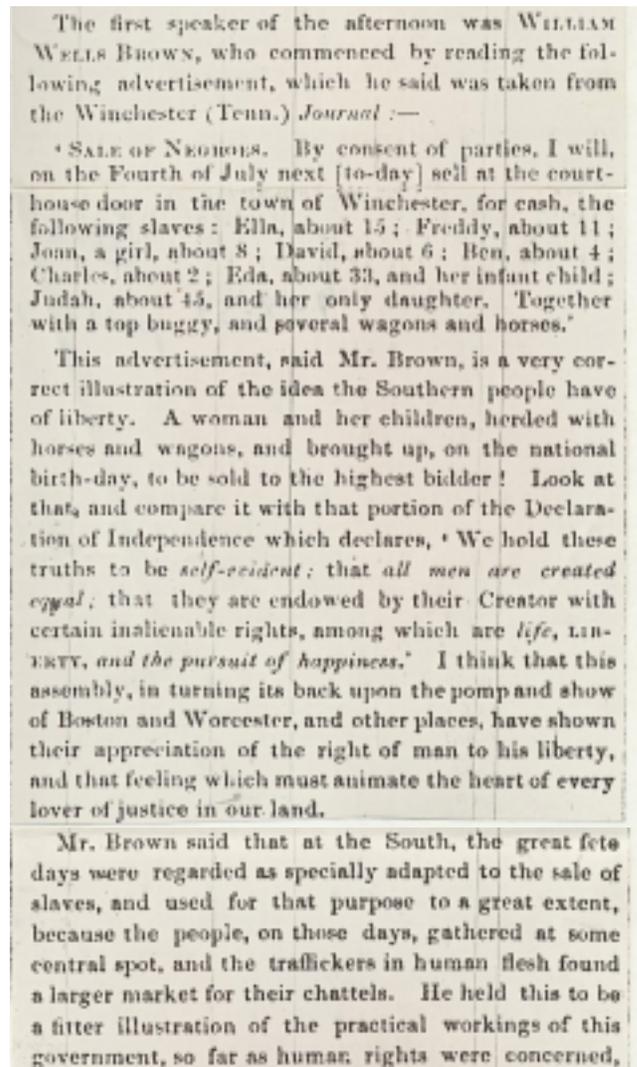


The first speaker of the afternoon was WILLIAM WELLS BROWN, who commenced by reading the following advertisement, which he said was taken from the Winchester (Tenn.) *Journal*:—

‘SALE OF NEGROES. By consent of parties, I will, on the Fourth of July next [to-day] sell at the courthouse door in the town of Winchester, for cash, the following slaves: Ella, about 15; Freddy, about 11; Joan, a girl, about 8; David, about 6; Ben, about 4; Charles, about 2; Eda, about 33, and her infant child; Judah, about 45, and her only daughter. Together with a top buggy, and several wagons and horses.’

This advertisement, said Mr. Brown, is a very correct illustration of the idea the Southern people have of liberty. A woman and her children, herded with horses and wagons, and brought up, on the national birth-day, to be sold to the highest bidder! Look at that, and compare it with that portion of the Declaration of Independence which declares, ‘We hold these truths to be *self-evident*: that *all men are created equal*; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among which are *life*, LIBERTY, and *the pursuit of happiness*.’ I think that this assembly, in turning its back upon the pomp and show of Boston and Worcester, and other places, have shown their appreciation of the right of man to his liberty, and that feeling which must animate the heart of every lover of justice in our land.

Mr. Brown said that at the South, the great fete days were regarded as specially adapted to the sale of slaves, and used for that purpose to a great extent, because the people, on those days, gathered at some central spot, and the traffickers in human flesh found a larger market for their chattels. He held this to be a fitter illustration of the practical workings of this government, so far as human rights were concerned,



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than any other illustration that would be presented in the Free States on that day, and it was a fair illustration of the ideas of the slaveocracy of the country in the Southern States.

