

Berzonia Mich Aug 15<sup>1891</sup>

Hon. A. W. Tougee

Dear Bystander

I wrote to you last spring & rec'd circulars of some of your publications & please send me <sup>of all</sup> again and of your latest as I may get our town Library to order some.

I enclose 2 pages of the pamphlet I spoke of that I feared was lost. I knew and my father knew many of the witnesses and one of them is now living here. I will send you the <sup>whole</sup> pamphlet if it will be of assistance or benefit to you as an argument to help enforce principles of justice. If you have it or have access to it <sup>and do not need it.</sup> I am going to put it in some Library perhaps in College here. Wherever it will do the most good. If you would like to see it and make extracts I will send it by Reg. Mail and you can return when done with it.

as we used to say in debate, before  
the war "whom the Gods would destroy  
they first make mad" as the southerners  
would not listen to arguments & reason  
but Bulldozed their reluctant masses  
into rebellion that could only destroy  
what they wanted to perpetuate, And  
now they have permitted Liberty Prison  
and Andersonville Prison, to  
come into Northern hands so as to  
be perpetual witnesses of their  
horrible barbarity and stamp  
indelibly on every beholder the facts  
of history and as you said "only  
the callousness of slave holding  
hearts to injuries" could make such  
horror possible. You nor I, never  
would or could have perpetration  
permitted such horrors, We at the  
north were not raised that way,  
These are reasons why the work of the  
war is not done yet, I have been

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reading some lately in Biography of  
W. Phillips by Carlos Meryn and it  
brings back old times to me when my  
father was active in Whig & Republican  
politics and runaway slaves used to be  
conducted through our fields. Let us  
urge upon next Congress an educational  
Bill. I think yours was the best I have  
seen. Of course slave holders don't want  
education. My father heard a slave-  
holder say "that" all he wanted <sup>(mentally)</sup> of a  
slave was to have sense enough to know  
which row to turn around into when  
hoeing cotton & corn" and added he had  
one who had scarcely that much.  
I know we can't expect that race  
of aristocrats to become reconstructed  
perfectly nor the present generation  
of negroes to become educated perfectly  
but we have the negroes on our hands  
and "We must educate (them) or we  
must perish" as a nation. We had  
in our pulpit last Sat. Rev. J. M. Hiett

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Sec. of Am. Miss Assn of Cleveland  
who spoke splendidly in behalf of the  
negroes. One of my daughters born since  
the war said she thought you would  
have enjoyed her remarks. We all read  
& appreciate your "notes". The love of  
money and ease made slave <sup>wed up so</sup>  
hard to kill and the love of <sup>in making & selling</sup> money and  
the love of the taste of liquor will make  
intemperance hard to kill. But the evils  
of slavery are not yet done with & I  
think the cause of the negroes the  
more pressing and that the education  
of the young in temperance as it is  
taught in schools will bring society  
to such a pass in a few years that  
the open manufacture & traffic and  
use of intoxicants will be run up  
against & "sat down upon" and stopped  
and I hope without the blood shed  
that slavery caused. The south got  
so they <sup>murdered</sup> murdered all officers, saloonists  
do very little of that and dare not.  
our laws are all against them.

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Surows exist by the sufficiency and indifference of good people and have not the great power of race prejudice and caste and protection of law that slavery had. Our Supreme Court is against it; instead of having a chief justice to declare in favor of it, ~~and say~~ The south still says practicing that "the black man has no rights the white man is bound to respect."

Rev. Sec. Hiatt said that in this <sup>(northern part)</sup> American land a Canal boy may become president, everything is before an am. boy, but alas in the south a black boy is handicapped, he can be nothing he cannot ride in cars or visit hotels except as an inferior although he may be a college graduate's peer to any northern Brigadier. But education may lift him above the Brigadier's sons and we hope it will. They can't sell a slave to send sons to the northern colleges as they used to.

I was raised and went to Academy  
with descendants of F.F. V's in southern  
Ohio. A lady who is Mrs of the Cong<sup>l</sup> Dist. N.C.T.U.  
was a guest at my house last Apr. and told  
about their cordial reception by the  
southern citizens of Atlanta last Dec.  
She was a guest of the Gov. They  
found the southern ladies not hard  
to get acquainted with and said  
they N.C.T.U. just captured Atlanta.  
But I am going to write Mrs. H.  
and ask her if she had gone to  
see some colored person while  
there or give to visit a colored  
church or sep. If she does  
honestly think one would have  
lost caste with the Governor's  
family & the facts would prove  
I so. Our reviewer who went  
about my name to put them &  
so on this was hated by the  
provision, Rev. Matt said a lady  
teacher, who a Mrs. had been in  
in a city and never had been spoken

7) I. cially by a ~~western~~ lady  
received into society although  
equal in education <sup>to</sup> any of  
southern aristocracy.

This pamphlet is entitled  
Am. Slavery as it is  
Testimony of a thousand witnesses  
Published by am. anti-slavery soci-  
1839 N.Y.  
edited by Theodore Tilton whom  
my father used to know and know  
Col. Thomas Cross used near my  
grandmother's & my wife's, after I knew  
him well and I have passed his  
name often. Excuse this long letter, I  
want to help you all I can.

Yours very sincerely  
J. W. Van Deman.

Mr. M. Bellows was my classmate  
at academy. My father's wife's son  
was our fam. physician.

This education and further reconstruction  
must be kept going. The "demminies" hats  
the light set it must be kept shining.