



Mrs. Emma K. Towry

#227 West 6" St

Erie

Pa

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

## LECTURES

SEASON 1876-'76:

The Coming Crusade,  
To-day in Account with Yesterday,  
"Out of the Strong-Sweetness,"  
The Ben Adhemite Era,  
Southern Humor.

FROM ALBION W. TOURGEE,

Author of *Toinette*, &c.

-LATE-

JUDGE SUPERIOR COURT NORTH CAROLINA.

Raleigh  
GREENSBORO, N. C., February 16<sup>th</sup> 1879

Sunday - E. P. M.

My dear wife:

We are having a real Northern snow storm.

It has been snowing for two hours, is now about three inches deep with a prospect of keeping on until we have as deep an one as that in which I came back and saw you standing at the window of our room with the bright firelight glowing about you, like a halo, three years ago. Ah, I wish I might come to you through this one! Yet we are blessed - infinitely blessed compared with so many others. Engelhard died yesterday, and is to be buried tomorrow. It is a sad bereavement to his family, though he leaves them comfortably provided for having had about \$30,000 insurance on his life. There is a very strange fatality among prominent men here this winter, or else I notice it more. There is a great scramble over the office of Sec. of State, which is thus vented and betting is rife at the hotels as to who is the most probable candidate. I incline to think that Gen. Roberts of Gates is the most likely one. I learn from Greensboro that Col. Gilman cannot be said to be making any permanent improvement. He is still very low and there seems to be little prospect of his recovery. I am afraid I shall miss all your letters this week as you will think me at Randolph Court. I made a stupid mistake about the court. Don't know how soon to miss it so awfully -

The book is getting on nicely now, and I have some

hope of getting away to see you by the 10th prox, but I may  
fail. It does not seem as if I could live without seeing  
you soon. I am so foolishly fond and anxious for you  
that I am half ashamed to confess it to myself.

How it does snow. The great flakes fall as feathers and  
light but so thick that the nearest houses are almost hid-  
den. I am in Shaffer's office - in the new Government build-  
ing - which is nicely warmed and is still as the  
green. I tried to stay in my room but nearly  
froze there. Last night I determined to have a happy  
quiet day reading and resting, so I went and bought one  
of the Franklin Square Library novels and a Harper's  
Magazine for today's delectation. I laid them away care-  
fully promising myself not to touch them until today.  
When I went home, however, I thought I would just look  
them over, which I did, to the very last line almost, and  
have only had a few stray gleanings for today. Just like me  
was it not?

I have not any very good news to tell you only the  
old story that I want to see you so badly. I am, however, per-  
fectly resigned, at least to what may seem best. If there is not  
a very excellent show for me here, by the time I am done, I will  
come to you and do as you desire. If things show well here  
why, I expect you will have to come to me. I am ready to do  
anything and go anywhere to be with you. I am afraid some-  
times, too, that I shall worry you, and induce blues and  
depression on your part, again. I devoutly hope not, how-  
ever, and trust that the good Father will direct us aright  
and guide our footsteps where they should go -

## LECTURES

SEASON 1875-'76:

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 To-day in Account with Yesterday,  
 "Out of the Strong-Sweetness."  
 The Ben Adhemite Era,  
 Southern Humor.

FROM ALBION W. TOURGEE,

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JUDGE SUPERIOR COURT NORTH CAROLINA.

GREENSBORO, N. C.,

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I have a good prospect of getting some money this week. I have engaged to write some letters for Garrison, who is in a fight with the Legislature again, for which he promises to pay well and no doubt will. Day & Co., of Durham have engaged me to write some circulars for their horse, for which I am to have \$50. They have not sent me the data yet but promise to do so in a day or two - Pendleton is to be up this week and settle his case with me, so I hope among them all to get something for my darling who is "coming all to pieces": just hold together a little while longer, if you can, and I will try and have you patched up. As you are anxious to do your repairing before I come, I will not come until you have had time to do it, after I send some money. How long will it take you? Let me know, so that I can have some idea of the delay I must make after my remittance. Ah, my dear, I have very sweet dreams as to what my visit to you will be like, - how I will find you, - what you will say and all the sweet minutiae which will go to make up that heaven of delight. It will be so sweet that I almost fear that I shall never see it, sometimes; but I soon cast the thought away and dream on -

I am so glad Lottie is healthy and strong and am very sorry she does not please you in all things. If she knew what a priceless treasure she has in her Mamma, I am sure she would do every thing in the world to please you. I am glad to know that you are so perfectly healthy and contented and think you may make

the house do, unless you can find one to suit you better. If you can, why take it, of course. I am glad to know that I shall be able to secure you a comfortable home, at least, for I can now make that sure. If I can get money enough, without scrimping you, I shall certainly get one of those typewriters as soon as I can. I think I ought to do it, by all means. Magnus has just come up and we have been chattering over affairs; so I am going to quit for this time. Kiss my little girl and bid her be very good; if she wishes to see her papa soon, I've my love to the girls. They must have hard times going to school this bad weather -

Yours truly

Al. Bourgee