed that the site would meet with the general approval of all.

Judge George A. Benton was called upon for an expression of opinion and said: "Before the Douglass monument was thought of I had looked at the triangle and wished that a monument might be erected there. I understand that Mrs. Douglass objects and prefers Highland Park. Aside from her objection I think that the argument is all on the side of the triangle. What better place for a monument to Frederick Douglass than this where he would face the north and the stream of travel, with his back to the south?"

Alderman Rauber, of the Fifth Ward, said that if the proposed site was large enough, he was in favor of it by all means. It was in his ward and his people wanted to get the monument located there. He had feared that the site was not large enough, but after listening to the discussion he was satisfied that he had been mistaken, and that the triangle was by all odds the place for the monument.

Dr. Moore asked Mr. Thompson to enlighten the meeting regarding the progress of the raising of funds and the plans of the committee. Mr. Thompson replied that the state had voted \$3,000, to be available when the committee had raised \$4,000. The committee had on hand in cash and good subscriptions about \$2,000 more. The monument complete, including the pedestal, was designed to cost \$10,000, and it was hoped that it could be unveiled in August. Mr. Thompson said that he saw Mrs. Douglass on Sunday, and she spoke of her desire to have the monument located at Highland Park.

Alderman Pauckner said that Highland Park was in his ward, and the Fourteenth Ward people wanted the monument up there where Douglass had once lived.

Dr. Moore objected. Said he: "A monument should be in the heart of a city among the people, where they are the busiest. At Highland Park, for many years at least, few people would see the monument. At the triangle the crowds that will see it will grow larger every day."

Reference was made to the statue of Horace Greeley, located on Thirty-second Street, New York City, and the fact was commented upon that it is situated in a cramped place, but purposely located where it would be seen by multitudes of people. It was suggested that after the triangle had been graded and raised several feet, and after Mr. Laney had exercised his skill in beautifying it, it would be an admirable site.

Judge G. A. Benton then moved that it was the sense of the joint committee that the triangle should be appropriated for the site of the Douglass monument. The motion was unanimously carried after a short discussion. Alderman Tracy then suggested that Mr. Thompson address a communication to the Common Council asking for the site, in order to bring the matter before that body in proper form, the triangle not being under the jurisdiction of the park commissioners. The meeting then adjourned.

Mr. Thompson stated before the meeting was called to order that while there had been some adverse comment on the Central Avenue site, he did not think that the objections were well taken. He thought that the spot could be made beautiful, and while the atmosphere would be smoky and sooty in the vicinity of the railroad at times, the monument was to be of bronze and would not show the effects of the state of the atmosphere. Then, too, if the monument were properly cared for there would be no trouble.

## CHAPTER VIII.

### MASONIC EXERCISES AT THE LAYING OF THE CORNER STONE.

That creed or color proved to be nothing to the people of Rochester when they are afforded the opportunity of paying homage to the memory of a man who was truly great, was demonstrated on the afternoon of July 20, 1898, when hundreds, including many of the city's most prominent citizens, assembled at the ceremonies attending the laying of the corner stone of the monument to the Hon. Frederick Douglass, the greatest and noblest statesman of his race and a former Rochesterian.

The circumstances connected with the raising of a fund sufficient to secure a monument in commemoration of the man had but served to increase the universal interest of the public and to render the realization of the effort put forth of greater satisfaction to those of his race who were in attendance at the ceremonies. These ceremonies, as conducted by the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, assisted by the members of Eureka Lodge, F. and A. M., of Rochester, were most impressive and were admirably arranged by the Douglass Monument Committee.

At 3.30 o'clock, Eureka Lodge, accompanied by Estella Chapter, No. 7, of the Order of the Eastern Star, the auxiliary organization, assembled at the headquarters of the lodge in the Durand building, and, headed by the Fifty-fourth Regiment Band, were escorted at 4 o'clock to Douglass Park, the new name given to the triangle at the corner of Central Avenue and North St. Paul Street, where the monument stands.

There had been built a comfortable and commodious covered platform decorated with the national colors and facing

the site of the monument. In addition to the members of the Masonic organizations there were seated on the platform Dr. E. M. Moore, Hon. John Van Voorhis, Hon. Charles S. Baker, Hon. C. R. Parsons, Hon. W. W. Armstrong, Hon. George A. Benton, Rev. J. P. Sankey, D. D., Rev. W. C. Gannett, D. D., who pronounced the benediction, Rev. R. Alonzo Scott, pastor of A. M. E. Zion Church, Mrs. A. Scott, Susan B. Anthony, Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey, president of the Women's Club, and others.

In the meantime a vast crowd had gathered in the streets to witness the ceremonies, and although the heat was most intense, nearly all remained that they might attest their reverence for the memory of Douglass. After a national air had been played by the band, Chairman John W. Thompson, of the monument committee, made a brief opening address, in which he said that the committee was pleased to witness the assembly of so many who had contributed to the fund, and that they were privileged to see the consummation of the project.

Grand Marshal M. R. Poole commanded silence and the Masonic services were opened by Grand Master E. R. Spaulding. Prayer was offered by Chaplain Leon J. Dubois, following which was an ode given by the members of Eureka Lodge. The list of articles placed in the corner stone was then read by Grand Secretary Benjamin Myers, after which the box containing them was placed in the stone by Grand Treasurer M. L. Hunter. The working tools were presented to the grand master by Master Architect William Oscar Payne and were distributed among the proper officers.

Then followed the grand Masonic honors and the consecration ceremony. The ceremonies, accompanied by sacred music, were very impressive and were performed by the proper officers in a manner that could only be understood in the seeing. Grand Master Spaulding then introduced as the

first speaker the Hon. John Van Voorhis, who spoke as follows:

The citizens of Rochester were proud of Frederick Douglass, and proud that he made this city his home. Considering what he was and what he did for our country and for mankind, he was pre-eminently our first citizen. It is fitting that the corner stone of the monument to be erected to his memory should be laid under the beautiful rites of Masonry. And yet Frederick Douglass was not a Mason. He belonged to no orders. Sublimar themes engrossed his whole attention. He knew no brotherhood but the universal brotherhood of man. He had a mission to perform. That mission was to elevate the republic in the eyes of mankind by wiping from it the stain of African slavery. That mission was to emancipate millions of slaves. To accomplish that mission he devoted his entire time and the energies of his great genius.

He lived to see that mission successfully accomplished. He lived to witness the emancipation of 4,000,000 of slaves. He lived to see the stigma of slavery which had attached to this republic in the begining entirely destroyed. Monuments of bronze and marble may be erected to him here and elsewhere, but his greatest monument will be found in the history of his time. As an emancipator he stands by the side of Abraham Lincoln. It was largely his work that made the emancipation proclamation possible. He visited every free state, and every city and village therein, and spoke from more platforms than any other man in our generation. He taught the people the wrongs of slavery and prepared them to stand by Lincoln when he made his famous proclamation. There is not time to do Frederick Douglass justice on this occasion. Many of our able men preached against the wrongs of slavery. Among them were Freeborn G. Garrison, Wendell Phillips, Charles Sumner and Garrett Smith, all great orators, but Douglass was the chiefest of them all.

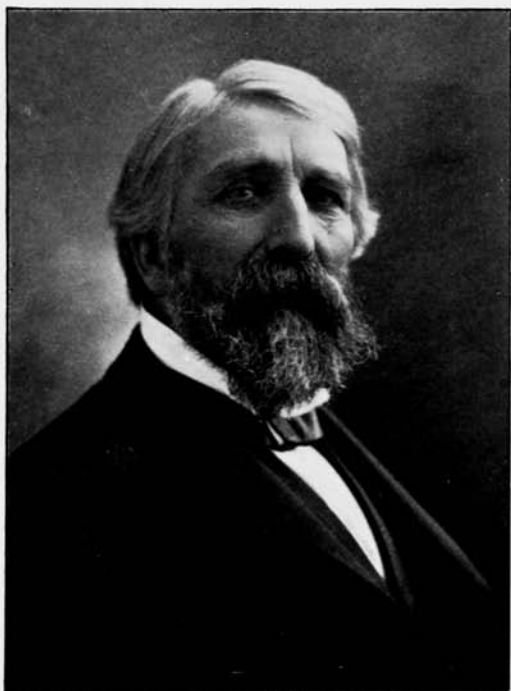
There was no chance to criticise Douglass except on account of his complexion, and educated and cultivated people never did that. The prejudice against color does not exist in other countries as it does here. If Frederick Douglass had been an Englishman he would have been awarded a niche in Westminster Abbey. He was not to be blamed for his complexion, the Almighty created him that way. Shakespeare makes the Prince of Morocco, a black man, say:

“Mislike me not for my complexion,  
The shadowy livery of the unburnished sun.”

In listening to Frederick Douglass upon the platform, or in private conversation, no one thought of his complexion. He was the most magnificent orator who ever stepped upon an American platform. Although not able to read or write until twenty years of age, he became a great scholar and handled the English tongue most admirably. Whenever he was to speak crowds were there to hear him. Whenever he would stop speaking the crowd was anxious to have him continue. He never wearied an audience, but invariably left his audience anxious to hear more.

In private conversation he was a master. He always had something interesting to say, and said it in a most interesting manner. Wherever Douglass went the best people thronged around him and treated him with the greatest courtesy. Learned men like Lincoln, Seward, Chase and Sumner were proud to meet him. The argument based on complexion had no effect with such men. It is only among the ignorant and the vulgar that the complexion of Douglass is ever alluded to in an unfavorable manner. He was a man of great dignity of character. He had the power of talking into submission the most unruly audience and the most threatening mob.

I remember one occasion in our City Hall, Ira Stout had been convicted of murder and was awaiting execution. Certain kind-hearted people who did not favor capital punish-



HON. JOHN VAN VOORHIS.

ment called a meeting at the City Hall with a view to ask the governor to commute the sentence of Stout to imprisonment for life. The Rev. Samuel J. May, a very eloquent pulpit orator from Syracuse, was advertised as the speaker of the occasion. When the time arrived, there marched into the hall an organized, angry and shouting mob. The mob filled the greater part of the hall. When Mr. May rose to speak, not a word that he attempted to utter could be heard, so great was the noise of the howling mob. Again and again Mr. May attempted to speak, but at last gave it up. Other persons sought to get the attention of the audience, but were shut off by the mob. Frederick Douglass was in the audience, and when it was apparent that none of the speakers would be permitted to speak, he walked deliberately upon the platform, stood before the mob for a moment or two, and surveyed it calmly. Then, with a voice of power, which none but Douglass possessed, he began to speak. He talked the mob into silence and compelled it to listen to his speech. That is only one instance of many occasions where Douglass showed his mastery over men who sought to interrupt public meetings.

The first time I ever saw Douglass was somewhere in the forties, probably about '45. I was a boy living with my father on his farm in the town of Mendon in this county. It was rumored about that Frederick Douglass and Charles Lenox Remond would speak against slavery on a Sunday afternoon in the Quaker Church at Mendon Center. It was a great novelty, and I with others went to see the performance. The Hixite Quakers were conservative then, and their managers had decided not to allow Douglass to enter their church, and to accomplish that result they locked up the church and nailed up the gates to the grounds. But the younger men of the church—Quakers only by birthright, opened the gates, confiscated a lumber yard near by, and made a platform on the church grounds with seats for the



audience, and upon that platform Douglass and Remond spoke to an enormous crowd. I cannot remember ever to have heard such denunciation of slavery and its abettors as Douglass poured forth to that audience. He paid his respects to the Quaker authorities who had denied him free speech by locking up the church. It was such an occasion as had never been seen at that Quaker church before and never since.

The impression that I got of Douglass at that time was such that I never afterwards failed to go to hear him when an opportunity offered. Those who only heard Douglass speak in his old age can form no conception of the power of his oratory in his earlier years. He was invited to speak everywhere, before senators and legislators, before lawyers and judges, before scholars and men of learning, before doctors of divinity and religious organizations, and I believe it is a fact that he never in his life made a poor speech. He was invited by the assembly of the state of New York to give an address in the assembly chamber in the presence of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the judges of the Court of Appeals and the members of the state government. The chamber was packed to the utmost and the oration was a great success. Directly in front of Douglass sat that distinguished New Yorker, Thurlow Weed, with his hand up behind his ear so that he might catch every utterance which came from the lips of the orator.

It mattered not where Douglass went; in England, in Scotland and in Ireland he spoke to great audiences with the same success. In Ireland he was introduced to an immense audience by the then greatest orator of Europe, Daniel O'Connell, as the black O'Connell of the United States.

It is no wonder that the citizens of Rochester meet to honor the memory of Frederick Douglass and to erect a monument to him. He has honored Rochester as no other man has ever done.

"The sweet remembrance of the just,  
Shall flourish when he sleeps in dust."

The next speaker was Dr. E. M. Moore, the venerable president of the Park Commission, who, like Mr. Van Voorhis, had enjoyed the acquaintance and friendship of Douglass, and recalled incidents connected with the famous orator's life that were peculiarly interesting at such a time. Dr. Moore said:

We meet to-day to perform a duty, long since due from the citizens of Rochester to one of the striking figures in modern American history. Our great Civil War must ever remain as one of the most notable events of all time. I do not refer to the stupendous volunteering defense of the country, but rather to the emancipation of the slave. It must be recollected that it was not merely slavery that was concerned, slavery in various forms has existed the world over, but when of the same race, there have always been modifying circumstances. Time usually has softened the asperities of the condition, but when we reflect upon the fact that the beneficiaries of the emancipation were of another race and the furthest removed, the execution of the deed successfully was deemed by reasonably conservative men as a pure chimera.

The exodus of the Israelite from Egypt has perhaps been regarded as the most towering fact of liberation presented by history. But the emancipation of the slave in this country is a far greater fact of liberation. The servitude of the American slave had no modification. It was simply perfect. The man had no rights that a white man was bound to respect as announced by the chief justice of the United States. And yet with one bound the slave leaped to the status of his former master, his political equal before the law.

The fact that though fraud may deprive the voter of his right, still he is the equal of the white before the law. Among

the marked men of the oppressed race was to be seen the commanding figure of Frederick Douglass, whose ability refuted the calumnies that flowed from countless lips. In person, he was of imposing stature, and when in public speech, he was urging the claims of his race, his eloquence was lofty and fervid. The theme inspired the man. While there were many others that brilliantly proved their right to the freedom they plead for, there was perhaps, no one of them that stood upon so high a pedestal as he. But in order apparently to prove that he could play on more than one string, he appeared on the rostrum of the lyceum, while the stage still held Emerson and Holmes. His lecture on "William the Silent," settled that point.

I recollect him when a young man. He had just escaped from bondage, bright, alert with a hunted look, he came to my father's house, one of the stations on "the underground railway," for the slave. This was the era of the fugitive slave law urged and signed by Vice President Fillmore, which, perhaps the greatest statesman that the country has ever produced, received with exultation as a sort of finale. "Now is the winter of our discontent, made glorious summer by the son of York."

But great movements are not checked by unjust laws or quotations from Shakespeare. To-day we commemorate the ability and worth of this truly great man. We raise a monument of imperishable bronze and place it here in the flowing tide of commerce where the stranger that enters our gates may see in what a permanent way we have honored our slaves.

The exercises closed with the singing of "America" by the audience and benediction by Dr. W. C. Gannett.

The trowel used by Grand Master E. R. Spaulding was a handsome silver one with an ivory handle and was presented to Mr. Spaulding by the members of Eureka Lodge, No. 36,

## DOUGLASS MONUMENT.

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F. and A. M., at a meeting held the night before. The presentation speech was made by Benjamin Simms and responded to by the grand master.

Among the articles which were placed in the corner stone were two leaflets furnished by Susan B. Anthony, one of which was eminently fitted to so repose, being a copy of the declaration of sentiments expressed at the first convention ever called to discuss the civil and political rights of women. This convention was held in Seneca Falls, and during the second day, which by a remarkable coincidence was just fifty years ago, July 20, 1848, a resolution was adopted urging the elective franchise for women, which was signed by Douglass. The other was a copy of an article written by Miss Anthony last year for the *Arena*, giving in brief what has been accomplished for the enfranchising of women, since the memorable convention alluded to. The other articles placed in the stone were:

Road map of Monroe county; calendar for 1898; book, "Slavery Unmasked," by Rev. Philo Tower, published by E. Darrow & Bro., in 1856, and donated by Mr. Darrow; list of those who assisted at laying of the corner stone; members of the Literary, Musical and Home Circle, of Toronto, Ont.; letter donating \$1,000 from the government of Hayti, and note from Minister W. F. Powell, accepting the gift; names of members of the monument committee appointed November 20, 1894, and names of members afterwards appointed; resolutions of committee; notes of women's clubs, Rochester; record of the Mt. Moriah Lodge, F. and A. M.; copies of the *Post Express*, *Democrat and Chronicle*, *Herald*, *Union and Advertiser*, and *Rochester Times*.

## CHAPTER IX.

### CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MR. THOMPSON AND THE HAYTIEN GOVERNMENT.

Rochester, N. Y., October 11, 1897.

Hon. W. F. Powell, Legation of the United States, Port Au  
Prince, Hayti:

My Dear Sir—I am a stranger to you. I desire to introduce myself by saying that I am engaged at this time in trying to raise funds for the purpose of erecting a monument in this city in memory of the late Frederick Douglass, as you will see by the enclosed clippings. I write you asking that you use your influence with President Sam in regard to the matter as I have also written to him to-day asking a contribution from his government because Mr. Douglass was at one time Minister, representing this government at Port-au-Prince. He also represented the government of Hayti at the World's Fair at Chicago. He was indeed faithful to his trust. Anything you can do to help along the project will be greatly appreciated by me.

Yours very truly,

JOHN W. THOMPSON.

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In answer to Mr. Thompson's first letter to Hon. W. F. Powell the following was received:

Legation of the United States,

Port-au-Prince, Hayti, December 15, 1897.

Mr. John W. Thompson, Rochester, N. Y.:

Sir—Your favor of November 27 reached me in this mail, in which you request that I shall do all in my power to get Hayti represented in the contribution of funds for the pur-

pose of erecting a monument to commemorate the deeds and virtues of the Hon. Frederick Douglass, at one time minister resident and consul-general to this republic. My instructions are of such a character that I cannot comply with the request you have made to me, but whatever I can do in an unofficial way I will be glad to do. With you I think too much honor cannot be done to the dead hero, whose name should not only be imbedded in the marble monument you propose to erect, but should be enshrined in the hearts of not only this, but of future generations.

Each child should be taught from its infancy until it has gained the estate of manhood or womanhood of the great virtues possessed by the lamented Douglass. We, as a race, are prone too often to forget those who have been the exponents of that race in the past. Unless such love is engendered on the part of the living to the dead, our pride of race will soon be extinct.

I cheerfully wish you success in this great and grand movement on your part toward the illustrious dead. As I have already stated, in an unofficial way my services are at your command. I have the honor to remain.

Your obedient servant,

W. F. POWELL.

J. W. Thompson made this reply to Mr. Powell's letter of December 15, 1897:

Rochester, N. Y., December 15, 1897.

Hon. W. F. Powell, Legation of the United States, Hayti:

My Dear Sir—I am truly grateful to you for the prompt attention given my letter. I regret that your instructions are of such a character as to make you unable to act in an official way. You can doubtless do much, however, in an unofficial way which might bring about some good results. I am glad you appreciate my efforts to erect a monument in memory

of the hero of our race and one who we can say that this country is better because he lived in it and our city is much the richer because his remains rest within its walls, and his monument though silent shall be magnificent and an inspiration to generations yet unborn. Do the best you can and remember nothing would be more pleasing to me than to have Hayti represented by a contribution to this fund.

Yours very truly,

JOHN W THOMPSON.

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Hon. Brutus St. Victor's note to Hon. W F. Powell, notifying him of the contribution to the Mounment Fund, was as follows:

Department of State for Foreign Relations,

Port-au-Prince, February 11, 1898.

Mr. Minister—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of January 20 last, by which you have transmitted to me a copy of the one you received from Mr. John W. Thompson, relative to the project for the erection of a monument to the Honorable Frederick Douglass, who was Minister Resident of the United States to Hayti, at the same time you make an appeal for that object to all the admirers of that great American citizen of the same race as he.

I had at heart, Mr. Minister, to submit the project to the Council of Sécetaries of State, under the presidency of His Excellency the President of the Republic, and I am happy to announce to you that the government associating itself to the thoughts of those who have had the initiative and wishing to contribute towards its realization, takes part in the subscription opened for the sum of one thousand dollars.

Please accept, Mr. Minister, the assurances of my high consideration.

BRUTUS ST. VICTOR.



SCENE AT THE CORNER STONE LAYING.



Hon. W. F. Powell's acknowledgement of the contribution, was as follows:

Legation of the United States,  
Port-au-Prince, Hayti, March 21, 1898.

Honorable Brutus St. Victor, Secretary of State for Foreign  
Affairs, Port-au-Prince, Hayti:

Sir—I note with pleasure your dispatch of March 5, 1898, that your government has directed you to inform me that it desires to be commemorated in the monument about to be erected by the citizens of the United States, in the city of Rochester, N. Y., a monument of one of the ablest of America's sons, Frederick Douglass, one whose voice was ever raised in behalf of the oppressed not only of his own race, but that of others of other climes. He claimed for that race with which he was identified, that if equal advantage be given it in the race of life, it would achieve equally great results, as a proof of this, it was his pride to point to the great results obtained by your Republic under the most adverse circumstances, from the day that you won your independence from one of the great nations of the world to the present time. That under all difficulties that have since beset you, isolated as it were from the great family of nations, you have maintained your integrity, and with it the honor of your Republic, neither of which have become tarnished or diminished by age, until to-day you stand as the recognized factor of what a race can achieve under the blissful light of freedom, of independence.

The last days of his life, he often referred to the happy hours he passed in your midst as the representative of a government that at one time denied to him and the members of his race the common attributes pertaining to man.

Permit me, sir, to express to you in behalf of Mr. Thompson, and the committee associated with him, and to you, Mr.

Minister, personally, their thanks as well as my own for this grateful act to this illustrious American citizen.

Accept, Mr. Minister, my high regard and personal esteem,  
I have the honor to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,  
W. F. POWELL.

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March 29 Mr. Thompson received the following:

Legation of the United States,  
Port-au-Prince, Hayti, March 21, 1898.

Mr. J. W. Thompson, Chairman Douglass Monument Fund,  
Rochester, N. Y.:

Sir—I am happy to inform you that the Haytien government has contributed to the monument fund to the memory of the late Frederick Douglass the sum of \$1,000. This sum I will send to you by draft upon the return of the Foreign Secretary. If you have this correspondence published have the same also inserted in some of our race papers, as the "Age," or the "Colored American." Be kind enough to send two or three copies of the same to hand to members of the Cabinet. At the same time will you also send me a copy of paper that contained my reply to your previous letter. I am very glad, sir, this amount has been secured and congratulate you upon the same and a speedy erection of the monument, and with it a happy conclusion of your labor and that of the committee associated with you.

I am, sir,

Your obedient servant,  
W. F. POWELL.

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Legation of the United States,  
Port-au-Prince, Hayti, April 13, 1898.

Hon. John Sherman, Secretary of State, Washington, D. C.:

Sir—I respectfully inform the department that this re-

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public has donated the sum of one thousand dollars towards the erection of a monument by the citizens of Rochester in that city, to the memory of the late Hon. Frederick Douglass, at one time Minister Resident and Consul-General here.

I inclose copies of correspondence that has taken place between the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and the Legation.

I have the honor, sir, etc., etc.,

W F. POWELL.

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Legation of the United States,

Port-au-Prince, Hayti, August 15, 1898.

Mr. J. W Thompson, Chairman Douglass Monument Fund,  
Rochester, N. Y.

Sir—I have sent by this mail to the State Department, Washington, the promised draft from the Haytien government. I will endeavor to send also photograph of Cabinet by this mail. I trust your imposing exercises in unveiling the monument of the illustrious Douglass will be crowned with success.

Respectfully yours,

W F. POWELL.

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Department of State,

Washington, April 29, 1898.

His Honor, the Mayor of Rochester, N. Y.:

Sir—I enclose for the information of the citizens of Rochester copy of a dispatch from our Minister to Hayti, reporting that that Republic has donated one thousand dollars toward the erection of a monument in your city to the late Frederick Douglass, at one time Minister Resident and Consul General to Hayti.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. MOORE,

Acting Secretary.

Department of State,  
Washington, August 31, 1898.

J. W Thompson, Esquire, Chairman Douglass Monument  
Committee:

Sir—Referring to the Department's letter of April 29 last to the Mayor of Rochester, and by him referred to your committee, whereby the information was conveyed that the government of the Republic of Hayti would donate the sum of \$1,000.00 towards the erection at Rochester of a monument in commemoration of the late Frederick Douglass, I have now to enclose, as Hayti's contribution to the above object, a draft, No. 2,515, for \$990.10, United States currency, drawn by Ch. Weymann & Company, Port-au-Prince, August 22, 1898, on Messrs. Lyon & Company, New York, to the order of the Secretary of State, Washington, and by me endorsed to the order of the Douglass Monument Committee, Rochester, N. Y., which draft was handed by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Hayti to the Minister of the United States at Port-au-Prince and was by the latter forwarded to this Department.

I shall be pleased to have you acknowledge its receipt.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. MOORE,  
Acting Secretary.

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J. W Thompson tendered thanks to the government of Hayti, and received the following from Washington:

Department of State,  
Washington, September 7, 1898.

Jchn W. Thompson, Esquire, Chairman of the Douglass  
Monument Committee:

Sir—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, expressing gratitude for the donation made by the Haytien government to the Douglass monument fund.

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A copy of your letter has been forwarded to our Legation  
at Port-au-Prince.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. MOORE,

Acting Secretary.

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Department of State,  
Washington, May 18, 1898.

John W. Thompson, Esquire, Rochester, N. Y.:

Sir—In compliance with the request contained in your letter of the 16th instant, our Minister at Port-au-Prince has been instructed to present to the Haytien Foreign Office the thanks of the Frederick Douglass Monument Committee for the donation made by the government of Hayti to the erection of the monument to Mr. Douglass.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. MOORE,

Assistant Secretary.

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Department of State,  
Washington, July 12, 1898.

J. W. Thompson, Esquire, Chairman, Douglass Monument  
Committee, Rochester, N. Y.:

Sir—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant asking that the United States Minister to Hayti be informed that the Douglass monument is to be unveiled on the 14th of September in your city and that he be requested to extend an invitation to the President and members of the Cabinet of Hayti to be present.

Copy of your letter has been transmitted to Mr. Powell with instructions to communicate the contents to the Haytien government.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. MOORE,

Acting Secretary.

Department of State,  
Washington, August 17, 1898.

J. W. Thompson, Esquire, Chairman Douglass Monument  
Committee, Rochester, N. Y.:

Sir—Referring to your letter of the 7th ultimo, and to the Department's reply of the 12th ultimo, I have now to inform you that our Minister at Port-au-Prince reports to the Department, under date of the 1st instant, that Mr. J. N. Leger, the Minister of Hayti at this capital, will represent the President of Hayti and his Cabinet at the unveiling of the Douglass monument at Rochester, N. Y.

Respectfully yours,  
J. B. MOORE,  
Acting Secretary.

