

Garnet, Henry Highland; et. al.

## Hope for Africa.

CHRISTIAN CIVILIZATION, AND EXTENSION OF COTTON CULTURE IN CENTRAL AFRICA, WITH THE CONSEQUENT  
EXTINCTION OF THE SLAVE-TRADE AND SLAVERY, BY MEANS OF THE DESCENDANTS OF AFRICA.

Office African Civilization Society,

23, BIBLE HOUSE, NEW YORK.

1860.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE AFRICAN RACE.

THE under-mentioned free coloured citizens of the United States desire to state to the British public our views in relation to the above important topics. We feel it to be our duty, as well as privilege, to give the Gospel and Christian Civilization to our Fatherland. We think that the extinction of the Slave-trade will be secured by the influence of Christianity upon the hearts of the natives of Africa, preventing them from selling their neighbours as captives to the slave-traders, and thus the supplies will be cut off at their source.

As Central Africa is a vast Cotton region, we feel confident that, if its inhabitants were brought under the influences of the Christian Religion and Christian Civilization, they would become industrious producers of cotton, as well as other articles of commerce, and would need the various manufactures of Great Britain and America. We desire to become instrumental in developing the rich resources of that land, so that sufficient cotton may be exported to Great Britain to affect Slavery in America, and strike it in its vital point. As England is the consumer of £25,000,000 sterling worth of slave-grown American cotton, we fear that Emancipation will be delayed while she is thus complicated with the system of American Slavery, and our efforts to elevate our race be retarded.

We purpose, with the aid of the friends of the African race, to engage actively in every plan which promises elevation to our race on both sides of the Atlantic. One of the most important is that which relates to the Redemption of Africa. We propose to send some of our number, qualified for the work, to the region in and near Yoruba, and the valleys of the Niger, and its branches, to promote the objects referred to. Some members of the Society have already gone there, and have made an agreement with the King and Chiefs of the Egba Country, by which they receive coloured Christian Missionaries and settlers from America, giving all the privileges we have asked, and are cordially welcomed by the natives.

Our plans are :—

- 1.—That a party proceed to Africa as soon as possible, to confirm the friendly relations already established, and commence the work we have designed, viz :—
- 2.—To extend Christianity and Christian Civilization in Africa, to erect school-houses and Houses of Worship, to instruct the natives in the Arts and Sciences, and develope, by intelligence and industry, the natural resources of the country.
- 3.—To promote the exchange of the Cotton, Sugar, Rice, Palm Oil, etc., of Africa, for the various articles of manufacture of Great Britain and America, exclusive of Rum and Tobacco. This we think to be necessary, so that our objects may be accomplished, both for our own welfare, and to aid in bringing commerce and all the multifarious business of life under the dominion of Christ.
- 4.—To substitute Free-labour Cotton, Sugar, etc., instead of Slave-grown, in the markets of the world, and thus render Slavery unprofitable everywhere.

We respectfully ask your sympathy to cheer, your prayers to strengthen, and your aid to enable us and our associates to do this great and needful work. We think the time has come when Christians should carry their religious principles into everything they do, so that all may be to God's glory; and such is our desire. Some of our brethren wish to preach the Gospel in Africa; others to promote the secular interests of our race; all wish to do it in accordance with Christian principle. Fifty-seven are now enrolled to go as soon as able, and we ask for your kind co-operation to carry us forward. You are aware that our position in the United States is such that not many can amass wealth, and we need the means necessary to give strength to the undertaking. We have computed that £21 (100 dollars) will convey a settler to Yoruba, and provide for six months' subsistence there. In the case of Missionaries, Physicians, and Teachers, a few pounds more would enable them to purchase books and medicines. With the blessing of God we hope to secure, as the result of our efforts, the triumph of the Gospel in Africa, and consequent overthrow of idolatry and superstition; the destruction of the African Slave-trade and Slavery; the diffusion of Christian principles of religion, law, and order, in Central Africa; and the elevation of our race everywhere. A company is now forming to go, and will start as soon as the amount needed (about £1,500) is raised, or a part with less means, so as to secure the advantages already gained. Many sincere American friends of our race are joined with us, and we trust our British friends will add strength to this movement. The Foreign Secretary, Rev. T. BOURNE, is authorized to act for us in Europe.

Mr. BOURNE, like many other friends among the Caucasian race, is deeply interested in the welfare of the oppressed; and will give further information concerning our plans, especially those which relate to our advancement in America.

We pray that "Ethiopia may soon stretch out her hands unto God," and we shall be thankful for your sympathy and aid in this important work. Thousands of exiles are now banished from the Southern States, which adds new duties to those already existing, both to extend hospitality, as well as to provide for their welfare and permanent employment. Our field of labour embraces the United States and West Indies, as well as Africa; and includes our entire population. We are thankful for the generous sympathy shown to our race by our British friends, and trust we may be instrumental in delivering Great Britain from reliance upon slave-grown products for the continuance of her commercial prosperity; but, above all, may be the means of giving to Africa the knowledge of the true God, and Jesus Christ, our only Saviour.

