

do think, that those who set themselves up as instructors of the people, should at least be able to read the sacred volume, and understand what they read. Now, many of the colored preachers in West Canada are woefully ignorant, thoroughly illiterate, and much wanting in the reputation of good manners and a holy life. * * * My impression is, that there is a considerable amount of sincere piety among the colored people in West Canada, but that it is misdirected; and I am of opinion they would hail with satisfaction a better and more scriptural teaching than they now obtain.

“THIRDLY,—Another practical means for advancing the interests of the colored population in West Canada, I take to be, facilities for obtaining land on easy terms. On their arrival from the United States, they usually proceed to the nearest towns and villages, but these are not appropriate places for them. Destitute, however, of money, they cannot purchase land, even in small quantities, with any speedy prospect of making it profitable and useful to themselves. The extraordinary improvement of the colored people which I have observed in several rural districts in West Canada, their admirable adaptation to agricultural labour, and their capacity for felling wood and clearing the forest, convinced me that they are well adapted for the cultivation and management of farms, and that a greater boon could not be conferred upon them, than to facilitate their acquisition of land. * * * I will say, in conclusion, that I conceive a noble opportunity is now presented to the friends of the colored race in this country to benefit a long-oppressed and much-injured people, to place them in a position in which they can effectually help themselves, and demonstrate their capacity for self-elevation and improvement, and thus directly promote the removal of the prejudices which exist against them, and indirectly the abolition of slavery itself.”

IMPRISONMENT OF COLORED SEAMEN.

The validity of the law of South Carolina requiring the imprisonment of colored seamen, who may arrive in the ports of that State, is likely soon to be tested before the judicial tribunals of the country:—

“Manuel Pereira, a colored Portuguese sailor, article to service on an English brig which was recently driven into Charleston by stress of weather, having been arrested and committed to jail, Mr. Mathew, the British Consul at that port, has applied to Judge Withers, through his counsel, Mr. Pettigru, for a writ of *habeas corpus*. The Judge has refused to grant the writ, and notice of appeal has been legally raised, and there is every probability that it will ultimately be carried up to the Supreme Court of the United States for final adjudication.”

The following paragraph cut from the Charleston (S. C.) *Mercury*, shows that one Southern State, at least, “prefers to be discreet rather than valorous,” at least so far as regards *foreign* countries.

“The Legislature of Louisiana, after full consideration of the representations that have been addressed to them, have repealed those provisions of their law which provided for the imprisonment of colored seamen from abroad, and have substituted for this a provision allowing such seamen to land for their necessary duties with passports from the Mayor.”

On this the New York *Evening Post* remarks:—

“The Governments of these countries (France and England) have means of enforcing the rights of their subjects in S. C. Massachusetts has no such resource. If, therefore, there is a colored man among the crew of a Massachusetts vessel, he is seized and imprisoned till the vessel departs. The citizens of the Free States of the Union are not to be allowed the same liberties in the Slave States as the subjects of a European Kingdom.”