## CHAPTER X.

### MUSICAL AND LITERARY ENTERTAINMENT AND DOUGLASS BIRTHDAY EXERCISES.

A pleasing literary and musical entertainment was given in Unitarian Church, May 11, 1898, for the benefit of the Douglass monument fund.

"Frederick Douglass" was the subject of an address by Mr. James M. E. O'Grady. He briefly but vividly and comprehensively sketched the life of the noted orator and emancipator, from its beginning as a slave on a Southern plantation to its peaceful conclusion in the Nation's capital. In concluding Mr. O'Grady said:

"In summing up the career of Frederick Douglass, one is at a loss to select the capacity in which he excelled. He was great as an orator, as a writer, as a debator, and as an administrator of business affairs. As an orator he ranks in the first-class. Those who once heard him can never forget him. The impression left upon his hearers was indelible. His splendid personal appearance, his magnificent head, his graceful and appropriate gestures, his voice, sweet, low, persuasive, harsh, forbidding, sonorous or clarion-like, swayed his hearers at his sweet will. It is true that his greatest effect was upon his immediate hearers, and these he could move to laughter or to tears at his pleasure. He had great logic, deep sarcasm and inimitable wit.

"I well remember the impression made upon me upon the last occasion upon which I heard Douglass in Rochester. It was at an open air meeting held in Franklin Square, to celebrate Memorial Day. The sun shone brightly through the newly leafed trees upon an immense throng that almost completely filled the inclosure. On a stand in the center of the park stood the orator. He was then between 65 and 70 years of age, robust, rugged, and in the fullness of his manly

strength. For upwards of an hour he spoke most eloquently, holding the absolute attention of his hearers, and profoundly moving them with the pathos and patriotism of his utterances. To speak to and hold the attention of an audience in the open air is the greatest test to which a public speaker can be put; and I know of no man who could excel Douglass in this power.

“Many people rank Douglass higher as a writer than an orator, and believe that his work in this line will live longest. He was indefatigable as a worker. He entered in newspapers and did all the drudgery connected therewith in the early days. He cultivated a pure and graceful style, and the volume and felicity of his expression is really amazing to one who knows his history. He read far and wide, and was a hard student. He was a self-made man in every sense. He illustrated another exception in that he demonstrated the fact that it is not always necessary for a man to be a college graduate to succeed in literary life. Although university education was wanting to him, he made up for it by intense application to the work of college men. He never believed his education was finished, but was a student until the day of his death.

“To an American the lesson of this man’s life can never be lost. To rise from the lowliest and most hopeless condition to a position of great power among the rulers of the nation, by one’s own personal efforts, is possible only in the great republic founded upon the equality of all men before the law. And when the example is that of a member of a down trodden race, lifting himself from absolute human slavery and bondage, by self education and self effort, and against the greatest odds, to a point where he becomes the chosen constitutional instrument to receive and record the vote of the greatest state of the Union for the highest office of the nation, and the chosen representative of that nation



in the making of its treaty with a foreign country, how directly does it come home to us that our country is founded upon the very rock of human liberty. Truly will the work of this man live after him.

“His race can always point to him as a star of the first magnitude. What he was others within human limitation may become. His oratorical ability may be impossible of accomplishment, because they were God-given gifts; but the sweetness of his disposition, the uprightness of his character, his high sense of honor, and his honesty and integrity can be attained of all men. Not only his own race may profit by his example; all men, of whatever race or creed or color, can point to him with pride, as one of the noblest examples of human endeavor, to be emulated as long as the human character tends upwards towards the highest ideals.”

#### DOUGLASS BIRTHDAY EXERCISES.

Douglass birthday exercises were held at Plymouth Church, February 15, 1897, under the management of the Woman's Club, to commemorate the birthday anniversary of the foremost representative of the colored race. The object of this meeting was twofold: To preserve the memory and eulogize the life of Douglass and to further the project for erecting a monument to him.

Plymouth Congregational Church threw open its doors to such a meeting; and the spacious edifice was thronged. Every seat was taken and extra chairs were brought in and utilized in all available spaces. There were many colored people in the audience; and seated side by side with them were some of the representative citizens of Rochester.

Over the pew formerly occupied by Douglass and his family were emblematic decorations; and immediately in front of the pulpit was a large portrait of the man to whose memory nearly two thousand citizens of Rochester were assembled to do honor and reverence.

Susan B. Anthony presided, in itself an honor to the occasion. On her left was seated Rev. Anna Shaw, who had come on to Rochester to spend her fiftieth birthday with Miss Anthony, who to-day celebrates her seventy-seventh birthday anniversary. On Miss Anthony's right sat Mrs. Victoria Earle Mathews, who represents the National Association of Colored Women in the movement for the erection of a monument to Frederick Douglass. Others on the pulpit platform were Rev. William F. Kettle, pastor of Plymouth Church, and Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey, president of the local Colored Woman's Club.

In opening the meeting Miss Anthony said:

"I am very happy to be here to-night in Plymouth Church, not only because it is the church which Frederick Douglass and the members of his family attended, but because it is the church which my elder sister and my brother-in-law attended for many years; and as I used sometimes to accompany them I feel that I am not altogether a stranger in Plymouth Church.

"I think there is no one who remembers that magnificent figure of Frederick Douglass but cherishes the memory of one whom they estimated to be at least a very marked figure in their presence; a man who, if he had not had the taint of slavery in his veins, would have taken the very highest place as an orator and as a statesman in this city and in this country.

"I never shall forget what was said by him that night when the news reached us that Lincoln had been murdered. There was a meeting in City Hall. There were speeches by prominent men, ministers, the president of the University and others. None felt that the very soul of the matter had been touched, however, till someone called for Douglass. He made a speech that thrilled the heart and stirred the soul of every listener. But because of the taint of slavery that

brooded down upon him he had never before been recognized among his fellow men and women, until that night."

Later in the meeting Miss Anthony mentioned the names of the following Rochesterians among the few who in those days accorded Douglass the friendship due him as a man and a fellow human being: Amy Post, Ida Post, Miss Maria Porter, her brother, Samuel Porter.

Miss Anthony stated that when she promised to preside at the meeting she at once wrote to Elizabeth Cady Stanton, of the following Rochesterians among the few who in those assembled. Mrs. Stanton was a staunch friend of Douglass, who had championed the cause of equal suffrage for her in the first woman's political convention, called in Seneca Falls, July 19, 1848, winning a majority vote for Mrs. Stanton's proposition that the right of franchise was the first right of every individual from an assembly that had at first been opposed to it. Mrs. Stanton's reply, which was read by Miss Anthony, was as follows:

26 West Sixty-first Street,  
New York, Feb. 13, 1897.

Dear Miss Anthony: For noble Frederick Douglass I have varied memories; sad for all he suffered from cruel prejudices against his race and the insults to his proud nature; and pleasant for the tender love and friendship of his noble soul. I love him as he loved me, for the indignities we alike endured. I am happy to learn that the people of Rochester, who would never treat him as a social equal when living, purpose to build a monument to his memory at last.

On a visit once at Peterboro, Douglass came there, too. Some Southern women guests wrote a note to Mr. Smith to know "if Douglass would sit in the parlor and at the dining table; if so they would remain in their rooms." My cousin replied: "Certainly, he will. I feel honored to have the greatest man that ever graduated from the 'Southern Insti-

tution' under my roof." When Douglass arrived, Cousin Gerrit met him with open arms and kissed him on either cheek. He stayed with us two weeks, and all that time the two ladies took their meals in their apartments, while the rest of us walked about the grounds, sat under the trees, played games and sang songs with Douglass, he playing the accompaniment on the guitar. Our ladies, in their solitude, no doubt often regretted that they were voluntary exiles from all our enjoyments.

I met Douglass for the last time in Paris, when he and his wife dined with my son Theodore. On parting he said: "You have been denied the rights of an American citizen because of your sex, I because of my color! I hope we shall stand on equal ground with the angels in heaven!" "Alas!" said I, "we better not be too sure of that; earthly prejudices die hard. There may be those who will write Peter a note to know if you and I are to be there—and if so they will take their meals in their own apartments!" How hateful any prejudice looks in retrospection! I am thankful I never had but one, and that one I have sedulously cultivated year by year. When I reach heaven I shall write a note to Peter to know if there are any religious bigots there—and if so to request them to stay in their own apartments, leaving the negroes, women, infidels, Socialists, Jews, Chinese and Indians free to roam whithersoever they will.

When in Paris, my son took Douglass to the Chamber of Deputies and introduced him to the member who had banished slavery from all the French colonies. His name I cannot recall. He is always spoken of as the William Lloyd Garrison of the Chamber. When he met Douglass, he, too threw his arms about him and kissed him on either cheek. "Ah!" said he, "you are the one American above all others I have longed to see!" Think of such a man born a slave in this republic! A political nonentity, a social pariah! in-

ferior in position to all ignorant white men and women! Then think of seventy-five years in such an atmosphere! It is a depressing thought to estimate his feelings; but infinitely worse to have been one of the number who helped thus to degrade a man. I never felt more deeply this hateful prejudice of color than when witnessing in an Episcopal church the administering of the communion: After a succession of white men and women had knelt at the altar, a splendid black man, who, dressed in new livery, looked like an African prince, so stately was his carriage as he walked up the aisle and knelt alone to receive the communion. A little white child under his care slowly followed and seated herself beside him. When the service ended, hand in hand they walked back to the negro pew! He was a man of unblemished virtue, respected by the whole community, loved and honored by the family he served; yet no Christian could celebrate the last supper in memory of Jesus by his side!

I sincerely wish the monument Rochester proposes to build in honor of Douglass might be a schoolhouse or a tenement for the poor. It seems a pity to raise so many useless shafts of marble and granite, while the homes of the poor, the schools and prisons are so overcrowded!

With best wishes to all assembled, and for many public honors to Frederick Douglass, an eloquent orator, a faithful friend and a lover of justice, liberty and equality for all mankind! No Parian marble too pure for his monument; no garlands too beautiful for his shrine!

With sincere love,

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON.

Applause greeted the reading of Mrs. Stanton's letter; and then Miss Anthony introduced as the speaker of the evening, Mrs. Victoria Earle Mathews, representing the National Association of Women, who made a tour through the country in the interests of the women of her race.

In presenting Mrs. Mathews the chairman told how, upon being introduced to her at the Unitarian Church the day before she had asked: "Mrs. Mathews, is it possible there is a drop of black blood in your veins?" "I tell you I was born a slave," was Mrs. Mathews' reply. "What were we thinking of," exclaimed Miss Anthony, "when fathers sold their own sons and daughters on the auction block and counted them merely as so much goods and chattels!"

Mrs. V. E. Mathews expressed some embarrassment in addressing so large an audience, saying that nothing but the seriousness of her cause could prompt her to stand as a speaker upon the platform with Miss Susan B. Anthony and Miss Anna Shaw and attempt to address so large an audience.

After stating that she was the representative of a National movement of women of her race Mrs. Mathews drew a vivid picture of the condition of the mothers and young girls in the South, as they flock to the cities from the plantations and find their way to the slums. "What is being done for them" she asked. "What is to be done for them? Have you ever stopped to think of the seriousness of this question?"

Turning to a consideration of the proposed monument to the memory of Frederick Douglass the speaker took issue with Mrs. Stanton's suggestion of a utilitarian memorial, speaking in part as follows:

"Ours is a communion of tears. We know that our children are naked and ignorant and in need of schools; we know that there is great need of rescue and relief of homes; we do not underestimate the value of education; but as mothers we see the destiny and ambition of our children hanging in the balance, but as to a monument in memory of Frederick Douglass the colored people have one to whom they can point as an example, an incentive, to their children.

When it is known that worth and not power will be honored it will indeed stimulate a higher type of the youth of our race."

Rev. Anna Shaw beamed with enthusiasm as she rose to deliver the final address of the evening. She was glad that Mrs. Mathews, with her white face, still belonged to the African race. And the speaker expressed regret that she too had not a drop of black blood in her veins, so that she might take her sister by the hand and say: "I, too, am of your people."

Miss Shaw agreed with Mrs. Mathews on the monument question, saying:

"It is seldom that Mrs. Stanton makes a mistake; but she did so there, when she allowed her love of the utilitarian to prompt her to suggest a schoolhouse or a tenement house for a monument to the memory of Frederick Douglass. This monument is to be for the American people, to recall to them the greatness of this man, who was born a slave, but who lived to take his place among the noblest of human kind. The one thing we need is more monuments, not fewer.

"No, let him stand, magnificent in bronze, where people can see that wonderful, that colossal figure of him who, born a slave yet lived to die one of the foremost men in one of the foremost nations of the world; one at whose bier statesmen stood in silent reverence; one who lived the life of a man; born a slave, but not enslaved; one who stood firm for the principle of universal liberty, who recognized the great law of universal freedom; one who recognized that one only is our Father, even God, and that we are all brethren.

"Rochester will never have the opportunity to honor herself as she will have it in helping the colored citizens to erect a monument not only for Frederick Douglass and his race, but for all the American people."

Miss Susan B. Anthony then announced that a collection would be taken, the proceeds to be devoted to the Douglass Memorial Fund. Her apt and pointed eloquence in this line was not without its effect.





ENOCH R. SPAULDING.

## CHAPTER XI.

### UNVEILING EXERCISES AND DISAPPOINTMENT AT NON-ARRIVAL OF STATUE.

The Chairman of the committee fixed the date for the unveiling exercises, September 14th, according to the following from the agent of the Smith Granite Company, Westerly, R. I.:

Utica, N. Y., April 5, 1898.

John W Thompson, Chairman Committee of Douglass Memorial, Rochester, N. Y.:

Dear Mr. Thompson: Yours received. I presume without doubt, that our sculptor is in Washington, although the company have not notified me. There will be no doubt about getting the statue ready by August 2d. The monument is a small matter as it is all done now except the panels.

I inclose plan of the lettering which shows its location on the die. These all have to be cast in plaster and then in bronze.

Kindly see that they are correct in every particular and return to me as soon as possible and I will forward to Westerly.

I am, Mr. Thompson,

Yours very sincerely,

(Dictated)

G. W SANBORN.

All arrangements for the unveiling exercises were completed and invitations to the family had been sent, and accepted, and these were present: Mrs. Helen Douglass, Mrs. Rosa Douglass Sprague, Miss F. Douglass Sprague, Messrs. Charles R. Douglass, Lewis H. Douglass and Joseph H. Douglass, grandsons of Fredrick Douglass, with many other persons of note, from many sections of the country.

It was not known until the afternoon of September 12th that the statue would not be in the city for unveiling.

After writing and telegraphing for some days the following were received:

Utica, N. Y., September 12, 1898.

John W. Thompson, Rochester, N. Y.:

Am writing to Westerly to find out about statue.

G. W. SANBORN.

The same day this was received by the Chairman:

Westerly, R. I., September 12th.

John W. Thompson:

Douglass statue cannot be shipped from Philadelphia until 26th. See letter.

SMITH GRANITE COMPANY.

On receiving the news the feeling of disappointment cannot be described. Charles R. Douglass, who had gone to Brockport to visit friends after reading of the disappointment in the newspapers, called up Chairman Thompson over the telephone and advised him to go on with the exercises which he did.

At 2 o'clock, September 14, 1898, nearly three thousand people assembled in Fitzhugh Hall to pay honor to the memory of Douglass.

The contractors who were to model and cast the bronze statue of Frederick Douglass failed to have the statue in the city. The unveiling ceremonies did not take place in the morning, but the exercises attending the presentation of the monument to the city were held in the afternoon and evening at Fitzhugh Hall, addresses being delivered by prominent orators, the monument being formally accepted in behalf of the city by Mayor Warner. The audience, which almost entirely filled the hall, was composed of some of Rochester's foremost citizens, the representatives of both races being about evenly divided. Upon the platform were seated, beside the general committee and the speakers, members

of the Park Board and Common Council, prominent residents and representatives of the old abolitionist families of the city. The interest of all present was held until the end.

Born in obscurity, forced to endure the tutelage of slavery, within sight and sound of the ceaseless service our nation offered up to liberty, breaking the bonds of his slavery and mastering all the arts of civilization, of intellectual development, of high manhood, working with the energy of a Titan for the freed of his fellow serfs, and finding time to plead for the rights of women, suffering untold indignities, fleeing before the agents of a nation that stood for the rights of men and religions, and triumphing at last until his name and fame were honored in the land, Frederick Douglass was the grand disciple of an oppressed race.

And so, September 14th, in the full light of the end of the century's humanity, in the glow of a nation's victory for the cause of manhood, in the city where he found a haven when the clouds were darkest, the name of Frederick Douglass was honored, not alone by men of his race, who showed in their intellectual powers the fruits of the rights for which the great freedman strove, but also by prominent public men, who in the years past had fought the fight against prejudice, and had even taken up arms against their brothers to defend the helpless slaves.

It was the prophecy of Wendell Phillips come true. The name of the slave was printed in the great sunlight of truth, the name of the man, who, with the matchless orator and Garrison, the sturdy newspaper man, were the first apostles of liberty.

#### THE EXERCISES AT FITZHUGH HALL.

The city of Rochester again took pride in honoring the name of Frederick Douglass. After months of arduous work, the committee having in charge the matter of the erection of a monument to his memory was able to report

the work completed, although even at the last unavoidable circumstances prevented the unveiling of the monument itself. This fact, nevertheless, did not detract from the interest or significance of the memorial exercises which were held in Fitzhugh Hall.

Among the prominent persons who were present at the exercises were Miss Susan B. Anthony; T. Thomas Fortune, of New York, editor of *The Age*; John H. Smyth, of Virginia, ex-minister to Liberia; Hon. John C. Dancy, collector of customs of the port of Wilmington, N. C.; Chris. J. Perry, editor of the *Philadelphia Tribune*; Miss Mary Anthony, Hon. Arthur E. Sutherland, Judge George A. Benton, Mayor George E. Warner, Mrs. Jean Brooks Greenleaf, Dr. E. M. Moore, Bishop Alexander Walters, D. D., James N. Neib, editor of a prominent journal in Philadelphia, and all of the surviving members of the family of Frederick Douglass, including his children and grandchildren.

#### WHY THE STATUE WAS NOT UNVEILED.

It was the intention of the committee to have the statue of Douglass in the city and placed for the unveiling, but Chairman Thompson presented the following letter to explain why the ceremony was postponed:

Westerly, R. I., Sept. 12, 1898.

J. W. Thompson, Esq., Rochester, N. Y.:

Dear Sir: After receiving your telegram on the 9th we telegraphed to Philadelphia for the earliest date, and received reply that they would ship the statue on the 26th. We wrote them, asking them to hurry it and ship it as much earlier than the 26th as they possibly could.

You doubtless know that we had delays in Washington, caused by our Mr. Edwards being unable to obtain the assistance he required, which has put us behind just the number of days to complete the statue on time. A letter to this effect was dictated to you on the 9th, but by an oversight

on the part of the stenographer it was not written. We are very sorry, both for the statue not being completed on time and for our letter failing to go on the 9th, which would have explained matters to you before this time.

Yours respectfully.

THE SMITH GRANITE CO.

J. R. Randall, Secretary.

COMMENCING OF THE EXERCISES.

The memorial meeting was called to order at 2:30 o'clock by Chairman J. W. Thompson, of the monument committee. He gave a cordial invitation to all friends of Douglass, any Grand Army men who might be present, and all city officials, to occupy seats on the platform, an invitation which was supplemented by Miss Susan B. Anthony, who said that every old-time abolitionist ought to be proud to take a seat on the platform where exercises in honor of a man who stood not only for the freedom of his race, but also for the emancipation of women, were being held. A number availed themselves of the invitation.

The exercises were opened with music by an orchestra from the Fifty-fourth Regiment Band, which played a medley of patriotic airs. Following this a forceful and eloquent prayer was offered by Bishop Alexander Walters, D. D. J. W. Thompson then briefly explained the circumstances which had prevented the ceremony of unveiling the monument and then introduced the Rev. Alonzo Scott, pastor of Zion Church, who sang "His Name Shall Live Forever," composed by himself for the occasion. He was accompanied by a chorus of forty voices under the direction of Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey.

POEM BY MR. T. THOMAS FORTUNE.

In introducing T. Thomas Fortune, of New York, editor of *The Age*, one of the leading papers published in the in-

terest of his race, Mr. Thompson paid a fitting tribute to his abilities and his earnest efforts to secure the erection of the monument. Mr. Fortune read an original poem, entitled, "Frederick Douglass." The poem follows:

We cannot measure here the dizzy heights he trod  
To whom this glyptic shaft is lifted from the sod,  
Towards the matchless azure of sweet Freedom's skies,  
If we forget the depths whence God bade him arise,  
Above the slave's log cabin and a sireless birth,  
To be a prince among the children of the earth!

No giant who has placed one foot upon the land  
And one upon the sea, with power to them command,  
To bid the angry turbulence of each be still,  
And have them bend obedient to his master's will—  
Ever started lower in the social scale than he—  
This Champion of the Slave, this Spokesman of the Free!

In him the deathless lesson of our common race  
Was taught anew—the lesson you who will may trace  
From Babel's fatal tower to fateful Waterloo—  
From Eden's blest abode to slavery's Tuckaho—  
That still "one touch of nature makes the whole world kin,"  
The world of love and joy, the world of woe and sin.

But such as Douglass was not born to wear a chain—  
At the slave's task to bend and cower and cringe and  
    strain—  
To bare his princely back to the rude lash whose welt  
Produced no pain that his proud soul must have felt!  
As Moses did, he served in bondage for an hour  
The better to be armed to crush the master's power.

It has been ever thus since the old world was young—  
The giants of the race from the head of woe have sprung—  
Out of the agony and sweat and rayless hope  
In which the swarming masses have been doomed to grope.  
So lifts its head from rocks and sands the lighthouse brave,  
To guide the fearless sailor o'er the treacherous wave.

For who can sing of woe who never felt a pain—  
 Who never hoped 'gainst hope to know a joy again?  
 Who thirst for vengeance on the skulking, coward foe  
 As he whose sire or mate has fallen 'neath the blow?  
 Who feel the venom of the slave's undying hate  
 As he whose lot has been the slave's degrading fate?

'Twas a long way to the north star from Tuckaho—  
 From slavery's dark shade to freedom's electric glow—  
 From out the depths—"O the depths!"—of slavery's long  
 night—

To the high altitude of freedom's fadeless light!  
 And here he stood in winter's storm and summer's sun,  
 Majestic, brave, till the fierce war was fought and won.

We claim him as our own, the greatest of the race,  
 In whom the rich sun stamp of Africa you trace,  
 And we delight to place upon his massive brow  
 Affection's crown of reverence, as we do now.  
 But, in a larger sense, forsooth, did he belong  
 To all the race, a prophet strong among the strong!

For he was large in stature and in soul and head  
 True type of New America, whose sons, 'tis said,  
 The western world shall have as glorious heritage—  
 That they shall write in history's fadeless, truthful page  
 Such deeds as ne'er before have wrought for liberty  
 And all the arts of peace—the strongest of the free!

And every depth he braved, and every height he trod  
 From earth's alluring shrines to the presence of his God;  
 And he was cheered by children's confidence and trust,  
 A tribute never withheld from the true and just;  
 And woman's sympathy was his, the divine power  
 That rules the world in calmest and stormiest hour!

To him all weakness and all suffering appealed;  
 'Gainst none such was his brave heart ever steeled.  
 And pleading womanhood for honest rights denied  
 No champion had of sturdier worth to brave wrong's pride—  
 To claim for her in all the fullest measure true  
 Of justice God ordained her portion, as her due.



He needs no monument of stone who writes his name  
By deeds, in diamond letters, in the Book of Fame—  
Who rises from the bosom of the race to be  
A champion of the slave, a spokesman of the free—  
Who scorns the fetters of a slave's degrading birth  
And takes his place among the giants of the earth.

This shaft is lifted high in Heaven's holy air  
To keep alive our wavering hope, a message bear  
Of inspiration to the living from the dead,  
Who dared to follow where the laws of duty led,  
They are so few—these heroes of the weak and strong—  
That we must honor them in story and in song.

So let this towering, monumental column stand,  
While freedom's sun shall shine upon our glorious land,  
A guiding star of hope divine for all our youth,  
A living witness to the all-enduring truth—  
The living truth that makes men brave to death, and true—  
The truth whose champions ever have been few—  
The truth that made the life of Douglass all sublime,  
And gave it as a theme of hope to every clime!

Mr. Fortune's poem was followed by an excellent violin solo by Joseph Douglass, of Washington, a grandson of Frederick Douglass. The older members of the audience, who remembered the great freedman's love for music, and his own proficiency in the use of the violin, recalled many instances and greeted the young player with enthusiasm. He played a selection from Verdi's "Il Trovatore."

EULOGY BY HON. JOHN C. DANCY.

Any eulogy I may make of Frederick Douglass can only emphasize those already made by others who have preceded me. The best tribute to his memory is tame in comparison with the actual achievements of his life, considering its early environments. He was indeed the architect of his own fortune, "the builder of the ladder by which he climbed." His

birth, his race, his condition as a chattel, were all against him, and his first greatest obstacle was to conquer these, and minimize their influence as recognized insurmountable barriers. His boyhood did not prophesy one of the most remarkable careers this Nation has seen; nor did anything in his early life indicate that he was born to a noble destiny. His mother was a greater woman than his father was man, and he no doubt inherited from her the qualities of soul which were in him the inspiring, overmastering power which moved and electrified vast audiences, and made him the wonder and admiration of the world.

Mr. Douglass always insisted that we must not be measured by the heights to which we have attained, but rather by the depths from which we have come. These depths were lower than those from which Garfield came—and he drove a canal boat; or from which Grant came—and he was a tanner; or Lincoln—and he was a rail-splitter. Douglass came from depths far beneath any of these, for he was a slave, and had to go further to reach their starting point than either of them went in the entire journey of their triumphs. Wisely and philosophically did he remark, immediately after the war closed, at a great meeting held in Dr. Sunderland's church, "It is a long way from the cornfields of Maryland to Dr. Sunderland's church in Washington." The actual distance was only about twenty miles, but it took Mr. Douglass forty years to go the journey—like Moses' forty years in the wilderness. He has told me that he walked the decks of steamers that plied between the ports of New York and Boston, because he was denied accommodation elsewhere. And yet even this affront to his sensitive nature did not curb his ambition, relax his efforts to uplift himself and his race, or smolder the burning fires of his manhood. Obstacles which would have absolutely sapped the vitality and the hopes of almost any other man, seemed to be to him an inspiration, which nerved him

to more superhuman effort in order to more transcendent triumphs.

But Douglass laid well his foundation. A fugitive slave he began his life of liberty, as it were, under the shadow of Plymouth Rock, at New Bedford, Mass. He early identified himself with an unpretentious little A. M. E. Zion church where he became sexton, steward, Sunday-school superintendent, exhorter and finally local preacher. It was in these capacities that he was introduced to the "Whaling City," as his splendid physique and magnificent presence as well as speech, filled with soul, attracted to him the attention of all who saw and heard him.

