

Personal.

Newyork N.Y.
Nov. 15. 1890.

Editor of The Voice

Dear Sir: I have yours of yesterday asking me to contribute an article of 500 words to a "symposium" on the subject: "To what extent can Political action State or Federal solve the Race-Question in the South?"

As you are aware, I have very rarely participated in what are termed "literary symposia," and never except in cases where I was given sufficient opportunity to fairly elaborate a thought and well-fruit for the same.

As a rule such curiosity-shop literature, is, in my opinion, not only unjust to the honest literary worker, but demoralizing to the conscientious reader. No man who is entitled to have an opinion upon such a subject as you propose can fitly set it forth in the limits you prescribe and no self-respecting man will for any consideration do such injustice to himself and his convictions.

This at least is my feeling

upon the subject, and I have the same sort of respect for the men who engage in them that I have for those who give their names to advertise patent medicines. I have always thought that those who contributed to the "symposiums" as freely circulated in regard to the merits of — say Warner's Safe Kidney Cure — no matter at what price, are about the lowest type of manhood we have extant. I know these people pay remarkable prices even for a single line. I have myself seen their checks of liberal size and know of one instance in which they offered a thousand dollars a line for five lines or for that matter one line and a signature.

In the same way, I think a collection of anonymous opinions, yielded as to price according to some accidental prominence upon a question of serious public interest, is an essential degradation to those who turn an honest penny by engaging in it and a direct affront to the intelligence of readers who are entitled

to the entire and complete thought of any one who has studied such a subject enough to have a thought in regard to it.

Editorializing such views you will readily understand should I ever be published in the thing you propose even in any manner when my name is used in connection therewith.

Kindly Yours

Wm. D. Hoar