

The Reign of the Common People

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I appreciate fully that the people of Tennessee and Davis' comrades understand his soldierly qualities and propose to honor his memory. I take pleasure in aiding in the raising of a monument to his memory, for although the services he performed were for the purpose of injuring my command, they were given in faithfully performing the duties he was assigned to.

NEW YORK, June 15, 1897.

THE REIGN OF THE COMMON PEOPLE.

In the broadest sense, therefore, the common people rule, their joint action prevails, their harmonious wishes dominate education. There is no efficiency like their efficiency. There is no power like their power. There is no development like their development. They stand supreme to all those who serve their interests in any capacity. They love their accepted leaders, they admire their patriotic teachers, they ardently accept their highest conception of what is best. They are ready to grant their allegiance to the truth; they are strong in their admiration for genuine capability, while they hate all shams, sycophancy and trickery. Manliness has in such an environment an influence that cannot be measured in terms of speech, efficiency in service is recognized by the mightiest applause, while the spirit of honor and strength gives to civilization its greatest elevation. The time has come to learn this lesson in the management of public education of relying upon the common people. The great demand for the present is for a stronger affiliation with the father and the mother of the boys and girls in the school room on the part of every would-be educator. The largest and most effective career is possible alone to those who know their allegiance to the principles of democracy and who intelligently apply these principles to the solving of the great problems that are daily found in the work.—*President H. H. Seerley, State Normal School.*

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