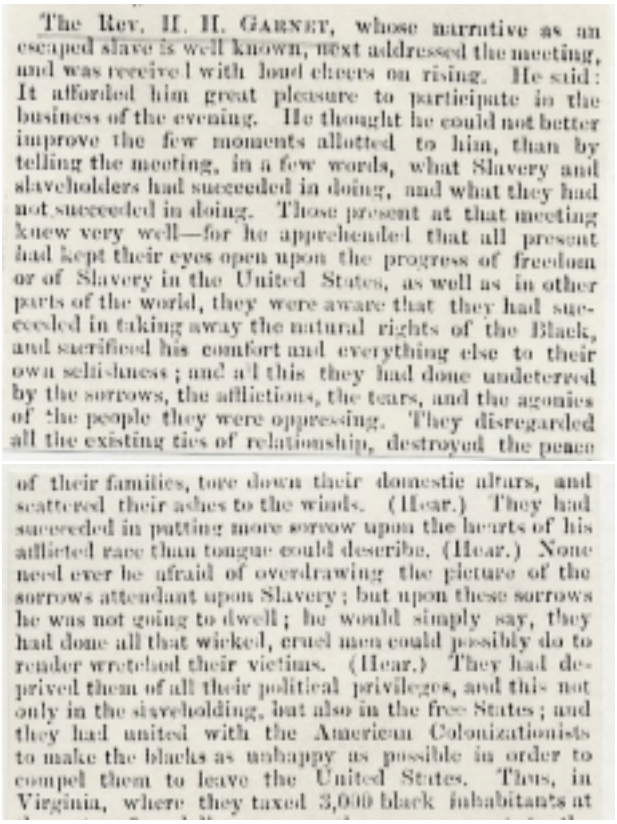
The Rev. H. H. GARNET, whose narrative as an escaped slave is well known, next addressed the meeting, and was received with loud cheers on rising. He said: It afforded him great pleasure to participate in the business of the evening. He thought he could not better improve the few moments allotted to him, than by telling the meeting, in a few words, what Slavery and slaveholders had succeeded in doing, and what they had not succeeded in doing. Those present at that meeting knew very well– for he apprehended that all present had kept their eyes open upon the progress of freedom or of Slavery in the United States, as wells as in other parts of the world, they were aware that they had succeeded in taking away the natural rights of the Black, and sacrificed his comfort and everything else to their own selfishness; and al this they had done undeterred by the sorrows, the afflictions, the tears, and the agonies of the people they were oppressing. They disregarded all the existing ties of relationship, destroyed the peace of their families, tore down their domestic altars, and scattered their ashes to the winds. (Hear.) They had succeeded in putting more sorrow upon the hearts of his afflicted race than tongue could describe. (Hear.) None need ever be afraid of overdrawing the picture of the sorrows attendant upon Slavery; but upon these sorrows he was not going to dwell; he would simply say, they had done all that wicked, cruel men could possibly do to render wretched their victims. (Hear.) They had de– prived them of all their political privileges, and this not only in the slaveholding, but also in the free States; and they had united with the American Colonizationists to make the blacks as unhappy as possible in order to compel them to leave the United States. Thus, in Virginia, where they taxed 3,000 black inhabitants at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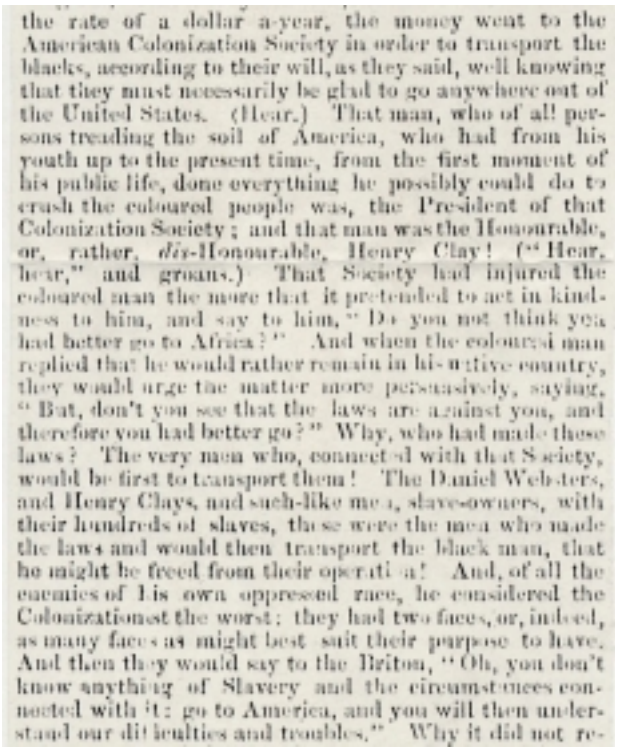
the rate of a dollar a-year, the money went to the American Colonization Society in order to transport the blacks, according to their will, as they said, well knowing that they must necessarily be glad to go anywhere out of the United States. (Hear.) That man, who of all per–sons treading the soil of America, who had from his youth up the present time, from the first moment of his public life, done everything the possibly could do to crush the coloured people