

H. CLAY EVANS.  
CHATTANOOGA, TENN.

March 20th 189 5

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N. Y.

My Dear Judge:-

I am still in the fight, although I went into the contest against the advice of my attorneys, if you read the letter I issued, it will give you a pretty good idea of my position in the case. And no where in any of the republican counties have the attorneys for Governor Turney been able to show a single fraudulent vote. Their only point is the mere technicality of the manual presentation of the poll tax receipt. The judges holding the election in November in many of these cases having held it in August knew that the voter had his poll tax receipt, and would tell him that it was not necessary to show it. And the investigating committee, before it started out on this tour of fraud, passed such outrageous partizan rules that it even disgusted democracy. For instance they ruled out the charges that I made against all the democratic counties, because I had not specified the fraud as having taken place at each and every precinct; but I got the total vote in each case, the county the charge was made against and claimed that the whole county at every precinct failed in that particular technical qualification of the voter, or that the election was conducted on the same methods as in counties they are charging against. These charges the committee ruled out as lacking in specification.

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Then when my attorneys want witnesses, they must designate in writing the name of the witness, and state what they expect to prove by that particular witness, and then the committee will subpoena or not as they like, and they generally don't like if the evidence is to be against them. And the attorneys for Governor Turney parade the country with the original returns from these republican counties and want to use them as evidence in various ways.

As I wrote you before, having been elected, I am not now ambitious to be Governor, but I do have an ambition to beat the rascals.

I enclose a letter from Rev. T. C. Warner, of Knoxville, Tenn. formerly pastor of the M.E. church of this city, and a good man and a ratling good republican.

Very truly yours,



Wm — My dear friends! You need have no  
fear of my exhausting everything I get - brandy  
on about your gallant contest. I send you  
today, the first copy of the book.

In it you will find an article con-  
titled "A Stout Fighter", which deal,  
with yourself and ventures in France.  
I thought now was the time to  
submit it and I hope to start  
sentences to your review.