

For the Colored American.
OUR GOVERNMENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLORED AMERICAN.

Sir,—

It requires but a very superficial acquaintance with the state of "men and parties" in this country, to convince the most unbelieving, that PATRIOTISM among us at the present day, is but an empty name, and that the days of our Republic are numbered. Let us only cast our eyes to the Halls of Legislation at Washington, and to all our public offices, and what do we behold?—Alas! alas! they may be, and doubtless are, in numerous instances, filled by *men of talent*, but many of them are destitute of every feeling—of every principle which should exist in the hearts of all *true American Freemen*.

Swindlers and drunkards are appointed to office. The foreigner of yesterday is taken up, and placed in situations, to the exclusion of aged men, or the descendants of those who shed their best blood in defence of aggressions committed on them by the forefathers of these very Europeans, now so easily naturalized—now so soon obedient to our laws—now so soon enamoured with the principles of our *free institutions*! It is useless to enlarge on this topic; as a sentinel on the walls seeing the enemy approaching, we sound the alarm. Our Nation is corrupt to the very core. Our *slave population*, alone, would fill five such cities as New York! Justice and mercy are words without meaning. Licentiousness exists to a most alarming extent among our men in power;—gambling, horse-racing, and duelling, are the *sole amusements of the South*! * * The Sabbath is the *great day of amusement* in New Orleans! * * Extravagance and speculation seem to be the order of the day; and MONEY—not intellectual and moral worth—is the true standard of character and respectability among us!

Happy are those men among us, that "chosen few," who remain subject to no change, amid all the changes around them; who love their country from the best and purest motives, and the object of whose labors is, simply, to regenerate our land—purify it from the curse and disgrace of slavery; to enable us, as a nation, to stand forth before the world, redeemed and disenthralled; and write upon our banners and public edifices, the plain but glorious inscription, "AMERICA IS FREE!"

R. S.