

Personal

Edg. Courant
Boston

Dear Madames:

It should be taken as a great compliment, I think, that I mistook your sex, since I knew you only by your work and when a woman's work is mistaken for a man's, it is a sure testimony that it is not inferior to a man's. Indeed, judging by that, I think you are quite worthy to be ranked as men — and very good men too.

You are mistaken about my call being to men alone. Of course, it is much desirable at this time not to have too great a proportion of women on our lists, because others will say that women do not count. You understand this as well as I. It may not be right but it is a fact and we cannot stop in our efforts to remedy one evil ^{and} to wait until ~~all~~ others are remedied.

before we begin. One colored woman
Miss Florence Lewis — has been
chosen a member of our Council
of Administration, and I think it
is a fact beyond question, that
the colored women can be the
most efficient agents for promoting
its spread among their people, by
acting as solicitors for it.

Remember that the cause of liberty
means the elevation and welfare
of all — without regard to sex.

I do not understand why you
failed to receive the blanks. The drain
now ^{is} such that you may have
to wait a day or two for them; but
you will get them soon.

The method of extension adopted
is by personal solicitation mainly
as that is the most effective and in-
expensive. I can say nothing more than
I have said already. Of course, a race
that will not work for its own

people and his less intelligent fellows
of the South, in what is to of such vital
import to the colored citizen every-
where or because he is ashamed
of his poor relations? Possibly, Prof.
Shuler's scientific analysis of his
racial qualities has convinced
the Northern colored man that he
is an ethnic inferior and will
remain so until he is so bleached
as to be undistinguishable from the Can-
casian. That seems to be a favorite
doctrine now, with all those who
wish to make God responsible
for Man's injustice.

Yours very truly

~~Albion W. Tourgee~~

Of course, this letter is to you personally.
I do not discuss this matter publicly, ex-
cept in the "By-standers Notes" and I think
it much better for you, the race and
the cause that you should make
whenever argument appears in your pa-
per rather than seem to cite my opinions.
I do not mean to dictate but I can say to
you confidentially what it might be very
desirable to publish and the Courant will

rights and liberties does not deserve
to have them and will not long
retain them. The colored people
of the South know this and they are
alert to take advantage of anything
that promises relief. The same is true
of the masses of them in most of
the cities of the West. ^{At the least they are yet apathetic.} In several
instances colored members have
sent in lists of 100 to 200 applicants,
both white and colored. It is not
for the colored race though they
are the most immediate and
evident recipients of its efforts.

Enclosed you will find two
certificates of membership. One is
sent to every applicant enclosing
stamp for that purpose. I hope do
not any more doubt the success
of the movement. God is behind it
and the American people are
sure to be with it. I dread to
see the intelligent colored man
of the North behind the white

be all the better off, for ~~examining~~
~~to examine~~ using its own lush auth=
er than a borrowed one. I am
not only willing to trust the under
standing of the N.C.R.A. to your wo=
man's instinct and good sense
but wish you to understand
that it recognizes that the great
task it has attempted is only
possible with earnest and
universal co-operation. We
want every man and every
woman — though just now
we want the women in or=
der that they may get the men
for us. A little later on we
shall ~~not~~ ~~want~~ ~~them~~ care less
about this. We want this ~~to~~ end
of our club made up chiefly
of material that will hurt a
politician's head if he runs against
it. See?
Yours,
Gessy,