was, the President of that Colonization Society; and that man was the Honourable, or, rather, *dis*-Honourable, Henry Clay! ("Hear hear," and groans.) That Society had injured the coloured man the more that it pretended to act in kind–ness to him, and say to him, "Do you not think you had better go to Africa?" And when the coloured man replied that he would rather remain in his native country, they would urge the matter more persuasively, saying, "But, don't you see that the laws are against you, and therefore you had better go?" Why, who had made these laws? The very men who, connected with that Society, would be first to transport them! The Daniel Websters, and Henry Clays, and such-like men, slave-owners, with their hundreds of slaves, these were the men who made the laws and would them transport the black man, that he might be freed from their operation! And, of all the enemies of his own oppressed race, he considered the Colonizationist the worst: they had two faces, or indeed, as many faces as might best suit their purpose to have. And then they would say to the Briton, "Oh, you don't know anything of Slavery and the circumstances con–nected with it: go to America, and you will then under–stand our difficulties and troubles." Why it did not re–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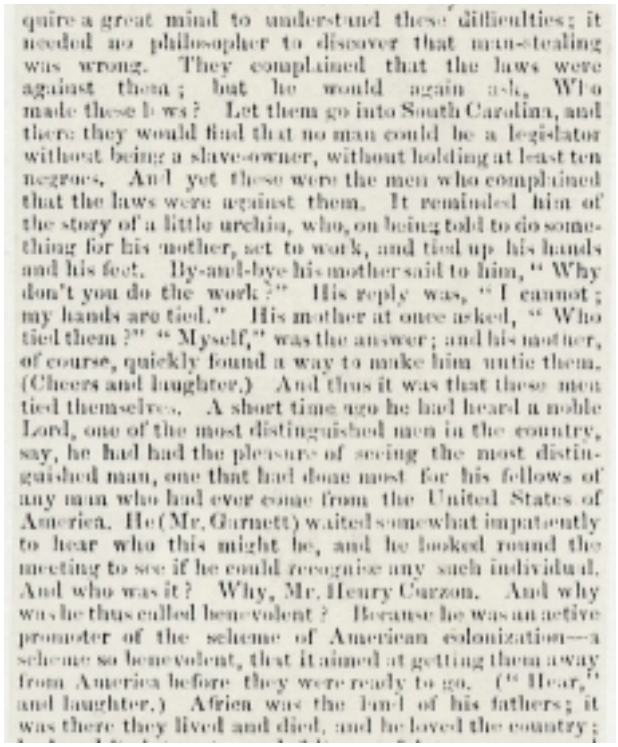
quire a great mind to understand these difficulties; it needed no philosopher to discover that man–stealing was wrong. They complained that the laws were against them; but he would again ask, Who made these laws? Let them go into South Carolina, and there they would find that no man could be a legislator without being a slave–owner, without holding at least ten negroes. And yet these were the men who complained that the laws were against them. It reminded him of the story of a little urchin, who, on being told to do some–thing for his mother, set to work, and tied up his hands and his feet. By–and–bye his mother said him, "Why don't you do the work?" His reply was, "I cannot; my hands are tied." His mother at once asked, "Who tied them?" "Myself," was the answer; and his mother, of course, quickly found a way to make him untie them. (Cheers and laughter.) And thus it was that these men tied themselves. A short time ago he had heard a noble Lord, one of the most distinguished men in the country, say, he had had the pleasure of seeing the most distin–guished man, one that had