The New Age

A. D. GRIFFIN, Manager.

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COLORED MEN'S RIGHTS,

The President's action in appointat Charleston, S. C., aroused a violent termination, unless the appointee President. It is time that it was gennumbers, wealth and ability, as other his race is the man, rather than the people. It is true that many Southern Negro, who ought not to have the right Negroes are as yet unfit for self gov- to vote. ernment, but this defect is not altogether or even cliefly due to racial characteristics; they are also in large part due to centuries of enslavement and oppression by the very people, or their ancestors, who now deny them their natural and acquired rights.

Whenever, in the face of the obstacles of inheritance and environment, colored men succeed in making themselves a useful force in society far more credit is due to them than to whites who achieve equal distinction. The Negro is the social equal of all men whose attainments and habits are similar to his own. Socially men must stand upon their individual merits and not upon their ancestry. Any basis of social standing except that of per-Bonal merit is absurd, and its recognition among a people is evidence of degeneracy. The American notion that a white man is "better" than a black man because of his color is as silly as that other American notion that sofather's ability as a money-getter, or He holds the secret to an onyx field in the British notion that the son of a the northern part of this State, and lord is necessarily entitled to defer. his detention on Governor's Island is ence not given to one of equal ability the only thing that stands between him and usefulness who is the son of a

a menace to civilization, it is not so because of its color, but because of with the company at a salary of \$25 a ignorance, to overcome which opportunities have not been freely and fairly given.

Statesmanship as well as humanity requires that everything possible be the offer was made, and the story done to make colored men fit for the duties of citizenship. And they must be made so fit, not by ruthlessly thrusting back into the mire those whose vigor enables them to struggle evidence that personal fitness for the duties of citizenship shall certainly be followed by its rewards. This the President in substance proclaims, and the world will honor him for it,

A UNION'S RESOLUTION.

The Cooks' and Waiters' Union of Sacramento composed of white men. has adopted a resolution asking the committee in charge of an inaugural ball and banquet to stipulate in its contract that "none but white help and members of that union be employed,' provided that in case the local Union shall not be able to furnish a sufficient number of men the caterer shall have the privilege of employing additional "white" help. Why should there be any such discrimination between white and colored citizens on an occasion of this character? Shall a com mittee supposed to be representative of the people of Sacramento undertake to draw the color line in such fashion? Surely the Fifteenth Amendment to the Federal Constitution has not yet been forgotten, in letter or in spirit. Not content with asking that the local perhaps a square inch, was worth 50 Union shall have the preference, the makers of this extraordinary request make plain their discrimination against colored men by the further demand that in case the local Union shall not be equal to the occasion other "white" help may be permitted.

all the more absurd and odious by the that it can be easily donned. So booyfact that colored men are recognized ant is it that, when worn in the water, everywhere as superior waiters. They nearly half the body remains above are usually employed in that capacity the surface. on railroads, steamboats and in many leading hotels and prominent private families. What would this tyranical Union, that has not a spark of generosity, liberality, fraternity or common courtesy, in their souls, have Negroes to do? Starve, probably or perhaps they would enjoy going out and lynching a few Negroes. A Union that would pass such a resolution as this ought itself to be ostracised, and its members go hungry to bed for want of a job.

A HIDEBOUND HOWL,

The Memphis Scimitar is one of the

radical Negrophobist papers that on several occasions have insulted the President because of his recognition of the rights, the citizenship, of the Negroes, by appointing one of them to a federal office; but his initial offense, which such hidebound Negro-haters as the Scimitar can never forget nor forgive, was his invitation to Booker T. Washington to juncheon. That was a mark of distinction which the Scimitar cannot suffer to be offered to a colored man, but the North will hardly permit the South to fix a code of ethics for all parts of the country, for burnings hangings and mutilations are a part of their code, and we do not care for that sort of amusement up here. ing a Negro for collector of customs President Roosevelt very properly paid due respect to the greatest man protest from the "lily white" repub- in the South today, and the proper licans, even more than from the demo- thing for the South to do is to raise crats, but their thinly veiled threats a white man who is greater that and abuse only strengthened his de Booker T. Washington, and The New Age will guarantee that he will be could be shown unfit on some other wined and dined as freely in the North ground than that he was a Negro. The as the great up-builder and enlightenpeople of the North will sustain the er of the black race has been. The South has not today as useful a man erally understood and conceded that in its borders as this man with Negro colored citizens have as much right to blood in his veins and the Southern be in the country, and to participate man who does not approve and encourin the government, according to their age his work of practically educating

> Prince Chowfa, etc., many be quite a fellow in his own country, but he would receive only bare civility if he ever comes to Portland again,

Congress is in session again, but the country is "all right," in spite

You have most of a month yet to help make this a good year.

