

Marion Kans Feby 15. 93
Hon Albion W Touque
Mayville N.Y.

My dear sir - In common with many thousands of readers I have been deeply interested in the Inter Oceans "Bystanders Notes" though I may have felt a more vital ^{and active} interest in the condition coming to some of the whites, than to that of the Blacks. For some time I have not had even a feeling of interest sufficient to wear my "G A R" Button, - feeling since our last election here, that the time promises when we will be called upon to apologize for having worn the Blue instead of the gray. My neighbor says he is glad he was shot in the shoulder instead of the knee as now he does not have to limp and let folks know he was a soldier.

In Feby 7th writing of the conditions in ^{the} Mississippi you speak of it and the last summer rebellion in Tennessee as springing from the same root or cause, slavery. I would like with all due respect to here call your attention to a point that seems to me not secondary. - ^{and} ^{our}

if it seems to you of the importance it does to me
I would like to hear or read your notes thereon.

It is Anarchy or socialism diligently working ^{and}
sowing wherever it can find the soil of discontent.

In the sections you write of, slavery and war
results had filled the country with just the sullen
brutal discontent you picture. In the coal districts
discontent has mixed with ^{and} almost given way
to desperation. In the manufacturing districts the
riots tell their own tale ^{across the continent.} ^{and} strikes go hand in
hand with transportation. Here in Kansas especially
in the Western part. The mortgage fiend - brought
in for speculation, grown in laziness. ^{and} ripened
in hot winds and drought, has turned the farmer
into a discontent, almost ready to turn tramp.

Now what I think I see, is the Anarchist,
the Hater of government ^{and} of good society,
looking over the field, and putting in his
most active workers wherever he sees an
opening for his work. In matter what the cause
has been, where discontent exists, there is his field
and he shows good judgment ^{and} generalship
in selecting his emissaries for their different
places.

I do not believe it is merely happening so - but that it is a shrewd carefully managed campaign for the overthrow of American government.

Our legislative condition in Kans is not a little squabble among local politicians. The air in Kans is like W.V. - I do not believe the socialistic strength now is what the slavery strength was and its results will not be so great. But it is fully as viperous in its hatred of the National government. ^{And} far more dangerous to all that makes life worth living in our fair land.

I did not expect to write at half this length and if I have intruded - sincerely beg your pardon. But if I ^{can} feel that you have given the matter a fraction of the thought and interest you are giving the other giant you are fighting I would feel paid for writing tablets full.

Believe me - With Highest Regards

Very Respectfully Yours

Edward A. Lodge