

Germananton, Ky.

Feb 5th 1891

Judge Tainger.

Mayville, N.Y.

Dear Sir —

Your kind suggestions,
on my paper received and
much appreciated.

Permit me to say further, that
I regret your inability to say more
; also that I had no desire to shift
the responsibility. It was upon
the general wisdom of such a step
and its plan I needed superior
judgment. On a second
review of the paper I see so many
errors, resulting from haste in
getting it off, that alone, is enough.

to deter a well man of leisure, therefore I am lead to this epd. egg for thus afflicting you. I know that I am in the right, and have counted the cost, but can I make the people see likewise? Is the idea properly set out, and formulated, so as to entitle it to claims upon truth and intelligence, or can it be truly termed utopian? Any man, having for its object, the equal opportunities for the colored man, will be instantly branded, as the babbling of a dreamer, — even yourself, who stands without a peer in the English tongue, for clear reasoning and forcible presentation of truth, does not escape this judgment, by prejudiced people, who know differently.

In 1876 I was one of a party that organized at Cincinnati a company for opening up Central Africa, by and in the interest of colored people in America. We had incorporated and issued stock. The press, especially of New York City, ridiculed the idea. Ludlow Ap Jones, the originator, had spent much of his means, consequently was easily discouraged, tho a man of iron will. His plans were correct, and object humane, stimulated by a worthy ambition. These plans have been carried out to the letter, by foreigners, with the approval of the civilized world, — instead of Americans, who are morally entitled to the benefits of that continent. Possibly the same fate awaits this move so far as the general

public is concerned. This I fear, but shall we fold our arms for that reason? My soul cries out no! but I am reminded, at the same time, that I have neither brains, money nor influence to battle for it, against public opinion.

We gave up the "African Company" and I went West to see what could be done. My advice to the men, who had become interested in the said company, was, to go to Kansas and take up the vacant lands, under the homestead act, etc., and many did so, but before we knew it we had the exodus on our hands.

A few years ago, a party of wealthy men in the East (perhaps New York)

proposed to spend large sums on lands in New Mexico, if colored people would settle on, and improve the same. The men, to whom the project was submitted, condemned it as a swindle, for the reason the land was poor etc., I was of the opinion, if the party would give colored people titles to the land, that they could not work themselves, for others will occupy it.

If a few men of means could be interested in this project, every thing is ripe for its success, with a good percent on the investment.

On this point I was in doubt—namely, whether it was better to make the plan provide for

Dividends, or depend upon education and blood, would over-
generous. If the field balance justice, in a great cri-
of operation was in the South, the sis for right, between man and
land is liable to depreciation, man, I am not so positive,
by the conduct of Southern people; But you have passed the crucial
test of in the West, the land test which truly causes the iron
is certain to soon double in to seem to enter the soul of man.
value; but then comes the You are in the field of great
difficulty of moving large usefulness, and perhaps best
enough bodies of people to build serving your generation, but
new conditions, so as to influence the man who can deliver these
sentiment, and make them a fixture people, will render a paramount
in a free government, I would first service to humanity and this Nation.
fix Oklahoma, under the U.S. consti- Should this move be in the
tution, then move on to Ark, Tex & South right direction, and proceed to a
But the ~~best~~ plan, is where I need point of assured success, or even
the best wisdom. hopeful success, I have you
Yourself and George Cable are in mind as the most safe,
the only two men of National perfect, and rounded-out char-
ability, who can view the situa- acter in American Statesman-
tion in a truly God-like manner. ship and patriotism, for the di-
But whether Mr. Cable's Southern recting mind. The body

may be weak, but so long as
the mind is clear and vigorous,
it must lead where duty calls.

I withdrew to this out-of-the-way
country spot on account of poor
health, but my soul is fired for the
conflict, and I am greatly tempt-
ed to enter it, but must be govern-
ed more by wisdom than emotion.

I should like to know how to get
the address of those in attendance at
the Lake Mohawk Conference; also of
philanthropist and friends of humanity
generally.

Yours Sincerely

J. T. Robinson

P.S. Your books are not strangers in this lo-
cality, but the folks say they must have
Mr. Jerome Eastman, will have to order
of Publishers - I suppose - as stores have it
not - J.T.R.