Yours very respectfully,

HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET, *President.*

JOHN PETERSON, *Recording Secretary.*

On behalf of—

Rev. J. B. SMITH, M.D., New Bedford, Massachusetts.  
C. H. MAHONY, Boston, Massachusetts.  
M. J. MAHONY, " "  
DARIUS HAINES, " "  
GEORGE ELLIS, " "  
CHARLES GARDNER, " "

WILLIAM DUNN, Boston, Massachusetts.  
GEORGE BROWN, Worcester, "  
Rev. B. W. WILKINS,\* New York.  
ROBERT HAMILTON, " "  
AND 47 OTHERS.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE AFRICAN RACE.

London, 1860.

In accordance with the above, I would respectfully inform you that letters for me may be addressed to 27, New Broad Street, E.C. (British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society's Office). Donations and Subscriptions will be duly acknowledged, and may be forwarded to Rev. T. BOURNE, at the above address; or to the care of Messrs. BARCLAY, BEVAN & Co., Bankers, 54, Lombard Street, E.C., London.

Yours respectfully,

T. BOURNE, *Foreign Secretary.*

52, LAURENS STREET, NEW YORK,

January 13th, 1860.

TO THE FRIENDS OF AFRICA.

It affords me great pleasure to introduce to you the Rev. THEODORE BOURNE, Foreign Secretary of the African Civilization Society. Mr. BOURNE is well informed upon the African question, and is deeply interested in the welfare of the oppressed.

I sincerely trust he will receive from you that kindness for which you are distinguished.

Yours truly,

HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET.

From the Rev. HUGH STOWELL, M.A., Manchester.

TO THE FRIENDS OF THE AFRICAN RACE.

So far as I have had time and opportunity to investigate the plans and purposes of the New York African Civilization Society I highly approve them, and therefore wish Mr. BOURNE God-speed in his efforts.

MANCHESTER, October 3rd, 1859.

HUGH STOWELL.

From Rev. WILLIAM McKERROW, D.D., and Rev. JOSEPH PARKER, Manchester.

MANCHESTER, October 6th, 1859.

We, the undersigned, having made ourselves acquainted with the objects of the above Society, very cordially commend it to the confidence and support of the Christian public.

WILLIAM McKERROW, D.D.

JOSEPH PARKER.

From the Rev. ALBERT BARNES, Philadelphia.

MY DEAR SIR,

PHILADELPHIA, February 9th, 1859.

I have just received your letter and circular respecting the African Civilization Society, and I thank you for the honour which you have done me in making me a Vice-President. I had the opportunity to look a little into the plans and objects of the Society a few weeks ago, and they seem to me, as far as I understand them, to be benevolent and wise, and worthy of public confidence. In fact, suggesting the only feasible scheme for accomplishing the full designs of benevolence in regard to Africa, and the coloured part of our country. The plan seems to me to have high claims to public confidence, and I shall cheerfully render it any aid in my power.

I am, very respectfully yours,

ALBERT BARNES.

Rev. T. BOURNE, Corresponding Secretary.

\* T. H., Esq., who has contributed liberally to the Society, and defrays the expenses of Mr. WILKINS and family, again offers to be one of six to give £25 each, towards sending out six coloured Missionaries to Yoruba.

### Plans contemplated for Action in Great Britain.

1.—To form a Society, with auxiliary branches, in this country, to aid the AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY OF NEW YORK, conjointly with us, to carry out the objects of promoting the Christian civilization of Africa, by means of Christian coloured settlers from America; and to instruct the natives in improved modes of art, manufactures, and the cultivation of the soil.

2.—To form in Great Britain a commercial company to employ the services of coloured agents of the above description in Yoruba and other districts of Central Africa, especially on or near the Niger; to purchase, collect, and forward articles of African commerce, especially cotton, sugar, rice, palm oil, &c.; and in return to sell to the natives of Africa the various articles of British manufacture.

It is understood that these plans, though separate, have a beneficial influence upon each other. The Secretary is authorized to state, that a gentleman who has contributed liberally towards the AFRICAN CIVILIZATION SOCIETY will, if others unite with him, take stock to the amount of £2,000 sterling in a "Central African Commercial Company," so that the settlers may be sure of work at the outset when they arrive, and at once be able to carry out their plans. Such a company would do very much to hasten the result aimed at. Shall the company be soon formed?

*From the "British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Reporter," November 1st, 1859.*

"We would be glad if the plans of this Society were known to all the friends of the African race in the United Kingdom. The President is the Rev. HENRY HIGHLAND GARNET, a coloured Minister, who is extensively and favourably known throughout Great Britain. Its Vice-Presidents and other officers are of both races; among whom are Rev. ALBERT BARNES, ROBERT LINDLEY MURRAY, Rev. HENRY WILKES, D.D., DILLWYN PARRISH, WILLIAM WHIPPER, Chief-Justice HORNBLOWER, GEORGE W. TAYLOR, Rev. J. T. HOLLY, Rev. E. P. ROGERS, Rev. THEODORE L. CUYLER, BENJAMIN COATES, and other well-known Philanthropists."

#### LONDON EMANCIPATION COMMITTEE.

At a Meeting of the London Emancipation Committee, held on Saturday, 22nd October, 1859, the following Resolution was unanimously adopted:—RESOLVED:—

"That this meeting desires to express its sympathy with the objects of the African Civilization Society, in so far as they are calculated to promote the growth and exportation of free labour produce from the African Continent, and the establishment of a line of free settlements along the West-Coast of Africa,—a policy which is the most likely to secure the ultimate extinction of the Slave trade."

See *Anti-Slavery Advocate*, December 1st, 1859.

F. W. CHISSON, Secretary.