

Enterprise, Miss., May 27th., 1889.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee,
Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Sir:-

Please pardon the liberty I take in addressing you. I am one of the "Fools" who went on an "Errand." By way of introduction I will state that I am a native of Wisconsin, having been born at Omro in 1857. Since I was 16 years of age I have been engaged in the newspaper business. Have been publisher of the Brodhead (Wis.) Independent, Sioux Falls (D. T.) Times and Lake Benton (Minn.) Times. Was a member of the Minnesota legislature, sessions of 1883-85, and have held various other minor offices at the hands of the Republican party.

Nearly three years ago, having become tired of the rigors of our Northern winters, I moved to this "shot gun state" and founded Clarke County Times at this place. You are familiar with the argument used in this section why a "white man cannot be a Republican in the South." For sometime I gave the political situation a careful study, and instead of learning why, with change of locality, my politics should be changed, I was but convinced that they should remain firmer.

As long as there were no political topics under discussion I succeeded moderately well. If local flattery is competent evidence I was publishing the "best paper in the state and doing much to advance the interests of this section." Through my influence twelve Northern families had located here. When the presidential campaign opened and I commenced the advocacy of Republican principles, public sentiment underwent a violent and sudden change. I very soon degenerated to a "D-Radical Yankee tramp and vagabond."

As nothing could be accomplished by threats, a very successful boycott was inaugurated against me. The county supervisors denied me the privilege of bidding on the public printing; the county officials were arraigned against me; and, finally, the citizens, in meeting assembled, resolved to establish a Democratic paper and thus force me from the field. On the morning of election the "nigger tickets" sent here by the Executive Committee, were stolen, and I immediately printed a sufficient number for this and adjacent boxes. For this act, and the course of the Times during the campaign, preparations were made on election night to hang me in effigy. Under the pressure I was compelled to dispose of my office which I did on Jan. 7th., at a considerable loss.

In fact I have lost what little surplus I had trying to publish one of two Republican papers in Mississippi. I am an applicant for the position of Consul at Ningpo, China, now held by Thos. F. Pettus, a Mississippian, and the object of this letter is to frankly solicit an indorsement from you. I realize that it is somewhat presumptuous on my part to ask a favor of this nature from a stranger, nor would I do so were I not able to furnish you with high references as to my past life and character.

Among the prominent Republicans who have written the Secretary of State, or called in person, in my behalf are Senator Davis, Represen-

(A.W.T.2.)

tatives Lind, Dunnell, Comstock and Hall, Ex-Govs. McGill and Hubbard, Judge Collins, Gen. G.E. Cole and Hon. H.B. Strait, ex-M.C., of Minnesota; Senator Ingalls, of Kansas; Representatives McCord, LaFollett, Haugen, Caswell and Clark, of Wisconsin; Representatives Strubles, Henderson, Sweeney and Reed, of Iowa; Ex-Senator Brucey, of Mississippi; Gov. Mellette, Ex-Delegates Pettigrew and Gifford, of Dakota; the Chairman, Secretary and twenty-eight members of the Republican Executive Committee of this state; Messrs. Hill, Kernaghan, Chalmers, Bynum, Duchesne and Cook, all the Republican candidates for Congress in this state at the late general election.

I presume in the distribution of consulates two or three will be accorded Mississippi, and I am prompted to solicit your assistance in my behalf from the fact that you can most fully appreciate the position of one who has refused to worship at the Bourbon shrine, and has advocated Republican principles. Of course I do not claim to have done much for the Republican party down here--I have grave doubts if our Lord could do that--but I was not idle during the canvass and penned letters to the Northern press. Some of which, to the Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette, if traced to me, might cause something worse than hanging in effigy.

If you can consistently recommend my appointment I would highly appreciate the favor if you would write Secretary Blaine in my behalf.

A few days ago I sent you two copies of the Meridian News, with marked articles, showing the manner in which the Regulators propose to deal with the "nigger" route agents recently appointed on this line.

I send you by mail the last copy of the Times containing my valedictory. As it is taken from my files will you kindly return the same?

I hope the "By-Stander" will make no "Notes" of my case--especially until I am on the north side of Messrs. Mason & Dixon's line.

With kind regards, I am

Very respectfully,

Chas. W. Morse

I would respectfully refer you to--
Hon. John Lind, M.C., New Ulm, Minn.
Hon. M. H. Dunnell, M.C., Owatonna, Minn.
Ex-Gov. A. R. McGill, St. Anthony Park, Minn.
Ex-Gov. L. F. Hubbard, Red Wing, Minn.
T. H. Brown, P. G. M. of Masonic Grand Lodge, Sioux Falls, D. T.
Ex-Delegate R. F. Pettigrew, Sioux Falls, D. T.
Gen. G. E. Cole, Ex-Attorney General, St. Paul, Minn.
Rev. W. C. Whitford, late Supt. Public Instruction of Wis., Milton, Wis.
Faculty Milton College, Milton, Wis.
Col. T. W. Goldin, attorney at law, Janesville, Wis.