

New Orleans Feb the 28 1892.

Hon Abram W Bourque

Mayville. N.Y.

Dear Sir: Now that we

have begun action in the separate car case, it appears to me proper to send you a copy of our protest to the General Assembly of Louisiana against the passage of class legislation. Some one else might have had the same idea, but for fear that it was not so, I thought I would send that paper to your address and thus make sure to my mind that you have it. The paper has the merit of showing the first step taken and by whom, against the passage of that infamous act. You will also see what callous hearts we had to deal with. Many of the members we waited on at the time had promised to vote against the law, but when the question came up, they broke their word and stood by the party's behest. At least such was the explanation given, that the separate car law being a party measure, every practical Democrat was compelled to fall into line. Mr Murphy J. Foster

was among the political slaves.
It was the same with the Lottery Democrats,
although sixteen colored Representatives
and Senators were favorable to their
cause, they voted for the party measure.
I thank you for your latest work. Is
liberty worth preserving? I don't see
how the colored people and the true
Americans can fail to approve
your sentiments, and ^{not} take from
them the necessary inspirations.

I am doing my part, and so is Mr.
Martinet. I am sure that in a very
short time there will be quite a
change in Louisiana Republican
politics.

The people, through the efforts of the
Crossader, are demanding more
serious methods than what has
obtained so far in the party.

The principle of Equal Rights is
becoming popular, so much so, that
some of the leaders are feeling the
necessity of putting themselves on
record in favor of the New Dispensation.
Not wishing to take up your time, I
close, hoping that our test case will be
successful, and that the state of your

health will permit you to give it the proper attention.

Very gratefully yours,

C. P. L. Desdunes.

CHAUTAUGUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013