"Ours is not the tented field—
We no earthly weapons wield—
Light and love our sword and shield—
Truth our panoply."

"Onward, then, ye fearless band—
Heart to heart and hand to hand—
Ours shall be the Christian's stand,
Or the martyr's grave."

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PRELIMINARY MEETING.

At a meeting of colored citizens held in the city of New York, May 9th and 10th, 1843, to consider the subject of holding a National Convention, the Rev. Theo. S. Wright was appointed chairman, and A. J. Garden, secretary. The following States were represented in said meeting, viz: Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. The following resolutions were, after mature deliberation, adopted:

Resolved, That we deem it necessary that a National Convention of the colored citizens of the United States of America be held this year.

Resolved, That this meeting recommend that a National Convention of the colored citizens of this country be held in the city of Buffalo, on the 3d Tuesday in August, 1843.

Resolved, That a committee of three be appointed to prepare a Call, and that we, the members of this meeting, sign it and solemnly pledge ourselves in the name of God, and bleeding humanity and posterity, to Organize, Organize, ORGANIZE, until Liberty and Equality shall embrace each other, and shall scatter their blessings throughout the whole land.

The committee reported the following call, which was adopted:

THE CALL.

Fellow Citizens: At a meeting held in the city of New York on the 9th and 10th of May, 1843, composed of colored citizens from several States of this Union, for the purpose of considering the propriety of holding a National Convention of the oppressed citizens of the United States—after mature deliberation, it was decided that, by the permission of Divine Providence, a National Convention of the Colored Citizens of the United States be held in the city of Buffalo, to commence its sessions on the 3d Tuesday in August, 1843, at ten o'clock, A. M.

Dear Brethren: In presenting this call and soliciting your co-operation, we will mention a few of the reasons that have conspired to urge us to make this exceedingly important movement.

The oppressed in all ages of the world have emerged from their condition of degradation and servitude in proportion as they have exerted themselves in their own cause, and have convinced the world and their oppressors that they were determined to be free.

The history of the present and the past establish the great truth that it is as much impossible for any people to secure the enjoyment of their inalienable rights without organization, as it is to reach an end without means. Acting in accordance with this truth, the oppressed people of England, Ireland and Scotland, have banded themselves together in their respective nations to wage an unceasing war against the green-eyed monster, tyranny.

Since we have ceased to meet together in National Convention, we have become ignorant of the moral and intellectual strength of our people. We have also been deprived of the councils of our fathers, who have borne the burden and heat of the day—the spirit of virtuous ambition and emulation has died in the bosoms of the young men, and in a great degree we have become divided, and the bright rising stars that once shone in our skies, have become partially obscured.

Then, brethren, shall we not meet once more? Yes, let us assemble. We will assemble, God being willing. Come and rally under the banner of freedom—come from the east, north, south, and west. Come in the strength of the Lord, and prepared to take a bold stand for truth and suffering humanity, which shall prove to be unprecedented in the history of our people. We hope that every city, town, hamlet, and village will be represented as well as Literary and Benevolent Societies.

(Signed.)

The above call was signed by about fifty persons, representing seven different States of the Union.