

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
CONNECTICUT STATE CONVENTION,
OF
COLORED MEN,
HELD AT
NEW HAVEN,
ON THE
SEPTEMBER 12th AND 13th, 1849.

NEW HAVEN:
WILLIAM H. STANLEY, PRINTER.

1849.

STATE COMMITTEE.

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S. M. AFRICANUS, }  
H. FOSTER, } *Hartford.*  
H. NOTT, }  
ISAAC CROSS, }

JEHIEL C. BEMAN, *Middletown.*

AMOS G. BEMAN, }  
SAMUEL T. GRAY, } *New Haven.*

GEO. W. FRANCIS, }  
J. EMERY BURR, } *Bridgeport.*  
L. COLLINS, }

D. GORDON, *Norwich.*

L. BLACK, *Stonington.*

A. J. MORRISON, *New Milford.*

L. H. PETERS, *Danbury.*

*Resolved*, That the thanks of the Delegates to this Convention be and hereby are presented to the President and other Officers of the Convention, for the faithful discharge of their several duties.

*Resolved*, That the Delegates of this Convention present their thanks to the citizens of New Haven, for the kindness and hospitality with which they have greeted them.

Mr. A. G. Beman being called, briefly addressed the Convention.

*Voted*, That the Convention now adjourn to meet at the call of the State Central Committee.

The Doxology was sung by the whole audience standing, to the tune of Old Hundred, and the Chairman declared the Convention adjourned.

JEHIEL C. BEMAN, *President*.

S. M. AFRICANUS,  
J. EMERY BURR,  
L. CARTER BEMAN, } *Secretaries*.

## RESOLUTIONS.

✓ No. 1. *Resolved*, That we regard the right of the Elective Franchise as one of the most valuable and sacred rights of man, and at once the glory and the shield of civil Government.

No. 2. *Resolved*, That to deprive any class of men of this invaluable and inalienable right, and for a pretext release their property from a State Tax, when at the same time they must bear their part of the expenses of the general Government, is not to be considered as a favor; but is rather a measure calculated to fix upon them more deeply the mark of political degradation.

No. 3. *Resolved*, That the Constitutional disability under which colored men labor in the State of Connecticut, being founded upon that color with which the Almighty Creator has clothed them, is impious before Heaven—unjust and cruel to those effected by it—abhorrent to the religion

of JESUS CHRIST—insulting to humanity—a dishonor to the State, and an obstacle in the way of that spirit of Freedom which is abroad in the earth, struggling to redeem man the world over, and should therefore be speedily removed.

No. 4. *Resolved*, That we believe that the day has now come, when the people of our beloved State of Connecticut should remove this blot from her Constitution, and proudly and nobly take her place with that of every other State in New England, in giving to all their citizens the right of Suffrage.

No. 5. *Resolved*, That we pledge ourselves to each other, to use all honorable means to induce the good people of this State to arise in their moral strength, and in the majesty of their political dignity, and remove from the State's escutcheon that blot which now identifies her with the spirit of political tyranny.\*

No. 6. *Resolved*, That we rejoice in the efforts and progress which our brethren have made and are making to procure property, especially land, in this and various other States, and that we regard this as one of the signs of the coming of that day, when, as a people, we shall hold an eminent and dignified position in Society.

No. 7. *Resolved*, That we are encouraged by the partial success which has crowned the efforts of our brethren and the friends of freedom, without distinction of party in Ohio, and congratulate her citizens and the world on the repeal of her "Black Laws," and hope the day will speedily come when the Statute Books of every State in the Union shall be purified from all unjust and oppressive Laws.

No. 8. *Resolved*, That our interests are the same as those of our brethren in bonds, and that while we sympathize with them in their deeper afflictions, we will, to show that we "remember them as bound with them," advocate and pursue a virtuous course of conduct, that our example may have a tendency to hasten the day of our own elevation and their emancipation.

No. 9. *Resolved*, That we request every Minister of the Gospel to preach at least once in every three months, upon the important subject of total abstinence from the use of all intoxicating liquors; and thus exert a living influence against the direful evils of Intemperance.

No. 10. *Resolved*, That we recommend to all an earnest and zealous interest in the education of their children, and that they use their best endeavors to give them a thorough *mental* and *moral* training, and then introduce them into the mechanic arts, and thus prepare them to develop and sustain a virtuous and honorable station in Society.

\* See the Speech of Hon. Mr. Clingman of North Carolina, in the last Congress.