done most for his fellows of any man who had ever come from the United States of America. He (Mr. Garnett) waited somewhat impatiently to hear who this might be, and he looked round the meeting to see if he could recognise any such individual. And what was it? Why, Mr. Henry Curzon. And why was he thus called benevolent? Because he was an active promoter of the scheme of American colonization–a scheme so benevolent, that it aimed at getting them away from America before they were ready to go. ("Hear," and laugher.) Africa was the land of his fathers; it was there they lived and died, and he loved the country;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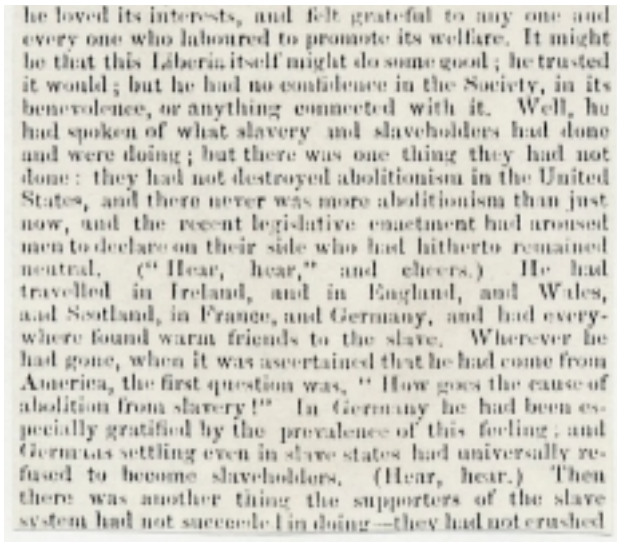
he loved its interests, and felt grateful to any one and every one who laboured to promote its welfare. It might be that this Liberia itself might do some good; he trusted it would; but he had no confidence in the Society, in its benevolence, or anything connected with it. Well, he had spoken of what slavery and slaveholders had done and were doing; but there was one thing they had not done: they had not destroyed abolitionism in the United States, and there never was more abolitionism than just now, and the recent legislative enactment had aroused men to declared on their side who had hitherto remained neutral. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) He had travelled in Ireland, and in England, and Wales, and Scotland, in France, and Germany, and had every–where found warm friends to the slave. Wherever he had gone, when it was ascertained that he had come from America, the first question was, "How goes the cause of abolition from slavery!" In Germany he had been es–epcially gratified by the prevalence of this feeling; and Germans settling even in slave states had universally re–fused to become slaveholders. (Hear, hear.) Then there was another thing the supporters of the slave system had not succeeded in doing—they had not crushed the energies of the black race; their motto was Onward! Upward! They were resolved rise! (Applause.) They were rising and increasing in influence. Go to the churches and witness it there. In Philadelphia they had nineteen churches, in New York sixteen or seventeen. Go to their schools–taught in many instances by the coloured people themselves—go to their colleges, and in these places witness their progress. They had those who were professors, physicians, editors, and lawyers—all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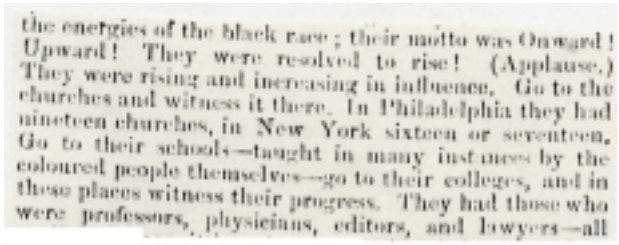
