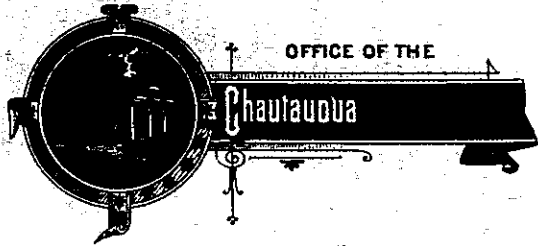


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Mainfield, N. Y. SEPT. 14, 1887L 188

MY DEAR MRS. TOURGEE:

I WAS GREATLY SURPRISED BY YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 23. I THOUGHT THAT BRUCE SPOKE WITH MARVELLOUS FELICITY AND ELEGANCE, AND MORE THAN ONCE THE QUESTION CAME TO MY MIND: IS HE THE AUTHOR OF THAT SPEECH? BUT I AM ASTOUNDED AT THE FACTS WHICH YOU GIVE. IS IT REALLY THE CASE THAT HE TOOK THE SPEECH, DICTION AND ALL, FROM THE JUDGE'S BOOK? I SHOULD LIKE TO KNOW FOR MY OWN SATISFACTION.

REMEMBER ME TO YOUR DELIGHTFUL FAMILY, AND ASK THE JUDGE FOR ME IF HE HAS EVER HEARD OF THOMAS CARLYLE OR OF MATTHEW ARNOLD, DISTINGUISHED ENGLISHMEN?

I HOPE THAT SOME TIME HE MAY BE ABLE TO READ AT LEAST A PAGE FROM ONE OR THE OTHER OF THESE EMINENT PHILANTHROPISTS AND REFORMERS!

SINCERELY YOURS,

*J. H. Vincent*

MRS. JUDGE TOURGEE,  
 MAYVILLE, N. Y.