

Am. Albion W. Tourjee, Minneapolis, Minn. Feb 15 1889  
Mayville, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

I take the liberty of addressing you to say that at a late meeting of the Executive Committee of the Minn. Congregation Club, of which I am a member, one theme proposed for discussion, probably at the May meeting - the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - was

"The Negro in America"

It was discussed under the following subdivisions -  
1st -

"His claim against us."

"Our effort, and the balance in his favor."

"What are the Churches doing to pay the debt?"

"What is the Nation doing to pay the debt?"

or with the two cur under our head

"How shall the debt be paid?"

This division is only our suggestions at the time of our meeting. And instead of proceeding to assign parts to the members of the Club, I was requested to correspond with you, to ascertain if you would accept an invitation to address the Club at the May Meeting on the above theme. In view of the opinion that no one could present the subject more clearly than yourself, and we are quite sure the Club would be very glad to hear you. I am obliged however to say that the Club, as organized, only pays a membership fee to provide for current expenses, the members to furnish papers without charge. Hence we have no adequate fund to remunerate speakers. I am instructed to say that we can pay expenses of a trip here & return, and we respectfully ask you for further terms for compensation. If your answer is recd before the Feb. meeting the 25<sup>th</sup>, I can very soon thereafter inform you whether terms are accepted or not. Whether you may come or not I should be glad of suggestions as to the theme, as no exact scheme is yet adopted. Yours truly,  
Chas. A. J. Marsh