

Iowa Printing Co. Des Moines.

Law Office of  
Loran W. Reynolds,

President of  
Boone and Boonsboro Street Railway Co.  
Harris Valve Company.  
Contractor & Builder of Street Railways  
and Incandescent Electric Light Plants.

Boone, Iowa Sept. 26. 1887

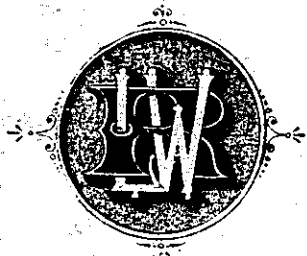
Hon. Albert N. Jorgens  
Mayville N. Y.

Dear Sir, Through my friend Hon. Wm. Penn Nixon  
of "Inter Ocean" I learn your address and venture to intrude  
unbidden. I trust you will pardon me for so doing for I have  
no personal motion but a public one that I trust may  
interest you and possibly enlist your powerful aid.

We have in the U.S. about 135,000 miles of  
Railway. There are employed therein directly and indirectly  
nearly if not quite one half million of people who  
have his millions depending on them for support.

Many of our ideas of Railway management  
have been imported from England, and of one of the  
most serious I desire to speak briefly.

An employe violates a rule of the Company  
unintentionally or because over come with fatigue  
he is discharged, rightfully we would say. That is a  
right the Corporation possess. If the matter stopped  
there it would be right perhaps. The power of dis-  
missal was always wielded justly. But the  
matter does not stop with a discharge.



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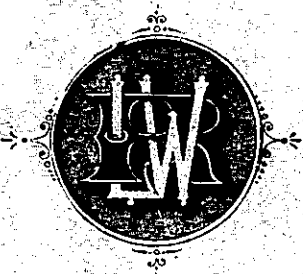
Boone, Iowa \_\_\_\_\_ 188

My name is entered in a book known in popular parlance as the black list and there it remains.

You may have served faithfully 25 years but if you are discharged and black listed you can never be employed in the Railway service.

There is no such thing as another chance. You are forever barred and have the curse of Cain upon you. But this is not all. You go to any other Company and apply for work in your own name and the list will follow you. Once on the black list and you are beyond charity, sympathy — You who are black listed "leave hope behind." This is no fanciful sketch. It is a cruel fact. If you are black listed as an engineer you cannot get work as a fireman — or as a conductor as a brakeman.

Said a Railway Supt to me lately in regard to another chance to a man who has been black listed. We have no faith in a man who makes a mistake or violates a rule. There is no forgiveness. It is not as lenient as the English method of law system. Cases of black listing are often trivial — as resulting an accident



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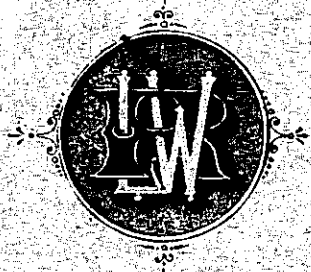
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given by a Supt. to an Engineer; receiving just a signal  
at a flag station where no injury resulted, crossing  
another road owing to a misplaced switch - no damage  
resulting. One Engineer who resented profane & obscene language  
from his superior has been discharged black listed, and  
has since been driven from these situations by the black list  
not for incompetency or any cause justifiable.

Charles Dickens took up the Yorkshire schools &  
abolished debtors prisons in England.

Charles Lude nearly destroyed the Trade Union in  
England. You struck such a blow at Kullerwein  
that it will never recover.

Gen. Grant said humanity opens up that the next  
contest in this country would be between Capital &  
Labor. It is now upon us. If America is to remain  
free. We must have compulsory education & Capital  
and Labor must go hand in hand down the avenue  
of civilization. We must foster & protect the little man  
They who have the burden of life - the heaver of wood &  
carrier of water. We may wax rich and great  
like Babylon of old but what matters it.



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"The law that leads to trusting ill & prey  
Whose wealth accumulates but mind decays"

We must quiet the labor. With no black list and with  
arbitration we may stop the march of socialism nihilism  
dynamite and anarchy. In no way can we better our  
country than in awakening the conscience of the people  
and touching the nations heart as to such things as  
these. If we do not worse than a French Revolution will  
come. For such a crusade as this there is no such  
powerful force in America as you. As for me I  
have no personal interest in this matter but as our  
countrymen and as a lover of the institutions we enjoy &  
feel a deep interest. I shall not rest until black listing  
on any pretence is a general offence in all this broad land.  
That is in my line as a lawyer and in that work I can  
do service - without money and without price.

Please think of this matter and let me hear  
from you.

Yours Very Respectfully  
Loran W. Reynolds.