assert upon this floor their right to be accepted as honest representatives, of an honest people. We are either entitled to citizenship in its fullest and freest sense, or we should be openly refused equality, and held in a state of pupilage, that the Nation might know, we are not responsible for the errors into which its trusted executants have fallen. We are either Jews - false to our oaths - false to our honor - false

to our frank manly acceptance of defeat; or we are Patriots - remembering the past to profit by its lessons - striving earnestly to correct the evils of the present - and hoping for the general good of the Nation to which we are bound in the future. Of our Past needs defense, it is its own best defense. It is logic to claim truth for the aggregate; if the segregate has been proven true - Loyalty to a part - does not impair loyalty to the whole; when the whole includes the part -

to which ~~loyalty~~ faith had been pledged.

It seems to me needful, it assuredly is proper, and right, for me to say here to my colleagues by this House, to the honest and right-minded men of all parties; what has in my belief retarded the general pacification of the country — the general prosperity of our people.

To do this I will hurriedly review the policy of the party in power for the last twelve years. And to one or two points I wish to call the

General attack
upon the extravagance
of the administration
and your parts
on Military and
naval affairs
first —
then to the colored
question —

close attention of the
colored people of the ~~Country~~
Country —

I wish to say to my colored colleagues on this floor; To all men of your race who think, and reflect: That you have misplaced your gratitude; you have misplaced your trust.

You owe to the Republican party, which owes you much, nothing. They have made you promises "that they have kept to the ear, and broken to the sense". They have used you, and abused you. In the first bewilderment of your newly formed freedom, you credulous to

the concurrence of that Party, what was to them, a reluctantly accepted military necessity. I need only assert this. It is a fact patent to all men who remember the events that forced to that convergence. My argument has no need of rhetoric. It is the simple logic of facts. Figures will demonstrate it. Has there ever been in the Senate of the United States, or in this House, a single colored representative from a Northern State? Is there now in the high places of this Republican

Administration a single colored official? What guerdon have they given that splendid orator, and profound thinker Frederick Douglass? Is he not worthy of reward? The very founder, and conserver of the Party! Is there no place for him at the feast? Or was it only a Barmecide banquet to which he was invited? Is Equality only a name! Fraternity a deception - Or was he an unfit guest. In one sense I could believe it; for I a Southern

Scan would not insult him, by calling him the peer of the men of this Administration; who under the breath of investigation, are falling around us "like leaves in Vallambrosa" — all I can give him is a title — The "King Lear" of the party — and General in the other House, and Regan in this; divide his inheritance — whilst Alas, for poor Cordelia she died with Charles Sumner.

The military necessity that forced your freedom was followed by the party necessity ~~that~~ which forced into your hands the ballot. It was given that your votes might control the subjugated States whilst your Republican allies gleaned the spoils. Party manipulation took from you most that was valuable leaving you the crusts that fell from the Republican table. ~~to~~ The voice of the carpet-bagger was heard in the land. —

Well for us and well for you - the imported Montagues and Capulets quarrelled over the spoils - and the disfranchised plans fell into your hands for ours were shackled. They

looked to you, to hold us disfranchised, and powerless They counted on the bitterness and revenge that they argued must have grown up in years of servitude. That belief was our deliverance. That mistake the political salvation of the South. They did not know you as we knew you. The strength, and force of old attachments, struggled into new life, and sight through the clouded dawn of the coming day. Old memories of Home - of kindly service mutually rendered. Ties of childhood, of youth - of manhood - Days of labor - Days of battle. Nights

of waiting - nights of watching
bound us heart to heart.
They offered a hallow Equality
We gave you without words
something truer - Fraternity
We had no jealousy of
your new citizenship, Your
superb loyalty - I can find
no lesser word - during the
terrible trials of the war had
won our eternal gratitude.
You had known our weakness
our extremity - You felt your
strength - and you used it
to protect our homes - to feed
the men in the field.
And so when they would have
made you our custodians you
were our liberators. To-day
we rejoice ~~in~~ your freedom

and are willing and anxious in all ways to guarantee, with our honor, with our lives, if need be, for you have earned it of us - your civil and political rights. If there are men among us who oppose this you know they are not of us. We - to whom you were bound - we - who are now bound to you, for the wisest development ~~of the fundamental~~ of our mutual interest and prosperity. Ask you to trust us as a party. As you have always trusted us as men, "and we will do you good, and not evil, all the days of our lives."

I have waited to say this - I have wanted to say it - I have watched for the time to come

When I could say it in all honor. Waiting — to see Republican gratitude to you — never seeing it! Wanting — to say, "trust us now that our country needs no better as you have trusted us all the days of our lives" — Watching the occasion — when I could say all this, for you, and not entirely for us.

The time has come — Our land groans under her oppressors — the taxations are monstrous — the dishonesty of corrupt officials would seem fabulous — this not the prostration of the country prove it! All classes suffer — Capital always sensitive is withdrawing from us — Labor is badly paid and Intelligent almost