

CITIZENS' COMMITTEE.

*** ORGANIZED SEPTEMBER 1. 1891. ***

To Test the Constitutionality of the Separate Car Law.

ARTHUR ESTEVES, President.	FIRMIN CHRISTOPHE, Secretary.	G. G. JOHNSON, Ass't. Sec'y.	PAUL BONSEIGNEUR, Treasurer.
LAURENT AUGUSTE, PIERRE CHEVALIER, M. J. PIRON,	C. C. ANTOINE, N. E. MANSION, R. B. BAQUIE, L. A. MARTINET,	R. L. DESDUNES, A. B. KENNEDY, A. J. GIURANOVICH, L. J. JOUBERT.	ALOEE LABAT EUGENE LUSCY, E. A. WILLIAMS,

New Orleans, La., Oct 28 1891

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee,
Wayville, N. Y.

My very dear Sir -

Our Committee

met Monday night, as said in my last,
but did little beyond deciding the
terms of counsel mentioned in
my letter, & I was directed to write
& ask your advice on the propriety
of other attorneys.

One, a friend & a conscientious
& painstaking lawyer is willing to take
the case ^{up to the Supreme Court} for \$1000 - ~~that he is~~
~~not known much except as a~~
criminal lawyer, being in the
front rank of our ^{criminal} ~~criminal~~ ~~bar,~~
bar, & the Committee has not much
faith in his ability for this sort of

I have again forgotten the name of our next meeting, it will be in a few days.

cases. Yet I have faith in his integrity
& I believe he would apply him-
self diligently & put all his powers
in the case.

Another proposition, if I may so
term it - ~~was~~ ^{was} a willingness expressed
by the leader of the New Orleans
bar - the Hon. T. J. Simms, ~~to~~
to engage in the case for \$2500.
He undoubtedly is a man of splendid
abilities. No doubt you have heard
of him, as he has more than a local
reputation & has been president or
vice-president of the ^{National} American
Bar Association. Our Committee would
be inclined to take him, I believe, and
I was directed to call on him the
next day. I did so, but with little
result. He said he was going to
Washington ^{would think of the matter} & on his return would in
12 or 15 days ^{possibly} give a definite answer. Of course
we cannot say he is a friend -
He is a Democrat, though

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not a politician, & belongs to New Orleans' aristocracy. But his reputation is that he defends the interests of his clients. In fact, I don't suppose he could have ^{made} the reputation he has ~~at the bar~~ unless he was a thorough lawyer.

I do not know why I should write you these details, but our Committee desires you to know them & wish to hear from you before engaging ourselves here. We want also to know, as I wrote in my last, the probable members of Executive Council you were to see. Of course you understand our purpose in this is only to guard ourselves against entering into

I don't see any special difficulty in making a report. I get all the information & write to the committee.

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obligation here that we may not be able to carry out.

Money continues to come in & we have now very near \$2000. We hope to raise \$1000 more for December. The people have faith in our Committee, notwithstanding the ~~various~~ criticism of envious & ill-disposed individuals.

I read your list in The Inter Ocean with pleasure. I see we are going to have a National Citizens' Equal Rights Association, thanks to you.

I ~~was~~ ^{deared} ~~apprehensive~~ that a lot of politicians only, just to make capital, would ^{not} answer the call; but I was agreeably disappointed. I see you are going to have earnest & solid men.

Will you be able to answer this for Thursday, Nov. 5? Our Committee adjourned to meet on that night & I was to write

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to you Tuesday, but really found
no time until today to scribble a few
Your devotedly,
L. A. Martinet

P.S. Of course these lawyers un-
derstand that you are one leading
counsel from here to the Supreme
Court. I understand that Ex-Gov.
Warrick has made the remark here
to some friend that you were a good
writer, but had little experience
at the bar. Whether this was said
from any ~~other~~ any unfriendly motive
I ~~can~~ ^{can} not say. But no such
talk will have any effect on us.
We are determined that you shall
manage the case. L. A. M.