Wendell Phillips and William Lloyd Garrison found occasion to visit New Bedford to hold an anti-slavery meeting. The former, the most finished and eloquent orator of his time; the latter, the prince of abolition agitators and champions. Both filled with unconquerable zeal and enthusiasm—they stirred that city on that great occasion, as it was never stirred before. When enthusiasm had reached its zenith, and the speakers had concluded their phillippics against the most infamous of wrongs—slavery—a call was made for some colored man in the audience to say a word describing the foul wrong from the standpoint of his own experience. Then some voice uttered the name of Douglass. The war was waked anew. A grand form pushed its way to the front through the surging mass. He was physical perfection—calm, motionless, erect, he bowed his salutation, and warming to his work he entered into a portrayal of the iniquitous institution from which he had made his escape, shook his majestic head as a lion shakes from his shaggy mane the dew drops of the morning, while his voice of deep-toned thunder uttered such anathemas of denunciation, that the audience went mad with wildest expressions of sympathy and indignation. Phillips and Garrison gave vent to their feelings by securing

Douglass at once as a regular platform orator for the Abolition cause. He awoke the next morning a great man—one of the world's modern Seven Wonders.

When fierce gales bowed the high pines, when blazed  
The lightning, and the savage in the storm  
Some unknown godhead heard, and awestruck gazed  
On Douglass' majestic form.

His fame was at once secure. Like the eagle from his eyrie, beholding the approaching storm, with calm serenity, so Douglass watched the gathering storm which was to eradicate slavery from "the land of the free." But unlike the eagle, he did not wing his flight beyond the gathering clouds, but rather boldly met those clouds and bravely aided in the work of their dispersion in the abolition of slavery. In New England, the West, Canada and Great Britain, he faced riotous elements of opposition, and by the magnificence of his eloquence, he transformed rebellious and antagonistic mobs into enthusiastic supporters. In him the man and the cause met, and the cause became a part of the man. If it was charged that he violated the law, he joined with Seward in the assertion that there was "a higher law," and he invoked its intervention to insure American liberty "to each, to all, and forever." He was aware that there were "depths of infamy, as well as heights of fame," and he would lift his proud land from the quagmires of the one into the glories of the other. He believed with Webster in "liberty and union, one and inseparable," but he realized the impossibility of a secure union without the blessings of unrestricted liberty. He made the silence of the seas articulate the songs of liberty, and the darkness of the night became luminous with the rays of approaching dawn. He agreed with Conkling in the declaration that "from Runnymede to Appomattox, the jewel for which civilized man has fought has been the law of the land and equality before the law." In all these contentions

Mr. Douglass fought his own way, won his own victories and made his own fame. He was indeed a changeless sincerity. He was never in masquerade or disguise. He loved, he hoped, he believed in the justice of his cause, and prayed for the time when right should rule supreme and conquer wrong.

Montesquieu, the French philosopher, taught that "the animating sentiment of a monarchy is honor, while the animating sentiment of a republic is virtue." Douglass sought to emphasize the truth of this remark and make the animating sentiment of his country, virtue, which should be the cardinal and basic principle of every land and people. He loved truth and impartial justice, and wanted them written not merely in our laws, but in our lives, and in the hearts and consciences of the whole nation. He did not dissemble either with friends or foes, and was honored and respected by men who hated his opinions, which were with him a positive conviction.

With Senator Charles Sumner he jointly urged President Lincoln to issue a call for volunteer colored troops. The country was against it—even the sympathetic North. The President himself hesitated and agreed to pray over it. The wisdom of the suggestion dawned upon the President later, and the call was issued for 75,000 colored volunteers. It was heard above all the din and smoke of battle, and above the cries of the dead and dying, so that 200,000 ebony-hued sons of Ham answered to that call. Mr. Douglass' sons were among the first to enlist. He proved his faith by his works. The courage, daring and heroism of these braves on hundreds of battlefields, including Fort Wagner, Fort Pillow, and Petersburg, where they proved themselves as much the flower of the Army as the Ninth and Tenth Cavalry and the Twenty-fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry did in saving the Rough Riders and capturing El Caney and San Juan Hill from the Spaniards in our recent war with Spain. All the world

## DOUGLASS MONUMENT.

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knows of the glory of the Black Regiments which will go down the ages in song and story with the ride of the Six Hundred, immortalized by Tennyson on the field of Balaklava. Douglass paved the way for this new found glory, and thereby in this path-finding alone gave immortality to his name and fame.

"The sword of Michael from the Armory of God seemed given him,  
Tempered so that neither keen nor solid might resist that edge."

His triumphs are as inspiring in splendor as they are infinite in variety. Indeed, he does not suffer by contrast with any of the great men of the century. Kossuth was a patriot like himself, who befriended the oppressed of Hungaria, but with no greater influence, power and success than Douglass; Gambetta was the tribune of the French people, but with all the fury of his wonderful oratory he could arouse no more sympathy or support than Douglass; Bismarck was the acting, controlling, directing force of the German Empire for a half century, and yet he championed fewer reforms that meant the uplift of the whole people than Douglass, the emancipated slave; Gladstone was the commoner and most popular, as well as the ablest champion of manhood rights since Pitt, who defended the attitude of the Americans in their fight for Independence, and yet Gladstone never dared go to the limits to which Douglass went in seeking to establish a civilization, not merely without a slave, but also without a prejudice. If Douglass did not attain to their stations, it was more because he came from so much greater depths than because he merited less elevated heights. There was in him always a latent heroism that responded at once to an appeal to give up all to some noble cause. His ideals were always the highest, the best and the purest, and he reckoned no life exemplary that did not comport with such ideals. A vein of

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he had seen through some of his strongest utterances, but that humor, like Lincoln's, was as the ripple of the surface of an unfathomable sea. Honors were lavished upon him, not because he sought them, but because he earned them. He became marshal, recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia, member of the Commission looking toward the annexation of San Domingo, and minister to Hayti, not merely because of his color, but because of his ability. He did not occupy so large a place in the public eye and esteem because he had been a slave, but because he became a man. He utilized the opportunities which came to him to the best possible advantage, and emphasized their value by the reward, in honor and emolument, which sought him with such constancy as his staff of life bent under the weight of years.

As with Douglass, so with us—the ideal determines the character of the life. When the aim of life is right, rules and precepts are merely subordinates. If wrong, rules and precepts are worthless. Nothing so strengthens the mind and enlarges the manhood and widens the thought, as the constant effort to measure up to the high ideal, to struggle for that which is beyond and above us. It stretches the mind to a larger measure, and touches the life to finer issues.

A stranger going through a public park in a leading city observed an eagle walking around with the satisfied air of a domestic animal. He could not understand it; he therefore inquired the cause of a bystander. "Follow me," said the friend. Coming close up he was shown a net of wire on either side and overhead. Said he, "That eagle was put in that inclosure untamed, yea, wild. He made several attempts to fly upward, but each successive time he struck that wire and fell back helpless. He lost heart, courage and ambition. and is now content with his state."

Mr. Douglass came upon the arena at a time when an entire race was under the same influence as this eagle. They

had made fruitless efforts to rise, but that wire of human prejudice and bondage was ever there to beat them back in their every attempt at ascent. They had grown spiritless and disheartened, and had yielded to what seemed the inevitable. Douglass was one of them. He saw that wire and had struck against it himself. But nerving himself to the task, after falling back once, with courage bold, he made a superhuman effort a second time, and with the strength which God gave him, he hurled himself against it with redoubled force and the wire gave way, and he stopped not in his ascent until he reached the goal of his ambition. His race caught and shared his spirit everywhere until to-day a Nation rises from its spell of years to testify to the wisdom and courage of a seer of the black race, who knowing his rights dared to assert and maintain them. With that wire broken we are at liberty to measure up to the higher ideal and struggle for that which is beyond and above us. Bulwer's description of the voice of O'Connell describes that wonderful voice of Douglass during his contention for universal liberty:

“Aloft and clear from airy tide to tide  
It glided easy as a bird may glide;  
Even to the verge of that vast audience sent,  
It played with each wild passion as it went;  
Now stirred the uproar; now the murmur stilled,  
And sobs or laughter answered as it willed.”

In breaking that wire Douglass played the whole gamut of loftiest eloquence. He blended the deep-toned thunder of Webster, the musical harmonies of Clay, the lightning flashes of O'Connell and the charm and dignity of Wendell Phillips. He believed his own race largely the safety-valve of the Republic and pleaded for an opportunity for them to prove it. Time, the unerring arbiter, in two wars—and in peace as well—has richly vindicated the wisdom of his plea.



With our young men distinguishing themselves in every avenue of industrial and professional life; with skilled mechanics and artisans, lawyers, physicians, learned ministers of the Gospel and teachers, and a wealth running up to nearly a half billion in money and homes; with improved churches and schools and their constantly increasing attendance; with three millions of us who can read and write in the face of former laws which made the possession of such blessings a crime; and another million in the schools, instructed by twenty thousand trained teachers; with a population just double what it was thirty-five years ago—nine millions in all—these wonderful transformations are the highest encomiums that can be paid to the greatness of Douglass and his compeers—Lincoln, Grant, Phillips, Garrison, Beecher, and their allies, in giving us freedom, and in placing us, by an appeal to the dread arbitrament of the sword, under the protecting aegis of the ample folds of the American flag.

Mr. Douglass addressed himself in the later years of his life to reform conditions as they confronted the country. He was the uncompromising enemy of mob law, and especially as it developed into lynch law—the worst form of mob violence known to any civilization. He demanded a fair and impartial trial for every man accused of crime, whether white or black—that his guilt or innocence might be fully established; he insisted upon a free and unrestricted exercise of the right of franchise, the right preservative of all rights—the palladium of American liberty; he demanded the broadening of the common school system so as to put its benefits within the reach of the humblest child in the land; he contended for an industrial system that would open up avenues of employment to all idlers, and thereby increase the producing class and minimize that class who are chiefly consumers without the alternative of being contributors to our productive wealth; he was an emphatic champion of every moral



BENJAMIN MYERS.

cause, whether it was temperance, religious or otherwise, which promised favorable results to the Nation at large. He had all the ardor of John Brown without his daring; all the zeal of Beecher without his intrepidity; all the courage of Wilberforce without his "winters of discontent;" all the determination of Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe and Miss Susan B. Anthony, and "Sojourner Truth" without their meekness and patience and willingness to wait results. He believed in woman's rights as much as he did in man's, and spent the last day of his life giving them a final note of warning as to what was the next best thing to do to strengthen the influence of their organized protest against existing wrongs aimed at them. He believed that

"Woman's cause is man's;  
They rise or sink together  
Dwarfed or God-like, bond or free."

I saw Mr. Douglass under many and varying circumstances, but he was always the same grand, peerless character in his personality. I heard him declare in a great convention, where weighty political interests were involved, and party spirit ran high, that "the Republican Party is the ship and all else is the sea"; I beheld him with cane in hand at the Columbian Exposition, at Chicago, at a great congress, tell a caustic critic of our race, in answer to his animadversions, to desist from his unfair attacks and "go home, and learn the truth, before attempting again to instruct others as to the true status of a too long maligned and oppressed race;" I heard him in a great National Republican Convention, speaking of his own race, assert that "we may be many as the waves, but we are one as the sea"; I watched him before an audience made up chiefly of foreigners, at Washington, during the great Ecumenial Conference, as he rose to the loftiest pitch of overpowering eloquence and made a last appeal to

them on behalf of fair play for all mankind; I sat with him an hour at the Executive Mansion, as he talked with President Harrison, portraying the greatness of the people of Hayti, whom he loved; I have seen him make merry at his home at Cedar Hill, overlooking the Potomac, as he and his grandson played in concert on violins his favorite, "The Suwannee River"; and to cap the climax, I beheld him as the orator of the day, on the occasion of the unveiling of the Lincoln monument on Capitol Hill, at Washington, in April, 1876. President Grant and his cabinet, the Vice-President, nearly all the United States Senators and members of Congress, the Chief Justice and members of the Supreme Court, Governors of different states, the Diplomatic Corps and other notable persons were there—with an assembled mass of more than 50,000 persons, constituting the finest audience that ever heard a plain civilian in this country, speak—and Douglass never appeared to better advantage, as he addressed himself so marvelously to that surging sea of upturned faces. It was the speech of his life. But under none of these changed circumstances did he ever to our mind vary a hair's breadth from the modest, sincere, brave, true, and unaffected Frederick Douglass whom the world has known and honored for nearly a half century.

But great as Douglass was as a statesman and patriot, he was no politician in the narrower sense. He comprehended great questions of state and had vast influence with statesmen, but he knew little or nothing of the art of practical politics, and was therefore no competitor with men of much smaller mental caliber when it came to a contest in the primaries for leadership. But the primaries once over, the responsibility of carrying party principles to a successful issue, rested on his broad and capable shoulders. In such case he became the leader of leaders, the recognized tribune of the people.

But Mr. Douglass is dead. That magnificent presence is no more among us to advise, direct, and encourage us; but his example is still with us, and like Webster, he "still lives." New questions of state and national policies will come up to vex political leaders and disintegrate and cause a realignment of political parties. The question of races will be broadened under the policy of territorial expansion and aggrandizement. Other dark races with an increase by the enlarged territory of our nation, will give us nineteen instead of nine million of the dark races to be considered in the new equation. Whether present prejudices will wear away under the policies to be inaugurated to settle the newer problem, only time will disclose. At all events, we shall need the directing presence of a Douglass that we may avoid Charybdis in escaping Scylla. The question of education, of party affiliations, or moral and material development, of manhood rights, of our present duties and obligations—all being questions which occupied the best moments of his life, are still presenting themselves with added charm and force, and appeal to our closest scrutiny and most careful consideration. May God send us other guides to take up the work where he left off.

As a living example of the value to me, at least, of his championship of human freedom, I stand here as one of the manumitted slaves—born in the same month and year that he made his famous address against the Dred Scott decision by Chief Justice Taney—to bear testimony to his heroism and lay at his feet this imperfect tribute to his worth and character. I do not hesitate to declare that he was indeed

"A hero—a hero who dared to struggle in the solid  
ranks of truth,

To clutch the monster Error by the throat,  
To bear opinion to a loftier height,  
To blot the error of oppression out  
And lead a universal Freedom in."

Other great men have risen to fame and distinction, and others will rise; but the like of Douglass we will hardly see in this generation or the next. The occasion may never rise for his like. No Vulcan need forge thunder bolts like those prepared for him, as they are hardly required to carry the same power of destruction, or to produce the same trepidation and dismay. The power of the whirlwind and awe-inspiring tremor of the earthquake shock are hardly necessary now as in darker days to arouse a nation to a full sense of its duty and its danger—realizing as we do that a nation's chief sin is its chief danger. In his own day, this sin denied his manhood, humbled his pride, sapped his vitality and clouded his future. He realized its dangerous influence and tendency, and clutching it by the throat, assisted in choking it to death.

So we turn from this spectacle so grand in design, so true in form, proportion and feature, so worthy of him whose memory it seeks to perpetuate. He lived, fought, and sacrificed for us and his country; let us not prove ourselves unworthy of his great triumphs, which were won in our defense. This gathering is a slight testimonial of our abiding gratitude. Let us wind ourselves out of the labyrinths of doubt, self distrust, and pessimistic forebodings, and like him whose monument we erect to his memory, rise above every degrading environment into the higher life where dwell only the pure, the worthy and the true. Then Douglass will not have sacrificed in vain. Freedom will prove a blessing indeed, and manhood rather than race will be the true badge of honor, and the true test of character.

As one star differeth from another star, so one life differeth from another life. Douglass was a star of the first magnitude—one of the proudest in the constellation of stars—a comet, indeed, whose light emblazons the horizon long after it has disappeared from sight. A life of sore trial, of conflict, of sacrifice, of constant plodding, of final triumph, both

here and hereafter—it is to us an example and to the world a benediction. Great as he was in life, and grand as he was in death, we conclude the last tribute that the beneficiary can pay to the benefactor by bidding him hail! and farewell!

The next number was a solo by Mrs. Charles P. Lee, who rendered in excellent style “The Sun is on the Hills,” Miss May LeLeon accompanist.

#### MEDAL FOR CHAIRMAN THOMPSON.

The programme was interrupted at this point by Walter Stewart, of Elmira, who arose on behalf of the citizens of Rochester, to present a token of their gratitude to John W. Thompson, chairman of the committee, who had conceived and engineered the plans for the memorial to the great leader of his race. Mr. Stewart said briefly:

“It is a custom among all nations to perpetuate the memory of their greatest men who in some special manner have stamped their names upon the hearts of the people, but as far as I can determine this is the first time that a people have met to perpetuate the memory of any of my race. This idea was first promulgated by a citizen of Rochester in 1894, long before Douglass was deceased. John W. Thompson being imbued with the spirit of his race, arose in a Masonic meeting and first started this work. But ere he had perfected his plans the grand old man had run his race. But at his death Mr. Thompson put forth renewed energy, and though progress was slow he was conscious that he was right and worked on and on without fear of failure or hope of reward, and to-day he can look back upon a successful work. Often he had to tread the winepress alone, yet I believe there was an unseen influence assisting him so that he could not fail.

“To-day John W. Thompson ought not to be without reward, so in token of our appreciation for his efforts I wish to present him with this gold medal.”

Mr. Thompson accepted the gift with a few words of gratitude, though taken entirely by surprise. The medal was a handsome one, being a solid gold medallion, with an engraving of the Douglass monument and a personal inscription to the donee. A pleasant and appropriate feature of the programme was the reading by Miss Fredericka Douglass Sprague, a granddaughter of Frederick Douglass, of an extract from the great speech of the freedman, delivered in Washington on April 16, 1883, the occasion being the celebration of the twenty-first anniversary of emancipation.

#### MISS ANTHONY'S REMINISCENCE<sup>3</sup>.

Miss Susan B. Anthony was then introduced. She said, in part:

"I am proud and happy to bear my testimony by presence and words to the great truths that Frederick Douglass did so much to vindicate by his life and works. It is not because I have not been importuned to provide a sentiment for the monument but because I have been busy and so at this late hour I am going to read a testimonial from Frederick Douglass to me and I think that this one sentence should be the sentiment inscribed on the pedestal at Douglass Park:

" 'The cause of woman suffrage has under it a truth as eternal as the universe of thought, and must triumph if this planet endures.'

"I must pay a tribute to the old abolitionists who have passed before. Robert Purvise, Parker Pillsbury and all the rest, but Elizabeth Herrick, a grand noble woman, was the influence behind it all, when she made the utterance for immediate emancipation. When he came to this country William Lloyd Garrison brought with him a true, noble wife and mother, and I believe that he could not have done the work unless for her influence. And then there was the invalid wife of Wendell Phillips, who read all anti-slavery literature



and encouraged the great orator to go and speak for the oppressed. I think that Mr. Phillips' most magnificent speech was made in Rochester when he stopped with John and Mary Hallowell. I said to him:

"That's a great speech, Mr. Phillips."

"Yes, but you must thank Ann for it."

"And Ann was his faithful, loving wife, who encouraged, helped, cheered him in his great fight for abolition.

"I remember well the first time I ever saw Douglass. When I came home from school teaching. My father put me in the buggy and carried me down to Alexander street to see Douglass and his children, and through all the years after the friendship was continued. Our happiest Sundays were when Douglass and his family spent the day at our house. We felt proud of those occasions. Douglass was a jolly fellow. He always brought that violin along.

"In our circle of friends we very often had those who visited us who were prejudiced. I didn't mean to persecute them or make them unhappy, but I was mighty glad to introduce Douglass to them. I am going to detain you to tell you one experience.

"The son of my mother's brother was a real good, solid Western New York Democrat. He had come out from the city to spend his vacation at our beautiful little farm. He didn't like our 'niggers.' One time when he was there Douglass came. I invited him into the parlor to meet Douglass.

He refused, but later consented to an introduction. He began to ply his legal lore on Mr. Douglass and found himself wholly unable to cope with Frederick Douglass. Realizing this, he turned to Rosa Douglass, his daughter, and asked her to play, and, unlike many white girls, she played without dissent. She played another selection and finally my cousin followed Rosa out to the table and placed a chair for her.

And before the evening was over that 'Lish,' that Democratic New York city lawyer, actually ran down and opened the gate for Douglass to drive through when he started home. Douglass overcame prejudice.

"I tell you the greatest thing that stands in the way of advancement is prejudice. To negro men I say, don't imitate white men. The women ought to be remembered, and colored men should still stand by the women. Why the white men propose to give the ballot even now to heathens and leave Frederick Douglass' daughter under the heel of prejudice.

MRS. IDA B. WELLS BARNETT.

One of the interesting addresses of the afternoon was that by Mrs. Ida B. Wells Barnett, of Chicago, who is classed with the leading female orators. Her life has been spent in advocating the anti-lynching law. Mrs. Barnett said:

"I come as a pilgrim to a Mecca, a worshipper at the shrine of one of the greatest men this country has produced. The American nation owes Frederick Douglass a debt of gratitude because he helped her to cure herself of a radical evil. It is not necessary to recount what he did for the United States. We have come to know and love him because he espoused the cause of those who are victims of mob law. He is not dead, his words live after him, and will be an inspiration to us in the many problems which confront us."

The speaker referred to the work Douglass had done in espousing the cause of the anti-lynch law, of woman's suffrage and against the "hydra-headed monster of prejudice," and said that the work that he did should be an inspiration for the present generation to take up those questions with renewed energy, until perfect emancipation and freedom were granted to all races and all sexes in the country.

"His Name Shall Live Forever," was rendered by a chorus of forty voices. Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey, accompanist.

## EX-MINISTER SMYTH'S EULOGY.

John H. Smyth, ex-minister to Liberia, and president of the Reformatory Association, of Virginia, now a prominent lawyer in the South, was to have delivered an extended address, but it was late in the afternoon when the opportunity was presented to him, and he confined his remarks to a few brief words of tribute to the great freedman. Though he spoke but a short time, Mr. Smyth showed that he was easily one of the foremost orators of his race. By way of preface he seconded heartily the suggestion of Miss Anthony that the negro should not be an imitator of the white man. He paid a high tribute to the women of the land, and stated that it was doubtless through womanly influence that Douglass became what he was. "It was due to the negro woman," he said, "that we had a Frederick Douglass, or any other illustrious negro in religion, politics or the field of battle.

"The man whose active, moral and intellectual agency aided in the destruction and extirpation from America of a legalized infamy and degradation is no less a national benefactor than the martyr souls were human benefactors, who went to God through Rome in its zenith, and the inquisition in protest against godlessness, heathenism and sin in the cause of Christianity and its redemptive forces.

"It is ever of interest to have narrated the circumstances connected with the birth and family of any great personage. Alas! for the negro in Christian lands—little that is authentic that may be relied upon, can be said of such in this respect who have lived so long as fifty years. Chronology in connection with a negro slave, had importance only with regard to his ability to work. Genealogy, so far as blacks were concerned, heretofore, was a matter of indifference. From our emancipation and throughout all our future, chronology and genealogy are to be factors in our life and history, which under God, may be significant and important.

“Frederick Douglass’ parentage and antecedents are shrouded in mystery. It is not a surprising circumstance, as all must realize, the result of human slavery in the United States where he was born.

“Through the warp and woof of his private and public life, one purpose ran: Honesty, incorruptibility and loyalty to the interests of his race. His uncompromising hatred of oppression and American prejudice distinguished him from 1838 to the end of an eventful, useful, effective and beautiful life. His name will ever be ‘great in tongues of wisest censure.’ ”

#### THE PRESENTATION.

Charles P. Lee, a prominent attorney of Rochester, N. Y., then made the presentation of the monument to the city. Referring to the noble work of the Monument Committee, Mr. Lee said:

“The character of a country is often known by the class of men it crowns. Monuments dedicated to heroes and patriots disclose a nation’s ideals and reveal the growth and grandeur of its civilization.” Continuing, he said:

“This monument represents a great leader. God endowed Douglass with all the qualities of exalted leadership, high moral purpose, courage of conviction, great personal magnetism, broad perceptive powers, iron will, matchless physical endurance, restless industry, spotless integrity, commanding and conspicuous figure, a leader by Divine right. Believing the principles he defended and the cause he espoused were true and righteous, he stood by them with unflinching fidelity. This unwavering firmness made him strong in counsel, steady in conflict, powerful with the people. Douglass was a leader of fixed principles and unshaken integrity. He would not sell the people’s right for a seat in the Senate or betray their confidence for a second-class appointment.

“During the reconstruction period, Douglass devoted his energies to the material advancement of the freedman and to the graver conditions and circumstances growing out of emancipation. His powerful appeals for justice—equality before the law and absolute civil rights for his race—contributed much toward the formation of that public sentiment which gave a guaranteed citizenship. The trials and triumphs of Douglass extended over all the thrilling period of our national history.

He saw the flag of his country in dishonor—he lived to see it restored in glory. He saw the constitution blotted by a fugitive slave law—he lived to see it redeemed by the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments. He saw slaves sold in the public square—he lived to see them in the Senate of the United States. He saw his race in political degradation—he helped lift it to the heights of civil liberty and equality. He saw his countrymen shut out from every avenue of trade, the paths of polite industry and enjoyment—he died leaving them possessed of every opportunity of elevation and advancement. All of this he saw and part of which he was. In the economy of life Douglass filled many places, as editor and author, diplomat and statesman, and in them all he acquitted himself well.

“It repeats the story of the soldier and sailor, whose courage in battle never faltered or failed, but with a heroism born of inspiration, faced rebel ball and blade, for the Union, liberty and law. On tented field and crested wave, where treason trampled under foot the rights of man, and grim-visaged rebellion besieged a nation’s forts and firesides, they fought and fell.

“It marks the majestic march of that public sentiment, which, when the smoke of battle rolled away—in a spirit of justice equal to the world’s sublimest hope, stooped and took

the freedman by the hand, placed him in possession of political rights, made him equal before the law, surrounded him with great opportunities of advancement and elevation, in the exalted duty and dignity of citizenship, bade him live and labor for the grandeur of his country, the glory of his race and God.

"This monument is a mute appeal to the Afro-American of to-day. It implores us to show by our devotion to duty, our love of truth, our zeal for knowledge and our acquisition of wealth and prosperity, that we appreciate the advantages we enjoy, that we are worthy of the liberty left us as a legacy of love. It begs us to cultivate habits of virtue, temperance, economy, industry and commercial activity, seeking ever that righteousness which exalteth a nation, and by the nobility of our lives, the purity of our characters and the material grandeur of our achievements, reach and realize the highest privileges and possibilities of American civilization. It points out to us the necessity of rising to the duty of the hour, of realizing our part and place in the progress of the age, of lending our effort and energy in defense of every measure and movement beneficial to mankind, which marks the spirit of the times, the triumphant march of the new republic.

"We know of no city more entitled to the honor of this monument than Rochester. Douglass loved her with a devotion that was passing strange, and though separated from her by ocean trips, or called away by public duty, he still clung to her as his home. For nearly a quarter of a century he was identified with her welfare, associated with her growth and grandeur, and enjoyed her great generosity. It was here that he toiled and triumphed and firmly laid the foundation of that fame and fortune which cheered and comforted his declining years. It was here he commanded and controlled the thrilling conflict and tragic commotion of the anti-slavery campaign. It was here he saw the light of liberty

break over the land of bondage. His life was closely interwoven with her own—and his mortal remains have found lasting repose in her loving embrace.

