

Norwalk, Ohio

June 1st 1894

quizzing you  
Bro. C. R. D. Dear Sir

Though I have been  
sadly disappointed in the N. C. R. D.  
& what I hoped might be accomplished  
by & through it yet the question  
arises in my mind whether some little  
good might not be accomplished  
in this our 14th Ohio Cong. Dist. in  
this present campaign.

I believe it is our duty to defeat  
, if possible the election, of Lewis  
C. Baylin, of this City should he  
succeed in obtaining the Repub-  
-lican nomination for that office  
which he commenced "laying the  
ropes" for when serving as member  
of the 'House' for two terms and its  
Speaker terms 90 & 92, making him-  
-self very popular with the Democrats  
for one thing

means; but with that as an indication you will not be surprised when I inform you or remind you if I mentioned it to you in connection with my distribution of circulars & pamphlets & efforts to secure members of the N. C. R. A. that he acted & answered me in the meanest way of all, with one exception perhaps.

I was calling on our various Co. officers with that little but significant pledge & list, at the Courthouse & coming outside while presenting the matter to various persons round the steps & yard seeing Mr Laylin I shewed him & he read that pledge & I stated in a word or two stated our objects & asked him if he was in favor of that object & would sign the pledge or application but to my great astonishment he rushed

away, as if afraid some one might see him with me with that pencil & those papers, those about knowing what business I was in just then, and to my question answering gruffly, angrily No. No.

Now what ought & can we do in such a case. The leading paper the Reflector says this Co. is un-animously for him and I expect it is, substantially & practically.

And it may be that more harm than good would result from stirring the matter up, and that he would gain more votes than he would lose because of this response to a civil request on such a subject. I am very much in doubt whether even the colored voters would be courageous enough to take a stand for their rights because of their dependent position

For one, my influence and vote, what-  
-ever others may do will be exerted  
in every proper way against him  
as a time server and selfseeking ene-  
my of the oppressed and it seems to  
me that some means ought to be  
taken at once to prevent colored  
voters from ignorantly supporting  
such a man for any but especially  
for such an office. What do you  
think about it. Would it be advi-  
-sable or practicable now or in case of  
his nomination to publish the facts  
in Cleveland Gazette & other papers  
with an appeal to colored men &  
lovers of justice to defeat if possible  
him & all such men; Or to question  
him in some public manner and  
morally compel him to show where  
he stands, publicly - or by a silent  
, negative course like Medley

C. F. ... is  
useless to ... and  
on any of the  
members of  
the ...  
here for any  
thing more ...  
than in the past

in regard to your open letter to him concerning lynchings, who so far as I know, has made no response whatsoever. What, is manhood clean gone from us. O God of our Fathers what are we come to.

I would like to say many things as to Congressional matter in your Dist. but fear I might weary you, perhaps annoy, but will say that though not surprised I am thoroughly disgusted and I may say enraged at the condition of things politically not only in the 34th N. Y. Dist. but as a type of the whole country as revealed in editorials in Allegany Co. N. Y. Republican of 26th ult., which shows me as being not as

sincere or candid or accurate as  
might be" but leaves no doubt  
as to the fact of an utter backdown  
; on the pretense of geographical  
and financial & "bolting" ~~for~~  
reasons or causes, evading, not giving  
the underlying, chief reason at all  
which I have no doubt is the same  
as caused Laylin, McKinley, Har-  
-rison & all the controlling leaders  
and the people who elect & sustain  
them to act as they do. That is  
because not really in favor of re-  
publican government and majority  
rule and exact justice to all or  
value their own present peace and  
prosperity above justice, God's law  
or any thing <sup>of</sup> ~~so~~, while the few  
who are awake to the true sit-  
-uation tamely, quietly acquiesce  
In some respects I am not sorry

that the episode has occurred for while I bitterly regret the results as to the nomination & election as the matter stands, yet I cannot but look on it as being like a great reconnaissance of the enemies lines and a revelation of the what a mighty foe we have to contend with. It is well for us to have our eyes opened to the facts & be aware of the enemies strength & our own foundation, that we may wisely plan and act with respect to our own safety and success. or rather, the success of the cause we love

I believe the result would be similar in every other Dist. with a like candidate known as a friend and advocate of justice & equal rights for the poor, hated, despised colored brother and still worse if he was not obliged to join in the cry against the

poor foreign refugee from oppression  
and military & other bondage:

I feel unable to express my depression  
of mind, from the human standpoint  
because of this additional proof  
of the reign of prejudice and  
selfishness and judicial blindness.

It cannot fail to strengthen the  
hands of "the workers of iniquity"  
in the South. And again it will  
be tauntingly ~~be~~ said "What  
are you going to do about it?"

Well, what shall we do

That is the question

I wrote an article of congratulation  
& commendation of the movement for  
the Allegany Co Republican but  
the editor returned it, saying it  
it was ~~not~~ & all right but he  
cared not to use any thing more  
of the kind, & sent me No for May 26th.  
with regards yours

Wm. L. G. [unclear]