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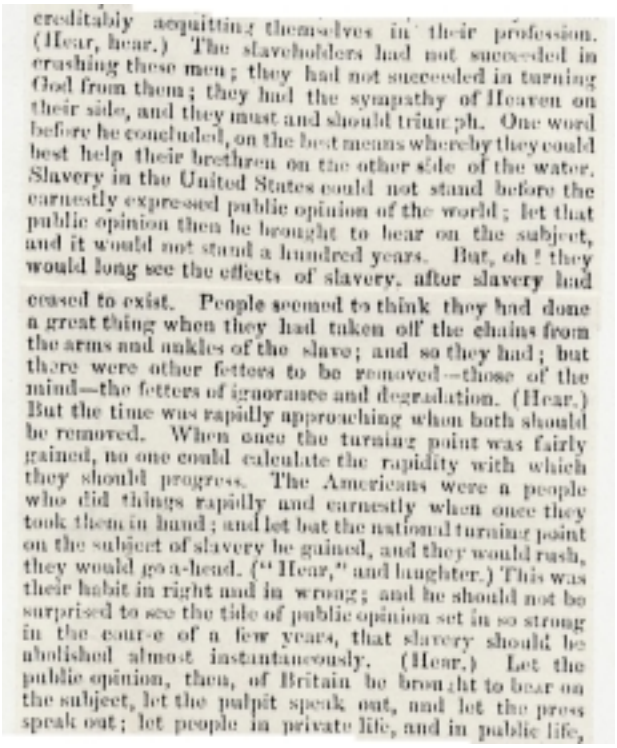
creditably acquitting themselves in their profession. (Hear, hear.) The slaveholders had not succeeded in crushing these men; they had not succeeded in turning God from them; they had the sympathy of Heaven on their side, and they must and should triumph. One word before he concluded, on the best means whereby they could best help their brethren on the other side of the water. Slavery in the United States could not stand before the earnestly expressed public opinion of the world; let that public opinion then be brought to bear on the subject, and it would not stand a hundred years. But, oh! they would long see the effects of slavery, after slavery had ceased to exist. People seemed to think they had done a great thing when they had taken off the chains from the arms and ankles of the slave; and so they had; but there were other fetters to be removed—those of the mind—the fetters of ignorance and degradation. (Hear.) But the time was rapidly approaching whom both should be removed. When once the turning point was fairly gained, no one could calculate the rapidity with which they should progress. The Americans were a people who did things rapidly and earnestly when once they took them in hand; and let but the national turning point on the subject of slavery be gained, and they would rush, they would go–ahead. ("Hear," and laughter.) This was their habit in right and in wrong; and he should not be surprised to see the tide of public opinion set in so strong in the course of a few years, that slavery should be abolished almost instantaneously. (Hear.) Let the public opinion, then, of Britain be brought to bear on the subject, let the pulpit speak out, and let the press speak out; let people in private life, and in public life,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claration, whereon their constitution as a nation was
based, that declaration which declared that all men are
equal; let them show America that they noticed her in–
consistency. Then the cotton question had yet to come
before the British public, and the time was coming when
they would be compelled to look at it; for when slavery
should be abolished, many now engaged in the cultiva-
tion of cotton, as slaves, would give their attention to
