

their more favored brethern. We believe that such treatment of our weaker fellow citizens not only injures those against whom it is directed, but will re-act upon the so called superior race, and tend to lower it morally and spiritually.

As to the bill limiting the franchise, we do not care at this time to discuss whether or not an educational qualification for suffrage is wise, but we object to the legislation that has been approved by the Senate on various grounds, among which are the following :

1. That it treats the two races unequally.
2. That it places a premium upon white illiteracy.
3. That the educational test provided is one which will be extremely difficult to carry out justly and that it will open the door to fraud and grave abuses, with the resulting practical disfranchisement of nearly all the negroes. This would not only deprive them of a strong incentive in their efforts to elevate themselves, but would even more tend to degrade them and to increase the number of the immoral and criminal among them. No good, but much evil will result to both races.

We appeal to you, therefore, to refuse to give your approval to these measures as proposed, for by so doing we believe that the cause of equal justice and good government will be promoted.

JAMES CAREY, JR.,
 MILES WHITE, JR.,
 O. EDWARD JANNEY,
 THOMAS BURLING HULL, JR.
 R. HENRY HOLME.

ORDERS.

On motion of Mr. Miller, it was

Ordered, That Mr. R. E. Lee Hall, be requested to read to the House his original poetic production dedicated to the Members of the House of Delegates, session of 1904.

Which was referred to Committee on Expiring Laws.