

Henry C. Laub,

General Merchant.

Denison, Iowa, Nov. 23rd 1891.

Albion H. Furgue

Mayville N.Y.

Dear Sir

I have read with great interest your "Notes" upon the formation of a Citizens Rights Assn. My name & that of my dear wife have been enrolled as members (upon Mrs. F. and myso list). I have given the negro question not a little thought. I believe your plan will accomplish much good. Every one of his country cannot but see that unless every citizen has his rights our boasted liberties are name only. In a republic ^{like ours} with universal suffrage and with representation in proportion to population the South has an undue proportion of representation. The South gets representation on the strength of the negro vote refused & let the negro vote

In many Southern States the minority
absolutely disfranchises the negro.
The negro should either be allowed to
vote or else the representation
in Congress should be reduced
in the South whenever any citizens
are disfranchised in proportion
thereto. Here in Iowa the northern
dough-face allies of the Southern
Brigade avoid discussing the
Southern problem and infamously
side-track the "deluded visionary" who
talks about the "niggers" about whom
he knows nothing (as they claim).

They say the newspapers misrepresent
the facts, the negro can vote if he wants
to, they take no interest in politics or he
don't know enough to vote but certainly
no one South deprives him of this
right. Others say "don't refer to dead
issues" why didn't your Republican
Congress & President pass the "Free Bill" &
guarantee the negro his rights and
so on ad nauseum. I have always
kept the "Hoody shirt" waving in spite
of these taunts. I shall never deem
my own liberties complete or rights
secure until every colored man has
equal rights with the white throughout the U.S.

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The demoralized spirit and disposition of the slave-sinner is apparent in the South today. For these self-exalting autocrats the "elect Whites" the fair and no race, class, condition or section could be seen. The people who deprive poor negroes of their rights because they have the favor, being undeterred by any consideration of right or justice would crush out all opposition to their methods among the Yankees if they could. The liberty loving Northerners are sometimes too slow to anger & too lethargic to be aroused to the cries of the helpless & oppressed.

Not until every citizen has equal rights & protection before the law and at the hands of the administrators of the law and at the ballot box will this country be in fact free. Not until free speech & free press are guaranteed in Miss. & in the South as well as in

with the emancipation proclamation be
more than a partial blessing.

Keep the ball rolling until the slave
hood of the North shall burn at fever
heat & they shall become the instruments
of a just God's vengeance against the
oppressors of the oppressed negro.

Every student of history knows the truth
whenever the rights of the Greek were disregarded
~~or the~~ "Vengeance is mine saith the Lord"
The juggernaut of progress, of liberty
& justice has crushed the depths of the
oppressor. This Citizens Rights monument
can become a veritable juggernaut
in that sense.

As I write my mother-in-law (Mrs.
H. C. Laub) sits by my side. She is a
venerable gray-haired woman who is
deeply interested in the negro. She was
born in Maryland in 1824 and resided
there until about 1856. She has just been
relating many incidents of the treatment of
the negro by the master mistresses which came
under her own observation of which I heard.
Her father though a man of property never owned
a slave for he was opposed to the institution
nor did her husband ever own one.
She says "I saw masters sell their own children
into slavery. Many slaves killed themselves in con-
sequence of their inhuman treatment. Some murdered
their masters. Some of the owners gave kind to their
slaves. One good woman had made be will provide
that her slaves should become free at her death

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Though her slaves were well treated they so longed for liberty that they killed her. Masters sometimes became so devoted & partial to mulatto slave women as to show jealousy on the part of the wife and in case the wife killed both the husband & his slave. I have seen many hundreds of slaves in the "Star Ades" when they were hosed like so many cattle, except that most of them were handcuffed and in the stocks and under guard."

She then related many incidents.

No wonder she is interested in the Negro and sympathizes with these once deprived people.

I myself am a lawyer, an American of German descent. My grandfather, ^{rather hurriedly} left Germany in '46 in company with other patriots going to the Revolution. My mother has all the independence of a typical daisy with "a spirit to the rocks above, the eye of the hawk and the fire therein" I am a "red headed grand"

(my hair is dark) upon the subject of the purity
of the ballot and the rights of every citizen
to cast a free ballot & have it honestly
counted. I believe the Republican
party can win next year if they
will make that one of the leading
issues. Show this lengthily inserted
upon your valuable time. Because
I feel as though I am well acquainted
with you. You have my hearty support
& approbation in this enterprise.

Yours truly
C. F. Churchill

You can guess how
I sympathize with
the feeling of those who
left Germany in 48
when you know that
I was for months a
prisoner in
confined quarters
with ^{General} August Willich -
a King's bastard per-
haps but the noblest
of the rebel leaders
& one of Freedom's
most devoted children