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House of Representatives U. S.,

Washington, D. C. January 2, 1896.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N.Y.

My Dear Judge:-

I have your second letter which I have read with attention. I do not think you and I differ very much in our estimate of the man or of the situation. The practical question however is how to meet such a curious phenomenon and act in the most judicious way with regard to it. My own judgment is we have done so, and I hope that time which tries all judgments will vindicate my idea. Of course one of the most aggravating things on this earth is to see people going on under an entirely mistaken idea of individual character. But I have had to submit to that so many times in the course of my life that I hardly regard it as an unusual phenomenon.

Very Truly Yours

J. B. Reed