

27 Pine St Chicago, Jan 16 1892

Albion W Tourgee

Mayville N.Y.

Dr. Sr.

Being a constant reader of the "Inter Ocean and of the By-stander Notes", my command of language is totally inadequate to express myself in regard to the political situation of the South. The very fact that your life and the free expression of your political views is expressed ~~must die~~ before the rising of the sun, is a terrible thing, and there has been a terrible mistake committed some where.

Was it in the terms of Lee's surrender; was it in permitting the confederate army to depart in peace to their homes? Perhaps not, but in the history of nations we do not find a parallel case where the greatest of traitors have been invited ^{not only} to forgiveness but to be ^{duties in the service of the people} the dictators at the feast, ~~but~~ ^{to} snub and almost make it a disgrace to have helped save the nation, and to afford a nation ~~(Russia in not loaning a vessel to carry food to the~~

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~~Slavery~~) for having sympathized with us in the hour of our trial, and refused a ship to carry the gifts of the people to the starving Russians, and yet we see them at the front ready to chastise Chili for the murder of two, and wounding of twenty, while their hands and faces are covered with the blood of thousands slain, homes destroyed and families outraged. That these leaders were ever permitted to assume political rights was a mistake that those states were not held under military authority until ~~decision~~ was thoroughly recognized as a disgrace and a thing of which to be ashamed, free speech thoroughly established and fair elections assured. When shall the halt be called, has become an immense question, and the answer may shake the heavens, but it can not come so quickly if this nation expects to survive as a nation of, for & by the People

I am glad there has been a move made for the
organization

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and the enrolment of names of men who are ready to stand up and be counted and also to be assessed for the funds necessary to make the move felt, to make it manifest that there never was a set of men more in earnest than we in this. That if there never has been a time since the Declaration of Independence, it is high time that that Declaration and the constitution shall make it not only possible but as safe to speak their sentiments as freely at the south as it is at the north. These graspings of the vicious Element are spreading and the unscrupulous are cropping out at the north in many forms and it does not require a prophet to foretell the result if those who seek their own ease comfort or merrymaking, do not look up long enough to see the ominous cloud which is very much larger than a man's hand.

If there is an organization in Chicago count me in if not will help organize

Respectfully yours
L. Chadwick
Late Capt. Co. D. 13, Mich. v. I.