

Hon. A. W. George Warrenton U. S.

Dear Sir

Five years ago I read your *Foibles* and with feelings quite as intensely excited as they were in my childhood's days by Uncle Tom's Cabin but <sup>with</sup> infinitely more interest in your book as I was a personal witness to every detestable iniquity recounted therein.

My father was a Col. in the confederate army (and by the way the youngest brother of John B. Floyd) and at his death at the hands of "Youkees" I entered the army.

So far I have no fault with anybody or anything. My stay in the army was not particularly unpleasant except from the hurts received. These numbered five and one of them has rendered one of my arms almost useless. I was also twice a prisoner at Johnsons Island but experienced none of the "youkee atrocities" we sometimes hear or read of. A certain desire for revenge mixed largely as I now judge myself with a desire to sport a sword

and wear a bar were the executives. I  
got the sword and got up<sup>ed</sup> as to sport an  
oakleaf but I was learning while I did it.

The war ended and as I thought  
peace prevailed - But no - I was mistaken  
The ground of battle only was changed -

The field was abandoned for the stump.

But in West Va the purposes of rebellion  
were wonderfully aided by the shortsightedness  
of republican officeholders who discriminated  
in favor of bushwhackers like Smith Sempson  
and Witcher and disfranchised the accidental  
or conscripted soldier - I returned to  
Michigan and afterwards came south  
and have lived in Mississippi Louisiana  
and Texas. Was in Ouachita parish in  
1876 - Was in Issaquena Co Mississippi  
when fighting Cock Chalmers was created  
in. I have never held or sought an office  
but have been inside a good many things  
the wirepullers put up, So I know of  
what you write by personal experience -  
I have escaped much trouble by not  
voting and only once in Texas in 1873

was I ever threatened and that was for  
protecting some negroes from massacre—

All this was entirely unnecessary for  
what I wanted to say but I felt like  
saying it to you. Twice I have sent  
by N. Leung the principal bookseller  
of San Antonio for A. Lewis' Errand  
and once paid for the same but have  
not received it. Why I do not know—

But I want it for my son a boy of  
12 whom I want to hate sloth  
and rebellion and its brood of viperous  
consequences. Your book is an excellent  
text upon which to base personal ex-  
periences. Who is the publisher? I  
live away off here distant from a Railway  
and out of the world & let this be my  
excuse for asking what you may deem  
a question easily ascertained for myself—

But if you were here you would not think  
so—

Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> 1857

Very Respectfully

Henry Floyd

Priv. Academy Big Horn  
Texas Co. Tex

I may be mistaken as to your location  
but from a "copyright" article I infer your  
residence. —

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2018