“May she welcome this monument as a worthy contribution to her Pantheon of glory, around which are clustered memories, that will inspire her youth for generations to come with lofty hopes and heroism, and awaken in the hearts of her citizens a high and holy admiration for the life and labor, name and fame of this venerated apostle of liberty. In that silent city of the dead—on the banks of the historic Genesee—Douglass sleeps to-day—and the sun shines on no grander spot than where his majestic form mingles with its mother earth—and where the lovers of liberty from every land shall some day come to weave a garland above his grave. Let none of us approach that sacred shrine with feelings of resentment, or come away to revive the flame of race animosity, but with past trials forgotten, past wrongs forgiven, gather around his tomb and recalling the cherished memories of his life and invoking the sainted shades of his illustrious spirit, consecrate ourselves anew to the Genus of Liberty—to the grandson of free government. He lives, ever lives.”

#### THE MAYOR'S ACCEPTANCE.

Mayor George E. Warner, in behalf of the city of Rochester, accepted the monument, as follows:

“Rochester would prove herself unworthy of having been the home of a great man if she would do nothing to perpetuate his memory. She has had many citizens, able in the councils of the state and nation, alert in business, and of brilliant mind, but none as great as Frederick Douglass. He was great on account of what he did for himself—because he transformed himself from a piece of personal property on the plantation of his master, contrary to the laws of the land and the prejudices of the people, to a sage, the adviser of the

great; and great on account of what he did for his people—because he gave for their salvation the rarest endowments of nature and the whole wealth of his mind accumulated through years of the severest trials. He was the true self-made man, for he could look back to the time when the laws of the republic said he was not a man. He became a man not with the aid of its beneficent laws, but in spite of its inhuman laws.

“The years he spent in our city were the ones in which the greatest efforts of his life were put forth for his race. Here he edited a newspaper for the publication of his views on slavery. Between the hours of labor which he spent in this enterprise, he traveled over the country lecturing. He also held here a sort of central office for the ‘underground railway,’ an institution for the humane purpose of conducting slaves to Canada. That he was well received by our people he gives testimony in his autobiography. He notes that we did not take the advice of a New York paper and throw his printing press into the lake. By financial contributions and in other material ways he was assisted by our people in the great work of his life.

“For twenty-five years he was a familiar figure on our streets and in our public life. Our citizens learned to admire and reverence him, and thousands gathered to hear his frequent anti-slavery speeches. That he, too, had a tender feeling for our city and people, appears from the following sentence from his ‘Life and Times:’

“‘I know of no place in the Union where I could have located at the time with less resistance, or received a larger measure of sympathy and co-operation, and I now look back to my life and labors therewith unalloyed satisfaction, and having spent a quarter of a century among its people, I shall always feel more at home there than anywhere else in the country.’



"Our city is proud for having sheltered him when other cities would have refused him shelter. At his death she honored his remains and gave them a resting place at her door. To-day her citizens honor his memory by erecting a beautiful monument inscribed with his eloquent words.

"It is fitting that it should stand near a great portal of our city where the thousands who enter may see that she is willing to acknowledge to the world that her most illustrious citizen was not a white man.

"As mayor of the city I accept this monument to a great and good man. May it stand always to remind our people of a life which should never be forgotten, and as an index finger to a bright page in history."

Before the exercises were brought to a close, Miss Anthony said that no public gathering could be complete without a word from the venerable Dr. E. M. Moore, who occupied a seat of honor on the platform. Dr. E. M. Moore spoke briefly, saying that he was very glad to be present and thus show his admiration and respect for a man who had at one time been his fellow townsman and friend. Mrs. Jean Brooks Greenleaf also made a few remarks in the same strain. The afternoon's exercises were then brought to a close by the singing of "America" by the audience, and a benediction by the Rev. Alonzo Scott.

#### THE RECEPTION.

Probably no part of the programme was enjoyed by young and old, foreigners and Rochesterians alike, more than the reception and ball at Fitzhugh Hall in the evening. It was very largely attended, though the guests were somewhat late in arriving, it being fully 11 o'clock before the evening had reached its zenith. It was well along towards the small hours of morning before the ball was at an end. The music was excellent, the floor was in fine condition, and everything

seemed propitious for a perfect evening's enjoyment. The dancers were graceful in their movements as they responded to the strains of harmony. The hall was handsomely decorated with flags of different nations, the Stars and Stripes, of course, predominating. There were many handsome and artistic costumes worn by the ladies, mostly of bright tints, relieved by numerous white toilettes. Pink predominated, but light blue, red and yellow made pretty contrasts, the ensemble producing a brilliant scene. There were many handsome as well as stylishly gowned women present.

The Douglass party was in attendance as spectators, occupying a place in the south balcony.

Taken as a whole the affair was a fitting finale to an eventful day in the history of Rochester. Many prominent white citizens, both men and women, were present.



COL. NATHAN P. POND.

## CHAPTER XII.

### THE DATE SELECTED, AND ARRANGEMENTS COMPLETED.

The bronze statue arrived over the Lehigh Valley Railroad from Philadelphia, October 4, 1898. Weight 1,200 pounds; placed in position October 11th. October 12th had been fixed for the unveiling. On October 9th Chairman Thompson was taken dangerously ill which necessitated another postponement. The Monument Committee at that time was still in need of \$2,000 and had the monument been unveiled at that time with that sum charged against the committee, it would have been years before the same could have been raised. This the chairman understood quite well so he adopted the wise plan and waited until the next year with the hope of having the Governor of the state fix the day, and when that was done he knew the money would come without much trouble. Up to that time he had received but little encouragement from the members of his race. When the work was completed and after reading the sentiment on the bronze tablets, Professor Booker T. Washington on a visit to the city said: "This monument is grand and it is the only thing we have."

As the news was flashed over the country that the unveiling was again postponed there was some criticism from different sections of the country by parties who did not understand, but the most unjust of all appeared in the "Conservator," a paper edited by Mrs. Ida B. Wells Barnett, at Chicago, which brought forth this able defense by Charles R. Douglass, which was published in that paper, and duly acknowledged:

609 F Street, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C., Nov., 1898.

Editor, The Conservator:

My attention has been called to a most unjust criticism of the "Douglass Monument" management contained in your issue of October 20th instant. There is no truth in the statement that the statue is not now in position, and was in position two weeks prior to the issue of your paper of October 29th.

When Mr. John W Thompson was putting forth his best efforts to secure funds to erect a monument to the late Frederick Douglass, where were these critics that are now so numerous—faultfinding because the monument was not unveiled as announced—not a nickle did they give.

Less than \$500 came from the pockets of the 10,000,000 negroes in the United States. The little republic of Hayti, numbering less than a million inhabitants, gave a thousand dollars—more than was contributed by all the negroes in the United States together. The balance of the \$10,000 came from white people.

Let Thompson alone. He has undertaken and accomplished more than has ever been accomplished before by any negro. He has erected a monument to one of his race.

CHAS. R. DOUGLASS.

#### GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT NAMES THE DAY.

At the request of many prominent members of the G. A. R. and other citizens, the committee was requested to fix a day for unveiling, when there would be good weather, in order that they could take part in the parade. J. W Thompson wrote Governor Roosevelt asking him to fix a day for the unveiling, when he could be present, and requested him to act with Senator Armstrong.

Mr. Thompson received the following:

DOUGLASS MONUMENT.

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Albany, February 8, 1899.

My Dear Mr. Thompson: Replying to your letter of the 30th ultimo, in reference to the unveiling of the Douglass monument, I will gladly come, but think I shall have to wait until the Legislature adjourns. When the date for adjournment is fixed, will you write to me, and I will fix a date for you.

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

Following is the Governor's letter, and one from Senator Armstrong to Chairman John W Thompson of the Monument Committee:

Executive Chamber,

Albany, May 3, 1899.

Hon. W. W Armstrong, Rochester, N. Y.:

My Dear Senator: Replying to yours of the 1st, would say that I will make the date June 9th. The 7th of June I have to spend at Columbia University.

Sincerely yours,

THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

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Rochester, N. Y., May 4, 1899.

John W. Thompson, City:

My Dear Mr. Thompson: I have the pleasure of inclosing you a communication from Governor Roosevelt, which I know will be very pleasing to you. Please advise me if I can be of any future service in the matter.

Yours truly,

W W. ARMSTRONG.

This news was very pleasing to the chairman of the committee, as the citizens were getting impatient and tired of seeing the canvas covered statue.

The chairman proceeded to make the arrangements for the final event of June 9th. In order to get the Chamber of Commerce interested, and assist in making the day one of importance and dignity, as well as to secure the \$2,000 which was still due on the monument, he called upon Mr. R. A. Sibley, president of the Chamber of Commerce, to entertain Governor Roosevelt on the occasion of his visit to the city. While Mr. Sibley had the matter under consideration it became known to many leading citizens that such a request had been made, and the rumor came near breaking up the parade. Prominent gentlemen called on Chairman Thompson and made objections to the Governor being taken to a private residence. One caller said indignantly, that the Governor wanted to be among the people and not carted off in a private carriage. Another said, "if what I have just heard is true the G. A. R. won't turn out and the school children will not march." He continued saying, you had better have the Governor go right to the square where the monument is to be unveiled, the people will come, and don't have any parade. The chairman was perplexed, and the outlook for a successful unveiling seemed dark.

Colonel James S. Graham, however, came to his rescue from the unexpected troubles. After an interview with the colonel, by appointment, Mr. Thompson met him in his office at the Postoffice, the next morning, and walked over to the office of Hon. W. W. Armstrong, where there was a conference between the three. After the case had been stated with all of its details, Senator Armstrong called these gentlemen over the telephone to meet at the Rochester Whist Club the same afternoon at 4 o'clock: Colonel N. P. Pond, Hon. A. E. Sutherland, Hon. George A. Benton, Charles U. Bastable. They were met by Hon. W. W. Armstrong, Colonel J. S. Graham, Hon. John Van Voorhis and John W. Thompson. The conference lasted two hours and a half.

Mr. Bastable acted as secretary, and was instructed to send invitations to five hundred citizens to meet in the Supervisors' rooms, Monday, June 4th, to make arrangements for the Governor's reception and raise the balance due on the monument. It was decided further that Hon. George A. Benton should be the chairman of the meeting of citizens, and Charles U. Bastable, secretary.

At the citizens' meeting, June 4th, Judge George A. Benton was unanimously elected chairman, Mr. James Fee, treasurer and Mr. Bastable, secretary. Judge Benton was authorized to appoint an executive committee of ten. It proved to be a hard task to perform satisfactory just at that time, as the political pot had just begun to boil fiercely. The primaries were not to be held until September. Mr. Dewitt C. Becker, of Perinton had announced himself a candidate for the office of County Treasurer and was the choice of the Republican organization, backed by Hon. George W. Aldridge. Hon. J. B. Hamilton was also a candidate for the same position and supported by all of the anti-organization people, and many others. In appointing this committee it was extremely hard for the Judge, while he wished to appoint only those who would act, and make the committee work a success, he was accused of favoring the Aldridge faction of the Republican party, but such accusation was not well founded. He desired men on this important committee for something else other than honor. Of course all who wanted the honor could not be appointed, but those selected gave general satisfaction to the public, and at 11 o'clock June 9th we had money enough raised to pay all of the expenses of the Governor's reception and the balance due on the monument.

Hon. H. S. Greenleaf was the first treasurer appointed. He served nearly two years, but finally had to retire on account of illness. This caused much regret in the committee



and it was the opinion of many that his place could not be filled. Mr. Greenleaf was a great admirer of Mr. Douglass and was the first citizen to pledge \$100 to the fund. After some time the vacancy was filled by the appointment of Hon. George A. Benton, as treasurer. The Judge accepted the position and discharged its duties faithfully, being at all times ready to confer with the chairman, and giving valuable advice, never faltering. Judge Benton served Monroe county six years as district attorney, and is now Surrogate of Monroe county, N. Y. He is an able lawyer, and one of the most prominent citizens of Rochester. The completion of the monument and its successful unveiling made Treasurer Benton one of the happiest men in the city, especially so when he could make out the check for the last \$2,500 then due on the Douglass monument. When this was accomplished it was truly a great relief to all, notwithstanding the fact that the sum needed was collected in a much shorter time than is usual in the case of erecting monuments by popular contributions. When all things are considered, the accomplishment of the work in less than four years was indeed remarkable.

#### PROCLAMATION BY THE MAYOR.

Mayor's Office, June 7, 1899.

On Friday next will occur the ceremony of unveiling the monument erected by our citizens to Frederick Douglass.

Rochester may well cherish the memory of her great citizen. His figure stands outlined on the pages of history as one of the few great emancipators. No race or country can claim him exclusively. He was the champion of man. He fought, not in the forum or legislative hall, but before the tribunal of public opinion. No people chose him for their representative. His ideas of right and liberty were not limited by artificial lines. His was the spirit of true democracy. His career is a great text-book for citizens and statesmen.

Let us point him out to the youth of the land as one of the type of men who make offices and officers, political parties and governments. Let us point to the position he held as the highest that may be attained by a free citizen. This we may do by honoring his memory.

Much preparation has been made for the exercises to be held on Friday, and there can be no doubt but that the people will heartily co-operate. It gives me pleasure to be able to announce that his excellency, Governor Roosevelt, has consented to come here and deliver an address.

Therefore, I would respectfully request that on that day, after 12 o'clock noon, in order to fittingly celebrate the event, business will be suspended as much as possible, and that all the people assist in honoring the memory of our distinguished fellow citizen and join in showing respect to our distinguished visitor.

I would also request that the same order and good judgment be exercised by the spectators along the line of march then that contributed to the enjoyment of all on a similar occasion a short time ago.

GEORGE E. WARNER,  
Mayor.

## CHAPTER XIII.

### THE UNVEILING CEREMONIES AT DOUGLASS PARK.

To live—that freedom, truth and life  
Might never know eclipse—  
To die, with woman's work and works  
Aglow upon his lips—  
To face the foes of human kind  
Through years of wounds and scars—  
It is enough; lead on—to find  
Thy place and the stars.

MRS. CRITTENDEN.

February 20, 1895.

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With the laurel wreath of fame, Rochester, June 9th, crowned the memory of the great orator, statesman and apostle of enfranchisement—Frederick Douglass, her adopted son. Amid elaborate and impressive ceremonies, in the presence of a mighty throng, honored by the presence of the chief executive of the state, the shroud was lifted from the bronze shaft cast to the image of the great apostle of liberty. Eulogy of his life principle, his noble characteristics and his supernatural efforts to uplift his race which groveled in the mire of ignorance, was spoken in glowing terms of eloquence.

Judged not from the heights he had attained but from the depths out of which he had risen, the citizens of Rochester paid homage to the memory of the dead statesman in fitting manner.

Beneath a sunless sky, hidden by clouds, the commemorative and dedicatory exercises were conducted. Color was lent to the general ensemble, for citizens had decorated their



SCENE AT THE UNVEILING.

buildings in flags, buntings and rosettes of Stars and Stripes. Old Glory floated from all the public buildings, schools and many residences. The proclamation of the mayor caused many factories and business houses to close at noon and the laborers augmented the throng.

Things so shaped themselves that there were four distinct features of the occasion. Chiefly the memorial exercises stood out in bold relief, then there was the big parade. Aside from these was the presence of Governor Theodore Roosevelt of New York state and lieutenant colonel of the Rough Riders. Lastly came the receptions to and by him. Three aides designated by Grand Marshal N. P. Pond, Hon. A. J. Rodenbeck, Charles Van Voorhis and William H. Driscoll, left the city at 9:05 o'clock in the forenoon, bound for Syracuse, to act as an escort of the Governor to the city. They met the distinguished party about 1 o'clock and boarded the Empire State Express, where they were warmly greeted by the Governor.

The fast train from Albany arrived two minutes ahead of time, just as though the engineer appreciated the impatience of the people and wanted to show his appreciation of the occasion.

At 2:18 o'clock Governor Theodore Roosevelt stepped from the parlor car Tioga with the aides, Bishop A. Walters, Rev. James E. Mason and Rev. J. J. Adams. They were warmly greeted by Senator W. W. Armstrong, L. P. Ross, Edward Brown and Mr. Mitchell of the reception committee. The Governor was dressed in a dark gray suit and wore a light colored soft hat. After a few moment's consultation the party moved through the trainhouse amid the deafening cheers of the people assembled, to a carriage at the station entrance, drawn by four magnificent iron gray horses, and they were quickly driven direct to the reviewing stand in front of the Court House. Along the way the Governor was

given a continual ovation. Upon his arrival at the stand he was met by the executive committee, composed of Charles J. Brown, Hon. W. W. Armstrong, Mayor George E. Warner, James Fee, Charles U. Bastable, Charles H. Babcock, Valentine Fleckenstein, Hon. George W. Aldridge, Colonel James S. Graham and E. N. Walbridge. Seated on the platform were: Mayor George E. Warner, Presiding Justice Hardin and Associate Justices Spring, Nash and McLennan of the Appellate Division, Justices W. E. Werner and John M. Davy of the Supreme Court, County Judge A. E. Sutherland, Hon. W. A. Sutherland, Commissioners Knebel, Whalen and Johnston of the executive board, Judge Adams, Bishop A. Walters, Rev. J. E. Mason, John W. Thompson, Senator Hiscock, of Syracuse, Judge Haight, L. P. Ross, Alderman Calihan, Hon. C. L. Baker, George C. Treadwell, military secretary to the Governor, Lewis H. Douglass, Mrs. Rosetta D. Sprague, Charles R. Douglass, and Mrs. Helen Douglass, widow of Frederick Douglass; Rev. M. Carruthers, Rosa Sprague, granddaughter of Frederick Douglass, Mrs. Sarah Blackall, Mrs. Mary Seymour Howell and Miss G. Page.

In addition to the above the following were invited to seats on the grand stand at the monument:

L. P. Ross, Francis B. Mitchell, Edward S. Brown, A. G. Yates, George Eastman, T. J. Nicholl, Walter B. Duffy, J. L. Judson, George A. Benton, Hon. John M. Dunwell, Hon. William E. Werner, Hon. John M. Davy, Hon. A. E. Sutherland, Hon. J. M. E. O'Grady, Hon. George A. Carnahan, Dr. E. M. Moore, John M. Ives, R. A. Sibley, George Ellwanger, C. B. Woodworth, Frank Fritzsche, George B. Watkins, Max Lowenthal, Louis Greisheimer, L. M. Moore, J. Miller Kelly, Oscar Knebel, Milton Noyes, William H. Tracy, Arthur Luetchford, William R. Peters, T. J. Swanton, E. A. Kalbfleisch, S. B. Williams, Albrecht Vogt, Horace McGuire, Joseph T. Alling, George H. Perkins, J. P. Henry, T. Bick-

ford, P. H. Yawman, J. L. Whalen, Griff D. Palmer, L. L. Williams, James Johnston, Frank Stecher, Nathaniel Foote, James Palmer, John U. Schroth, A. J. Reibling, Dr. Ogden Backus, Dr. E. B. Angell, A. T. Hagen, M. B. Schantz, B. B. Odell, Granger A. Hollister, L. A. Jeffries, William H. Jones, J. F. Wilber, George A. Redmond, George Roth, Charles T. Chapin, William Beard, H. F. Remington, George W. Archer, Hon. H. C. Brewster, Rev. J. W. A. Stewart, Rev. Thomas A. Hendrick, Frank J. Defendorf, E. M. Upton, W. W. Parce, J. H. Snow, H. F. Atwood, E. S. Ettenheimer, F. G. Beach, G. E. McGonegal, C. C. Meyer, F. A. Defendorf, Fairport; Carl F. Lomb, Charles Smith, R. M. Myers, G. B. Miller, James H. Boucher, John Connell, S. A. Servis, Henry Hebing, H. B. Hathaway, Lyman M. Otis, Anson C. Allen, Sol Wile, Rev. F. Defendorf, Hon. John Van Voorhis, George Everest, Captain H. T. Lomb, C. M. Everest, H. W. Sibley, T. B. Dunn, James R. Davy, Dr. J. M. Lee, J. G. Kalber, A. B. Hendrix, William Bartholomay, Matthias Kondolf, Selden S. Brown, William Eastwood, John Fahy, Hon. Charles S. Baker, Rev. C. A. Barbour, Hon. A. J. Rodenbeck, Scott K. Newcomb, W. M. Jones, W. M. Mallett, Willis K. Gillette, Dr. T. F. O'Hare, Charles L. Hunt, G. H. Kingsbury, Brockport; Hon. B. F. Gleason, Brockport; Hon. John W. Hannan, Chris Merlau, Fred R. Hixson, Clarkson; George G. Mason, Webster; George Weldon, Louis Ernst, A. Greenberg, Bernard Dunn, M. M. Meyer, B. N. Jacobson, F. T. Church, James Gillis, Thomas Doud, John Owens, Brockport; James H. Redman, William C. Barry, Thomas Devine, A. M. Lindsay, V. T. Whitmore, Captain E. C. Parkinson, Fred Will, F. A. Brownell, Samuel Wilder, Samuel Sloan, E. N. Curtice, F. P. Allen, Hon. Merton E. Lewis, D. C. Becker, William H. Driscoll, H. B. Graves, Hon. J. Breck Perkins, Charles E. Angle, Julius M. Wile, John B. Hamilton, Colonel H. S. Greenleaf, George

W. Percy, S. R. Mott, jr., Dr. C. R. Sumner, Joseph Michaels, L. G. Wetmore, Levi Hey, George W. Thayer, Frank Ritter, James D. Casey, Hon. George A. Hardin, Hon. William H. Adams, Hon. Peter B. McLennan, Hon. Alfred Spring, Hon. Edwin A. Nash, Hiram Shaw, John M. Steele, W. A. Williamson, John A. P. Walter, Dr. A. R. Gumberts, Hon. M. J. Calihan, Dr. D. H. Waugh, Dr. James Buckley, John M. Loudon, Albert Hondorf, David R. Singleton, E. A. Cross, Adam N. Finucane, Charles H. Sage, Henry F. Marks, Henry L. White, Ansel E. Wright, Webster; John R. Bourne, Frank G. Newell, George J. Wunder, Frank Wilber, Joseph Keller, Edward Englehardt, John Barnett, John M. Cashman, Dr. Wooden, Martin F. Bristol, Frederick Michel, William Gleason, Daniel Leary, O. B. Webber, Herman A. Howard, Dr. Leroy Webber, John Mitchell, Dr. B. I. Preston, Rev. J. P. Kiernan, F. L. Dutcher, Dr. T. O. Tait, Edward Shaffer, James W. Clark, William Thompson, Edward F. Wellington, Henry J. Thompson, James Briggs, Edward F. Ellsworth, William J. Quinlan, Joseph M. Schlesinger, Edgar Parkman, Charles L. Yates, George J. Knapp, George W. Clark, Henry Oberlies, George H. Smith, John E. Howard, Michael J. Ragan, George M. Schwartz, Henry Bareham, Christian H. Tronson, William J. Schmitt, A. Emerson Babcock, Arthur A. Sickles, Albert J. Gallup, Alphonso Collins, Edward E. Frisbee, James H. Redman, Marshall Todd, Rudolph Dubelbeiss, George Webster, Oscar E. Nichols, Albert P. Beebe, Joseph Hubbard Gaston, Dewitt C. Becker, Charles G. Schoen, James L. Sackett, Joseph H. Sherman, John Sutphin, Frank F. Jones, Philip Garbutt.

Along the line of march, which was South Washington to Main, to State, to Central avenue, countermarch to Main, to Franklin street and to the monument, throngs lined each side of the street. Superintendent of Streets, Barnard, had roped



off the streets and perfect order resulted. From every point one could see the marching companies without any obstruction breaking the evenness.

Thousands viewed the marching bodies from the front windows of the tall buildings or from wagons drawn up at the street crossings. Expressions of admiration were heard on all sides, and it seemed to be the consensus of opinion that the parade was the prettiest that Rochester has ever had.

The most imposing scene of the day was around the spot where stood the bronze figure of Frederick Douglass, standing erect and portraying the colored statesman in his favorite and most effective pose. Here, and occupying every inch of the street and every foot of the grounds of the New York Central station, were gathered thousands upon thousands of citizens. In front of the large wholesale house of Garson & Meyer, where the stand for the speakers was erected, the crowd jammed and pushed, leaving scarcely room enough for the parade to move when it reached the scene of the unveiling, while from a hundred windows of that and adjoining buildings, more people hung out in enthusiastic eagerness to view the scene and hear the exercises. Upon the roof of the Central station, and from a train of passenger cars drawn up on the west end, spectators found room to stand or sit and cheer. From the roofs of the other buildings men with rifles fired volley upon volley of salutes as section after section of the parade passed by the monument in line.

The spectators and distinguished citizens in the stand looked down upon a sea of faces, presenting a scene of brightness with summer gowns and gaudy ribbons fluttering in the fresh breeze. There was a crush and jam, a pulling and tugging to obtain best positions, and the police found their efforts useless to keep the crowd within the limits prescribed by the ropes. It was not a disorderly crowd, but an animated one, and fed by the streams of people filing in from all

portions of the city, it grew to immense proportions. Probably 10,000 people saw the bronze statue of Frederick Douglass revealed as the folds of the Stars and Stripes were drawn aside.

#### THE ORDER OF PARADE.

Following was the order of parade:

Platoon of police, Captain McDermott commanding, assisted by Lieutenants Schwartz, Zimmerman, Sherman, Ryan, Russ and Stetson.

Colonel N. P. Pond, grand marshal, and aides: H. S. Redman, personal aide; Joseph P. Cleary, Maurice Leyden, W. G. Ricker, E. W. Merrill, S. McAuliffe, Robert Patterson, William Shelmire, Henry Ansell, B. F. Franklin, George A. Benton, George S. Burke, J. A. P. Walter, James Douglass, George Cripps, James R. Chamberlain, F. D. Mathews, Berry Jackson, Thomas Sprague, Walter Jones, Thomas E. Shaw, Louis Wilson, Louis Sprague, C. V. Lodge, George W. Thomas, N. Huntington, John Galen, Frank Ellsworth, William A. Niblack, William Driscoll, W. Martin Jones, Henry J. Simmelink, William S. Beard, C. L. Yates, John Ashton, Francis S. Macomber, William N. Cogswell, Herbert Ward, W. H. McMath, Charles P. Lee, B. F. Gleason, H. C. Brewster, Ira J. Wile, Frank Fritzsche, Ogden Backus, F. A. Brownell, J. P. Henry, T. B. Dunn, Percival Oviatt, Frank Wurtz, Jacob Spahn, Charles L. Hunt, J. Frank Wilber; Ernest Miller, bugler.

The various divisions of the parade followed as given below:

#### FIRST DIVISION.

Commanded by Colonel James S. Graham, assisted by the following staff: Arthur Luetchford, Horace McGuire, Thomas W. Ford, James Plunkett, C. C. Brownell, Dr. B. I. Preston, Julius Armbruster, Fred P. Stallman, George J.

Oaks, George Weldon, William Richards, Porter Farley, James R. Chamberlain, W. K. Barlow, C. F. Wilson, Chris Heilbronn, Ed. B. Chapin, Dr. Richard Curran, Thomas Burchill, James Gosnell, James F. O'Neil, Milton Race, Benjamin Jackson, J. J. Augustine, Alfred Elwood, James H. Splaine, John Parks, Arthur S. Bostwick, John P. Hammill, Selden Page, W. M. Kenyon, William Sheldon, Maurice Leyden, James Douglass, Henry Norden, Anthony Wolters, Fred Bach, W. R. Foster.

