

President Arthur and the Jubilee Singers.

IN contrast to the despicable conduct of some of the hotel managers of Washington is that of our cultured and manly President in his reception of the Fisk University Jubilee Singers as chronicled below:

WASHINGTON, Feb. 19.—The Fisk Jubilee Singers called on the President yesterday. He received them in the Library. Their agent, upon presenting them, said:

MR. PRESIDENT: We have called to pay our respects, not only because you are President of the United States, but from the fact that we know you to be a warm and earnest friend of our race, and that you have espoused our cause in early life; and we look upon you as our friend. If it would please you, sir, we would only be too happy to sing one of our selections.

The President said:

I am very much pleased to meet you. I have frequently heard of your wonderful songs, though I have never heard them. I thank you for the opportunity, and will listen with pleasure.

In low, sweet tones they commenced the well known "Steal away to Jesus" (with the Lord's Prayer), and as the rich notes swelled and reverberated through the library, weird and wild, and long, the President became deeply moved, and endeavored to brush away the tears with his hand, but the fountain which had broken forth under the touching song refused to be staid, and taking from his pocket his handkerchief he burst into tears and wept like a little child. The last note ceased, and after drying his eyes the President warmly shook each one by the hand, and turning to Dr. Rankin said: "Doctor, I have never in my life been so much moved." The Doctor replied: "Mr. President, this is one of the things we like you for; that such things move you."

The troupe then took leave of the President, who assured them of the great pleasure that their visit had afforded him, and invited them cordially to call and see him whenever they visit Washington.