My dear George:

I am very glad the brother got the circulars and mis-laid them because it gave me your letter. You say nothing about yourself but I can see from the letter itself that your health must be improved and I hope it will be quite restored entirely. Could you not be persuaded to take your fortune in your hand and come and spend a week or two, or as many as you could be content to pass in, or quick a little time,

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with us? We are alone in a rented house, self, wife and Gertrude, the daughter going to New York the last of this week. It is a very pretty place, a day's brisk drive inland, being 1000 ft above Lake Erie though it is only seven miles away. I am very certainly at home being at work on the History, the details of which would interest you and — well in short, I think we could make you com-

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forbade and contest and would be glad to have you answer this invitation in person.

I suppose the enclosed are the work of circulars that were sent out.

As to the clipping you were kind enough to send, I am glad you are giving some thought and attention to such things. Of course, the mere matter of lynching is a bad thing, but in itself it is no very serious matter.

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The lynching of four or five hundred or even a thousand people in a year, in the United States is no great loss. We could spare many more and be improved and there are probably three times that number who ought to be hanged. The trouble is that lynching is a symptom of disease and the disease it indicates is anarchy. It is defiance of law with public approval and endorsement.

It is not the only visible symptom

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of this license. Kansas affords another; Gin-burning throughout the South another. General lawlessness throughout the north another. Regard for law and inclination to enforce the law are growing very weak throughout the country and when this becomes general in a Republic the result is sure to be serious and heretofore has been always fatal. The path by which "the tiger" comes to power in a republic

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has been always laid out and guided by general lawlessness — incipient anarchy.

So we see the situation is peculiarly dangerous because of the condition, status and character of one-eighth of our population. There are many dangerous features about it. One-fourth of our population, the whites of the South are determined to subordinate and control them or drive them out or exterminate them. Either alternative means unlimited barbarism and horror. Yet they

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are the natural fruit and consequence of slavery.

Of course, the colored man has made some as well as he might have done, and he been wiser or better. But this thing is undeniable: He has done more good and less harm since his emancipation than any other people of a like grade and intelligence ever did before.

It is also true that he is today doing more good and less harm than an equal number of Northern white men and women of average mind and character would do if they

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were put in black skins and put in the places they occupy. In fact, were that the case hell would be a playground in comparison with what the south would be in one week's time after the transmutation was complete.

Of course, lawlessness always attacks the weakest part of a population. Like disease, it is always cowardly. While they are not the only people lynched, it is yet true that three fourths of the victims belong to one-eighth of the population. Do you think either that race of

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white women is the only crime visited by lynching or burning. Less than one-third of the colored people lynched are charged with any such offense and only two-thirds of these barest claim.

But I will ask every good citizen of more than ever before any person who has ever been lynched for coming to a colored woman and only three have been executed in all the states of the South for the killing of colored men in the last twenty-seven years.

(over)

Put yourself once in a colored skin and think what you would feel if you were a colored citizen of the United States. In my opinion the danger to our liberty, from our slaveholding citizens, is greater than it was thirty-one years ago when we felt willing to offer our lives for it.

Come and see me and let us talk these matters over.

Yours

A. W. T.