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For God and Home and Every Land.

# NATIONAL Woman's Christian Temperance Union...

TIME OF PRAYER—Noontide.

METHODS—Preventive, Educational, Evangelistic, Social and Legal.

WATCHWORDS—Agitate! Educate! Organize!

BADGE—A Knot of White Ribbon

OFFICE OF PRESIDENT.

EVANSTON, ILL., U. S. A. Dec. 21st. 189 4

136 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass.

Albion Tourgee Esq.

Honored and dear Brother,

You have written me a noble and manly letter and sent me a charming book. Please believe I sincerely appreciate both, and receive them in the same spirit of large-hearted good-will that you have manifested. Do not think hardly of me about the lynching atrocities. I am as much opposed to them as you are, and I have a better record in relation to Miss Wells than you know. Later on I will write you more at length. In what I say in my annual address, I think you have misapprehended my words. The expression "by making the imputation that white women are instigators of heinous crimes between white and colored races" I meant that Miss Wells stated in her public addresses in England that white women in this country invited colored men to illicit intimacies and then turned about and laid the whole blame on them, and certainly gave the impression that many a lynching occurred as the result of such conduct on the part of <sup>2</sup>white woman, who herself went scot free while the partner of her sin suffered the direst penalties of "Judge Lynch". It seems to me this was most ill-advised on her part. She is a bright woman and I have nothing against her except that my study of her character and work leads me to feel that she has not the balance and steadiness that are requisite in a successful reformer. I do not mention this

as her fault but her misfortune. I want you and your dear wife to know that when I heard that the Chicago Woman's Club - which is the largest and best club in the west - of which I have long been a member and which has honored me in many most grateful ways - when, I say, I heard it was going to deny admittance to an intelligent colored woman just because she was colored, I wrote its principal member that if she were not admitted I should "put my light complexion beside her dark one and walk out with her".

I also stated this to a public audience in Boston. It is particularly painful to me to be counted on the wrong side in this controversy because I am a dyed-in-the-wool Abolitionist; my father's house was a station on the underground railway (in Oberlin); I learned to read out of the "Slave's Friend", and I have always treated colored people just as I treated white in every respect, and it is, I think, a downright injustice that I have been made by good Frederick Douglas, by percussive Miss Wells and some others to appear as the enemy of a race that I love and on whose behalf I would do anything that seemed to me to be helpful and practicable.

Now with happiest Christmas greeting and pledging you my best efforts in every good cause, I am

Yours with gratitude for the uncounted good you have wrought and in the expectation of being better acquainted with you and the Queen in the Better Life to which we hasten,

*Frances E. W. Garrison*