

Potsdam N.Y. Mar. 10-89-

Judge A. W. Tourgee,

Dear Sir,

Your letter of March 6th is received. I can't express the regret I feel that my letter to which you refer should have been so misunderstood and have caused you any annoyance. I assure you that it was written in no such spirit. I see now that my closing sentence might impart a different meaning than I intended. My only thought was to impress the Bureau with the fact, that we should lose more money if the dates were postponed than if the whole matter were dropped where it then was, although we had our printing nearly done, and for that reason, we preferred, if you could not reach us by the 15th, to give up the lectures altogether and pay what expense we had so far incurred. Of course you know that all engagements through the Bureau are so conditioned, that in case a party fail to appear at the

specified time nothing can be collected. I stated the matter plainly for two reasons. First: While I am not to receive a cent in any case for my services I have the honor of our Society, The Roger Baconian, to bear up. Second: We have had a very similar experience before. A year ago Geo. R. Wendling was booked to us for late Feb. by the Redpath, Boston. I rec'd a telegram stating that he was ill and that all dates must be postponed. We changed our date to April when shows as usual were "thick as leaves in June" and lost \$20. Mr. W. had always drawn large houses previously. In regard to the advertising it is extremely unfortunate that you should doubt my word. Mar. 25th the Mc Gibbeny Family play here. Their local manager is a pusher and we wished simply to bill the town before he did and to have our other matter all ready to throw out when he did his. In other words we wished to be ready in time, so he couldn't get the start. The Bureau will also inform you that they had my order for 500 circulars before I rec'd the letter enclosed. I make these explanations because the tone of your letter seems to demand them. If I made a mistake in expressing myself I hope you will pardon it.

The blunder was entirely unintentional. If the Bureau had stated your physical condition, we should have canceled the engagement at once. We never supposed your request was caused by sickness and your remark in the fore part of your letter is unjust to our real feelings. But now the expenses have been increased both here and in Canton, the tickets are selling rapidly and if you cannot come the results are apparent. But this is nothing to the Bureau. Your health is of course, above paltry dollars and no man should travel on a lecture tour if it endangered his life. Still you can realize our position. We are selling tickets for a lecture and don't know whether or not to expect the lectures. Would you not wire us your decision when made?

Wishing your health improved not only for our success but your own sake,

I am

Very Truly Yours

Seth H. Geer.

Potsdam.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Please forward to,
Judge Bourgeois.