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Trinity - N. C.

Nov 6. 1908

My dear Mrs Tourgee.

You must not attribute my long silence to neglect, or forgetfulness for I assure you, such is not the case. I wrote to you twice, but my letters must have reached Bordeaux, after you left there, and I have thought you might have written to me, for how could I write to you, not knowing your address. You had been in Washington a long time before I knew it, and when I did hear about it I wrote to my Cousins John and Agnes Bulla, and asked them to find out your address and call on you. They did so but it was still a long time before I knew where to address you, and since then I have been down near the valley of the

shadow of death — About 18 months ago I found out that I was in a strange condition and after going on as long as I could I had a doctor to make an examination and he told me I had a Fibroid Tumor and it would have to be removed — I went immediately to a Hospital in Salisbury and underwent the operation which proved to be a very serious and complicated one. I stayed there a month and came home but was taken very ill again and then it was thought I would not recover — but I got up again and in a couple of months had another attack and the doctor said I must go back to the Hospital to have another operation of an entirely different nature, but I got well without it and now my health is as good as ever, though I have been

nearly twelve minutes getting well -  
I have had her all this time the entire  
care of my Mother who is just like  
a child - She can't remember much  
and is so helpless and dependent. Her  
general health is pretty good, better  
than it has been for several years -  
She was 74 years old in June - She  
lives alone - My boys come and stay  
all they can but they have their work  
and can't spend much time here -  
I have seven grand children four boys  
and three girls. I <sup>am very</sup> fond of them, they  
are so smart and bright and very  
fond of me. The oldest one, Waverly's little  
girl "Alice Holman" is nearly six years  
old - One of my boys, Jamie, the preacher  
has no children and Bruce has one  
five months old and he has been married  
seven years the baby's name is Proctor Corwin.

Warray is still Dept of schools in Newbern.  
Ede is in the Bank in Lexington.  
Jennie has been in Vanderbilt University—  
in Tenn. this year studying Theology,  
but will take work at the coming Conference  
which convenes next week. Ponce is Dept  
of schools in Lancaster South Carolina and  
George edits & manages a newspaper in  
Selma N.C. — I presume Lodie (or Aemie,  
I always think of her as Lodie) is with  
you and I want you to write to me.  
I want to know what you are doing.  
You don't know how much I would  
like to see you again. I went to Norfolk  
to the Exposition, and I wanted to go to  
Washington but could<sup>nt</sup> — as I only stayed  
a few days. Mother wants to be remembered  
to you and your dear daughters. Now  
please answer my letter immediately.

Your sincere friend

Mamma A. Craven