Seattle is a good town, but it did need reforming some.

Thanksgiving is over, but Christmas

ONYX FIELD IN NEW YORK.

Imprisoned Soldier Holds the Secret of Its Whereabouts.

One of Uncle Sam's soldiers, who is a prisoner on Governor's Island, is looking forward to the day when he is to be set at liberty with a good deal of cial distinction is given by one's eagerness and pleasant anticipation. and a handsome reward for locating the field for a company that has been peasant. Such ideas are too utterly nonsensical for this age of the world.

If the colored race in the South is standing offer of \$1,000 in cash, \$2,000 standing offer of \$1,000 in cash, \$2,000 in stock of the company, and a place week as long as the quarry pays.

> A stranger visited Governor's Island last week and obtained permission to talk with the prisoner. It was then leaked out. A Tribune reporter met the visitor on the boat coming over from the island to the Battery.

"We have made a substantial offer to the soldier." he said, "if he will direct us to the onyx field, but he steadfastly out of it, but by encouraging all to refuses to divulge a syllable until be is endeavor by assuring them and giving released. The sooper he obtains his fredom the sooner we will be able to reap our harvest. We realize that thoroughly, and will make every effort to have his term shortened. Powerful influences will be brought to bear on the authorities at Washington, and we hope to free him soon. He is wide awake to this fact, and makes his release one of the conditions.

"He discovered the onyx field accidentally. Before he enlisted in the army he lived in the upper part of the State, and was an ardent hunter after big game. One day, while out with his gun, he spied a deer and gave chase. The deer led him over a rocky hill. The sides of this hill were very steep, and to ascend it the hunter had to cut niches in the stone to get a foothold. He was attracted by the brilliancy and beauty of the pieces of stone, and placed several of them in his pocket. When he returned to Syracuse, where he lived, he gave these pieces to some of his friends as souvenirs. A piece of the stone, with its history, came into my possession and I recognized at once that it was valuable onyx. I had it tested, and found that it was of the very best quality, and that the small piece which I possessed, measuring cents, uncut and unpolished."-New York Tribune,

New Life Buoys.

M. Probst, a native of Geneva. is Convenient to All Cars and Trains experimenting with a new live-say ing costume which he has just invent ed. It is made of India rubber and This astonishing request is rendered has a large opening in the center, so

> You would be surprised at learning how many people there are in the world who bathe in wash bowls and Under state supervision. Five per cent interest, payable quarterly, paid on deposits are still happy.

Felicitated Rimself Too Soon. Barber-How's the razor, sir? Customer-Didn't know I was being

shaved. Barber (flattered)-Very glad, I'n sure, sir.

Customer-I thought I was being sandpapered.-Pick-Me-Up.

A Notable Exception.

The thing that most impressed Margaret on her first visit to the Old CHOICE WINES, LIQUORS & CIGARS. World was the tombs of noted people who had met a violent end. Kings, queens, princes, princesses, lords, ladies, soldiers and priests-all, it seemed to her, had been poisoned, stabbed, beheaded, drowned or burned at the stake. In Paris most of the celebrated dead had been beheaded, and after a few days in that city the little girl be gan to be really depressed by the list of horrors which she deciphered from the various tombs and monuments. One day, says the New York Tribune she was taken to Napoleon's tomb, and soon became plunged in deep thought. "Was he a nice man, papa?" she ask-

ed, at length. "Yes-that is-well, on the whole, he

wasn't so very bad." "And he did lots, did he?" "Of course-he led armies-and was made consul of France and finally emperor, but Waterloo finished him, and

"Did be die?" "Afterward-but first they sent him

to St. Helena." "What I meant was, did he die plain, papa? Oh, just tell me that he died and Margaret clasped her

"Perfectly 'plain," I'm happy to say." "Oh!" said Margaret, unclasping her hands and drawing a deep breath of

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