

The BOOKER T. WASHINGTON Papers

talking for money. I should feel like a machine grinding out what I had to say at so much an hour."

"How are you received by the South in general?"

"There is no sectional South for me; all is my country; and I believe in the grand human brotherhood of all; sections in natives and races have no interest for me. I wish only to think and speak on broad, liberal lines."

"What is the outlook for the colored man in the country?"

"Our greatest danger is, that in the great leap from slavery to freedom, we may overlook the fact that the masses of us are to live by the productions of our hands, and fail to keep in mind that we shall prosper in proportion as we learn to dignify and glorify common labor and put brains and skill into the common occupations of life; shall prosper in proportion as we learn to draw the line between the superficial and the substantial, the ornamental gewgaws of life and the useful. No race can prosper till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem. It is at the bottom of life we must begin, and not at the top. Nor should we permit our grievances to overshadow our opportunities.

"There is no defense or security for any of us except in the highest intelligence and development of all. If anywhere there are efforts tending to curtail the fullest growth of the negro, let these efforts be turned into stimulating, encouraging and making him the most useful and intelligent citizen. Effort or means so invested, will pay a thousand per cent interest. These efforts will be twice blessed — 'blessing him that gives and him that takes.'

"There is no escape through law of man or God from the inevitable.

The laws of changeless justice bind,
Oppresser with oppressed;
And close as sin and suffering joined,
We march to fate abreast."

Mr. Washington delivers a free lecture this evening at the People's church, Bishop Gilbert presiding.

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