

CLERK OF THE DISTRICT COURT,

GRAHAM COUNTY, KANSAS.

Hill City, Kansas,

April 16

1891

Mr. Almon W. Sawyer  
Mayville N. Y.  
My Dear Friend:

Although personally unknown to you I feel that I may thus address you. I have several times in the past few years thought to write you with respect and when you punctured some ardent windbag or parried the thrust of some cunning foe but have always refrained for fear of interrupting you in your work, to attend to correspondence of such a nature. But from reading your letter that appeared in the Weekly Extra Ocean of the 14<sup>th</sup> inst I thought you were feeling discouraged. Now Dear Sir you are the chosen knight of thousands of young colored people who are day by day quietly yet effectively working out the solution to his vital question, and let me say to you that your works of cheer and your unremitting effort

to keep the true issue before the American  
people, help him greatly in this task.  
The ignorant masses may not - cannot -  
appreciate the sacrifices that have  
been made for them. But the earnest  
thoughtful, intelligent Negro does  
appreciate what has been <sup>and is being</sup>  
done to help him help himself <sup>and some</sup>  
deep in his manly heart thinks the best  
way to show his gratitude is to persevere  
to his friends by earnest, steady appli-  
cation to the study <sup>and practice</sup> of those qual-  
ities <sup>that make</sup> the good citizen - in all  
the terms <sup>that their confidence is not misplaced</sup> implies. In the <sup>and excitement</sup>  
of every day life <sup>and</sup> when such questions  
as these last are put to you, even if they  
do seem hard to answer, do not forget that  
thousands are striving to stand approved.  
Very true you may never be paid for  
your labors in this direction; but you have  
won a place in the hearts of the intelligent  
Negroes of the United States, <sup>and</sup> at thousands  
of families <sup>attain</sup> God is petitioned to bless

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by labors of Albin N. Tourge,  
living in contact with men in everyday  
life the Negro sees him measured by  
the rule of "Individual merit" but when  
his time comes the rule is cast aside <sup>and</sup>  
generally speaking no opportunity neglected  
to make him feel the odium <sup>and</sup> deprecation  
of the Negro excluded. So general is this that  
we are forced to believe it to be the result of a  
cool, deliberate combination to crush out every  
noble sentiment <sup>and</sup> aspiration that may appear.  
All we ask is to be placed on our individual  
merit <sup>and</sup> let merit <sup>and</sup> manly exertions determine  
the standing of the Negro as in the case of others.  
Pardon his lengthy note <sup>and</sup> accept the  
prayers <sup>and</sup> well wishes of a home devoted  
to God <sup>and</sup> humanity.

Yours sincerely friend  
J. C. Carter