

Pine Bluff Ark, Jefferson Co, January 9th 1891
My Dear Judge

I have just read
your notes on Controversy at the Polls
in Nebraska on the Prohibition
Amendment in that State, be-
tween the good and bad Citizens
in that State. I think your advice is
good to the people of Nebraska.
But in the course of your dis-
course your branched off on
the Negro question in the South -
as you will remember that
you said the question has been
asked the colored man in the
South why he did permit certain
things to be done and why he
did not do certain things.

All of which your notes show
you to be well aware of and
our answer for your self -
I am logically not a Negro, yet
I have their blood in my veins
and am proud of it and would
not make a change if I could -
But it occurs to me to be very
simple indeed to ask the
colored man such a question -
When since the surrender of

2

Gen Lee An Afformation - The South has been full of bronze
Whitemen of the North who
Came South apparently
with the best of intentions
but Whom are they now?
For instance take the States of
Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia,
South Carolina and many other
Southern States that once enjoyed the
good distinction of being governed
by good Northern Republican
Statemanship, but all of this has been
washed - For by the Colored people
for most of these leaders left these
States and fled and ~~with~~ the Colored
Man in the bag with the cats to
fight and claw in our or die -
With our Democratic friends, the
enemy - And do you know that the
Negro of the ~~South~~ South is intuitively
a Republican and the only true Republican
in the South of today - and the only
Negro Republican in all of our
broad American land, the
Northern Negro is not Republican
by birth, nor fraction, but he is what he
is for revenue only. I was amazed
in the last Presidential Campaign

3

to see the Northern Negro in
the City of New York where
the two Great Campaign Committees
were headquartered flying between
the lines seeking whom he may devour.
Going from one Committee to the other
to ascertain with whom they could make
the best financial deal. Such a thing
is called treason in the South.

And for a leading Negro to do such a
thing would be to cut off all
religious and social connection between
himself and his race.

But the great mass of the Northern
Negroes are NOT patriotic, neither
are they lovers of their race -
They should take object lessons
from the American Irish as to their
actions towards the Irish of Ireland
under English rule - I have been
some what amused at the once
called great leaders of our race
especially so since the agitation of
the so called "force bill" they have
been as mute as a blind mouse -
Not a word to say for nor con-
fession is Douglas Brown Lynch
Henrick Fortune Peter Clark
Bishop Turner and a hundred more

Whose voices could be heard
 upon any hilltop or this word
 of advice could be seen in
 any newspapers. In the language
 of Mr. Douglass, "Big hills they are
 in search of Cabbage leaves.
 But this will not do. We as Negro
 Citizens of the American Government
 cannot afford to be honored little as
 Manny Chief in a far and there be
 slaughtered by the Southern Democracy
 and the Mug Wamp and Cofferheads
 of the North who on the Common
 ally of the secession Democracy of
 the South to help destroy the
 Negro as one of the factors of this
 Government. At the last National Conven-
 tion at Chicago a U. S. Senator
 from one of the Eastern states said
 to the writer that the White people of
 the North were tired of the Nigger
 and wanted him eliminated from
 our politics. I said alright Mr -
 You have been in in Public life a long
 time to not have political sagacity
 enough to not know when you and
 the good people of the North turn
 the Negro a loose and ignore
 their cries for help Justice and

the common protection, emanating from our Government, just to the amount that any other citizen may be entitled to, you will see to bring under the foundation of our Republican form of government a boiling volcano that must vent its contents one day or other and when it comes the North, the South, the East and the West must all to the same extent suffer alike. Why said he? Because said I this Government, is the people's Government and therefore must measure out equal and exact justice to each and every individual citizen alike.

But to the point, as I believe in the doctrine that the few is mightier than the many I appeal to you to consider the ~~close~~ ^{close} of this point. There never has been any class of men or woman or race of men that have been unjustly treated but which our Government some manner has remunerated them in some way - think of all the wars that we have had and see how the National Government has provided for the soldiery, these of the Captains, Generals and so on who fought in these wars

And My dear Judge, in Gods
 Name I do not believe that
 the United States ever was
 engaged in an encounter
 of a war that was, so cruel,
 so atrocious, so mean, so inhuman
 as the 250 years of Slavery
 and look that our people under
 West's murder the Slave
 Masters of the South
 And now don't you think that Congress
 could be induce to open up to the
 Negroes of the South that were
 give slaves some of the
 Western ^{territories} ~~States~~ for us
 say New Mexico and some
 one or two others, that would
 be contiguous and let us remain
 subject in all respects to the
 Union that we now are
 this was done for the Indians
 Now don't think light of my proposition
 but give it due consideration
 and at some time please give me
 your views upon it in the
 Chicago Inter Ocean
 I am in Gods name
 Your true friend
 A. M. Middlebrooks