other trades, and if they had not before that time turned
their attention to the cultivation of free–labour cotton,
who could calculate the consequences? The British
consumption of slave–grown cotton now supported their
slave–markets, and many were aware, perhaps, of the
influence of the cotton–market on the slave–market; but
it was a fact, that a rise of a single cent a lb. in cotton,
would cause a rise in the price of slaves in the market of
100 dollars a–head. When cotton was selling a six cents
a lb., slaves would sell slowly at five or six hundred
dollars a–head; but when cotton reached fifteen cents per
pound, then slaves would go rapidity at nine, ten, or
eleven hundred dollars a-head. Now, England could
strike a death blow at slavery by refusing to use slave–
grown productions; and until they did this, they could
not consistently ask the slave–owner to let his bondmen
go free. And how could any one in that assembly
carry out the golden rule if he were conscious
of the use of slave–grown sugar, cotton, or tobacco? Let
England, then, invest some of her capital in producing
these articles by free labour in Australia and in Africa;
their American friends would then find it did not pay to keep
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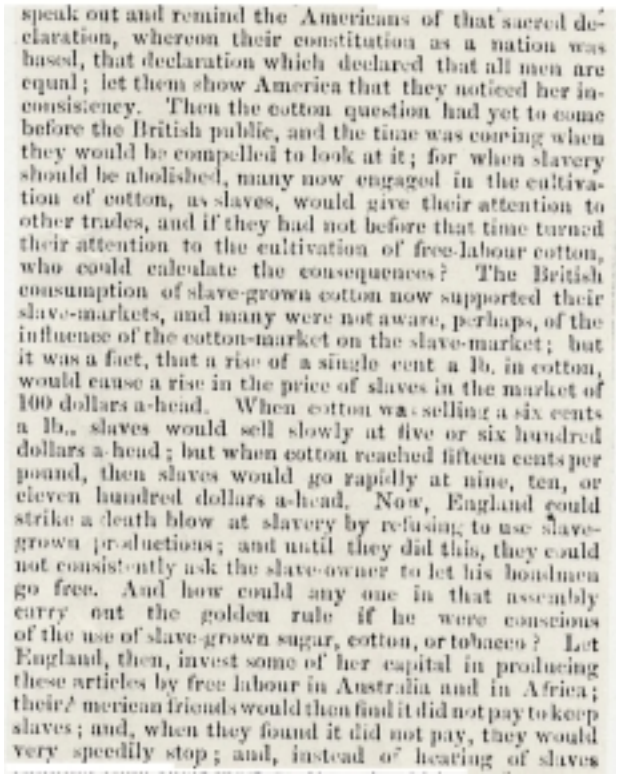
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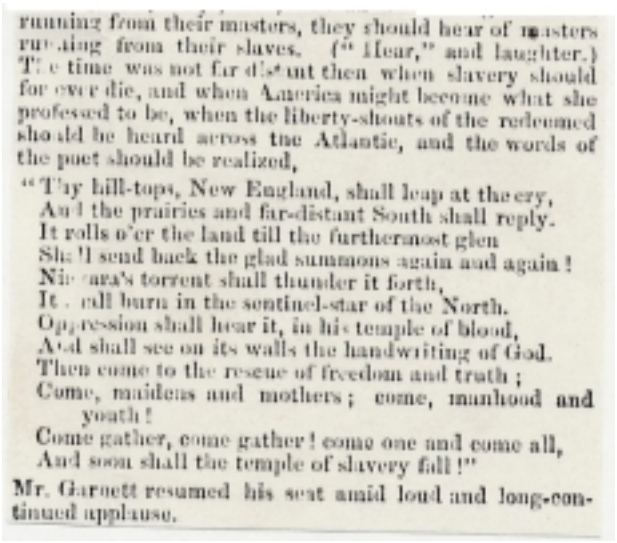
running from their masters, they should hear of masters running from their slaves. ("Hear," and laughter.) The time was not far distant when slavery should forever die, and when America might become what she professed to be, when the liberty–shouts of the redeemed should be heard across the Atlantic, and the words of the poet should be realized.

"Thy hill-tops, New England, shall leap at the cry,
And the prairies and far-distant South shall reply.
It rolls o'er the land till the furthermost glen
Shall send back the glad summons again and again!
Niagara's torrent shall thunder it forth,
It shall burn in the sentinel-star of the North.
Oppression shall hear it, in his temple of blood,
And shall see on its walls the handwriting of God.
Then come to the rescue of freedom and truth;
Come, maidens and mothers; come, manhood and youth!
Come gather, come gather! come one and come all,
And soon shall the temple of slavery fall!"

Mr. Garnett resumed his seat amid loud and long–continued applause.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