

St. Louis, Mo. (Ch. Indiana Co., 1870.
Albion, Indiana L. L. L.
Indiana L. L.

Dear Friend, would solemly thank

you a debt many

thanks for your kind return to my note, and
also for the steps seen in the books you have written
which you do to myself the pleasure and as
health may do in the future. Have only
read "Books without" but the finding of the political
sense is not so precise at this distance as in the Euro-
pean States nor quite sufficient to give deep concern
to those who were not of the Mississippi during the war
and now a day at that rate indeed. And
it will very likely be matter of profound thank-
fulness to the such as we find over
our signature. However true and ^{of} ^{the} ^{the}
money King, we are being ground to powder
and thrown to the lions with the question "What are
you going to do about it?" They make the Pres. and
also Congress, the State of laws and legislators.

and how can their question be answered? I
have but one answer, "The Lord reigneth, let the
earth rejoice." I mention these things that you
may know what ground we have to appreciate
your work in this direction. I would that you had
many peers, since our Wesley and Garrison and
Giddings are gone. We can look forward and see
the "American Negro", than I you for the name, increasing
more rapidly in numbers, intelligence and all other essen-
tial qualifications requisite for manhood and staidness
than their white neighbors and white murderers, making
more awful the day of blood. When it shall come as
come it must if this question is left to settle itself.
You can hardly realize the worth and value of your
work in this cause. Indeed it is one of those questions
that must go to the final securing of all things ^{for solution} earthly.
May your life and health be long spared to work in
this momentous cause and may Heaven guide you
and your coworkers whosoever they may be ^{to} a full,
peaceful and righteous solution of this question
of questions. With all that the terms of friendship and good will
imply I am most truly Yours. W. L. Curtis,

S. D. Bayard noticed the Tribune did not speak of
 our paper but supported it right down ^{to} into
 the clay for recognition. It is not forgotten how it
 cynered poor Greeley in ejecting his editorial when
 he ^{did not} broke his, "The Tribune is gone, the Country is
 gone, and I am gone". And in a few days his
 life went out. What a tower of physical and literary
 energy was that man, though not faultless, yet as
 true to his convictions as the needle to the pole.
 When the war closed and the slaves emancipated and
 made citizens and the seceding states restored to
 the union the surviving people had a right to
~~work~~ to work for, and expect peace. The cause
 of political fermentation, that set in by preventing
 the constitution, ^{from} being adopted for a very time
 after it was framed and has kept the nation vir-
 tually at loggerheads for, in round numbers, 100 years
 was supposed to be removed but at the distance
 of nearly a generation we find vigorous roots of the old
 cancer left. The idea of accepting for the ^{now} the
 rights of a citizen seems to be fully as obvious as at

the restoration of the situation ^{State} ^{point} as this I may
not be able to correctly judge as I have to judge of
what we see in print and if a generation has passed
without any improvement of the situation we know
the condition must be even worse. Segregation and
segregation can not be perfect in righting this matter
in the very nature of things. It is high time that the
gates of unrestricted ^{immigration} were closed, else
it will done the greater friendliness of the blacks would
one day bring their numbers up to in parity with the
whites and if intermixture of blood can never be
lain how can the question ever be solved different
from what it now stands on our national statute
book? I shall read all you have to say with intense
interest. The Tribune has not yet brought me your second
paper. I expect your leading out in this movement will
bring in the part the best talent of the nation as colabor-
ers, and so will it be, as the times near upon ^{as} can
we longer ignore the subject. I am sure you will
send your paper to me most respectfully yours,

*
Sept. 1851

Wm. L. Curtis.

over

Have just read your second paper in
the N. Y. Tribune and find it not ^{less} meritorious
than the preceding one. It deals with the
plain substantial merits of the question which
can neither be gainsayed nor overthrown - C.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013