Fifty-fourth Regiment Band.

Eighth Separate Company, N. G. S. N. Y., Captain Henderson in command; 90 men.

First Separate Company, N. G. S. N. Y., Captain Smith in command; 104 men.

Naval Reserves, Lieutenant Walbridge in command; 75 men.

Walsh's Brigade Band.

Survivors of the Old Thirteenth Regiment, Colonel Frank Schoeffel commanding; 30 men.

O'Rorke Post, No. 1, G. A. R.; 80 men.

Peissner Post, No. 106, G. A. R.; 50 men.

George H. Thomas Post, No. 4, G. A. R.; 50 men.

C. J. Powers Post, No. 391, G. A. R.; 60 men.

E. G. Marshall Post, No. 397, G. A. R.; 45 men.

I. F. Quinby Post, No. 640, G. A. R.; 35 men.

Myron Adams Post, No. 84, G. A. R.; 40 men in carriages.

Regular Army and Navy Union Veterans; 25 men.

Veterans of the Spanish War, comprising members of the Seventh Battery and 202d Regiment. Captain William Scanlan; 40 men.

Sons of Veterans' Martial Band; 30 pieces.

C. A. Glidden Camp, No. 6, S. O. V.; 60 men.

O'Rorke Camp, No. 60, S. O. V.; 50 men.

I. F. Quinby Camp, No. 13, S. O. V.; 40 men.

J. P. Cleary Camp, S. O. V.; 60 men.

Reynolds Battery, Captain Gilbert Reynolds; 25 men.

Independent Martial Band of 20 pieces.

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SECOND DIVISION.

Colonel S. C. Pierce, commanding.

First Battalion.

Principal Julius L. Townsend, commanding, headed by Minges' Band of 25 pieces.

No. 3 School, 55 boys. Captain Stephen Lyons, First Lieutenant Sidney Todd, Second Lieutenant Ray Simmons.

No. 4 School, 60 boys. Captain Clarence Robinson, First Lieutenant Sidney Todd, Second Lieutenant William Gorman.

No. 6 School, 60 boys. Captain William Johnson, First Lieutenant Hawley Handy, Second Lieutenant William Walker.

No. 10 School, 46 boys. Captain David Landau, First Lieutenant Harry Simmons, Second Lieutenant Edward Stahlbrodt.

No. 11 School, 30 boys. Captain Charles U. Bastable, jr., First Lieutenant Arthur Lowenthal, Second Lieutenant Ralph Clarke.

No. 12 School, 48 boys. Captain Lucius Irons, First Lieutenant George Clark, Second Lieutenant Roy Qualtrough.

No. 14 School, 60 boys. Captain Clair Saile, First Lieutenant Norman Davis, Second Lieutenant Fred Meyer.

No. 17 School, 44 boys. Captain E. J. Wright, First Lieutenant James Covill.

No. 18 School, 55 boys. Captain F. Herdle, First Lieutenant E. H. Burns, Second Lieutenant E. W. Locks.

No. 19 School, 40 boys. Captain Ola Tefft, First Lieutenant Forbes Ridley, Second Lieutenant George Iry.



HON. THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

No. 20 School, 60 boys. Captain George Kogler, First Lieutenant James Hotchkiss, Second Lieutenant Warren Smith.

No. 15 School, 80 boys. Captain Ronald Lehman, First Lieutenant Carlyle Hattleman, Second Lieutenant William Hall.

No. 23 School, 26 boys. Captain William Barrows, First Lieutenant Edward Sickie, Second Lieutenant Glen Page.

No. 24 School, 42 boys. Captain John Mosher, First Lieutenant Harry Gordon, Second Lieutenant John Parks.

No. 30 School, 25 boys. Captain Burton Harness, First Lieutenant George Cannon.

No. 31 School, 32 boys. Captain C. Platt, First Lieutenant W. Horr, Second Lieutenant W. Clark.

### Second Battalion.

Principal Richard R. Searing, commanding.

Nos. 7 and 34 Schools, 110 boys. Major J. H. Patrick; Captains Walter McCauley and Harry Johns.

No. 1 School, 30 boys. Captain James Mungovan.

No. 13 School, 36 boys. Captain Milton Ingalls, First Lieutenant Alonzo Murray.

No. 21 School, 32 boys. Captain Albert Boyce, First Lieutenant Fred Macherlein, Second Lieutenant Earl Ken-  
gal.

No. 22 School, 56 boys. Captain Fred Van Grafeiland, First Lieutenant Charles Kingsley, Second Lieutenant George Eberwein.

No. 25 School, 24 boys. Captain Frank Demmer, First Lieutenant Sidney Hall.

No. 27 School, 36 boys. Captain John Harris, First Lieutenant Gustave Swader.

No. 28 School, 40 boys. Captain Albert Wilson, First Lieutenant Henry Freisch, Second Lieutenant Walter Smith.

No. 29 School, 80 boys. Captain Ralph Head, First Lieutenant Harry Brightman, Second Lieutenant Alexander Stewart.

No. 5 School, 42 boys. Captain William Crowley, First Lieutenant W Torkinton.

No. 32 School, 42 boys. Captain George Pierce, First Lieutenant Floyd Brown, Second Lieutenant Albert Sutter.

No. 33 School, 36 boys. Captain Oscar Gulick, First Lieutenant William Brown, Second Lieutenant Harry Glen.

No. 26 School, 150 boys. Captain John Horn, First Lieutenant William Brackett, Second Lieutenant Harlon Raymond.

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THIRD DIVISION.

Third division, under command of Colonel John J. Powers, with the following staff: Jefferson Young, L. C. Piper, John Zellweger, George W. Powers, A. H. Babcock, William A. Niblack, E. W. Budd, Fred Freund, A. S. Angel, Charles U. Bastable, J. M. Wheeler, William S. Beard, William Barr, W. W. Barnard, Joseph Weinberg, John J. Moynihan, C. G. Galliger, F. B. Pierce, Henry Loewer, Dr. M. F. Rutherford, William Boyd, E. H. Damon, C. L. Ball, F. W. Sangster, P. A. White, E. G. Hartel.

Hebing's Band.

Anson Division, U. R. Knights of Pythias, Captain Stiefel; 40 men.

Imperial Division Knights of the Maccabees, No. 1, Captain D. J. Coakley; 40 men.

Knights of Calvin, Captain George Schmitt; 40 men.

Knights of Malta, Captain F. B. Pierce; 47 men.

City Newsboys, under command of Captain Isaac Lazarus, 75 men in uniform.

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FOURTH DIVISION.

The fourth division consisted of the State Industrial School boys, headed by the following members of the board of managers in a tally-ho: Dr. G. G. Carroll, Captain Henry Lomb, Mrs. F. H. Kuichling, Judge Thomas Raines, Dr. G. W. Goler, Charles Van Voorhis, Miss Lura E. Aldridge, Dr. C. H. Losey.

Colonel R. P. Kelly and Lieutenant Colonel A. I. Howard, regimental adjutant; Eugene Johnsberger, trumpeter.

First Battalion—James Robertson, commanding; 25 men.

Second Battalion—L. A. Reilly, commanding; 200 men.

Third Battalion—Thomas Murphy, commanding; 200 men.

State Industrial School Band.

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FIFTH DIVISION.

Fifth division under command of Major F. S. Cunningham, with the following staff: Jack Alexander, Scottsville; Thomas Sprague, Walter Jones, John Mines, James Holland, John Dinkle, Scottsville; Frank Simms, Scottsville; Frank Whiting, Buffalo; Thomas Payne, Buffalo; John Spears.

Lake View Band, 20 pieces.

City Cadets, under command of Captain Chatfield, 50 men.

Douglass Club, under command of Captain Henry Williams, 150 men.

Citizens in tally-hos and carriages.

Douglass Club and band of Albion, N. Y.; 25 men.

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SIXTH DIVISION.

James W. Casey, commanding.

One hundred citizens and ladies in carriages.

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Superintendent of Streets W. W. Barnard roped the streets along the line of march and requested all persons to keep on the walk.



Additional general orders for the parade were issued as follows:

O'Rorke Camp, No. 60, S. O. V

The officers and members of O'Rorke Camp, No. 60, S. O. V., are hereby ordered to report at the camp rooms, City Building, Front street, Friday, June 9th, at 1 o'clock, P. M., promptly, for the purpose of participating in the parade in honor of the unveiling of the Frederick Douglass monument.

Members will report in regular street uniform and white gloves.

By order of

G. E. SNYDER,  
Captain.

GEORGE M. FLEMING, First Sergeant.

Headquarters Third Division Douglass Day Parade,  
Rochester, N. Y., June 7, 1899.

Having been elected commander of the civic organizations in the city, and by order from the chief marshal, the same will comprise the third division. And in assuming command, will request that all uniformed companies or detachments participating will form promptly at 1:30 o'clock on Clinton street, between Main and Court, right resting on Court. All lodges and organizations appearing for parade, not in uniform, will form on the left of the uniformed companies. Twelve or more members appearing for parade from any lodge will be given a place in line. From place of formation of line the division will proceed at 1:45 o'clock sharp through Court, Exchange and Troup streets to place of formation on Plymouth avenue, with the main line, for parade. As this is to be a secret society division, it is hoped all will be out with full ranks and on time.

The following aides are hereby appointed and will be obeyed and respected accordingly: Jefferson Young, L. C. Piper, John Zellweger, George W. Powers, A. H. Babcock,

E. W. Budd, Fred Freund, A. S. Angell, Charles U. Bastable, J. M. Wheeler, William S. Beard, William Barr, W. W. Barnard, Joseph Weinberg, John J. Moynihan, C. D. Galliger, F. B. Pierce, Henry Loewer, Dr. M. E. Rutherford, William Boyd, E. H. Damon, C. L. Ball, F. W. Sangster, P. A. White, E. G. Hartel.

They will report for duty mounted and in uniform of the organization of which they are a member (if possible), at 1 o'clock P. M., to chief of staff, corner of Clinton and Court streets.

JOHN J. POWERS,

Commanding Third Division.

E. K. WORRALL, Chief of Staff.

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Headquarters Gerard Commandery, No. 254,  
Knights of Malta.

Sir Knights: You are hereby ordered to assemble at Commandery Hall, South Clinton street, Friday, at 1:30 o'clock P. M., sharp, in full uniform, to take part in parade and reception of Governor Roosevelt.

By order,

F. B. PIERCE,  
Commanding.

E. K. WORRALL, Recorder.

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Headquarters Anson Company, No. 16,  
Uniformed Rank, K. of P.  
Rochester, N. Y., June 7, 1899.

The officers and members of this command are hereby ordered to appear at their armory in full uniform for parade and reception of Governor Roosevelt, Friday, June 9, 1899, at 1 o'clock sharp.

By order,

JOHN J. POWERS,  
Captain Commanding.

C. L. HOFFERBERT, Recorder.

## General Order No. 3:

The officers and members of Charles J. Powers Post will meet at their rooms, at Odd Fellows' Building, North Clinton, near East Main street, at 1 o'clock P. M., Friday, 9th instant, to participate in the celebration attending the unveiling of the Douglass monument and the reception of the Governor of the State of New York. All veterans not connected with participating organizations are invited to join the command.

SHERMAN D. RICHARDSON,

G. A. NICHOLETT, Adjutant.

Commander.

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Commander Graham issued the following order:

Headquarters First Division

Douglass Monument Parade,

General Order No. 1:

June 7, 1899.

Having been assigned to command the first division of the parade at the unveiling of the Douglass monument, all veterans of the Civil and Spanish wars and Sons of Veterans are cordially invited to parade in honor of an occasion proving that in this republic the lowliest may rise to a high place in the hearts of his countrymen, and also to give fitting welcome to the Governor of our Empire State, and as an expression of our esteem for him as a citizen soldier.

The several organizations will form promptly at 1:45 P. M., Friday, the 9th instant, on Spring street, facing west, the right resting on South Washington street as follows: Escorting the veteran division, the Eighth Separate Company, N. G. S. N. Y.; First Separate Company, N. G. S. N. Y.; Naval Reserves, S. N. Y.; O'Rorke Post, No. 1, G. A. R.; Peissner Post, No. 106, G. A. R.; George H. Thomas Post, No. 4, G. A. R.; C. J. Powers Post, No. 391, G. A. R.; E. G. Marshall Post, No. 397, G. A. R.; Myron Adams Post, No. 84, G. A. R.; I. F. Quinby Post, No. 409, G. A. R.; veterans of the Spanish war, Sons of Veterans.

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Other veteran commands and unattached members wishing to parade, on application will be assigned places in the line.

The following aides are hereby appointed and will be obeyed and respected accordingly:

Thomas C. Hodgson, special aide; Arthur Luetchford, James Gosnell, Horace McGuire, James F. O'Neil, Thomas W. Ford, Milton Race, James Plunkett, Benjamin Jackson, C. C. Brownell, J. J. Augustine, D. B. I. Preston, Alfred Elwood, Julius Armbruster, James H. Splaine, Fred P. Stallman, John Parks, George J. Oaks, Arthur S. Bostwick, George Weldon, John P. Hammill, William Richards, Selden Page, Porter Farley, W. M. Kenyon, James R. Chamberlain, William Sheldon, W. K. Balon, Maurice Leyden, C. F. Wilson, James Douglass, Chris Heilbron, Henry Norden, Edward B. Chapin, Anthony Wolters, Dr. Richard Curran, Fred Bach, Thomas Burchill, W. R. Foster.

They will report mounted, wearing the uniform of their organizations, or in dark clothes, to Thomas C. Hodgson, special aide, at the corner of Spring street and Plymouth avenue, at 1:45 P. M.

The attention of the commanders of organizations is called to general order No. 1, by Colonel N. P. Pond, chief marshal, published in the journals of the 7th instant.

By command,

J. S. GRAHAM,  
Marshal First Division.

Official:

THOMAS C. HODGSON, Special Aide.

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Headquarters Monroe County  
Spanish-American War Association.

Special Order No. 2:

All members of this association are requested to assemble at the New York State Armory at 1:30 P. M., June 9, 1899,

to participate in the parade and ceremony of unveiling the Douglass monument. All regulars and volunteers residing in this county, who enlisted for the Spanish-American war are respectfully invited to join with us, wearing fatigue uniform and campaign hat.

By order of

F. J. HESS,  
Senior Vice-Commander.

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#### COMMENCING OF THE EXERCISES.

It was but a few minutes after 3 o'clock when Governor Roosevelt was driven up Central avenue, and entered the building of Garson, Meyer & Company, in front of which the stand had been erected. Five minutes later the advance guard of the procession, headed by Marshal N. P. Pond and staff, swung into the square from Franklin street, and made an attempt to lead the marching column in front of the stand. For a time pandemonium reigned, as the square was jammed with people, who had to move, and move quickly, to escape the iron of the horses' feet. The policemen got out their clubs and Colonel Graham issued his orders at the top of his voice, but the swaying mass of humanity soon pushed itself up against another solid mass of humanity in the rear, and the horsemen were forced to halt, until the jammed mass could be relieved from its outer edges.

As soon as the pavement in front of the stand had been cleared to a small extent, the various companies were marched in front, a portion of them countermarching, and returning up St. Paul street, and others continuing to Central avenue, and thus out to State street. In the meantime the State Industrial School Band had gathered about the stand, and as Governor Roosevelt took his place on the speakers' platform they played the patriotic selection, "The Star Spangled Banner." The crowd were not to be outdone, how-

ever, and joined their cheers with the enlivening strains of the music. As soon as quiet had been restored the regular order of exercises began.

Arrangements had been made to accommodate about 200 people on the stand, which was filled with the members of the reception committee, and other prominent citizens. Among those to occupy seats near the Governor's table, were Mayor George E. Warner, Senator W. W. Armstrong, J. W. Thompson, Rev. T. A. Hendrick, Rev. J. E. Mason, Hon. William A. Sutherland, Charles J. Brown, Rev. J. J. Adams, Dr. Waugh and the Governor's military secretary, George C. Treadwell. Grouped to the left of the speakers were the Douglass family who were present in the city during the celebration. The party was composed of Mrs. Helen Douglass, the widow of Frederick Douglass, Mrs. R. Douglass Sprague, and her brothers, Charles R. and Lewis H. Douglass, and Miss Rosita Sprague.

Rt. Rev. Alexander Walters, D. D., Bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, offered the following prayer:

O, Eternal God, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for what Thou art within Thyself, the Great and Mighty One; the Creator of all things visible and invisible; the Giver of all good and perfect gifts; the Author of everlasting life. Truly Thou art worthy of the adoration of men and angels.

We thank Thee for the gift of Jesus, Thine only begotten Son, and for the great salvation wrought out by His sacrificial death, for its extent and sufficiency, and for eternal life, which comes to us through the Holy Ghost.

We thank Thee for this beautiful world which Thou hast given us to enjoy. We thank Thee for the Christian church with all its uplifting influences. We praise Thee for the many auxiliaries of the church and the great work they are doing for the uplifting of humanity.

We thank Thee for our great nation and her splendid institutions. We thank Thee for the love of liberty possessed by the Pilgrim Fathers, which culminated in the independence of our country, and later in the emancipation of the slaves.

We thank Thee for the human agencies which Thou hast employed in bringing about reforms in all ages of the world, and especially for the life, character, talent and work of him whom we have this day assembled to honor. May this monument which has been erected to the memory of the foremost negro of America be the harbinger of the banishment of prejudice from our land, and the dawn of the day when character and intelligence shall be fully recognized, regardless of color.

We invoke Thy blessing upon the promoters of this enterprise, Mr. Thompson and the committee associated with him, the Mayor and other officials, and the generous citizens of Rochester. We beseech Thee to continue with Governor Roosevelt, whom Thou hast so signally blessed in the past. Guide, counsel and direct him in affairs of state. We pray a blessing on all in authority with him. Grant to his Excellency the President of these United States, his cabinet, congressmen and all rulers, Thy special favor. Give them wisdom and courage to perform their duty faithfully, and especially to put a stop to the lawlessness which is disgracing us as a nation. May they be directed and guided by Thee in all their councils.

Bless our foreign possessions; grant us sufficient wisdom and grace to do whatever is best for their greatest development, happiness and peace.

Continue Thy blessings upon our army and navy, our institutions of learning, and upon all hospitals and homes for the poor and friendless.

Grant that truth, righteousness and fair play may prevail everywhere. Give to every home in this land peace and

prosperity; save up from the pestilence that walketh in darkness and the destruction that wasteth at noonday.

Forgive us of all sins as individuals and as a nation. Give us the Holy Spirit to strengthen us in the inner man, to counsel, guide and protect us, and finally bring us to the haven of eternal rest.

And unto Thy name shall be all the praise, Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

MAYOR GEORGE E. WARNER'S WELCOME ADDRESS.

Chairman Thompson introduced Mayor Warner, who made the address of welcome. The Mayor said, in part:

"Soon after the death of Frederick Douglass, a representative of his race, John W. Thompson, said to me that a monument should be erected to the memory of Frederick Douglass, and in honor of the deeds which he performed and the heroic work he accomplished. He said he also believed it should be erected in the city of Rochester, where Mr. Douglass lived for so many years and formed so many ties of personal friendship.

"What he said at that time to-day is transformed into solid truth, and you see before you this elegant monument, erected by the enthusiasm and zeal of our people. It affords me great pleasure to add that, owing to the indefatigable zeal of some of our citizens who have been prominent in this work, that it is entirely free from debt; the sum to secure such a consummation having been completed within the last few hours.

"The Governor of this state has consented to come to our city for this day and event, and I am glad to see so many of our people, regardless of politics, who have come here to see him and to greet the chief representative of our great state. I am glad to extend to you the hearty welcome of this city, and may you take away with you a happy remembrance of the city of Rochester."



HISTORY OF THE  
MONUMENT UNVEILED.

As soon as the Mayor had finished, Miss Gertrude Aleath Thompson pulled the Stars and Stripes from the monument, and the large, bronze figure of Douglass stood forth to the view of the assembled crowd, and the people applauded. Immediately a chorus of thirty voices, under the direction of Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey, sang a song entitled, "His Name Shall Live Forever." It was very effectively rendered. The words are as follows:

Unveil the statue! let us see  
That noble face once more,  
Which nations honor everywhere,  
And we, his race, adore.

His history, his life, his death,  
Are fresh before us yet;  
His words of wisdom, and his work  
We never can forget.

He came of lowly birth 'tis true—  
A negro and a slave;  
He proved what negro men can do,  
When noble, true and brave.

Then we will follow in the steps,  
And let the nations see,  
That there are others in our race  
As truly great as he.

Chorus.

And his name shall live forever,  
For honor wrote it high;  
The memory of his greatness  
Shall never, never die.  
His name shall live,  
His name shall never die.

The above was composed for the occasion by Alonzo Scott.

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## SPEECH BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT.

The chairman made a brief speech in presenting the Governor, in which he said that it was not long ago when the call came to protect the honor of the American flag and Governor Roosevelt went to the front as the commander of the Rough Riders. He achieved fame and won honor, and the people called him to the chief office of the state. It will not be very long before the people will call upon this brilliant young statesman to be president of the United States.

"I now take pleasure," he said, "in introducing the Governor of the state, Hon. Theodore Roosevelt."

As the Governor arose the crowd set up a hearty cheer, and it was some moments before he could begin. But when he did get started he succeeded in gaining the attention of the multitude as none of the other speakers had. Of course he was the Governor, and that counted for a good deal; but he looked sturdy and determined, and did his own good share in keeping the close attention that he held. He was sometimes interrupted with applause, but it could never be very vociferous, for he immediately exclaimed, in a quick, decisive way, "Just a minute; just a minute," and by that time the cheering was stopped. He spoke entirely without notes, and held his audience under his control with remarkable skill. He said:

"Mr. Thompson, Mr. Mayor and Gentlemen: I now ask you to be as quiet as possible. Avoid pushing for the sake of the women in the crowd. I am glad to be here. I am proud to do my part in honoring the memory of a man who was worthy of his race, because he was a worthy representative of the American nation.

"Doubly proud I am to take part in a representative way in a demonstration in which so prominent a part is played by the old soldiers, who fought for four years for that race to which Frederick Douglass belonged, in order that there

might be an undivided and indissoluble union. Doubly proud am I, comrades of the last war, that you and I had the chance last summer to show that we were at least anxious to be not unworthy sons of you who fought in the great war.

"Here to-day, in sight of the monument of the great colored American, let us all strive to pay the respect due his memory by living in such a manner as to determine that a man shall be judged for what a man is; without regard to his color, race or creed, or aught else, but his worth as a man. That lesson has a double side and I would dwell upon one side just as I would on the other side.

"The worst enemy of the colored race is not the white man who abuses the colored man, but the colored man who fails in his duty as a citizen. The worst enemy of the white race is not some worthless wretch, some colored man who does an infamous act against the white race; it is the white wretch who acts so as to make us ashamed of our people.

"I would I could preach that doctrine, that it is best for each to know and realize, that all over this country, not merely in the South, but in the North as well, shameless deeds of infamous hideousness shall be punished speedily; by the act of law let shameful crime be punished, not avenging it by another crime. I would preach to the colored man that the vicious and disorderly elements in his own race are the worst enemies of his race. I would preach to the white man that he who takes part in lawless acts, in such lynchings as we have recently known, is guilty not only of a crime against the colored race, but guilty of a crime against his own race and guilty of crime against the whole nation. Men who took part in the present lynchings were guilty of such hideous atrocity as should forbid them forever to hold up their heads as American citizens.

"If it were in my power, I would feel that I could render service to my country such as I would render in no other, by

preaching that doctrine in its two sides to all who are any degree responsible for the crimes by which our country has been disgraced in the past. It is for the interest of every man, black and white, to see that every criminal black and white, is punished at once, and only under the law. Every body of men who usurp the province of the law, who usurp it by committing deeds which would make a red Indian blush with shame, prove that they are not only unworthy of citizenship in this country, but that they are the worst enemies this country contains.

"There is a great lesson taught by the life of Frederick Douglass, a lesson we can all of us learn; not merely from the standpoint of his relations with his colored race, but his relations with the state. The lesson that was taught by the colored statesman was the lesson of truth, of honesty, of fearless courage, of striving for the right; the lesson of disinterested and fearless performance of civic duty.

"I would appeal to every man in this great audience to take to heart the lesson taught by this life; to realize that he must strive to fulfill his duty as an individual citizen, if he wishes to see the state do its duty. The state is only the aggregate of the individual citizens.

"There is another thought that I want to preach to you, a lesson to be learned from the life of the colored statesman, Frederick Douglass; strive to do justice to all men, exact it for yourselves and do it to others.

"I am glad of the chance to speak to you here to-day on this subject. I am glad to have the chance of being here to speak in honor of the distinguished services of an American, of a race that has been treated infamously in the past, a race that is still treated unfairly and that it will require years of toil before it can assume its proper place with the other races in this country.

"I am glad Frederick Douglass has left behind him men of

his race who can take up his mantle: that he has left such a man as Booker T. Washington, a man who is striving to teach his people to raise by toil to be better citizens, by resolute determination to make themselves worthy of American citizenship, until the whole country is forced to recognize their good citizenship.

"I am glad to have the chance to come here because I feel that all Americans should pay honor to Frederick Douglass. I am glad to be able to speak to so many men of his race and to impress on them, too, the lesson to be drawn from the life of such a man. I am more than glad to speak to an audience of Americans in the presence of a monument to the memory of Frederick Douglass; a man who possessed eminent qualities of courage and disinterestedness in the service of his country. To appeal to you to demand those qualities in your public men that made Douglass great; qualities that resulted in the courageous performance of every duty, private and public.

"I wish to call your minds to a little application of these principles of immense consequence at this time. During the last session of the Legislature the members put upon the statute books one of the most important laws ever recorded there, which is that the corporation which benefits so much from the powers given it by the people should bear a share of the expense of government. We acted, not against any corporation, nor as the friend or enemy of men of means, simply as the friend of the state, by insisting that all men do their duty. (Voice—"That's right.") I have seen in the public press lately notices of more than one attempt that is to be made by corporations in the courts to defeat, through some technicalities, a law that was designed for their own protection. As a man to others and as one who deprecates class or social hostility, I wish to emphasize the danger to which these men by such an attitude expose not only the state but the cor-



MISS GERTRUDE A. THOMPSON.

porations as well. They may make up their minds absolutely that the franchise tax law has come to stay. (Applause.) I am as sure as I can be that any successful attempt made to overturn this tax will result in putting upon the statute books a more drastic law than the one at present there."

## PRESENTATION TO MISS GERTRUDE A. THOMPSON.

As soon as the Governor had finished speaking he presented a \$20 gold piece and a handsomely engraved testimonial to Miss Thompson, in behalf of a number of citizens. The testimonial read and was signed as follows:

Rochester, N. Y., June 9, 1899.

We, the undersigned, friends and acquaintances of Gertrude Aleath Thompson, highly appreciate her appearance on this memorable occasion, in unveiling the monument of Frederick Douglass, statesman, and leader of his race, who has fallen by the will of Almighty God. We therefore request the Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, Governor of the State of New York, to present to her this gift of gold, asking the divine blessing of the Almighty to rest upon her, now and forever.

