

yet more and more, every guarantee which the Constitution of those States was believed to have provided for citizen rights of coloured as well as other freemen. If the inhabitants of the Free States will submit to such interpretations of their laws or charters as have recently been promulgated, verily, freedom is without a place to repose its head within the whole range of its most boasted sanctuary. We cannot believe that such a course of retrogression will go on. We have confidence in a God of righteousness who reigneth over all; and surely deliverance will come from some quarter, in answer to the cries of oppression that have so long ascended to Heaven, and entered into the ears of the Lord of Sabaoth.

THE CHURCH AND SLAVERY.

And here a reference to the action of the Church in this matter seems necessary. We have on former occasions shown that, with a few honourable exceptions, the great Ecclesiastical bodies in the United States, are all either neutral or on the side of oppression.

"When nations are to perish in their sins," 'tis in the Church the leprosy begins," says Dr. Cheever, and continues the Doctor: "it is in the Church that this leprosy has been sanctioned and cherished, instead of being shut out and condemned by itself in a pest-house for the warning and abhorrence of the world. If the Church had spoken out, and rejected and excommunicated this sin, when it was as a half-frozen viper seeking warmth, then the poison of its venom had not gone leaping and burning through our veins as it has now. If the Church and the ministry had spoken and acted according to the light and power given to them of God for the world's good, then the mountain waves of this iniquity had not rolled over us. Our very wilderness would have budded and blossomed as the rose, and our whole country would have been a fairer scene of glory and beauty, beneath the tread of teeming millions pouring southward, westward, northward, in liberty and love, than ever the Christian imagination of Jeremiah Evarts, kindled on the verge of heaven, ever threw forth as an almost angelic dream. Alas, alas, that the hoofs of demons should trample this paradise, where angels ought to tread! For in very truth, God appointed his Church in these last days, to mould society and the world in freedom and in love. And of old when he said of those who kept his truth, 'Ye are the light of the world,' he meant its living light, if they would let it so shine, or that men would see it such, and glorify God on account of it and by it, and not a light springing from corruption and quickening only to men's vices. Under its living power, the green earth would have thrown off the tyranny and curse of Satan, and exulted in the shadow of the trees of life, with their fruits for the healing of