

The Inter Ocean.

Chicago, November 26th. 1889.

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

My Dear Judge:---

For once Lippincotts followed directions and a copy of "Gauge and Swallows" came into my hands last Saturday. I will read it at my earliest opportunity, and I expect to find as much pleasure in it as I did in "Black Ice". After reading I will have my say about the book in The Inter Ocean.

You were never more mistaken in your life than when you expressed the opinion that I have not had for you in the last few months the same cordial feeling that I once had. Now that my attention is called to the matter, I see in a new light the fact that I have dropped out of the old, informal and neighborly correspondence of previous years; but there is a reason for this, which I had taken for granted would occur to you. When Mr. Nixon took active charge of his own correspondence early last Spring, and when matters came up for discussion personal to yourself, I thought it the part of wisdom to turn all matters in which he held the deciding vote to him. In other words, I thought as a matter of courtesy to him and to you that it would be better to leave the discussion to the principals. In fact, I found that

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Mr. Nixon was inclined to write himself, and in this way I dropped out of the correspondence. I thought it better under all circumstances that correspondence as to policy and business be conducted with Mr. Nixon himself.

I submit this as an explanation, not as an excuse.

I would be very sorry indeed to have even "The shadow of a shadow" come over the brightness of our acquaintance and friendship. We often talk of you and yours at home, and the name 'Tourgee' always brings to even the youngest member of the family pleasant recollections.

Grace is now at Smith College, Northampton, Mass.

I went East with her and spent several days at Northampton and came away with very pleasant impressions of the college and the place. We are looking forward to a very pleasant visit from her in the Christmas holidays. The other members of the family are at home, are well, and all join me in the very kindest regards.

Very Sincerely,

W. M. A. Busbey