

Mr. Nicholson, Editor Tribune.

Dear Sir:

Yours of the 29th inst. is received.

It goes without saying that I would be glad like to present this question to the readers of the Tribune; but when I do so I would like to make it full and exhaustive. I do not like above all things to propose a change of plan to an editor who asks me to work upon a specific line but there are two reasons why I would suggest a modification of the proposition. It really

~~is you realize how many subjects it involves.~~ The following subjects:

1 - An analysis of the character of the colored race in this country.

2 - An opinion how their position will be affected by wealth, education, etc.

3 - How really to reform them the race and secure its representation in congress.

To think of treating all this in one article of 5,000 words maximum appalls me. This is the first reason why I think a change might not be inadvisable. The second is personal.

Some months ago, I blocked out four articles which I intended to make an authoritative compend upon ~~these~~ upon these questions. There I have been elaborating from time to time <sup>in the interests of other work</sup> grouping my ideas under substantially the heads you suggest. I had intended to make these articles 2500 words apiece and expected to receive \$200 for their newspaper use.

Now, I would be glad to do this for the Tribune. I can place it elsewhere at this rate without difficulty, but it will not reach <sup>readers of</sup> the Tribune and feeling as I do the supreme importance of this question I am especially desirous that it should. I do not like to emasculate this work, however, nor do I wish to lose any of the price I would get for it.

Outside of this I could meet your wishes. I am glad to note the popular feeling, <sup>which has</sup> finally awakened on this subject. I am tomorrow for a month's vacation - if that can be called a vacation which is to be given chiefly to the preparation of a novel to be ~~for~~ the tribune is to begin publishing in October. By the way, I do not know that its title "Nazirenia" has become an item of news yet.

I had intended ~~also~~ also, or as <sup>a</sup> ~~too~~ change should work upon the story given to link these articles into shape during this interval.

If you would like them I will have them ready for you or on before Nov. 1st. As to the other proposition it would take more work, spoil ~~my~~ the rest of my matter and not be nearly as valuable. If you will telegraph me immediately to a receipt of this to Petoskey, Michigan, I will get it on Saturday before going into ~~retirement~~ on North Manitowish Island where mails are ~~run~~ known.