John Besinger,	Emile Maurer,	Walter Lewis,
Lewis Pigeon,	H. Arnold,	H. Santee,
Andy Walsh,	Charles Voshall,	L. O'Brien,
Jane Morehouse,	O. J. Tassell,	Ella L. Jennings,
Kate Fowler,	J. A. Lautis,	R. L. Kent.
George Knobles,	E. R. Carscaden,	Leon J. Du Bois,
William Raitz,	C. H. Johnson,	Charles Colman,
M. Roth,	George Miller,	Ernest Miller,
Mary Moore,	T. Mullen,	James Glasko,
Eugene Keefe,	William Salmon,	Goehry,
H. Vandyke,	James Morgan,	George Driscoll,
Albert Britt,	Harry Purdy,	Charles Lang,

S. Millman.	Lizzie Parker,	Fred Cole,
J. Reidy,	H. Jones,	P. Reidy,
Tom Wilson,	S. Parker,	Peter Young,
H. Maxwell,	W. Ahearns,	D. Deavenport,
A. Klem,	George Copp,	Whipple,
Floyd Manning,	M. McCarthy,	Albert Moir,
William J. Smith,	Charles Majett,	Johana Heaney,
John Cooper,	H. Stuimarch,	Mortimer Crouch,
Henry Tabb,	Mrs. O. W. Moore,	R. G. Salter,
Charles Bleasi,	J. W. Hall,	Delia Gorman,
Henry Johnson,	Frank Pierce,	John Roziskey,
George G. Gates,	E. Bogner,	John McCarthy,
John Noonan,	Eva Franc,	Henry Wilson.
Howard Weller,	W. Santee,	

## PRESENTATION TO GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT.

Then followed one of the prettiest and most effective scenes of the day. Chairman Thompson raised his hands for the people to become quiet, followed with the statement that there was a delegation of the Rochester newsboys present, and they would present the Governor with a testimonial. As soon as the chairman had made the announcement, Emanuel Jacobwitz, representing the boys, stepped smilingly to the front of the platform and presented the Governor with a badge, saying:

"Ladies and Gentlemen: Perhaps it is astonishing to you for me to address the honorable people of Rochester. I could not express in words the greatness Douglass has done. We, as a rising generation, look upon his monument not as the past but as an encouragement of great deeds for the future.

"We read that about forty years ago the South fought against the freedom of the negroes, but in this late war the negroes proved not only one of the best fighting regiments,



but fought to uphold the honor of North, South, East and West and all of this vast country under our flag of Old Glory.

"This monument should be a pride for the city of Rochester, not only as a memento for the past statesman but also to encourage the people to follow the steps of such illustrious men as Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass. Even now in our presence stands a great man who proved himself one of the heroes of this last war.

"Our Governor, Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, we, the Rochester newsboys, do hereby present to you this medal for a remembrance of us and of our appreciation of you for your courage and ability and of our respect for you as a man."

The Governor accepted the gift and was much pleased, thanking the newsboys and giving them at the same time some good advice.

EULOGY BY HON. WM. A. SUTHERLAND.

Hon. William A. Sutherland was then introduced and delivered the following eulogy on Frederick Douglass:

"He was born a slave. He first looked out upon life from behind the bars of a prison, unseen though not unfelt. His first reflective thought was to comprehend that he was a chattel, possessed of no right which a white man was bound to respect. He was a mere piece of valuable property—simply and only a thing!

"And yet, life was as dear to him, and liberty as sweet, as to any of us. When therefore he was grown to the full stature of manhood as measured by years, though still of infantile attainments, the soul within him so moved his strong right arm that with one blow he burst the chains that held him, and escaping to New Bedford, Mass., earned, by shoveling coal, his own first free dollar. Then he was a criminal in the eyes of the law of the land of his birth—a fugitive from what was called justice in Maryland. Forty years afterward a marble bust of Frederick Douglass was placed

in our University of Rochester. To-day, twenty years later, the city of Rochester attends upon the Governor of the Empire State as he unveils and dedicates the statue of Douglass. Decreed at birth to live and die in chains, doomed by the law of the land to mental, moral and spiritual darkness, fleeing from the land of his unknown father, laboring with hands hardened with plantation toil to support his wife and family, a requisition for his arrest issued by the Governor of Virginia, chased from Rochester to Canada by United States marshals, he lived to be welcomed as a friend by the nobility of Europe, to be a guest at the tables of the titled ones of earth, and to carry his black face, and his back scarred by the lash of the slave-driver's whip, into the electoral college of the state of New York, there to drop into the urn one of the thirty-six votes which this imperial state contributed to the re-election of President Ulysses S. Grant. What a mighty span is measured by these events! From serfdom to sovereignty; from barbarism to nobility; from a voice quivering with fear of his master to organ tones of one of the world's orators; from a mere piece of merchandise on the shores of the Chesapeake to a seat among the honored ones of earth—what a magnificent sweep!

“Except he was called of God he could not have been what he became. His it was to fulfill a mission as divinely ordained as that given to Moses of old, or to Abraham Lincoln of his own day. Frederick Douglass was sent to the white people of the North, to prepare the way for the emancipation of his race. He spoke as no other did of the barbarism of slavery, painting the picture with a brush dipped in his own personal experience. With voice and pen he awoke the slumbering conscience of the North. He aroused the sluggish giant, public opinion, and the people, unconsciously to themselves, were prepared for the settlement of a question whose arbitrament was to be the sword.

"At an anti-slavery convention held at Salem, Ohio, in 1847, Douglass tells us that when giving expression to his belief that the abolition of slavery would only be accomplished by a blood atonement, he was interrupted by that quaint old negress, Sojourner Truth, with the question: 'Frederick, is God dead?' 'No,' said Douglass, 'because God is not dead slavery can only end in blood.' With prophetic eye he foresaw the sanguinary contest which must wage before the grip of the slave holder would relax, tightened as it had been by three centuries of self-feeding avarice and petrifying cruelty.

"What would his prophetic eye see to-day, and what would be his message could the bosom of the statue heave and the chiseled lips utter speech?

"Would he warn the nation against a day of wrath on account of outrages inflicted in these days upon the people of his race?

"In the early days of his campaigning through the North it was not fashionable to speak slightly of slavery. There were timid ones who said 'Hush!' when he decried the horribleness of human bondage. But God reigned and His prophets thundered His message until the day dawned when Douglass could triumphant sing, 'Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord.'

"In these days it is thought by some not to be quite in good taste to publicly disapprove of burning negroes to death, lest it might wound the sensitive natures of those who do the burning. But on such an occasion as this, when we have unveiled Douglass' statue, and by that act have invoked the presence of his spirit upon this platform, surely here it may be permitted to consider those evils which follow the trail of slavery and did not perish with its extinction.

"The demoralization of the slave holder was part of the

curse entailed by slavery. He who practices brutality upon others becomes himself a brute. Cruelty is a demon, which, finding entrance to men's souls, displaces the better nature, waxing fat to expansion by feeding upon atrocities. Three centuries of slavery brought the master, as well as the slave, down from manhood towards the brute, and upward they must climb together. Historians have pointed out the hellish effect of the gladiatorial games upon the inhabitants of ancient Rome; and those of our day who could delight in Spanish bull fighting were well fitted to be the oppressors of Cuba. We may not marvel then that the seeds sown in the days of slavery spring up and bear fruit in the second and third generation. To torture negroes to death is not a new amusement in the South. I was told once by a gentleman born and reared in a Southern state that in his vicinity two young men out for a lark sought out, bound and burned up a negro slave just for the fun of it, and that the only human punishment inflicted upon them was the recovery and collection of a judgment in favor of the master for the value of his slave. The moral sentiment of the community in which this occurrence took place seems to have been fully appeased by the payment of \$1,000, not to the widow or orphans of the deceased, but to the white man who owned him.

"No denial has been made of the recent publication in our newspapers of a negro dying with smallpox, whose passage into the next world was expedited by a gang of white men, who set a torch to his little cabin and sent him to heaven in a chariot of fire. There was no master to claim \$1,000 in this case, and of course the widow and orphans did not count for they were negroes also.

"A few months ago a negro accepted the appointment of postmaster at Lake City, North Carolina, and no one has denied that this was the reason why he was expeditiously mur-

dered, one of his children burned up, and other members of his family severely injured.

"A single justification is offered in the claim that these things must needs be in order to prevent the ravishment of Southern white women, just as though every mulatto walking the streets of a Southern city does not in his own person make significant reply to that allegation.

"But to the murderers' plea there is another answer. For four long years, from 1861 to 1865, all the white men in the seceding states who could bear arms were at the front, with their attention fully occupied by the boys in blue. They left their wives, and sisters and daughters to the mercy of the black slaves, but the result was not mulattoes born of white mothers, and the honor of the white women of the South did not in those days need the guardianship of outrages inflicted upon black men.

"To the inhabitants of Rochester there is another answer. Familiar with the active operations of the societies for the prevention of cruelty to animals, we would not endure public exhibitions previously advertised of cruel conduct even to the beasts of the field. No one would be permitted in the community which has erected and unveiled Douglass' monument to burn to his death even a mad dog, though he had lacerated and poisoned the fairest and the best in Rochester.

"Whoever be the criminal, whatever be the crime, no matter how great the horror of the community at the offence, whoever is charged with crime, be he ever so guilty, and especially if, peradventure, he be innocent, is entitled to receive from any people claiming to be civilized, a full, fair, just trial, and punishment, if guilty, only at the hands of the law. No lover of his country, then, can contemplate these unpunished outrages without deepest apprehension for the future of the country which tolerates them. It is impossible to read accounts of excursion trains jammed with

white men, rushing to sniff the odors of burning human flesh and to feast their eyes upon the agonizing death contortions of a human face, without an unbounded sense of amazement and horror at the display of brutishness nor without shuddering at the fearful punishment which must some day follow close upon such brutality.

“Doubtless many good men and women in the South deplore as deeply as do the good men and women in the North these frightful occurrences, but they and we alike are guilty unless their efforts and ours be united to put an end to these inhumanities. Because the nation shut its eyes and folded its arms in presence of slavery, God sent civil war. What punishment shall be ours if we shut our eyes and fold our arms in presence of these later days atrocities, only he may know who saith ‘Vengeance is mine. I will repay.’

“It is not so much for the colored man as the white that I raise my voice to-day. Because we suffered human slavery in our midst the hand of God was laid upon the entire country, and the North as well as the South felt the rod of His chastisement. Expiation for the crime of slavery came upon the white man and white woman of the North as well as of the South. If, therefore, these atrocities be unchecked and their perpetrators go unwhipped of justice, even as cruelty feeds upon cruelty, so will brutality unrestrained and murder unchecked, feeding upon themselves, breed an awful progeny of demoralizing passions among the whites, until, as the fire and the brimstone were rained from above upon Sodom and Gomorrah, even so will the lightning wrath of heaven be sent to lick up the people given over to this festering abomination.

“It is not so much for the negroes, then, that I plead to-day. They display a marvelous patience and self-command. The words of advice which have fallen from the lips of their bishops and their leading public men are words of God-like



HON. WILLIAM A. SUTHERLAND

counsel; and the meekness and humility with which this suffering people accept whatever fate is in store for them surely indicate the nearness of these, His black children, to our Father which is in heaven.

“That they have not turned with terrible anger and awful vengeance upon their persecutors is due neither to lack of bravery nor of aptitude or skill in the use of arms. The heroism of the colored troops in our Civil war is now unhesitatingly praised by those who wore the gray, as well as by those who wore the blue. The Ninth and Tenth Cavalry of our regular army, composed of colored men, recruited from the South as well as from the North, fought by the side of the Rough Riders at the storming of San Juan Hill, winning undying fame by their steadfast courage and their indomitable pluck. No man in this presence and in the hearing of the Governor of our state, then colonel of the Rough Riders, can dispute the bravery, the manliness, the patience or the discipline of these black soldiers of our regular army. The war for the deliverance of Cuba uncovered additional foundation for the song of Paul Lawrence Dunbar:

So, all honor and all glory,  
To those noble sons of Ham,  
The gallant colored soldiers,  
Who fought for Uncle Sam.

“But the persecuted will not turn upon the persecutors, and the oppressed will not become the oppressors, for the Ethiopian has exhibited the noblest qualities of manhood. Patient and well nigh uncomplaining under suffering, his faith in the future righting of his wrongs by the guiding hand of an overruling Providence may well be studied to the profit of his proud Caucasian brother.

“Perchance in these new days of expansion, when well nigh against our will we are compelled to succor and develop the mixed and inferior races of Cuba and the Philippine



Islands, the way may just now be opening up to lift this black man's burden from his back by leading the white man of all parts of this land away from the paths of cruelty and into the paths of mercy.

"In Douglass' presence, whose mission was to the white people of the earth, let us, their descendants, take heed of the lessons so painfully learned from '61 to '65, and for the sake of our white population, no less than for the black, give ear to the cries of the oppressed.

Oh, Douglass, thou hast passed beyond the shore,  
 But still thy voice is ringing o'er the gale!  
 Thou'st taught thy race how high her hopes may soar,  
 And bade her seek the heights, nor faint nor fail.  
 She will not fail, she heeds thy stirring cry,  
 She knows thy guardian spirit will be nigh,  
 And rising from beneath the chast'ning rod,  
 She stretches out her bleeding hands to God!

POEM BY SHERMAN D. RICHARDSON.

Sherman D. Richardson read a poem written in honor of the dedication of the monument, entitled "A Tribute From the G. A. R." The poem is here reproduced:

Beneath the Eastern skies amid old Egypt's sands  
 A godhead, hewn from out a rough rock mountain, stands;  
 A fossiled thought of man conceived when time was young  
 To wait until creation's final knell is rung.  
 Beneath Columbia's sky that arches Freedom's lands  
 A Sphinx of Liberty in solemn grandeur stands;  
 With gaze that seems to penetrate eternity  
 When man in God from earth and time is free.  
 That face was once the humblest form of potters clay  
 That scarcely knew the light or felt the warmth of day;  
 Imprisoned 'neath the rocks of sin so long  
 That it had taken on the imagery of wrong.  
 But God was fash'ning out a likeness, ever planned,  
 With square and compass and the chisel in his hand,  
 And as the days of greatness rolled their torrents into years,

A masterpiece of glory from chaotic shade appears.  
Hear the chisel slowly working in the clank of slavery's  
    chain,  
In the lashings deep of bondage, in a life of care and pain;  
In the triumphs of a spirit, that was born to do and dare;  
In the courage of a hero driving mammon to his lair;  
In the thunder of the battle 'mid the carnage and the smoke,  
Carving out the lines of glory with a never faltering stroke.  
But at last the work was finished, and the world with bated  
    breath  
Saw unveiled the form majestic, by the royal hand of death;  
Saw the look of solemn grandeur gazing up the steps of  
    time;  
Saw the sign of man's Jehovah on that likeness hewn sub-  
    lime.

The chorus of forty voices, under the direction of Mrs. R. Jerome Jeffrey, sang "Old Glory," and Rev. J. J. Adams, of Rochester, pronounced the benediction, thus bringing the exercises to a close.

## CHAPTER XIV

### DESCRIPTIVE AND INTERESTING FACTS AND LETTERS.

The monument was made by the Smith Granite Company, Westerly, R. I. The model for the bronze statue was made in Washington, during the spring of 1898; Sidney W Edwards, sculptor. Charles R. Douglass posed for the handsome bronze statue that so gracefully portrays his illustrious father in life, as he stood before an audience in Cincinnati, Ohio, soon after the adoption of the fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the Constitution of the United States, and uttered these words:

“Fellow citizens: I appear before you to-night for the first time in the more elevated position of an American citizen.”

The pedestal is made of the best Westerly gray granite, is nine feet high, and the bronze statue eight feet high; total height, seventeen feet. There are also four bronze tablets containing these words, from some of his famous speeches:

On the east side of the shaft is the following, taken from a speech made by Douglass on the famous Dred Scott decision in 1857:

“I know no soil better adapted to the growth of reform than American soil. I know no country where the conditions for effecting great changes in the settled order of things, for the development of right ideas of liberty and humanity, are more favorable than here in the United States.”

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West side is the following extract from a speech on West Indian emancipation, delivered at Canandaigua, August 4, 1857:

"Men do not live by bread alone; so with nations, they are not saved by art, but by honesty; not by the gilded splendors of wealth, but by the hidden treasure of manly virtue; not by the multitudinous gratifications of the flesh, but by the celestial guidance of the spirit."

North side are these quotations from the speeches of Douglass:

"The best defense of free American institutions is in the hearts of the American people themselves."

"One with God is a majority."

"I know of no rights of race superior to the rights of humanity."

South side:

"FREDERICK DOUGLASS."

Between each tablet are handsomely carved palm leaves.

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CHARLES REMOND DOUGLASS.

Charles Remond Douglass, who posed for the Douglass bronze statue, youngest son of the late Frederick Douglass, was born October 21, 1844, in Lynn, Mass. At the age of four years his father's family removed to Rochester, N. Y., where at the age of six years young Douglass entered the public schools of that city. He first attended No. 15 school on Alexander street. While attending school young Douglass also assisted once a week in his father's office, folding and carrying to the city subscribers the "North Star," published in the interests of the anti-slavery movement. At the age of sixteen he left school and went to Lockport, N. Y., to learn something of farming, and worked on the farm of Thomas Pierson until the breaking out of the War of the

Rebellion. Just prior to this time, however, and a few months before John Brown made his appearance at Harper's Ferry, he acted as messenger for Brown, while he was in seclusion at Rochester, having for a time full charge of the carrying and delivery of his mail.

When it was announced that colored men would be accepted as soldiers, young Douglass was the first of his race to enroll his name in the state of New York. He enlisted February 9, 1863, with Major George L. Stearns, of Boston, for the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. He served thirteen months with this regiment as acting first sergeant, Company F, and was afterwards promoted to first sergeant in Company I, Fifth Massachusetts Cavalry, with which regiment he served during the siege of Petersburg, Va., and in the Army of the James until near the close of the war.

After the war he was employed as hospital steward in the Freedmen's Hospital at Washington, during the year of 1865. In the fall of that year he resigned and returned to his home in Rochester, where, in September, 1866, he married Mary Elizabeth Murphy, who died some thirteen years later.

In 1867 young Douglass was appointed to a first class clerkship in the War Department, being the second colored man to receive such an appointment in the executive departments of the government since its foundation. Shortly after said appointment, Senator Roscoe Conkling secured him a similar appointment in the United States Treasury Department, where he served for over seven years. During his service in the Treasury Department he was detailed to accompany the Santo Domingo commission in 1871 to that country, and served as clerk to the commission for three months. In 1875 he was appointed United States consul to Santo Domingo, serving in that capacity for three

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years and until the serious illness of his wife compelled him to return home, when he resigned.

After the death of his wife he again took up his residence in Washington, where he now resides. He has served for a number of years on the school board of the District of Columbia, was for several years secretary and treasurer of the county schools of the district, was adjutant, captain and major of the famous Capital City Guards, and also held commissions from Presidents Cleveland and Harrison in the District of Columbia militia. Besides these duties, he has been a pretty active correspondent for several papers, and has also been engaged in newspaper work together with his brothers, Lewis H. and the late Frederick Douglass, jr. His second wife is the daughter of the late Alfred Haley, of Canandaigua, N. Y. He has two sons, Joseph, the violinist, and Haley G., who is about entering one of the Eastern colleges. He graduated from Harvard University in May. (1900).

## MRS. R. JEROME JEFFREY.

The subject of this sketch came from Boston, Mass., and made her home in Rochester, N. Y., during the winter of 1891. Mrs. Jeffrey at once became very popular among the citizens, taking an active part in every progressive movement of the Afro-American citizens. She had always been a club woman, and commenced at once attending the meetings of white club women, and then organizing clubs among her own race. She was appointed a member of the Douglass Monument Committee by J. W. Thompson, in 1897. Mrs. Jeffrey did all within her power, and acted with the committee until the work was completed. But she is at her best in organizing woman's clubs and working for the upbuilding of the race as will be seen by the work accomplished by organizations in Rochester.

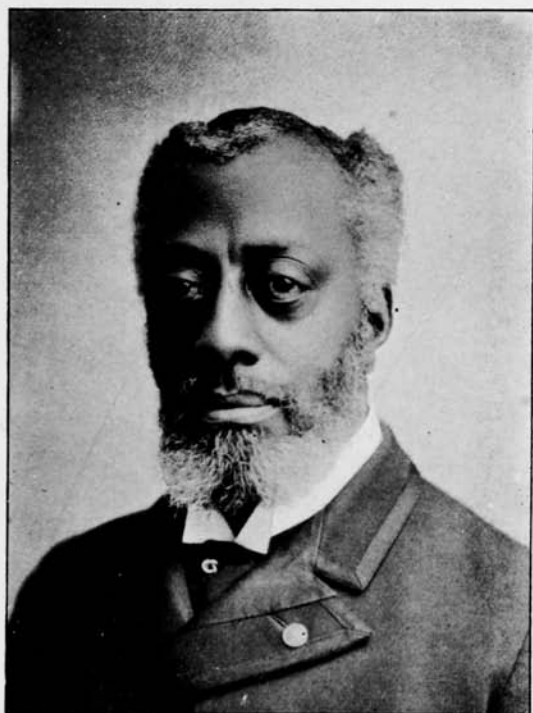
One of the best organizations is the Susan B. 'Anthony Club, in honor of the reformer who has always been so friendly to the Afro-American race. One department of this club is the Mothers' Council, whose object is to help mothers of little children. Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey is the president of the above named club, the Climbers, and also the Hester C. Jeffrey Club, that has taken her name. The motto of the Climbers is "Lifting as We Climb." The motto of the Hester C. Jeffrey Club is "Higher, Still Higher." The last two organizations are for young girls and young women. Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey was the National Organizer of Colored Women's Clubs, New York State President of the Federation of Colored Women's Clubs, and was also sent as a delegate to the state convention at Albany, by a white club of Rochester, N. Y.

Mrs. Jeffrey held for some time the position of County Superintendent of the W. C. T. U. and Secretary of the Third Ward W. C. T. U. and Section President of the Needlework Guild of America.

#### TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK DOUGLASS.

On the morning of February 26 the body of Frederick Douglass was brought to Rochester from Washington and borne to City Hall, where it lay in state till the hour for the funeral in the afternoon. It is eminently appropriate that Frederick Douglass should be laid to rest in Mt. Hope. As the older generation of Rochester men remember, and as has been repeatedly recalled within the past few days, it was here that the "North Star" rose. In this city its first feeble rays were turned on the darkness to the South. In Rochester the foundations of its editor's fame were laid. It is fit then that in Rochester the last wreath of praise should be laid upon his coffin.

The wealth of a nation is its glorious names and the story of their patriotic deeds. A city's great dead is a treasure that



CHARLES R. DOUGLASS.



## DOUGLASS MONUMENT.

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is incorruptible and continually active for good. The tomb of Frederick Douglass in time to come will bear mute witness to the reward of uprightness and unselfish devotion to the cause of right. To future generations it will evidence the honor paid to the courage and honesty which not only overcame the cruelest handicap of birth, but was instrumental in remolding the fate of a wronged people. If the public sense of justice should ever grow dim; if wrong should ever gain the advantage, the grave of Frederick Douglass will be an inspiration for true men to rise again. This is why it is well for this city that Frederick Douglass is buried here.

## LETTERS OF REGRET.

Chairman Thompson, of the Douglass Monument Committee received many letters of regret from conspicuous citizens of the republic, who were unable to be present, but who desired to place themselves on record, as admirers of the great man.

## THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER.

Executive Mansion,  
Washington, April 3, 1899.

My Dear Sir: Your letter of the 30th ultimo, with regard to the unveiling of the Douglass monument at Rochester, N. Y., has been called to my attention, and I very much regret that it will be impossible for me to be present on this occasion.

The life of Frederick Douglass presents many features worthy of the closest emulation. His great work, first for the emancipation of his race, and when that was accomplished, for its industrial, intellectual and moral upbuilding, will cause his memory to be forever cherished in the hearts of his people. As editor, author and lecturer he labored zealously for their advancement, and it is altogether fitting that permanent expression be given, in a monument raised

in his honor, of the admiration and respect with which his life and character are regarded by his countrymen.

With best wishes for the complete success of the unveiling ceremonies, believe me,

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM McKINLEY.

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New York, June 6, 1899.

Mr. J. W. Thompson, Rochester, N. Y.:

Dear Mr. Thompson: I sincerely regret that I shall be unable to attend the unveiling ceremonies. We are all grateful to you for the splendid heroic work you have done in raising this monument to our greatest and most beloved man.

Yours truly,

T. THOMAS FORTUNE,

Editor New York Age.

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1433 Bacon Street,

Washington, D. C., June 5, 1899.

Mr. John W. Thompson, Chairman, Rochester, N. Y.:

My Dear Sir: Many, many thanks for your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Douglass monument on the 9th instant. It will be an historic occasion, and I deeply regret my inability to attend. The citizens of Rochester are entitled to, and will have the thanks of the entire race, for the patriotic and creditable manner in which they have seen fit to honor and perpetuate the memory of the race's world wide champion.

Yours very truly,

P. B. S. PINCHBACK,

Ex-Governor.

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Tuskegee, Ala., June 5, 1899.

Mr. John W Thompson, Chairman Douglass Monument  
Committee, Rochester, N. Y.:

My Dear Sir: I very sincerely regret that it is impossible for me to accept the very kind invitation which you have extended me to be present at the unveiling of the monument erected to the memory of Frederick Douglass. It is a very fitting circumstance that, in Rochester, the scene of his early trials and struggles, a monument should rear its head heavenward to commemorate the worth and works of one whose sincere service was ever in behalf of humanity. Mr. Douglass is still our hero. His life will ever be an inspiration and a hope; and up from the depths from which he sprang others of his race have come, and are coming, to show, and to prove, that his great life in their behalf was not lived in vain. Great, as was his life, and great as it now appears, its influence will still grow upon us with increasing years. But, of this, I need not write. Others to be present will tell in story and in poetic song of the achievements of the great American patriot, whose life was lived in behalf of justice and for the well-being of all mankind.

Again expressing regrets that I am not permitted to share in the exercises attendant upon the formal unveiling of the monument erected to Mr. Douglass' memory, I am,

Yours very truly,

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

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The Hon. John Dancy, collector of the port of Wilmington, N. C., who was one of the orators September 14, 1898, expressed his appreciation of the character of Mr. Douglass in the following letter:

Office of the Collector of Customs,  
Port of Wilmington, N. C., June 6, 1899.

Mr. J. W. Thompson, Chairman Douglass Monument Committee, Rochester, N. Y.:

My Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your kind invitation to be present at the unveiling of the Douglass monument, the 9th instant, and to contribute to the programme as one of the speakers.

I feel more than honored by the latter invitation, in view of the fact that I enjoyed the rare distinction of delivering an address in September last, in eulogy of the great race leader and patriot. A second invitation lends to the belief that I must have said something on the former occasion which favorably impressed you at least.

