

Seventh Judicial District of North Carolina,

JUDGE'S OFFICE,

A. W. TOURGEE,
Judge Superior Court.

~~Greensboro~~ Pittsboro May 14th, 1869.

My dear wife:

Your very welcome letter came to hand last night. I am very sorry to learn that you are suffering any annoyance in regard to Adeline - I cannot say that I feel inclined to give up my ideas respecting her. I may modify them somewhat but have no idea of surrendering them entirely. I know that the course I have marked out, - in the main - is for Adeline's benefit, and is right - Your somewhat romantic supposition of possibilities for a time, somewhat discouraged me, but further reflection has entirely convinced me, that, for the present at least, I must continue my guardianship of Adeline. I do not just now know in what form it will be exercised, but I shall soon devise one. I shall not ask my neighbors to define my duty for me, nor to dictate my course. If they don't like it, they may even let it alone.

It is raining drearily today - Pittsboro is in its glory - a mass of mud and puddles of mud, soft and

red and sticky as pitch - I suffered fearfully yesterday from neuralgia. One half my head seemed actually paralyzed except to a most acute sense of pain - I was blind and deaf and in fact simply in agony. I got better toward night and almost immediately upon the adjournment of Court went to bed and have slept ever since, like a log. I feel much better now -

This is our anniversary! And I must pass the day, not in pleasant association with you, but amid the turmoil of a court - briefs, motions, exceptions and the trial of two persons for their lives, are the wearisome and ghastly duties which contrast themselves so broadly with the bright memories of days years ago! - Oh darling, what do I not owe to that day! I hardly know which was the most fortunate to me, the day I was born, or the day I married - Without you, your sympathy, your love, your counsel and your faith, my path in life, would indeed have been gloomy and worthless. Indeed, my dear, you have little idea how closely you are interwoven with all there is of good in my life and character. God was indeed good, when He sent me you, my good Angel, May He in mercy grant you many years and enable me more fully yet, to testify my love - Yours, Albin