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Dear Sir:

I have yours of the 18th -
I do not expect any good from the Ab-
lition on Third party, except incidentally.
It may do two things: (1) It may encourage
free speech and independence of thought among
the Southern whites. I think it is doing this. Its
pretence of favoring a free ballot is a mere
pretence. I unfortunately knew Col. Polk
very thoroughly for 15 years (1865 to 1880) and
knew the men who control it at the South.
They are not men who have any sympathy
at all with the laborer as such, much less with
a colored man. They merely represent the former
owner's discontent with profits. If it will lessen
Southern intolerance in any way I am willing
it should go on.

2 - It may serve to spur the Repub-
lican party up to its duty. No doubt
in this party is to be found the bulk
of the sentiment that craves for human
betterment. To separate it is to de-
stroy this force and make it easy to
overcome. It is easier to control a
party than it is to make a man
one and worth a thousand times
as much to control Congress as the
presidency.

I am perfectly willing the
People's party should agitate any of
the questions they propose in their
platform. In several of them I
quite agree; but I have no hope of
any good from them, since I know
its Southern members to be the worst
enemies labor ever had. a m, 9