

shuffle" which only a negro can dance to perfection. Permit me to say right here that Southern literature gives the best history that can be found of slavery. It rehearses the almost forgotten fact that the North was the leader in introducing and profiting by the slave trade; that the South repeatedly protested against the slave trade; that when the first vote was taken in the Federal Congress, to prohibit further importation of slaves, Virginia voted in the affirmative and New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Connecticut in the negative. Slavery, as an institution, cannot be defended, but I want its true history taught to the children of our schools. I want them to know that the negro slave, as a rule, was well fed, well clothed, well nursed when sick, that he had the gospel preached to him and became civilized for the first time since the dawn of his creation.

We are beginning to realize our want of a true history, for we have been grievously misrepresented, and unless we see to our vindication, we shall be judged as charged. Most of the public schools that attempt to teach literature at all, go through the form of teaching Shakespeare, or Milton, to children whose minds are not sufficiently mature to comprehend these authors. The proper place to teach that kind of literature is the college, university or in Literary organizations.

We have always neglected home talent. Poe received only ten dollars for the "Raven." The South threw him off to starve. He was very popular in France, while England regards him as the greatest American poet.

The sweet, gentle spirit of Lanier fought against poverty