

FORDS, HOWARD, & HULBERT,
PUBLISHERS,
No. 27 Park Place.

Dictated.

NEW YORK, Sept. 1, 1887.

Mrs. A. W. Tourgee.

My dear Mrs. Tourgee:

Your letter asking about:

"Black Ice" came duly last week and was forwarded to me

in Connecticut. I sent it immediately to New York to

Henry that he might attend to the books and portrait-plate

I did not answer directly because I was practically in ig-

norance of the facts about "Black Ice."

We had been expecting all sum-

mer to see the appearance of "Button's In"; but seeing

that it did not appear we concluded it was the fact:

that Roberts Brothers had put it over until the fall; &

therefore, we did not put "Black Ice" in hand until about

two weeks ago, just before I left for a brief vacation.

I expected to get some proof of

it while I was away, but it did not come; and I inquired

of the printers about it, and learned that it had been de-

laid by a fire. A small batch of it came in, however, yesterday afternoon—pages 3 to 19—and I have mailed it to you together with some return-wrappers. As fast as they come in, I will send them along. Please have them returned always as soon as possible.

Our traveler, who has just returned from a trip through the West, found that everything was very slow and the Judge's books were no exception to the rule. I think he is doing well to start again into book making—it is high time. In fact, if he had never stepped out of it, he would have had more money in his purse and less "experience." I hope the racket that Roberts will make over "Button's Inn" and the good success of the book itself will wake the public up once more to the interest and value of his writings.

My hearty regards to him please.

Yours very sincerely,
J. R. Howard