Civil War College Writing

Essay Assignment #1

When Solomon Northup was rescued from the South and returned to New York, he did not just return to life as usual. He wrote down his memories of slavery and had them published with the hopes that his experience would inform and influence the northern public to embrace the abolition movement.

In four pages please answer the following question:

What vision of slavery did Northup create for his northern audience? And, in your opinion, what parts of that vision might have been the most effective rhetorically?

Please double-space your essay and use footnotes or endnotes to cite relevant sections of Northup’s book. You may also cite from class lecture notes if you find that necessary.

Your draft of this essay is due to me electronically by 9:00 AM next Tuesday. [amorsman@middlebury.edu]