

in the memory of all the people of the State to require more than a bare reference to it. But if this were not more than sufficient to prove our loyalty, let the bitter and unrelenting hate of all the rebels so recently in arms against the Government, toward our race, speak.

If we are not so well prepared, intellectually and by Education, as a class, for the exercise of the Election franchise, and other duties of citizens, as others, let the deadly nightmare of legal prohibition that so long oppressed our race, be our apology, and let the few bright examples of Education and refined intelligence that have furnished the exception to the rule, prove our capacity for improvement.

We respectfully ask that as Missouri was first in striking off the shackles of Slavery, that she shall also be first in the sisterhood of States that have participated in <sup>the</sup> evil, in removing all legal distinctions of whatever kind on account of race or color - and we will, as in duty ever pray, see

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~~don't put in the names~~



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