



Smithsonian Institution

Freedmen's Bureau

Mississippi Assistant Commissioner, Letters Received, Entered in Volume 2, S–Y, Jan. 1866–Feb. 1867, Part 2

Extracted on Apr-24-2024 05:00:04

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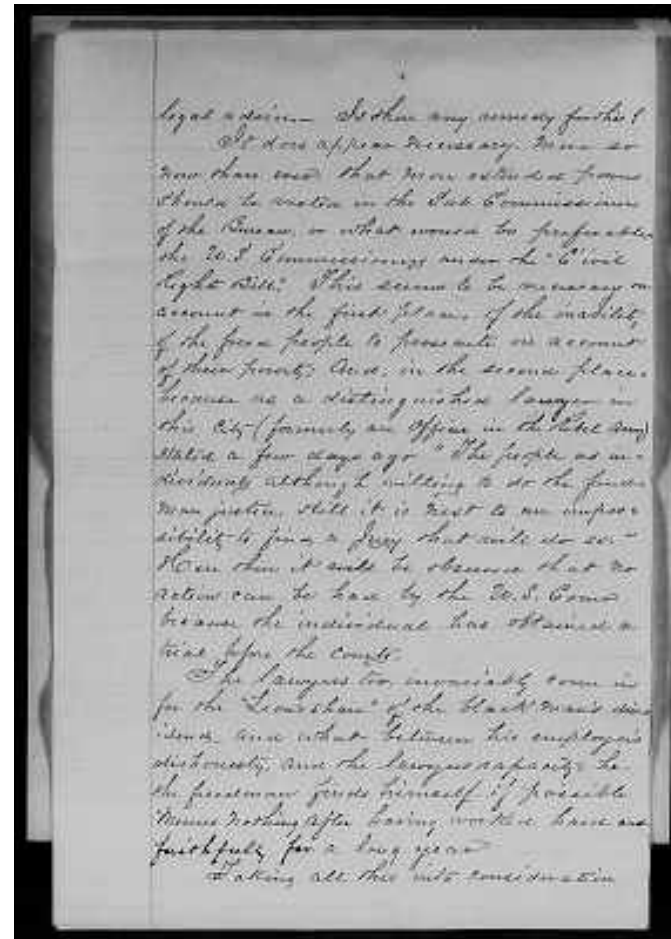
legal advice. - Is there any remedy for this?

It does appear necessary, more so now than ever, that more extended powers should be vested in the Sub Commissions of the Bureau, or what would be preferable the U.S. Commissioners under the "Civil Rights Bill." This seems to be necessary on account in the first place, if the inability of the freed people to prosecute on account of their poverty; And, in the second place, because as a distinguished lawyer in this city (formerly an officer in the Rebel Army) stated a few days ago "The people as individuals although willing to do the freedman justice, still it is next to an impossibility - to find a Jury that will do so," Here then it will be observed that no action can be had by the U.S. Com'r because the individual has obtained a trial before the courts.

The lawyers too, invariably come in for the "Lion's share" of the black man's dividend, and what between his employer's dishonesty, and the lawyers capacity, - he - the freedman finds himself, if possible "minus nothing after having worked hard and faithfully for a long year

Taking all this into consideration

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