“The Dr. took the stand and delighted the
convention with a short, brilliant and in-
structive address on the history of the past,
and the part which the colored people have
taken in the struggles if this nation for inde-
pendence and its various wars since its
achievement.

Mr. P. is a graduate if America’s ‘Pecu-
liar Institution.’ His graduation fees were
paid only very recently by the beneficence of
sundry English ladies and gentlemen; and
his Doctorate of Divinity was conferred on
him by one of the German Universities. Dr.
Pennington claimed for his race the honor of
being the first Americans whose bosoms were
fired by the spirit of American Independ-
ence. And that claim, we think, he amply
justified by documentary evidence.

He read sundry antique papers, collected
by him with great pains for the archives of
the State of New York, showing, that some
thousands of colored people in that State,
thirty years before the Declaration of Inde-
pendence was promulgated, were charged
by the King of Great Britain with conspiring
against his authority, attempting to throw
off their obedience to him, and seeking to
possess themselves of the Government of the
Colony of New York. Some of them were
banished, and others were hanged. Those
colored fathers of his, said the Rev. Doctor,
attributed their slavery to King George, and
maintained their rights to freedom to be in-
viable.
Subsequently, when the white fathers of our Revolution, ‘walking in the footsteps of their illustrious predecessors,’ declared against Britain’s King, they said to his colored fathers: That King did make you slaves. Now come you and help us break his rule in this country, and that done, we’ll all be free together.

Dr. P. exhibited to the audience an autograph petition of the colored people of Connecticut to the Government of Connecticut, presented immediately after the Revolutionary war, and praying that Government to comply with the promise which had been made them of freedom, and under which they had help fight the battles of that war.

He read, also, an autograph paper of George Washington, dismissing from the service of that war, with high recommendation of their courage and efficiency, several colored men; and also certificates of a like character from numbers of officers, both naval and military, in both our wars with England. We wish we could give Dr. P.’s whole speech, and especially in his own well chosen words.”