

Lewis & Noot,
Attorneys & Counselors,
Buffalo, N.Y.
GEORGE L. LEWIS. ADELBERT NOOT.

July 2, 1889.

My dear Judge:-

My partner is away, and the Managing Clerk has also gone away, leaving me short handed. I myself have been away at Saratoga in the Court of Appeals a good deal the past month.

I asked those having the banquet in charge, to send you a ticket and supposed they had arranged that you should respond to one of the toasts. When I enquired at the General Term of the Superior Court yesterday of the Chairman, and found that you had not received an invitation, I was astonished. I am satisfied that he overlooked the matter in the hurry of such work, as he is a busy lawyer. I therefore, at once wired you, and you replied you would come if I desired, by a telegram which I received late last night.

Meantime, I had enquired concerning the toasts and learned that here too, you had been "overlooked". It did not accord with my sense of the fitness of things that you should sit through a feast to local celebrities, and not even respond to a five minute toast, although you would probably be the only man of national reputation at the dinner. I had desired that you should meet our bench and bar, but I had no desire that you should meet them "eating and drinking" only, where you would have no chance to make the impression I would like you to make and I desired to have you make.

You have attended enough dinners of the kind in your day to know how stupid the dinner is of itself. I therefore answered

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you as I did this morning.

I should have been greatly pleased to have had you here with me, but felt that the ^{time} dinner would not be worth ~~the~~ candle."

If you were coming here to visit me, I should choose another time and occasion when we could enjoy ourselves more and be bored less. For that reason, I was not sorry to receive your telegram announcing you would not come because of your engagements, which I know are always too important to permit any waste of time.

We hope to have you and Mrs. Tourgee with us before long to enjoy a bit of Summer in Buffalo.

Sometimes, I close in haste to fill an engagement with a client. With good wishes to yourself and family,

Truly your friend,



To

Hon. A. W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N. Y.