I never tire of doing honor to Mr. Douglass, because he never tired of defending my cause, when I was powerless to defend myself. And yet, withal, he was filled with that spirit of conservatism which made him wise and safe in leadership, and prepared him for every exigency in life, which constantly changing conditions would suggest. I heard him speak at a great colored industrial fair at Raleigh in this state, in 1879. I enjoyed the rare distinction of introducing him. But Governor Thomas J. Jarvis, then at the head of the state government, preceded him in an address of great breadth, and full of kindly admonition to my race. Mr. Douglass was momentarily overcome by so conservative and patriotic a speech from the Governor of a Southern state. Tears of joy trickled down his cheeks. His pencil rapidly ran through some of the more caustic of his prepared utterances, until his speech harmonized in tone and friendliness with the liberal sentiments of the Governor. The Governor, who was quite a friend to our race, extended the olive branch and our great champion was diplomatic enough to accept it in the spirit in which it was offered. He

began his speech by remarking that he had hardly expected in his own lifetime to see his race present so grand a spectacle to the world as that exhibit of the handiwork then before his gaze; and especially the Democratic governor of a great Southern state commending our efforts and encouraging us in such a speech as that to which he had just listened.

Overcoming his emotion, he for the next two hours, delivered one of the greatest and most comprehensive addresses of his lifetime. The influence of that speech still remains with many of the white and colored people of the state, as the harbinger of the day that will yet dawn upon us all.

Let the lesson of the grand and magnificent life be with us all, a joy and an inspiration forever. As long as we can study and think of it, we have no just reason to lose heart or to cease struggling for that which lives beyond, if it is possible of attainment. No dark cloud failed to discover its silver lining to him. A halo of glory in personal achievement and triumph encircled his brow long 'ere the noon of our hopes had stranded its crescent on the early breakers of the morning. The monument that you erect to his memory, magnificent and uniform in its symmetry and proportion, is excelled only by the grander one he erected for himself, by the splendid and eternal lessons of his wonderful life.

“For out of the gloom future brightness is born,  
As out of the night looms the sunrise of morn.”

Very sincerely yours,

JOHN C. DANCY.

**THE DOUGLASS MONUMENT COMMITTEE.**

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John W. Thompson, chairman.

Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey.

Henry A. Spencer, secretary.

R. L. Kent, assistant secretary.

Hon. George A. Benton, treasurer.

Ex-Congressman H. S. Greenleaf.

Hon. Charles S. Baker.

Bishop Alexander Walters, D. D., N. J.

T. Thomas Fortune, New York City.

Benjamin N. Simms.

F. S. Cunningham.

Thomas E. Platner.

E. R. Spaulding, Owego, N. Y.

Thomas H. Barnes, Olean, N. Y.

Rev. James E. Mason, D. D.

Benjamin F. Cleggett, Geneva, N. Y.

Theodore Duffin, Geneva, N. Y.

## CHAPTER XV

### HOW DOUGLASS WAS REGARDED BY THE ROCHESTER PRESS.

FROM THE ROCHESTER UNION AND ADVERTISER.

The morning of February 26, 1895, the body of Frederick Douglass was brought to Rochester from Washington and borne to the City Hall, where it lay in state till the hour for the funeral in the afternoon. It is eminently appropriate that Frederick Douglass should be laid to rest in Mount Hope. As the older generation of Rochester men remember, and as has been repeatedly recalled within the past few days, it was here that the "North Star" rose. In this city its first feeble rays were turned on the darkness to the south. In Rochester the foundations of its editor's fame were laid. It is fit then that in Rochester the last wreath of praise should be laid upon his coffin.

The wealth of a nation is its glorious names and the story of their patriotic deeds. A city's great dead is a treasure that is incorruptible and continually active for good. The tomb of Frederick Douglass in time to come will bear mute witness to the reward of uprightness and unselfish devotion to the cause of right. To future generations it will evidence the honor paid to the courage and honesty which not only overcame the cruelest handicap of birth, but was instrumental in remolding the fate of a wronged people. If the public sense of justice should ever grow dim; if wrong should ever gain the advantage, the grave of Frederick Douglass will be an inspiration for true men to rise again. This is why it is well for this city that Frederick Douglass is buried here.

## FROM THE ROCHESTER DEMOCRAT AND CHRONICLE.

The unveiling of the Douglass monument June 9, 1899, was an event of more than local significance. It is not simply the figure of one who was formerly a distinguished resident of Rochester which is to be uncovered in the presence of a great multitude, but that of a man who in intellectual stature and gifts, as well as in the services he rendered to the cause of Freedom, was the supreme representative of his race.

Frederick Douglass was a princely man; princely in form and bearing, and princely in the qualities of his mind and heart. Born under the most disabling conditions which could encompass a human being in this land of ours, he broke, one after another, the fetters that bound him and rose to an altitude of moral and intellectual influence hardly equaled by that of any other man in the country. He owed nothing to adventitious fortune or aid. Always, from the hour when, as a slave boy, he asserted his right to liberty by leaving his master and home, down to the days of dignity and honor in old age, surrounded by the comforts as well as the luxuries of life won by his own efforts, he maintained unsullied the independence of his manhood. He was never the man to

—bend the supple hinges of the knee,  
That thrift might follow fawning.

Often subjected to slurs and insults on account of his race and color, he maintained the simple dignity of his character, standing erect but not defiant, looking unabashed upon the liliputians whose sneers were of no more account to him than the humming of gnats in the air of a summer evening.

God endowed him with the gift of eloquent speech, speech that came from a heart large and tropical in its warmth, but not volcanic in its outbursts except against wrongs embodied in institutions and laws; speech that flowed in rounded sen-



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tences, in vivid metaphors, in swordlike thrusts of wit around which always played the lambent light of a sunny humor. He had a broad, generous nature. He could make allowance for weakness, and pitied, as the Man of Galilee did, the unfortunate and the suffering. He loved the bright and happy phases of life. The bitter and acidulated spirit of cynicism met with no responsiveness from him. From first to last he was true to the cause of oppressed humanity whether it was found under the dark skin of his own race or among those who had formerly been his oppressors.

It is in honor of such a man that the monument provided for by the colored people of Rochester is to be unveiled tomorrow. The name and fame of Douglass have filled the world. In the days when his powers were at their zenith his eloquent voice was heard pleading for the rights of humanity, not only in the presence of great audiences and, sometimes, of hostile mobs in his own country, but before the great and the titled in foreign lands. It is therefore an honor to Rochester that a monument to his memory, symbolizing his personal presence, shall stand in one of our public places to remind citizen and stranger that Frederick Douglass always esteemed this as his home city. His dust lies embalmed in the sacred soil of Mount Hope, and his image will henceforth greet the eyes of our people, the token of a noble manhood which should prove an inspiration to future generations.

The event of June 9, 1899, will bring to Rochester the distinguished Governor of this commonwealth and other visitors of note. There will be a parade worthy of the occasion, and the citizens will have an opportunity to show that in this land of ours high merit, though it may have to fight many a battle against bigotry and prejudice, may in the end receive cordial recognition and sincere acknowledgment from all the people.

FROM THE ROCHESTER TIMES.

“What though on hamely fare ye dine,  
Wear hodden grey an’ a’ that;  
Gie fools their silks an’ knaves their wine;  
A man’s a man for a’ that.”

To the memory of a man who dressed in plain clothes, who wore the garb of a slave, whose environments taught him that his color placed him in bondage; whose future, had he not hewn it out for himself, would have been cast in long days of unrequited toil; who saw dimly the light of liberty and being, like Samuel, called of God to speak for his race, faced prejudice and politics and made the way plain to that end that the curse was removed from the land,—to his memory the city of Rochester, regardless of color, uniting with the people of the state, are paying tribute to-day.

There was no reason, as men reason things, why Frederick Douglass should not have remained a slave all his life and died a slave, unknown, unsung, forgotten. Because he did not, because he climbed the Hill Difficulty and met and conquered every obstacle, we remember him to-day.

It is indeed the purest tribute of a grateful people when one who held no high civic place is remembered, as is Douglass. Republics are not always ungrateful, as monuments to heroism and worth the country over attest.

To-day in Rochester we renew our faith in the republic at the foot of the statue of a man born a slave. Again we declare that liberty shall be proclaimed throughout all the land “and unto the people thereof,” as we speak of the struggles of the black man whose figure towers in metal at St. Paul street and Central avenue.

FROM THE ROCHESTER MORNING HERALD.

In Rochester yesterday was celebrated an event unique in the history of the American nation—the unveiling of a statue immortalizing in imperishable bronze the form and

features of a negro. It was not a celebration restricted to the representatives of the negro race, but an event gladly participated in by the entire population of the city, for Frederick Douglass belonged not to his race alone, but to the American people. He represented not only the highest achievement and development of his race, he was equally a type of superior manhood and representative citizenship. Frederick Douglass established a precedent, fulfilled an ideal, that should serve—will serve—as an inspiration to the negro race in America for all time to come.

Against the black scroll of race hatred and race prejudice, now happily fading from a clear national sky, this bronze statue of Frederick Douglass stands as a memorial in gold, a lasting tribute to a greatness of character and nobility of life that even the shackles of a slave could not bind down nor the black skin of a slave cloak from public view and recognition. By the sheer impetus of his own force of character, Frederick Douglass rose from a Southern slave pen to be the associate of presidents and the confrere of statesmen. The silver tongue of his oratory thrilled the ear of the English speaking world; and among the most potent agencies for the abolition of slavery must be included the voice and heart and brain and soul of Frederick Douglass.

No words can picture the boundless possibilities of influence of such a life upon the people Frederick Douglass represented. In that life the Afro-American will find never failing inspiration. If Frederick Douglass could accomplish what he did when he did, what may not the negro of to-day and to-morrow hope to attain? No goal is closed to him; no avenue of honorable endeavor is barred; he has at his disposal every legitimate means for his advancement as an individual, his betterment as a race. The future of the negro in America rests largely in his own hands. Beside him, at

once an inspiration and a benediction, stands the gigantic figure of Frederick Douglass, shedding the shining light of an illustrious example upon the future pathway of the race.

From the executive mansion in the capital, the Governor of the Empire State came to do honor to the name and memory of Frederick Douglass; in the parade were the veterans of the war waged to emancipate his race; the public schools turned out their miniature companies; the uniformed societies were represented; the business and traffic of an entire city were stopped while its citizens turned their steps toward the statue of Douglass. This was but the tribute of a day, however, the appropriate accompaniment of the ceremony of unveiling. In the years to come the real tribute of his race to the memory of Frederick Douglass will be found in their high standard of citizenship, their loyalty to the inspiring ideal he established, their progress along the lines of right living and honorable endeavor. And as their fellow citizens of another color marched with them side by side to the unveiling of the Douglass monument, so should they stand with them and stand by them in their every future effort to be worthy of their illustrious prototype, Frederick Douglass. As Rochester was honored by his life among us, so is she honored by his grave and by his monument, two visible memorials of a great man and an honorable life.

FROM THE ROCHESTER POST EXPRESS.

The 9th of June the monument to Frederick Douglass was unveiled. The city was thronged with visitors to witness the ceremony. Eloquent tributes to the memory of the great anti-slavery agitator were pronounced. But nothing was said or done that will give an adequate idea of the man or of the work that he did. Much less was anything said or done that gave an adequate idea of the age in which he lived and labored. It is only glimpses of him and of his times that can be had on such an occasion. Even if full knowl-

edge of both were available, time would be lacking to set it forth. But these glimpses will serve a useful purpose. They will suggest to the generation that has grown up since the anti-slavery agitation and the great struggle that followed it that their country has a history—has heroes worthy of their study and admiration.

It is not easy to overestimate the part that Douglass played in the abolition of slavery. At the time he first began to appear on the anti-slavery platform and to deliver his powerful phillipics against the curse of American civilization, it was by no means generally conceded that the negro was a human being. While it was admitted that he had a certain mental and moral capacity, he was regarded by most of the advocates of slavery only as a superior kind of animal. While he could laugh and talk, learn a trade and do some other things common to white people, he did not possess those higher traits that no animal ever exhibited. He did not have a soul; he could not reason; he felt none of the lofty emotions of the Caucasian. When, therefore, Douglass appeared before vast audiences, and thrilled them with an eloquence that rivaled the eloquence of Beecher and Phillips, he gave a blow to slavery from which it never recovered. He proved that the negro was something more than an animal, and that he was fitted to be something more than a slave; he was a human being, capable of all the emotions, thoughts, and achievements of any other human being.

It may be said, as it has often been said, that Douglass was not a pure blooded negro, and was not, therefore, a fair example of the capacity of his race. It has been claimed, and it is still claimed, that whatever genius he exhibited was due to the white blood that flowed in his veins. But the argument never counted for much. He did not have white blood enough to blanch his skin, or to convert his features into those of a Caucasian, or to deliver him from the

cruel lash of the slave driver the moment he became old and large enough to add to the wealth of his master. He was regarded as a negro. He was often subjected to the discriminations against his race. Even if it were to be admitted that his white blood was a priceless advantage, it is certain that his African blood did not prevent him from rising from the lowest depths of degradation and obscurity to a fame that filled the whole civilized world. Such a fact, immutable and unanswerable, swept away the mass of sophisms based upon the theory that the negro was not really a man—that he was destined by his creator to be a slave. It was more potent with doubting minds than all the logic and eloquence of the whole army of abolitionists.

But the work of Douglass was not confined to an illustration of the moral and intellectual capacities of his race. It included energetic, aggressive and tireless warfare on the institution that held his race in bondage. From the time he gained his freedom until every right enjoyed by a white man under the Constitution was guaranteed to the negro, he devoted his giant strength and splendid powers as an orator to its overthrow. The iron of slavery had pierced his own heart, and he knew no other duty night or day but its immediate and complete destruction. He could not rest as long as he knew that one man was the master of another and had over him the power of life or death. But the abolition of slavery did not content him. He felt that unless the blacks had the same rights of citizenship as the whites, their freedom could not be guaranteed. As soon as the war was over, he worked unceasingly to give them the ballot. But he knew that the ballot was not enough to insure them against oppression. He felt that they must be educated, and become the possessors of property. As soon as right of suffrage had been gained, he devoted himself to the work of fitting the emancipated race for the exercise of that right.

He encouraged all educational and industrial enterprises. At the time of his death, he had the satisfaction of seeing negroes enjoy educational advantages not inferior to those of whites. He saw them increase in wealth almost beyond the dreams of the most ardent friends of the race.

We have spoken of Douglass' ability and achievements. A word remains to be said about his character. Beset on every hand as he was for many years by the most pitiless enemies, they were never able to point to an act unworthy of an honest and pure-minded man. It was believed at one time that he was implicated with the treason of John Brown, and at the urgent solicitation of friends, he fled to England. But if he were guilty of complicity against the government of his country, it was no selfish motive that inspired him. His only aim was the deliverance of his country from an evil that he believed to be greater than an insurrection. Enemies have accused him of selfishness. But a man that could succor a victim of age and penury that had howled for his own life, or that could devote fifty years to the betterment of his own race and at the same time suffer all the obloquy attached to a despised cause, was hardly guilty of that infirmity. Although it may be said that he felt toward the South after the war as he did before the war, it should not be forgotten that his sufferings at the hands of the slave power were not likely to soften any heart. But after all just criticism has been made upon his attitude toward that section, it must be admitted that his work in behalf of humanity entitles him to the everlasting remembrance of every friend of freedom and of every enemy of wrong.

#### FROM THE ROCHESTER UNION AND ADVERTISER.

Several years ago prominent colored citizens of Rochester organized a movement for the erection of a monument to the memory of the colored soldiers who died in the war for the Union and invited co-operation by their white fellow

citizens, which was given, and initial steps had been taken for accomplishing the object when, on the 20th of February, 1895, Frederick Douglass died at Washington. This occurrence induced the committee to decide that a memorial to him would embody what they had designed, and at the same time pay broader tribute to the achievements of representative men of their race, and so the work went on to the end of the presentation made to-day in the unveiling of the Douglass statue in this city.

Back in the centuries, when England, Spain and Portugal, other countries contributing, and the American colonies themselves taking a hand as soon as they were able, planted the curse of African slavery on this continent, they little dreamt of the evolution that was to occur ere the dawn of 1900. At what period it is impossible to determine, but certain that at some time in the distant past the maternal ancestors of Frederick Douglass were taken from the wilds of Africa, either by stealth or purchase, and sold into slavery upon the Atlantic coast of this country. In 1817 there was born to a slave mother of this African descent upon the plantation of Colonel Edward Lloyd, in Talbot county, Maryland, on the east shore of Chesapeake Bay, and putatively to him, a son who took on the name of Lloyd, but subsequently changed it to Frederick Douglass. After escape from his master, purchase of his freedom with money contributed by friends in England, which country he had visited, and passing through the many vicissitudes incident to such a life as circumstances compelled him to follow and which embraced a fair self-education, Mr. Douglass made his advent in Rochester at the age of 30, in 1847, and established the "North Star," a weekly journal devoted to the abolition of slavery, of which he was editor. He was modest and unassuming in demeanor, was warmly received and substantially encouraged by many citizens, especially of the Quaker element, and was





MRS. R. JEROME JEFFREY.

respected by all. If he was bitter and severe, as he sometimes was, in handling the subject of slavery without gloves, the "Hardshells" and "Silver Greys" of the old political parties who were classed as pro-slavery sympathizers because upholding the Constitution and the laws enacted thereunder, took no exception. They said he had a right to be bitter and severe, and even unreasonable and unpatriotic, while they had no patience with his white associates of the Garrison school who, on the 2d day of February, 1859, in convention at the capital of this state, declared in a resolution written by William Lloyd Garrison, "that in advocating a dissolution of the Union the Abolitionists are justified by every precept of the Gospel, by every principle of morality, by every claim of humanity; that such a Union is a covenant with death, which ought to be annulled, and an agreement with hell which a just God cannot permit to stand; and that it is the imperative and paramount duty of all who would keep their souls from blood-guiltiness to deliver the oppressed out of the hands of the spoiler and usher in the day of Jubilee; to seek its immediate overthrow by all righteous instrumentalities." It was on the line of Garrisonian warfare that Mr. Douglass conducted his agitation against the institution of slavery, down to the eve of the slaveholders' rebellion when the publication of his paper ceased and he, although maintaining a nominal residence here, lived elsewhere, and after the war became a permanent citizen of Washington, where he was given a number of offices of honor and profit by the Republican administration, of which he had been a hearty supporter from the foundation of the Republican party and nomination of Fremont and Dayton at Philadelphia in June, 1856, on a platform that declared for prohibition by Congress in the territories of "these twin relics of barbarism—Polygamy and Slavery." Although when, in 1871, Mr. Douglass was given the Republican nomination

for member of Assembly from the district then composed of the city of Rochester, against George D. Lord, Democrat, his party constituency failed to support him as it should have done. The city was at that election Democratic by a bare majority—151 for the head of the state ticket, Willers, over Scribner, Rep.; but Lord's majority over Douglass was 1,186—the aggregate vote of both parties in the city having been less than 10,000. The Assembly would have furnished a fine field for display of Mr. Douglass' oratorical powers, and test of his legislative abilities. It is, really, in sentiment, a tribute to the opportunities of evolution in American life, despite apparently insurmountable obstacles, that the Douglass statue stands before the public gaze, rather than a monument to an individuality, or to the achievement of some great object of local or general public concern. Mr. Douglass himself expressed the idea forcibly in a letter to his friend, and the friend of the lowly and oppressed everywhere, the late Samuel D. Porter, of this city, when he said: "It is not, however, the height to which I have risen, but the depth from which I have come, that amazes me." This idea is emphasized by the memorable reference of Chief Justice Taney of the Supreme Court of the United States, born in Calvert county, Maryland, on the opposite shore of Chesapeake Bay from Talbot county, in the *Dred Scott* case to the historical fact that "for more than a century previous to the adoption of the Declaration of Independence negroes, whether slave or free, had been regarded as beings of an inferior order and altogether unfit to associate with the white race, either in social or political relations, and so far inferior that they had no rights which the white man was bound to respect." And the Constitution itself, based upon the Declaration of Independence, provided for perpetuation of the slave trade with Africa for a period of twenty years after its adoption, and for the return of slaves escaping from their

owners in one state and seeking freedom in another. In all this there has been wonderful evolution, of which the statue of Frederick Douglass is the personification. And it is in such character that the statue is to be looked upon and considered, as imparting the lesson of Pope's lines:

“Honor and shame from no condition rise;  
Act well your part, there all the honor lies.”

## CHAPTER XVI

### HOW GOVERNOR ROOSEVELT WAS ENTERTAINED IN ROCHESTER.

After the exercises at the monument had been concluded, Governor Roosevelt, accompanied by Military Secretary G. C. Treadwell and Senator W. W. Armstrong, James S. Watson, L. P. Ross and E. S. Brown, members of the reception committee, visited the State Industrial School. Amid great cheering, the Governor and party arrived at 4:30 o'clock and remained at the school until 6 o'clock. The Governor many times expressed his admiration of the various departments, and was much interested in the way the school was conducted.

Eleven military companies, drawn up outside the entrance to the school, saluted the Governor, and as he alighted, he was greeted by ex-Judge Thomas Raines, Charles Van Voorhis, Dr. G. W. Goler, Dr. C. H. Losey, Dr. George Carroll, Mrs. Emil Kuichling and Miss Aldridge, members of the board of managers of the school, Superintendent F. H. Briggs and the assistant superintendents and heads of departments.

Light refreshments were served beneath the trees in front of the woman's department. The luncheon was in charge of Miss M. E. Craig, matron of the institution, and was the handiwork of inmates of the department. The school band rendered pleasing music during the luncheon.

After the party had done ample justice to the repast, the Governor was conducted to the chapel. When he appeared he was greeted with tremendous cheers by the 750 boys and the 300 girl inmates. Under the leadership of the musical

directress, Miss E. V. Sharp, the boys and girls sang "Anchored" with much enthusiasm.

In introducing Governor Roosevelt, ex-Judge Thomas Raines told the boys they might well derive inspiration from the life of the Governor, who, in war and peace, had made a record of which his countrymen were very proud.

Governor Roosevelt spoke, in part, as follows, to the assembled inmates:

"I was very much pleased with the way you conducted yourselves when I arrived. Your officers must have drilled you well, and you must have learned that the duty of the true soldier is to obey orders.

"I think when the time comes, you boys will make good husbands and fathers. And I sincerely hope you will not forget your duties to the state, and that you will use your influence to secure the election of good men to office.

"The discipline and order which you have been taught within these walls will be of much use to you in after years. Most of the great men in this world have become great because they did little things with precision and faithfulness. The men in my regiment who did brave fighting in Cuba were the men who never complained if they were told to wash dishes or do the other disagreeable things of camp life.

"I feel much pride when I look into your smiling faces, and have great hopes of your success in future years. All I ask of you is that you shall face the big world and that you will remember the many lessons you have learned here, and be an honor to the country of which you are citizens."

The exercises ended with the singing of the "Marseillaise Hymn" in a manner which called forth favorable comment from all present.

After the exercises, the Governor and the members of the reception committee visited the various departments of the institution. The directors pointed out the interesting fea-

tures of the institution, and Superintendent Briggs explained the workings of the institution in detail to the Governor.

The power house, laundry, carpenter shop and the clothing and shoe departments were first visited. The Governor appeared to be much interested in the caps turned out by the youths in charge of the clothing department.

The machine and printing shops were next visited. The Governor remarked that the boys who erected the building containing these departments had done much credit to themselves. After hurried visits to the pattern and blacksmith shops and the armory, the Governor visited the new building of the boys' department. He was much interested in the supper of the youngsters. He went about the dining room speaking kindly words to each of the boys.

He was next shown a company at drill, and talked to several of the individual members. As he was getting interested in the boys, a messenger brought word from Senator Armstrong that the Governor was several minutes behind time. On the way to his carriage, a large number of girls sitting on the lawn, greeted the Governor with cheers.

When the Governor arrived at the carriage, he expressed much surprise at the lateness of the hour, and reluctantly left the institution. During his visit the Governor walked about the grounds with a stride which surprised the fastest walkers in the party. At the buildings, however, he was frequently told he could not tarry longer for lack of time.

Amid cheers from the teachers and pupils of the institution the Governor waved his good-byes and took a last look at the school, apparently much pleased with his visit.

#### DINNER AT GENESEE VALLEY CLUB.

Dinner was served at the Genesee Valley Club at 6 o'clock. In the yellow room, at a round table, decorated with peonies of yellow and white, the club colors, were seat-

ed the guest of honor and his entertainers. On the right of Governor Roosevelt was seated Senator Armstrong and next to him James S. Watson. H. G. Danforth was seated at the Governor's left and Military Secretary Treadwell occupied the seat next to Mr. Danforth. The others at the table were L. P. Ross and Edward S. Brown. Though of the best and elegantly served, the dinner was a very simple affair and there was no accompanying music.

Those of the party who had never met the Governor before described him as a very entertaining talker and expressed themselves as delighted with his recitals of his Cuban experiences, which occupied the greater part of the dinner hour. It was a little after 7 o'clock when, the dinner being over, the party entered carriages and were driven to the Court House for the public reception.

#### RECEPTION AT THE COURT HOUSE.

Monroe county's million dollar marble Court House proved an ideal place for holding such a reception. Festooned in the central rotunda, near the dome, and standing out from the marbles and brasses along the galleries, were draperies of the national colors and at intervals flags at full length relieved by beautiful palms in abundance. Brilliant with many lights, the elegant bronze candelabra, halls and open court presented a dazzling scene.

On the right and just past the staircase, inclosed with velvet ropes, stretched between the two great marble pillars, was a platform raised about a foot above the floor. On this and with the coat of arms of the Empire State emblazoned on a banner above, the Chief Executive of the commonwealth stood for nearly an hour giving hearty handclasps to the citizens of the Flower City. Rich and poor, young and old, black and white received the same cordial grasp of the hand and the same friendly smile.



All day long the decorators, Bickford Brothers, were at work in the Court House, and Charles U. Bastable of the general reception committee was at all times present to oversee and direct the work. The plan to hold the reception in the Court House originated with Mr. Bastable and its unqualified success proved the value of the suggestion and the necessary executive ability to carry it out. Maurice Moll's orchestra of fifteen pieces discoursed music from the gallery on the second floor during the progress of the reception.

Seven o'clock had been announced as the hour for the opening of the reception, but it was half an hour later before the Governor and his party arrived. Nevertheless all who were assigned to duty were promptly on hand. Lieutenant Russ with twelve of the handsomest men on the police force arrived early. New York's Broadway squad in its palmiest days never presented twelve finer looking men than Officers Stein, Heinlein, Tindell, William O'Connor, Eugene Sullivan, Saunders, Sharp, Pearson, Decker, Schmucker, George Sullivan and John Lane; every man of them over six feet tall. Two of the Protective police, Officers Simson and Smith, in their gray uniforms, were stationed at the stairways and took tickets from those who were admitted to the upper galleries.

#### LOCAL MILITARY STAFF.

"Marching Through Georgia" was played by the Fifty-fourth Regiment Band, which escorted the special staff of local militia officers assigned to duty on the platform with the distinguished guest. They were Captain H. B. Henderson, Captain F. G. Smith, First Lieutenant F. W. Bailey, First Lieutenant A. F. Smith, Junior Lieutenant F. M. Enos and Second Lieutenant F. T. Eigabroadt. In their elegant full dress uniforms they added a military halo to the scene.

Then arrived in full dress Chief of Police Cleary, Captains McDermott and Baird and Lieutenants Zimmerman,

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Sherman, Stetson, Schwartz and Ryan, and a moment later the Eighth Separate Company, Lieutenant E. N. Walbridge commanding, marched into the building.

