

MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL

Monday, Dec. 23, 1889

Negro Education

The statement of the Federal Commissioner of Education that in the South the sons of former slaveholders are educating the children of their former slaves conveys both a testimonial and a rebuke.

It is a testimonial to the fair dealing and generosity of the white people of the South, who, while paying nine-tenths of the taxes to support the public schools, provide as well for the admission of colored children as for their own. The Commissioner states that the contributions from the North for the support of colored schools in the South though in some instances liberal are inconsiderable when compared with the amounts paid by the whites of the South in the shape of taxes. Yet many of the negroes think, because they are apprised of the support given by Northern contributors to a few schools among us (mostly of the higher grades) that they are indebted chiefly to that section for their educational facilities.--
Atlanta Journal.

It would be well for the country if the North would cease to contribute money for the education of the negro in the South. The Southern States maintain public schools. That is enough. The negro of the South is not hampered in the exercise of his rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." There is no reason why any negro in the whole range of the Southern country should be out of work. This cannot be said of the labor of the North. Therefore, we maintain that the negro is able to educate himself. He should be let alone. He is out in the water and can swim. Let him swim. He is no object of charity and he should be left to work out his own salvation.