



The White Oak Fence & Gate Manufacturing Company,

Western Shipping Office; ^{123 1/2} 484 E. Twenty-second Street, Chicago, Ill.

S. D. EDLRED, Manager.

To whom all communications should be addressed.

CHICAGO, Sept. 2d. 1895.

Judge A. W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Sir,

Have been traveling drumming for business under circumstances which was too uncertain to entrust the mail with The Basis hence have had to ~~be~~ be as the mass of unfortunates without its inspiration, but now like the most favored I am indulging to dissipation in back numbers and hold the current numbers — mine does not come to hand until Monday — unopened that I may not again put off writing for I would fain help "hold up your hands" against those impolitic politicians of little faith who do not seem to know that God and one man of convictions makes a better working majority than an innumerable host of men without convictions and without God.

You are on safe ground too when you elect to set down the simple truth — shorn of malice or offence or the appearance of contention — without sponsorship rather than a varnished statement founded on fact which this or that denomination or society might heartily indorse: but I beg you be careful to use a quill pen cut to a fine hair line touched with pale bluish ink; to give your sword arm and knightly spirit both a little rest when doing this part of the Grand Rounds. While giving our Baptist and many other brethren the truth and nothing but the truth please don't give them the whole truth nor have it writ large nor yet give it the full ring of the true metal.

This from my life long stand point wholly uninfluenced by the fact that one of the ministers of your Advisory Board of N. C. R. A. for Cook Co. did not attend the meeting after the preliminary and that the other the Chairman invariably ruled in favor of the "Antis" and finally tumbled clean over to them when one of their truly eloquently speakers proved by his own experience that the "Mississippi Plan" (of which you write in a late Basis as furnishing a pattern from which nearly every Southern State seem destined to closely follow) was just the thing that supplied a long felt want. The eloquent speaker being colored the Christian chairman was persuaded that the N. C. R. A. was was, if not entirely wrong in a hopeless minority for he forgot God and probably never knew you as a man of convictions.

We have had three inquiries for fence, from Mich. N. Y. and N. J. We answered promptly sending price list and offering wholesale discounts though they were all consumers and not dealers. Neither have ordered yet though one has written twice and may yet find that our fence is to fences just what The Basis is to literature — the Base or Atlas. Will report promptly should he or any reader of the Basis order fence.

Yours Truly,

S. D. Eldred

P.S. What are those spaces on cover worth. If some one does not take them soon I may do so in the interest of a Cereal Coffee of which Judge Tulcy of this Circuit Court says "A splendid substitute for coffee with none of its injurious effects" and a prominent physician here "It is a nourishing, non-stimulating, warm drink, an excellent substitute for Tea & Coffee which with most people are practically indigestible and should be used only as remedies."

It is extensively used East in the Physical Culture departments of the Colleges, & in the Danville, N. Y. & other Sanitariums — and what has kept you up till your late break — or what has restored you I would like to know even as I would that you try this.

We'll arrange to send you some without price if you will use it for nervous ails dyspepsia or nourishment pure & simple.

I am exceedingly anxious to know what E. Everett had to do with a house which Washington & others occupied in a New England city of which a third named lady writing me a late Basis started to tell but the typo or other imp cut the connection.