Fifty members of the Eighth New York Cavalry, veterans of the Civil War, under General William H. Benjamin, after their annual reunion at Irondequoit Bay, marched to Powers Hotel to tender their services as escort to the Governor and his party to the Union League Club.

RECEPTION AT THE UNION LEAGUE CLUB.

As soon as the reception was ended at the Court House the party was driven directly to the Union League Club wigwam, on Grand street, where the members tendered a rousing reception. The drive was a lively one, for all along the streets approaching the wigwam there were red lights, fireworks and the firing of guns. The street in front of the club's headquarters was filled with people, and they cheered lustily as the Governor's carriage appeared, headed by the drill corps of the club, who had marched down South avenue to meet the party.

The wigwam was handsomely decorated with flags and bunting, and the platform was arranged as an alcove, handsomely festooned with flags. On the rostrum were Assemblyman A. J. Rodenbeck, Hon. John Van Voorhis, Treasurer Hamilton, Postmaster Graham, Charles J. Brown and others.

WELCOMED IN POETRY.

J. Frank Wilber welcomed the guests and the Governor, and said that the club had never been sorry for the loyal support it had given to the honored guest of the evening last fall. He introduced D. L. Ainsworth, who welcomed the Governor with the following poem:

Soldier boys and civilians too  
Extend their thanks for this interview.  
It carries us back to ninety-eight  
When your valor honored the Empire State.  
We saw you leading with courage and skill,  
Cowboys and clerks up San Juan hill—  
We saw you again at later date  
Stumping for justice the Empire State.

You conquered the Dons and the Tammany Scouts,  
And American manhood won both bouts.  
With Justice the watchword in each strife  
You battled each time for a better life.  
Alive and alert you have not slept,  
But your every promise faithfully kept.  
Whether in field or halls of state,  
Your service was worthy to emulate.

A classic man you have put aside caste  
And merit deferred from first to last.  
Labor and capital, rich and poor,  
Enter alike at Roosevelt's door.  
Whether as Governor, civilian or scout,  
You have worked your way from the inside out.  
Inspired by justice to do the best  
Your every action has stood the test.

The Union League grateful and true  
Ardently, earnestly welcomes you.  
Welcome the man who gave his youth  
In defense of freedom, justice and truth.  
Welcome the man of common clay  
Whose deeds have earned him the right of way.  
Comrade, brother, patriot true,  
We honor, admire and welcome you.

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WELCOMED IN PROSE.

The poem of welcome was followed by a speech by C. A. Simmons, the captain of the drill corps. He said:

Mr. President: I am called upon to perform an exceptionally agreeable task to-night. The Union League Club has been greatly honored by the presence as its guest of that idol of the people of the State of New York and the hero of this broad land of ours—that man of men—Hon. Theodore Roosevelt.

In a time of the country's need that gentleman resigned his position as an executive officer of the United States and recruited that famous body of men—that fearless, awe-inspiring, zealously patriotic regiment of fighters—the Rough Riders. Called upon to finally assume full control of the destinies of that command he responded in a manner which history will still repeat when all that lingers of the present generation is but a memory.

It is not fitting that I should here more than merely mention that famous charge of San Juan hill, the land battle which more than any other in the late war served to place the nation on a plane higher than it had ever before attained.

Last fall this club stood heart and vote for Theodore Roosevelt and not a solitary member has just cause for regret. Proudly conscious of the great trust the sovereign people reposed in his manhood and his integrity, he has borne himself such that they have come to realize a glowing fulfillment of their innermost desires—an honest, patriotic executive.

On yonder wall, fondly wrapped in the flowing folds of the American flag, that emblem for which he fought so nobly and so well, and that of freed Cuba, in whose late history he played so conspicuous and remarkable a part, hangs a picture of a man whom the members of this club and the people of this city, this state and this country love to honor—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt.

That picture was painted by Captain Russell, a veteran of the Civil War and a member of this club, and is to hang in the meeting room of this organization a mute but a glowing testimonial of the fidelity of the man and the devotion of the club. It is the earnest and sincere wish of the members of the Union League Club that time may still further heap bountiful honors on the name and the fame of our distinguished guest.

#### THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

President Wilber accepted the picture in behalf of the club and introduced Governor Roosevelt, who said in part:

"I very deeply appreciate the honor you have conferred upon me, and the thoughtfulness you have shown in presenting this club with my picture, painted by a soldier of the great war, one who fought years where we fought months. You can hardly appreciate the way I am affected by the spirit you have shown in receiving me. I think you know I generally say what I mean and mean what I say. I assert that no political honor could compensate for this spirit of devotion on your part.

"I think every man should be honored for what he accomplishes as a man, and for the fidelity he displays in keeping the promises he has made. No single promise I made or implied, but I have tried to the best of my ability to keep. I will make mistakes, we all make them, but they will be mistakes made trying to serve my party by trying to make it stand for the safety and progress of the commonwealth.

"Fundamentally a man must create his own happiness and welfare, but the state can do something to help him in receiving the rights and liberties which we all inherit. It can equalize the burdens he must bear, and make the difficulties of government as light as possible. In matters of taxation and labor I have done the best I could to make my office one

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in which all men are treated equal, showing no favor to race, origin or creed.

"I appreciate the honor you have shown me, and shall endeavor to so conduct myself in the year and a half which remains to me in office that I shall have a free conscience when I front you again—for after all a man must be true to his own ideals. Therein lies the best test of honest government. I again thank you for the honor you have conferred upon me in hanging my picture in your club rooms and in giving me this splendid reception."

## DOUGLASS DAY.

With flags flying from every masthead; amid the acclaim of the largest concourse of people in many years; a parade that included nearly all the military and civic organizations of the city; with exercises in which the Governor of the Empire State participated; with the booming of cannon and the cheering of the populace; the statue was unveiled that had been erected to the memory of the foremost colored statesman known to modern history, the most conspicuous historic figure ever seen in Rochester.

Frederick Douglass has always held a warm place in the memory of Rochester. During many of the most active years of his life, when he was fighting his hardest battles for the freedom of his race, when he was winning the great fame that gave him the high place he holds in history, he was a resident of this city. Here he had a wide circle of friends and was known to most of the older inhabitants of the city. Although in the later years of his life he lived in Washington, it was his dying wish that Rochester be his final resting place. Here his body was brought four years ago and here in the beautiful Mt. Hope cemetery his remains will repose forever.

It was most fitting that the statue to the memory of Douglass should be erected in the city of his adoption; that Roch-

ester should be the place for his public monument. In paying this tribute to the memory of a distinguished citizen the city honored itself.

June 9th was a gala day in Rochester. The people turned out in such throngs as to crowd every available inch of space within 300 feet of the monument, standing for hours during the unveiling ceremonies. They thronged the Central station when Governor Roosevelt arrived and they lined up all along the streets through which the parade passed.

The programme began at 2:20 o'clock in the afternoon, when the Governor reached the city, and did not end until late in the evening, when the various entertainments that had been arranged in his honor were concluded. The features of the day were the big parade that passed through the main streets of the city, the exercises connected with the unveiling of the monument on the square at the junction of Central avenue and St. Paul street, the public reception at the Court House, and the entertainments at the Union League Club and at Fitzhugh Hall.

While there was homage paid to the memory of the dead statesman, there was mingled a tribute of respect to the Governor of the state, who played a conspicuous part in the ceremonies of the day. Governor Roosevelt came to Rochester in an official capacity, as the head of the state government. As such he was welcomed by the municipality; the guest of the city. There was nothing, of course, that savored of partisanship or politics in this visit of His Excellency to Rochester. Democrats vied with Republicans in showing him respect and in helping to entertain him.

## CHAPTER XVII.

### COMMENT ON DOUGLASS' LIFE BY THE AMERICAN PRESS.

He figured in a revolutionary time and will be set down in history as one of the most notable men of a fiery epoch.—*Elmira Gazette*.

He lived in the stormiest epoch of our national existence and in his person typified the woes and oppressions of the black race.—*Albany Journal*.

He was an eloquent speaker, a good debater, a man of business ideas, a devoted friend of his race and one of its most honored and most worthy representatives.—*Syracuse Post*.

Certainly his was the school of adversity, and that he triumphed over obstacles such as would cause the bravest to turn back shows the unshrinking courage of the man.—*Troy Times*.

The struggles of his life were many and hard, but by force of character he surmounted them all and became by all odds the most conspicuous negro America has ever known.—*Utica Observer*.

As orator, editor and patriot he has left an impress upon history which will be ineffaceable. What a commentary is the career of Frederick Douglass upon the institution of slavery!—*New York Advertiser*.

If a list were to be made of the Americans who have done the greatest service to large numbers of their fellow citizens, the name of Frederick Douglass would have a high place upon it.—*Buffalo Express*.



Born a negro slave, he won freedom, distinction and widespread influence by his own efforts and his own abilities. Author, orator, statesman and leader of his race, he achieved a position and wielded an influence to which few men can aspire.—New York World.

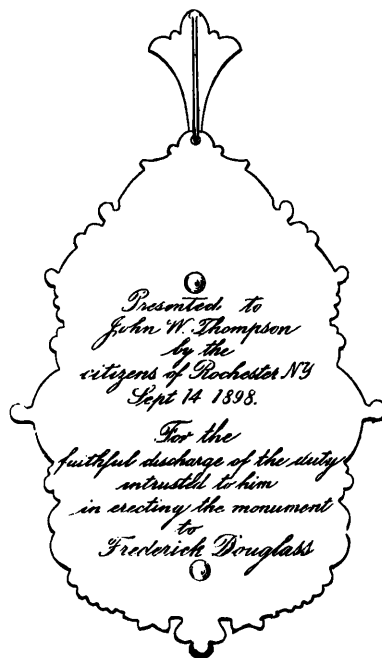
There are many distinguished and honored citizens of African lineage in the United States, but not one of them, not all of them, has done so much to advance the interests of this important element in American citizenship as the great man who died suddenly February 20, 1895, in Washington—Brooklyn Times.

The slave-born Fred. Douglass had a great career. He became the most commanding member of his race on this continent. Emancipation has so far failed to evolve a rival. His brethren may well mourn to-day. They have lost a sturdy friend, one who honored his kind Peace to his ashes!—Troy Press.

To the last Mr. Douglass showed a keen interest in the welfare of the colored people South as well as North. But he was by no means a man of one idea. His sympathy with the general progressive movements of the time was often made manifest. His presence will be missed in many a circle.—Boston Globe.

To New England, and particularly to Massachusetts, he was looked upon almost as an adopted son, for it was in the Old Bay state that his first words as a defender of his race were spoken, and during the anti-slavery agitation he was a prominent and welcome figure at many of the public meetings held in this section to protest against the bondage of his race.—Rochester Herald.

Frederick Douglass is not much more than a name to the present generation, but in the period of anti-slavery agitation the negro orator who had escaped from slavery was a conspicuous figure. He had a natural gift of eloquence that



BADGE PRESENTED TO J. W. THOMPSON.

had been well cultivated, and that, with a picturesque appearance and considerable earnestness, enabled him to plead for his race with uncommon force.—Philadelphia Times.

No one could start in life in more forbidding and discouraging circumstances than the boy who was destined to become celebrated on two continents as Frederick Douglass, the anti-slavery orator. His denunciations of slavery had not only the force of conviction, but the irresistible quality derived from personal experience. American annals furnish no more captivating illustration of a self-made man.—New York Tribune.

Mr. Douglass was one of the closest and most cogent debaters of the slavery question, and a most earnest and convincing advocate. On several occasions, in Syracuse, he was threatened with mob violence, once or twice was rotten-egged by slavery apologists and negro-haters; but he invariably preserved his temper, and was never provoked to diversion from the discussion of principle to personal controversy.—Syracuse Journal.

Mr. Douglass was a symmetrical character, free from the hatred and bitterness manifested by many of the early abolitionists, strong in argument and eloquent in speech. The people trusted him from the first, and those who were not unfriendly to slavery would listen to him when they would not listen to white men expressing the same sentiments. His good sense, tact and judgment made his aggressiveness seem to many a sort of pathetic earnestness, and he won the respect even of those who insisted on calling themselves his enemies.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

The lesson of Douglass' life is that of self trust and energetic action. He was a grand illustration of what a man may do for himself, his people and his country. With everything against him he conquered a place for himself where he was looked up to, even by his former enemies. He was not

a weak pleader or petitioner, but a man of initiative. It was not because he advanced the interests of the negro that men will honor his memory to-day, but because, by advancing the interest of the negro he raised the level of all manhood and made the whole world better by living in it.—*Brooklyn Eagle*.

A few years ago Frederick Douglass remarked to a friend that he had often thought of spending his remaining days in England because everywhere in the United States he was constantly reminded of the prejudice against his race.—*Buffalo Courier*.

His inspiration was in his experience, and his impassioned denunciation of the system from which he had been freed carried with it a convincing force against which the cooler expounders of the law could make little headway with those who felt rather than thought of the legal restraints imposed upon them. The great representative of his race was not always within the pale of the law, but he was always in deadly earnest and always sincere.—*Detroit Free Press*.

For more than half a century Mr. Douglass was a distinguished leader of his race by virtue of his intellectual gifts and marked oratorical powers. In recent years he had figured less prominently in the field of national discussion, but his career, which began in slavery, was full of ripe honors in the later years—civil, diplomatic and literary—and furnishes a lustrous demonstration of the possibilities that unfold before character and worth in this republican land without regard to the tint of a man's complexion.—*Philadelphia Record*.

A good many years ago he was on a lecture tour in a Northern state where the railroad companies provided separate ("Jim Crow") cars for negroes, as is still the custom, we hear, in some parts of the Union, and required the negroes to ride in them if they rode at all. The rule was im-

perative. Nevertheless Douglass, by way of protest, calmly took a seat in one of the cars reserved for white folks. A friendly conductor came along. He recognized his distinguished looking and already famous passenger at a glance, and he was very reluctant to disturb him. "Indian?" he inquired, with a wink and smile. "No, nigger," said Frederick Douglass. There was character in the answer. The man who made it would not obtain personal consideration and comfort at the price of a denial of his race and blood.—*Hartford Courant*.

Frederick Douglass was the peculiar product of peculiar conditions, and there was an element of romance in his life of vicissitude which kept him clearly in the public eye long after his real work was done. He would hardly have attained to so prominent a position as he did in the abolitionist movement had he been forced to rely solely on his personal qualities; it was the fact of his origin and his bitter experience in bondage that mainly won him attention and made him a helpful force in those days. Not that he was lacking in strong qualities of his own; he was a man of a degree of intelligence that would put to shame many whose antecedents and early opportunities were vastly better than his, and he had an oratorical ability of no mean order. But he did not find in later life any work to which he could apply himself quite so successfully as in earlier years to the liberation of his fellow slaves, and there was no topic on which he could think so clearly and talk so effectively as the wrongs of that bondage which he himself had suffered. It was given to him to perform a prominent and useful part in the toilsome work of arousing the public.—*Providence Journal*.

## CHAPTER XVIII.

### HOW THE NATIONAL AFRO-AMERICAN COUNCIL WAS FORMED.

August 23, 1898.

Mr. John W. Thompson, Rochester, N. Y.:

Esteemed Friend: I am in receipt of your communication of the 16th instant. It found me in moderate health. Accept my congratulations on your great success; you have immortalized yourself by this wonderful achievement. Long may you live to perform such deeds in the interest of your race. You may expect my presence on the 14th of September. I shall issue an order at once to the brethren to send in their subscriptions to me. Rest assured I will leave no stone unturned to collect every dollar subscribed. I had a conference with Friend Fortune, Durham and others about calling the proposed meeting at Rochester at the time of the unveiling. Fortune has agreed to make a call for a conference of the leaders throughout the country, to meet at Rochester about that time; he does not care to have a great meeting of the rabble, but simply twenty-five or fifty of the leaders of the race. I think this will add to the occasion. He informed me that you had requested him to call a meeting there. Watch the "Age" of next week and see what his decision will be (his final decision). If a call is made, notify me at once, at the general postoffice, Detroit, Mich., as I will be there the first week in September. I will notify the pastor at Rochester, so he can assist you in making preparations for the convention. You can depend upon me for any aid or encouragement necessary.

Yours very truly,

A. WALTERS.

This book would not be complete without giving the facts connected with the formation of the Afro-American Council in Rochester, September 15, 1898, at the request of many leading Afro-American citizens from all over the country.

T. Thomas Fortune, president of the Afro-American League, called a conference of the leaders of the race and selected Rochester as the place of meeting, on account of the unveiling of the Douglass monument, which was to have taken place at Rochester, N. Y., September 14, 1898.

In the following letter to Bishop A. Walters, President Fortune selected that city as the place of meeting:

To Bishop A. Walters, Jersey City, N. J.:

My Dear Sir: On the 10th of March last you did me the honor to suggest that I issue, as president, a call for the resurrection and rehabilitation of the Afro-American League, which was organized at Chicago, January 15, 1890, the second and last annual meeting of which was held at Knoxville, Tenn., in 1892. Since the first publication of your request in "The Age," March 10th last, numerous persons, to the number of one hundred and fifty, have joined in the request, and their names have been published from time to time, attached to your request, and have therefore become a part of it, attaching national importance to the desire for some organized expression of Afro-American opinion of the conditions which confront the race, and which differ but little from those stated by me in 1890, as a sufficient provocation for calling the Afro-American League at Chicago.

I have given your request long and faithful consideration, and have reached the conclusion that the popular sentiment behind the request does not justify me in acceding to it. There is just as much need of the Afro-American League to-day as there was in 1890; there is even more need for such an organization; but I do not believe that the masses of the

race are any more ready and willing to organize local and state leagues of the National League and to sustain them by moral and financial support than they were in 1890 and 1892. I am therefore not willing to take the responsibility of undertaking the resurrection of the Afro-American League when the chances of effecting a permanent organization are so very doubtful.

But, in deference to the desire of yourself and the persons who have joined you in the request, and after consultation with responsible men and women in all parts of the country, who feel with me that something of an organized nature should be done to stem the tide of wrong and injustice of which the race is made the victims, I have decided to call a conference at Rochester, N. Y., September 15, 1898, to consider existing conditions and to take such action as may be wise, loyal and patriotic for the future, the conference to be composed of those who have joined in the request for the resurrection of the Afro-American League, and who shall determine upon the admission of such others as may appear at Rochester and desire to participate in the work of the conference.

My excuse for calling the conference at Rochester is to take advantage of the race sentiment which will be invoked by the unveiling of a monument to Frederick Douglass, in Rochester, September 14th, a city in which Mr. Douglass spent some of the best and happiest and most fruitful years of his life, and one of the freest and most tolerant cities in the republic, whose hotels and homes and press will receive the conferees with open arms and generous hospitality.

Persons desiring to attend the conference should write to Mr. John W. Thompson, P. O. Box 493, Rochester, N. Y., for railroad rates and hotel accommodations.

Invoking the Divine blessing on the proposed conference, and thanking you, Bishop Walters and your co-signers, for



the honor you have done me in your request, I am, with sentiments of high regard, yours truly,

T. THOMAS FORTUNE.

September 15th, at 10:45 o'clock promptly, Mr. T. Thomas Fortune opened the meeting and called upon Rev. Mr. Bowens, of Troy, to pronounce an invocation. J. W. Thompson introduced Mayor Warner in the following words:

"I am pleased to welcome you to this important conference. Many of you are strangers here. I take great pleasure in introducing to you Mayor George E. Warner, who will make you welcome to our city."

Hon. George E. Warner said:

"Should any one assert, to-day that the colored people are not capable of becoming good citizens and enjoying the liberties a short time ago presented to them, you may answer by referring him to the words uttered in Fitzhugh Hall yesterday, to the monument then dedicated, and to the life of Frederick Douglass. Not the least good done by that great man for his race was his demonstration of his ability to prosper under good laws.

"It is to be hoped that the time may soon arrive when the colored people will be able to cease their battle against race prejudice and concentrate all their efforts for the full development of all the abilities of the race. The events of recent years show that time is the main element required to make a good citizen of every colored man in the country. Steady improvement has been made in recent years in the condition of the colored people of this country, due largely to the increased educational facilities furnished throughout the United States, the records showing that there has been a steady increase in the number of colored people attending our schools and colleges.

"Not only in the arts of peace but in those of war also, the colored citizen has proven his worth. It was true Amer-

ican honesty which gave the colored troops before Santiago their full share of the glory. There is not a citizen of the country who is not proud of their record.

"It gives me pleasure to welcome you to our city. We feel honored by your selecting our city as the place for your conference. There are thousands of your race all over the Union who grace every profession and calling, and I am sure that a body of men more capable of dealing with questions of public importance it would be difficult to find.

"We have in this city a large number of colored inhabitants, whom we esteem as worthy citizens. Our city was friendly to the colored race in days when that friendship was criminal, and she is friendly still.

"I trust that your deliberations here will be profitable, and result in increased benefit to the people you represent."

C. J. Perry, of the Philadelphia "Tribune," said: "There is no city I have visited where I have noted the spirit of patriotism to so great a degree. We have been charmed by your commercial prosperity and the dignity of your citizens. We expected to find these things. Rochester's name and fame have gone out because of her business and literary advancements. Believe us, sir, when we say that we know full well something of the spirit of freedom prevailing here, the seed of which was sown by those some of whom are sitting here to-day. How proud we are to know that the people of this city do whatever they can to diffuse the spirit of generosity over the land.

"It was because of this generous spirit, the president of the league selected Rochester as the new starting place for the league. Fortunately for your city, sir, you are not satisfied to rest upon glories of the past. Yesterday's dedication added only one more link in the chain of memories which have made your city great, grand and glorious. We appreciate your words of welcome."

Mr. Fortune then said: "As I am responsible for the calling of this conference, it is fitting that I should say something of the object of the meeting. It was a long time before I decided to call the meeting. I do not think I shall have anything further to do with an organization organized for the benefit of the people in general unless the women are given a voice in its affairs."

Miss Anthony interrupted: "I wish you could get a white man to say that."

"They will have to say it ere long, Miss Anthony," replied Mr. Fortune.

"I have had my experience in trying to create an organization out of an incongruous mass. And I stand here to-day and say that I do not think the great mass of the colored people of this country is prepared for a national organization. Just as the Irish people were not prepared for organization when it was attempted.

"The poverty and ignorance of our people is against the plan for they have had but thirty years in which to recover from 250 years of bondage. We may not be able at once to control the mass, but if we as individuals can get together and devise a plan we may move the masses. Our attendance here to-day is affected by the fact that the monument exercises were postponed and then again taken up.

"The race as a whole is not in condition yet to combat the prejudice against the race, but Bishop A. Walters, Collector J. C. Dancy and others here think that even a handful can sow the seed. I am almost persuaded that we cannot accomplish our object any more than we could the abolition of slavery unless the white men and the black men, the white women and the black women, join the movement.

"Three states, South Carolina, Mississippi and Louisiana, have disfranchised us as entirely as we were before the war. Alabama is to do the same thing. Where it is not done by

constitutional enactment, it is done by scheme and fraud. One half of the electoral vote of the South is disfranchised.

"The Southern sentiment that has been carried into the new possessions will result in a revolution in ten years, unless care is taken. If you rule the black and yellow people in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines as the South has been and is being ruled, you will have revolution upon revolution and you ought to have it.

"If you expect to lift up the South by putting only the white men forward, you are going to have trouble right along. You have made 26,000 black teachers in the South and have taught our people freedom, but in the South the people are teaching out of text books fifty years old. You cannot put the two classes together without a clash. Mob law prevails in the South, and mob law leads to revolution. You are sure to have it. It is the result of injustice.

"Take the separate car law. I ride in a Pullman car when I want to. If I had my way I would build a monument to George M. Pullman so high you could not see the top of it. If I ever had any trouble in securing a seat in a Pullman car, all I needed to do was to telegraph headquarters and my seat was ready at the next station and the conductor who first refused me lost his job. Mr. Pullman died too soon.

"Now on the home question. I am opposed to having different marriage and divorce laws in the several states. While this is the case we have no high standard of morality."

Taking up the subject of the Scotch woman who was recently detained by the immigration commissioners at New York because she came to America to marry a black man, Mr. Fortune said he demanded to know the facts and through his persistent efforts the woman was released and was married to the black man.

"Revise your laws regarding the intermarriage of the

“races,” continued Mr. Fortune, “if you wish to conduce to morality. If a white woman falls in love with a black man and they are not allowed to marry they will live together illegally. The trouble is in your laws. Go South and you will see the yellow color of the people. The black man did not make the yellow color. Whose fault is it? Twenty-four states in this union have laws prohibiting the intermarriage of the races. These laws should be wiped out. Surely we have sufficient provocation to have an association for the uplifting of the race.”

Upon the motion of Bishop Walters, Mr. T. T. Fortune was made temporary chairman. Mrs. Ida B. Wells Barnett was made secretary. Upon motion of Mr. J. C. Dancy a committee of three was appointed to ascertain the composition of the conference. This committee consisted of Messrs. Dancy and Walters and Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey. The matter was quickly settled by asking all who wished to participate in the conference to come within the railing, there being no restriction as to color or sex.

Miss Susan B. Anthony made interesting remarks in behalf of the colored people. As she stepped to the platform where President Ward is accustomed to view the deliberations of the Common Council, she said:

“I would like to stand at this side of the desk but I cannot for here is a large spittoon; and there on the other side is another. I wonder if when the black man is elected to represent his ward in the august assemblage of the city legislature, he will need a washtub at the side of his desk?”

The chairman appointed the following committees:

Organization—Bishop A. Walters, Charles R. Douglass, John W. Thompson, Mrs. R. J. Jeffrey, Rev. W. E. Bowen.

Resolutions—John C. Dancy, Mrs. Rosita D. Sprague, C. J. Perry, Mrs. Ida Wells Barnett, F. S. Cunningham.

At the afternoon session the committee on permanent or-

ganization made its report, which was adopted and Mr. T. Thomas Fortune, of New York, was elected president; John C. Dancy, North Carolina, vice-president; Mrs. Ida B. W. Barnett, Chicago, Ill., secretary; John W. Thompson, N. Y., treasurer.

For some reason Mr. Fortune resigned as president, and Bishop Alexander Walters was elected president, to succeed Mr. Fortune, who was afterwards elected chairman of the executive committee, which consisted of these members: J. C. Dancy, Mrs. Ida B. W. Barnett, B. W. Arnett, J. W. Parker, C. J. Perry, H. T. Keating and Bishop A. Walters, ex-officio.

Prominent among those present were Mrs. Helen Douglass, widow of the late Frederick Douglass, Mrs. Emily Howard, Mrs. Sarah C. Blackall, Mrs. L. C. Smith, Washington, D. C., and Rev. Joseph Dixon, Buffalo, N. Y.

Mrs. Frederick Douglass addressed the newly organized Afro-American Council, taking for her subject the Frederick Douglass Memorial Home.

The conference reassembled at 2 P. M., and was called to order by Chairman Fortune.

John H. Smythe, of Richmond, Va., addressed the chair and said he could not become a member if the conference opposed separate schools and favored mixed marriages. He asked the chair to rule on his status. Mr. Fortune declared that if Mr. Smythe favored separate schools and marriages he could not be a member. The matter was put to a vote and the chair was not sustained, whereupon Mr. Fortune left the chair. The question was reconsidered, the chair's decision was upheld and Mr. Smythe left the meeting.

THE END.