

910 Pine St.

San Francisco

Jan 26/87

My dear Judge

I shall be glad of a letter from you to know how you are - It is I know my own fault that I have not heard from you, for you could not write to me without knowing my address.

I shall indeed be glad to learn that you are in health again, for your own sake as well as for mine.

I have been pretty well through the mill - I lost every cent of money I possessed - I had to pawn everything pledgable to buy me the necessaries of life, but I am thankful to say I have at last obtained bread & these as Secretary in a Store here - The pay is low & the position precarious, but it is something to go on with.

I think I have been pretty hard hit these last few years; Father Mother, Brother, two Sisters, Wife Children, Comparative Wealth,

Social position, friends, Home,
Country - all gone - But thank
God I have still my good name,
Prime of life, health, & unquestionably
a "big Country" before me. I have
been at the bottom of the ladder, & I
guess now therefore I must of necessity
walk up somehow!

If I had but two or three hundred
Dollars they would be of more use to
me now, & lead to a greater return
than my former thousands -

Of course store life is not very
congenial, but still my duties are
entirely secretarial, which is some
consolation.

I now & then write an article or
two, just to keep my hand in, but know
no market that will buy my productions.

I wish I could get on some paper
advocating "The American party"
I could I think turn out some good
work.

Please reply to this and let me know
how you are.

I trust you are by now quite yourself
again. With kind regards to Miss Tourgee
& all enquiring friends,
Yours truly
A. E. Gray

Rev. A. W. Tourgee.