of death, on the necks of their fellow-men; yes, who rule this nation too, with more than a tyrant's sway, can talk very earnestly in freedom's cause, and plead with their present eloquence for the rights of man. What was it, a few years since, that caused so much excitement in this nation, and among the friends of liberty throughout the world, in behalf of the patriotic Greeks! Was it not the fact, that they were oppressed and were seeking their freedom! Money, as well as arms and ammunition, were sent out from our own land. And not only these, many of freedom's noblest sons eagerly volunteered their own services, risking their lives and fortunes in the dangerous chances of war with the infidel, tyrant Turks, to secure the liberty and independence of the unconquerable Greeks.

D voted Poland also, in her severe but vain struggle to throw off the Russian yoke, shared in the warmest sympathies and ardent prayers of freedom's friends. They were expressed in our halls of legislation and literature, and in the temples of God, with all the force and energy which can be combined to encourage liberty and abhor oppression.

These things should encourage us. When we show to this nation and the world that we are properly awake to our own interests, and by wise, persevering, and determined measures, are seeking our rights, we too shall have the sympathy and assistance of the lovers of freedom, wherever freedom's friends are found.

How is it in regard to Irish liberty! How do the leaders of that people see with each other, which shall be the best of arguments in favor of liberty. "They have taught us a lesson, in their struggle for independence, that should never be forgotten. They have taught the world emphatically, that a people, united in the cause of liberty, are invincible to those who are divided among themselves; and that heaven will ever favor on the cause of justice, and ultimately grant success to those who oppose it." Shall we, then, longer submit in silence to our accumulated wrongs! Forbid it, heaven! that we should longer stand in silence, "hugging the delusive phantom of hope," when every gale that sweeps from the South, bears on its wings, to our ears, the dismal sound of slavery's clanking chains, now riveted on three millions of our brethren, and we ourselves are aliens and outcasts in our native land.

Is the question asked, what shall we do? Shall we petition for our rights! I do not pretend to dictate the course that should be pursued; but I have very little hope in petitioning longer. We have petitioned again and again, and what has been the result? Our humblest prayers have not been permitted a hearing. We could not even regulate a vote! We saw her arrayed in her •pompous robes, screening the image of slavery, with her very boon—within her most sacred enclosures; that the world may not gaze on its distorted visage, or view its beastly form! Yes, throwing around this accursed system, the very drapery of heaven, to cover this damning sin and give it character and respectability in the eyes of the country, and in the eyes of the world. We cannot, therefore, look to her for help, for she has taken sides against us, and on the side of slavery. Shall we turn to either of the great political parties of the day! What are our prospects there! Is the state government in favor of abolition? No, they are but the slaves of slavery, too, contending which shall be most faithful in supporting the foul system of slavery, that they may secure the vote of the slaveholder himself, and of his scores of human cattle. Shall we then look to the abolitionists, and wait for them to give us our rights! I would not say a word that would not tend to discourage them in their noble efforts in behalf of the poor slave, or their exertions to advance the cause of truth and humanity. If they have made great sacrifices, and have labored with a zeal and fidelity that justly enlists them to our confidence and gratitude. But if we sit down in idleness and sloth, waiting for them, or any other class of men to do our own work, we fear it will never be done. If we are not willing to rise up and assert our rightful claims, and plead our own cause, we have no reason to look for success. We, ourselves, must be willing to contend for the rich boon of freedom and equal rights, or we shall never win them.

In regard to the elevation of our own people. On this subject I cannot now enlarge, nor need I, for we all know, and see, and feel its need. We know that any people wanting in intelligence and moral worth, cannot long be free. In the language of one of our most distinguished orators, "For ourselves and in ourselves there is a mighty work to be accomplished,—an influence to be exerted, which can come from no other source. We must learn to act in harmony with the principles of God's moral government, or permanent prosperity can never be ours."

Mr. Davis having concluded his address, it was.

On motion, Resolved, that Messrs. Henry Thomas and A. H. Francis, of Buffalo, be appointed Secretaries pro. tem.

It was then moved that the delegates present their credentials.—About forty persons answered to the motion.

It was then moved that a committee of seven, to nominate officers for the Convention, be appointed by the chair. The chair appointed the following persons, viz: J. H. Townsend, of Albany, N. Y.; R. Allen, of Detroit, Mich.; Geo. Ware, of Buffalo, N. Y.; J. W. Dunlin, of Geneva, N. Y.; Francis, of New York; Chas. Douglass, of Boston, Mass.; and D. Lewis, of Toledo, Ohio.

On motion, the chair appointed the following persons a committee to make a roll of the delegates, viz.: Robert Banks, of Detroit, Mich.; N. W. Jones, of Chicago, Ill.; and W. W. Brown, of Buffalo, N. Y.

Moved by Chas. B. Ray, that all gentlemen present, from places from which there is no regular deputed delegation, be considered as delegates from those places, and that all other gentlemen be considered as corresponding members.

This motion was opposed by Messrs. H. H. Garnit, D. Lewis, A. H. Francis, B. Francis, and others; and advocated by Messrs. Charles B. Ray, Frederic Douglass, C. L. Remond, and A. G. Beman. The gentlemen in the opposition took the ground, that thus to open the door to the convention, would give a decided advantage to places near by over places more remote, the tendency of which might be to give a local rather than a general character to the business; and some feared also that it might bring into the convention persons of discordant or local views, the tendency of which would also be to protract discussion, and unnecessarily consume the time of the Convention, and that it was best now to adopt a preventive. The gentlemen in the affirmative of the question considered the reasons advanced by the opposition as not valid, and their fears as groundless—that as nearly all the persons who would be enrolled in the Convention by that vote would be honorary members, and while it would give them a right to discuss questions, it would give them no right to vote upon them, and that while they had a right to discuss questions, yet as they were but honorary members their better judgment would