

1115 Mt. Vernon St, Phil'a,

23<sup>d</sup> Dec 1880.

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My Dear General:

I enclose you  
the proof of the article on Na-  
tional Education written for  
the North Am. Rev. for February.

It is George Ediol I believe who  
defines "a prig" to be "a fellow  
who is always making some-  
body a prisoner of his thoughts."

It seems as if I about filled the  
definition. This matter of edu-  
cation as the ~~remedy~~ <sup>remedy</sup> for the  
Southern ill - the true solution of  
the Southern question - has been  
my hobby for a good while and  
I have offered it to a good  
many. As long ago as 1870, I  
tried to impress the matter on  
the attention of Congressmen.

premises I sent you a copy of my first attempt to get somebody to think of the matter in that light. In 1872, I tried to get the Rep. Nat. Conv. on Resolutions to say something about the matter. I might as well have thrown green pens against Gibraltar - In 1876 I bombarded them again and also the Congressional Campaign Committee. I got a hearing and a compliment. Then I quit putting my trust in princes and went to work on my own hook trying to make the people think any thoughts about this matter. The fact that a quarter of a million copies of my books have been bought and read in the

short space of fifteen months shows that somebody has been thinking about the subject besides me.

I now submit the theory greatly abridged but full enough to be comprehended, first to you, in this proof, and after that through the Review, again to the people.

I have no especial fondness for the method. It is the only one worth considering thus far, probably because no one else has sought to make it a great curative system rather than a mere measure of party trickery or temporary capital. In Congress the idea has been merely to encourage and establish schools

and not to cure ignorance as  
a matter of sheer self-defence.

I do not insist upon this plan but  
only insist on this or a better one.

The end is what I desire to see,  
and I am bound to keep peg-  
ging away at it until I see  
it in process of adoption  
or am satisfied that this  
too is but un access de la  
folie. I believe there is something in it.

With the compliments of the  
season to yourself and family  
I remain

Yours truly

A. W. Torgue

Gen. J. A. Garfield

West Mentor

(Ohio)