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Personal
Full Journal

June 19th 1893

Hon A W Tougee

Dear Sir

Referring
to your quotation of a
letter from this State in
the "Bystanders Notes" I
feel impelled to "hold
your hands up" if possible
by a word of encouragement

I spent two months in
Louisiana Miss, Ala &
Fla last winter and the
Negro problem was one
to which I gave the most
attention - Differing from
Ex Senator Ingalls and others
I am astonished at the

advancement made by the negro people in the short time and under the almost insurmountable difficulties encountered by them as a race since the war. In New Orleans I saw a normal school preparing over 600 young colored people for teaching.

In all the South I found large schools - full classes of colored children. I saw colored men everywhere tilling crops and in the matter of charity I saw the tenderest care being taken of old people who were helpless.

The children of Israel wan-

(3)

dered in the same wilder=
ness of ignorance for forty
years and I predict that
when the negro has com=
pleted his forty years
that we shall not despise
his position or his acquire=
ments - No one need
be an enemy to the whites
of the south to be a friend
to the blacks - The two
races must work out
their own good or war
in friendship - not in
enmity - The noble peo=
ple of the south should be
helped to see this and no
cause exists ^{for or} ~~and~~ no good
can come from enmity
The two races have had

placed upon them the most momentous question ever submitted to any people to settle - If the white is to be supreme in the south he must have supremacy by an intelligence that the whole world will recognize - not upon a supremacy founded upon an inherited sentiment -

The salvation of either race in the south is the salvation of the other -

Each must respect the full rights of the other and when this is done the whole question is solved.

We cannot remedy the Century of wrong done

(5)

the African by driving
him away from his
birthplace and from beneath
the protecting folds of his
country's flag-

Noh to extend this letter
I felt encouraged by what
I saw and I trust you will
noh be wearied in your
effort.

Very sincerely

Yours &c

C. L. Davidson

P.S. I noticed the ministers
(colored) are preaching
Individual Responsibility
to their people - I heard
three sermons by colored
preachers and each one
enlarged upon this -

I know you will appreciate
the humor of this! in this connection
At Tallahassee after quite
a lengthy talk on this sub-
ject the minister said - in
a high key - "In ~~at~~ conclusion
brethren it is as the Savior
says "Every tub must
stand on its own bottom!"
— Not a strict quotation
but good gospel -