

582 Toledo Ave  
New York  
New Orleans, La  
Hon. Albion W. Turgeel,  
Mayville, New York.  
Dear Sir & Friend:

On my way to Atlanta, Ga. I picked up the Constitution from which I send you two clippings showing the impessible arrogance, deep seated prejudice and the malignant spirit of our "Superior Race" entertained toward the poor here of Home whenever he dares to stand erect and proclaim a manhood in common with other men. Touching a subject in regard to which you have often written permit me to add one or two illustrations of recent occurrence. One day last week, my wife attended the funeral of an old friend - a Mrs. Bowen, a mulatto woman. Her sixteen year old daughter a graduate of one of our universities died a few 12 years of age was present. Their father a white man was conspicuous both at the residence of the deceased woman and at the grave for his violent outbursts of anger refusing to be comforted

by priest or friends. Learning upon daughter's arrival they returned to the carriage which speedily conveyed father, daughter and son back to the house where he left them to return to his own ~~the~~ home where dwelt his white wife and children whom he had left for the funeral three hours before, which legal family had known him as husband and father about eight years. "Mr. Bonner was a good man, say the neighbors, he sent regular remittances to Mrs. Bonner every month," and the simple minded and forgiving people exclaimed in unison, "Poor Mr. Bonner!"

Dr. J., a prominent physician of this city was told some years ago by the mulatto mother of his five or seven children (and beautiful children they were) "Doctor, my church is investigating our relations, and should they find that we are not lawfully married, I am to be excluded unless I leave you, and this I am determined to do rather than lose my membership." A private marriage followed and she became the wife of one of New Orleans leading physicians. During the session of our last legislature a bill making miscegenation, and

tation of the white and colored races  
 a general offense was introduced. Said  
 bill was ably advocated by the Times  
 Democrat and the Daily States, two  
 of the most negro hating papers in the  
 country. For a while other papers of the  
 city and throughout the state exhaused  
 the resources of language in proving  
 the negro to be "inferior," "degraded," "ignorant"  
 "bestial," "grotesque" — the category is too  
 long —, between whom and the white  
 man there was a chasm so broad and  
 so deep as to be eternally impassable,  
 and his — The negro's <sup>immortality</sup> ~~state~~ was as  
 fixed as though proclaimed by ~~the~~ a  
 "fiat of the Creator!" On the train this my  
 trip — I speak the solemn truth — were two  
 beautiful young women a mulatto and quadroon  
 on their way to a suburban town to join their white  
 "friends." But to return to the papers.  
 A sudden silence prevails. The  
 legislature is intent upon other matters  
since one or many have spoken. The  
 bill expired at its birth. Killed,  
 dead and buried not by the  
<sup>preparings</sup> but by statesmen, planters, merchants, etc.

men have been told that your labor  
is now away; that the Negro is ungrate-  
ful. You do not believe it, you cannot  
believe it. Gratitude cannot be expressed  
in mere words. How would a mother  
convey her feelings on receiving to her breast  
her pardoned son from life long imprison-  
ment or a dead child restored to life.  
Did the liberated slave of the south attempt  
to depict his gratitude in well selected  
words. How long would a forgiving sinner  
take to render thanks to a living Father  
in studied rhetoric. The very thought  
is sacrilege. I have, ~~long~~ after reading  
your notes in the Inter Ocean fell on  
my knees and poured out my soul  
in gratitude to our God for such a  
friend, you called of Him to suffer  
almost a martyr's fate in defending the  
cause of the oppressed. You have a wholesome  
respect for carnal weapons - physical courage; so  
have the most of us as little as it is thought. I firmly  
believe that as we have always been subject to a lov-  
ing providence of an omnipotent Father - so in  
the order of His providence our final deliverance  
will come and will not fail the means  
what they may. Thousands and thousands  
The name of Albert W. Turges and

unborn generations will receive  
 treasure in their hearts. The name  
 who will have an honored place in the  
 galaxy of Christian patriots, humanity  
 and friends, known to every lover of liberty  
 and justice the wide world over.  
 Unwilling to trespass on your time  
 or weary you longer, May God  
 bless and preserve you many days  
 longer to us and your dear ones.

Respectfully  
J. R. Griffin.

Atlanta, Ga. 9-12-91.