

The Inter Ocean.

EDITORIAL ROOMS.

Chicago,.....April 3, 1896.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N. Y.

My Dear Judge:--

I was very glad to have your letter of the 27th, it cleared the atmosphere and it certainly was very gratifying to Mr. Nixon. You misunderstand Mr. Nixon's reference in his letter to "circumstances on which he did not care to enlarge." This had no reference whatever to the Bystander's Notes, or to any question touching upon them. The changes that were made in the notes were made by me acting in a professional capacity and acting with the knowledge of our constituency in mind. There were times when the situation at the time of the publication of the article was so different from what it was when you wrote the article that I had no hesitation in making changes or in returning a letter. My recollection is that you wrote me at the time that you approved of my action; at all events it was done professionally and not personally. Mr. Nixon meant exactly what he said when he wrote that he was compelled to discontinue the notes on the score of economy.

You are wrong again when you assume that the circulation went down on account of the antagonism of the labor people. The circulation did not go down but after the strike went up and when it did go down it was the natural falling away of the subscribers that came to us in

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the midst of the excitement. This is the usual experience although in all such cases we held a great many of the subscribers secured at such times permanently. But there was nothing in the change in the subscription list at any time to indicate any dissatisfaction on the part of our labor constituency or any other. More recently, or as soon as the times improved and the financial question came up, the list increased in a very satisfactory way. I write this so that you may understand that Mr. Nixon had no motive but that which he stated in writing to you and as I have said before it was painful if not humiliating for him to write that letter ~~as he did at the time~~. I think Mr. Mayers made a great mistake in publishing ~~the~~ letter, but I do not see that anything can be done to make the situation better now.

We have had a streak of ill luck in getting hold of the Basis. I looked eagerly for the special copy which you said you sent to me and also for the one which was sent to THE INTER OCEAN. I did not find either until last Monday and that being on the eve of election I could not give the paper as careful reading as I will now the election is over and well over. I like the appearance of the Basis very much and I certainly hope it will have marked success.

Very sincerely,

Wm H. Rusby
Managing Editor