My dear Nixon:

My suggestion of a labor code has brought me many inquiries from thoughtful men. Of course, I do not know what such a code should be — only vaguely ~~how I do~~ at least — but I do know, that such a thing, well elaborated, ~~adventurous~~ whether adopted as a whole or not, will do more to settle the questions at issue now between labor and capital than anything else that can be done.

I would like to do this thing and believe that I am peculiarly fitted for the work:

1 — By sympathy and purpose.
2 — By an inflexible desire for the com-

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even good which even my enemies candidly admit.

3 — By a peculiar capacity for compact and unmistakable formulation. This is my peculiar quality as a lawyer. I was practically the author of the North Carolina Code of Procedure and have probably formulated more laws that have stood the test of ~~not only~~ hostile criticism but also the sharper test of litigation without cracking, than almost any living man. In other words, I have the peculiar faculty of devising means to accomplish specific ends, and having a legal mind and legal training I am expert in adapting legal means to accomplish legal

ends.

4— I might add perhaps ~~possibly~~ that I have probably the confidence of as many of the moderate and well-disposed of both shades of the controversy as any man that could be named.

Why write this to you?

I think there is a fine opportunity for the Inter Ocean to make a ten-strike for itself, ~~and~~ and for me and at the same time be of great service to the country.

How?

By establishing an Inter Ocean Bureau of Harbor and Harbor.

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To what end?

It would put the Inter Ocean at the head of all organized, sensible, reasonable effort to find a way out of the woods — something no one has yet done because the attempts have lacked practical coherency — the disease has been treated empirically rather than pathologically. This position in regard to this question has two advantages:

1 — It would not commit the Inter Ocean to anything.

2 — It would attract wide-world attention and make and hold circulation.

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What would be necessary to be done?

Organize the InterOcean Bureau of Law and Labor, under my charge, headquarters here at Mayville. Publish the fact that you have ~~placed provided for its main [illegible] for one year~~. Secured my services in connection with it for one year.

Require Monthly reports of what is done and such other matter as might be used from time to time in the Inter-Ocean not making it too frequent at first and leaving me a large discretion.

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What would I do?

1 – ~~I would~~ Prepare and sent out a circular letter explaining the object and asking suggestions as to what should be the scope and character of such a code.

2 – From these I would call such as would attract notice published in the Inter Ocean.

3 – I would then formulate a general plan for the work and again send this out for ~~[illegible]~~ suggestion.

4 – Then we would be ready for formulation and revision.

amendment in your state?

It is just as sure to prevail very soon if not now as the day is to shine. It is best for all that it should — for capital and labor both — and it seems to me that you have an opportunity to be in the lead that should not be lost. ~~You need not~~

You need not assume — I know you are busy — but think of this. If I were with you I think I could help clarify your thought, come. You know it takes a foreign substance to clarify