Slavery, said Mr. B., is a great crime; and to-day, the Abolitionists ought to ring this fact in the ears of the people wherever they can. When the people are thinking and talking about liberty, is the most appropriate time to bring up the question of Slavery; when the people are looking back to the time when the great struggle for American liberty was about to be fought is the time to make an impression. When Pisistratus, I think it was, desired to obtain power in Athens, he went about duping the people, and promising them liberty if they would only put him in power. Solon, an abler and better statesman than himself, warned the people against his sophistry, but they did not heed his warning, and placed Pisistratus in power. Having attained the object of his ambition, he oppressed the people, and they went to Solon, and asked him if he would assist in removing the tyrant from among them. He replied, 'I warned you years ago, but now it is too late. I warned you when this tree was in its germ, but now it has grown into a mighty tree, and must be plucked up by the roots: that is the only saviour for the people.' So it is with Slavery. A few warned the people, years ago, long before this monster was fastened upon the nation as it is to-day, but they would not take heed. Now, we find it interwoven into all the ramifications of government and society. Wherever we look, we find slavery represented. The only hope for the nation now is in pulling the tree up

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by the roots; in striking at the foundation, and laboring there until this foul system is overthrown and annihilated.

Mr. Brown then referred to the fact, that the fourth of July was dreaded more than almost any other day of the year by the slaves, because it was the great day of sale in the Southern States. Many a husband and wife lay last night, and dreaded the firing of the cannons and the ringing of the bells this morning, because they were the signals for their separation from each other, and from their children. The slave dreaded the fourth of July as he dreaded the first of January, which was the day when the slaves were hired out. This, then, was the day to speak upon the subject of slavery; and he rejoiced that so many had felt called upon to meet with them on that occasion. He thought these meetings did a great work, and were, perhaps, the most important meetings held during the year, because they were a protest against the nonsense and hypocrisy exhibited in other places, and it was by such means that they were to deepen the impression upon the hearts of the people, and bring about a change in public opinion that should eventually strike the chains from the limbs of their enslaved countrymen in the Southern States.

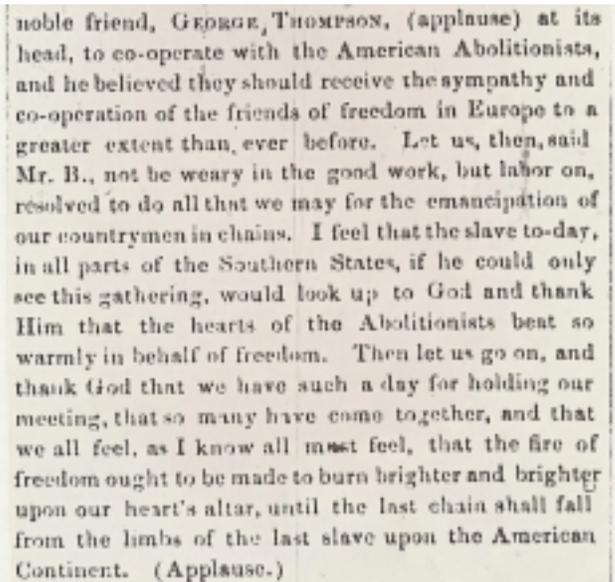
In conclusion, Mr. Brown expressed his faith in the future, his confidence that the anti-slavery movement was progressing, and that the day of the slave's deliverance was drawing near. He believed that the day was near at hand when they would realize what is written in the Declaration of Independence, that all men are indeed free. He stated that a new organization had just been started in England, with their

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noble friend, GEORGE THOMPSON, (applause) at its head, to co-operate with the American Abolitionists, and he believed they should receive the sympathy and co-operation of the friends of freedom in Europe to a greater extent than ever before. Let us, then, said Mr. B., not be weary in the good work, but labor on, resolved to do all that we may for the emancipation of our countrymen in chains. I feel that the slave to-day, in all parts of the Southern States, if he could only see this gathering, would look up to God and thank Him that the hearts of the Abolitionists beat so warmly in behalf of freedom. Then let us go on, and thank God that we have such a day for holding our meeting, that so many have come together, and that we all feel, as I know all must feel, that the fire of freedom ought to be made to burn brighter and brighter upon our heart's altar, until the last chain shall fall from the limbs of the last slave upon the American Continent. (Applause.)



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