

An Article in the *New York World*

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SOUTH'S NEW EPOCH
ITS SPIRIT INDICATED AT THE OPENING
OF ATLANTA'S BIG EXPOSITION
A NEGRO MOSES SPOKE FOR A RACE
AND BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S CONSUMMATE PLEA
MADE HIM THE HERO OF THE OCCASION
CREELMAN'S¹ STORY OF THE GREAT DAY
HUNDREDS OF MILES AWAY PRESIDENT CLEVELAND
TOUCHED THE BUTTON AND SENT GOOD WISHES

While President Cleveland was waiting at Gray Gables to-day to send the electric spark that started the machinery of the Atlanta Exposition a negro Moses stood before a great audience of white people and delivered an oration that marks a new epoch in the history of the South and a body of negro troops marched in a procession with the citizen soldiery of Georgia and Louisiana. The whole city is thrilling to-night with a realization of the extraordinary significance of these two unprecedented events. Nothing has happened since Henry Grady's immortal speech before the New England Society in New York that indicates so profoundly the spirit of the New South, except, perhaps, the opening of the Exposition itself.

When Prof. Booker T. Washington, principal of an industrial school for colored people in Tuskegee, Ala., stood on the platform of the Auditorium, with the sun shining over the heads of his hearers into his eyes and his whole face lit up with the fire of prophecy, Clark Howell, the successor of Henry W. Grady, said to me: "That man's speech is the beginning of a moral revolution in America."

It is the first time that a negro has made a speech in the South on any important occasion before an audience composed of white men and women. It electrified the audience, and the response was as if it had come from the throat of a whirlwind.

"DIXIE" HAS A NEW MEANING NOW

The hosts of soldiers gathered to-day on the battlefield of Chickamauga, not 150 miles from this place, celebrating a struggle the