

The Inter Ocean.

EDITORIAL ROOMS.

Chicago, March 25, 1895.

Hon. A. W. Tamm, Jr.,

Mayville, N. Y.

My Dear Judge:--

Yours of March 23rd just received. I am glad the Basis has had so good a start and I certainly hope it will be successful. The advertisement you send will go in the Weekly and I suppose in next Saturday's paper.

I have felt like writing you for some time about a matter that hurt Mr. Nixon very much. He said at the time that he would write you himself and I thought that would probably be better than for me to write you. I learned last night that he had been so reluctant to enter upon the discussion of the question that he had not written at all. Some weeks ago some one sent him an article published in the Sioux City Journal, copied from the Mason City Republican, in which was published a letter from you to Chas. K. Meyers. I think Mr. Meyers made a mistake in publishing a private letter, but the harm was done when he published it and all the enemies of THE INTER OCEAN throughout the West took advantage of it. Mr. Nixon feels that the letter under the circumstances was more than unjust, that it was cruel. He says he

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wrote you confidentially just how matters stood here and he feels that you added to his burdens instead of lightening them in any way. Of course, the intimation as to the views of THE INTER OCEAN on the labor question is all wrong and the reason for not renewing the engagement for Bystander's Notes was stated in Mr. Nixon's letter, ^{explaining why it was necessary to ask you} ~~saying~~ to you "to consent to a reduction in the price paid." I understand how painful it was to him to write that letter and when he received your reply he simply decided to continue the Notes at the old rate until the end of the year and then drop them. When your letter to Mr. Meyers was published it was like a blow in the face to him and hurt him as much as anything that has happened within the last year. He expected hard blows from several people who were interested in injuring him, and he has taken them without a murmur, but he says he did not expect at such a time a blow from a friend.

I inclose the article complained of which was published in several papers and in some papers ~~that~~ ^{who} were always fighting us for publishing Bystander Notes, and simply I believe to injure us. I have written this letter in the hope that in some way I may clear the atmosphere. I am in doubt as to the propriety of writing at all, but you

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know my nature is to face trouble and in this case I am embarrassed in my own actions because I know how Mr. Nixon feels. I would not for worlds say anything in the paper about any one that would appear out of sympathy with his feelings. I hope you will understand the spirit in which I have written and credit me with good intentions, even if I fail in my purpose.

Very sincerely,

Wm H Busbey
Managing Editor.

Tourgee and His Bystander Notes.

Mason City Republican: In common with many readers of the Chicago Inter Ocean we have for years read from week to week the "Bystander's Notes," from the pen of Hon. A. W. Tourgee, of Mayville, N. Y. A little over one year ago the letters stopped, but were continued again after a few months. Now they have ceased altogether. Such was our interest in the matter that we wrote to the distinguished writer, expressing our disappointment over the non-appearance of his notes, and are in receipt of a reply which we give herewith:

Mayville, N. Y., Feb. 4, 1895.—Chas. K. Meyers—Dear Sir: I have your letter and the Republican of late date. Accept my thanks for your good wishes. I suppose it is a finality this time. I hardly know just what is at the bottom of the Inter Ocean's cross grainedness, but imagine they do not like my views, especially in regard to labor, capital and the regulation of their relations by law. They are taking the ultra let alone side—which rests on the idea that a man's power to restrict, control and make a profit from the labor of his fellows, shall never be impaired or regulated. To me this is just as repulsive as it would be to repeal law against murder and assaults and leave every man to beat his fellow into acquiescence as he chose. Very naturally, I think, with this bias, they did not wish to renew our engagement.

I do not know this, but guess it. There was nothing unfair about their conduct this time. My engagement was up and they did not wish to renew it. This is all.

I suppose something will come of it, but matters are so hazy now that I cannot tell what. My health is better than for many years, and I suppose I shall make trouble for some one for a good while to come. Yours truly, Albion W. Tourgee.

This is an exceedingly characteristic letter, one which does credit to the heart of a man overflowing with love for the oppressed. Although many may consider that Tourgee is a man of one idea—the negro problem—this is a great mistake, for his books and other written documents show him strong in advocating the rights of the laboring people, and full of the highest principles of practical christianity.

We are glad to hear that his strength is still unimpaired and that many years of usefulness seem in store for him. We hope in some way his comments on passing events will be brought in reach of the people. The Inter Ocean is making a grave mistake in not saving for its column the popularity of Judge Tourgee. We wish that a syndicate of papers could arrange to secure a weekly letter from his pen. We would be willing to undertake the labor at this office of preparing and sending out to the papers the copy either in print or in plate, if a sufficient number would take it and satisfactory arrangements could be made with Judge Tourgee.

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