

Mr Albion W Tourgee
 Mayville New York

Dear Sir Permit me to tell
 you that you have at least one
 appreciative reader of the 'By Stander's notes'
 in this part of Dixie
 And I write to tell you that I think
 you are doing a fine work in the
 interest of the republicans who live in
 the South; by reminding our
 Republican friends in the north of
 their lack of loyalty to their friends
 here: I have lived in the South
 ever since the war and in this State
 20 years; and have seen the way
 political matters have been conducted
 since the surrender of the rebel army;
 and I have concluded that the U.S.
 Government made a mistake when it
 turned over the local government of
 the Southern States to the ex-Confederates
 since they practically ignore the
 Federal authority and set it at
 naught. and so far as they can they
 stick close to their favorite idea of
 State rights: and do not hesitate
 to kill & murder their political opponents
 when they think it necessary. Knowing full
 well that they will never be punished

by the State authorities:
'as all the History of the past go to
show:'

I was a Captain in the 12th
Regiment of Indiana Cavalry and
since the war have been in public
life 18 years in this State and
have had fine opportunities to
see a good many things that
the casual visitors do not see.

I hope you will continue to
write up the Bystanders notes
until our friends in the north wake
up and demand such legislation
and enforcement of the laws of the
Nation; that personal safety and just
and fair election may be had in
the States such as in the States
north.

The Southern Soldier is more honored
here to day than the Federal Soldier
who lives among this people.

So you see how things are now
you have our hearty good
wishes and sympathies in the
good work you are doing.

Respectfully yours

May 12th J. R. Sherrard
1890

Pine Bluff
Arkansas