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WOODWARD AVE.

Detroit, May 29 1890

Now A W Tourgee

Dear Sir: I have today
sent you a marked copy of American
containing part of an article on the race
problem and criticisms on same by
the author editor. Much of my in-
formation as to the Constitutions of the
Reconstruction governments were obtained
by reading your articles in different jour-
nals. In the criticism this is considered a
weak point. I don't think so, despite
the fact that there may have been corruption
and extravagance on the part of individuals
that brought these governments into disrepute.
There can be no doubt that you of all
men are most conversant with the details
of that era. ~~can you not at some time~~
~~or instance give some a comprehensive~~
Here ^{then} not other state besides North Car-
olina whose constitutions were model

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Detroit, 18

and which undertook to establish the same systems and reforms that commenced there?

I have been watching the N. Y. Tribune for the second and third papers on the American Negro. Have they appeared?

Part two of my article giving the solutions which I think will settle the race problem appears in next week's issue of America.

Yours respectfully

W. N. Anderson

J. Newcomb & Co.

The Reconstruction Con. of all the
States except one, were about as
much in advance of the Anti
slavery Cons. as the man of the
present day, is in advance
of the slave age

The trouble with the ed
of Am. - is that he has ac-
cepted the ordinary view of
that "justice" has been done the
Negro, and regards our whole
as a plan for "some day" more
than justice.

So between race & race, a deaf dumb
and blind boy, has no sd. ought to be able
to pass in a crime that emanates
without protest. To life, labor, right of
property or power. To the long walked race
was only a less cruel injustice than the
unequal enslavement.

The idea of the blacks rioting
in power, is simply a Northern adaptation
of a ferocious Southern figure. There was
very little abuse of power, by the col
man during that epoch. No man's
rights were invaded. Taxation was
heavy because the appraisal

was light. The predominant element
in those governments was very much
less the product of corruption, than
the result of deception. The "rioting"
which horrified the Southern white
man, consisted in the Negro legislator
drawing the same pay as a white
man, riding in a carriage, &c.
&c. for an extraneous in command
it should be remembered, that the
Confederate debts, which the Constitution
of the U.S. compelled the states to repu-
diate against the will & separation
of the white people of the South, amounted
to 100 times as much, even if the R.R. created
by the new bonds of the states are to be counted
as valueless

The real character of these govern-
ments is not to be judged solely
by the magnificent words of indubitable
truth even in this, they are
not a great deal worse than
any Western State. ~~There is~~
no being worse
state during the same time
in the st. of N. Y. than in any
Southern state. - but the difference
is, that the st. of N. Y. pays for what
its thieves steal. - no matter whether
it is the reported slaver Fred
on the joint stock jobber of a 20,000,000
Capital. which begins to fall down
before it is finished; while the
South refuses to pay for the benefit
received as well as the enormous
committees before the legislature
making appropriations when Rep.
just as Mass had very large repar-
titioned her debts because it was
not convenient to pay them.

It should be remembered that personal rights were scrupulously respected; personal privileges were extended and local self government introduced in the South by these constitutions. If the old Constitution or even the amended one of 1865, had remained in force, hardly a dollar of the Capital which has gone in to the South, would have sought investment there and the New South would have been as good off as the old one ^{would be} without the Negro's unrecompensed toil.

One of the reasons why this mistake is so conspicuously made, is that the Negro especially the more cultured classes has been more anxious to acknowledge slavery than to demand justice, and

more concerned about his
individual ease and prospects, than
about the rights of his race. It will
have to grow more men ^{who}
are large enough to forget their
selves, in devoted to the cause
of their race. before it will ~~be~~
^{obtain} real independence, or
release from the white people
of the U.S. - that respectful treat-
ment which befits our class, aged
or is worthy of a race's endeavor
to procure.