

House of Representatives U. S.,

Washington, D. C., Nov 26th, 1889.

Judge Albion W. Tourgee
Mayaville New York

My Dear Sir: Your
very kind letter of Sept 26th, in reply to
my letter from Burlington Kansas came duly
to hand, and has been read and reread ² times,
and I am deeply impressed that at
this time the Nation needs your experience,
your knowledge, and your ability, in a public
capacity, more than that of any man I know
of within its limits; and I wish you were in Con-
gress; would gladly vacate if I could put you in
my place, and distasteful as it might be to you, and
laborious; it seems to me while you would be the loser,
the country would be immensely the gainer.
My only ambition in coming to Congress was that
I might do something to hasten a settlement of this
question on a basis of justice and humanity, if
in no other way to keep it agitated; but now it seems
to me if I could have the benefit of your experience

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and skill in drawing a bill providing for the control of elections by the Federal Government. just such a bill as you think would best cover the case and meet the emergency, I could introduce the bill and advocate it, and thereby get a little of the Fools, Common sense injected into the Galley of the wise. Can well assure this request might be considered cheeky and perhaps impertinent, but my anxiety to see some practical legislation that will bring relief in the shortest time is my excuse, no ambition on my part to be prominent or conspicuous, and I pledge you that should any good result from it, I will manage to place the credit where it belongs, and should it result in failure to materialize I will cheerfully shoulder the blame: Chapter 34 of Fools Errand is indeed a vivid picture of the situation as it was then and as it is to a great extent yet, and as it will long remain I fear, unless the Author will lend us his wisdom in finding the remedy: Of course I

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Shall not publish any thing from you or
from any other correspondent without his con-
sent, but do hope to hear from you soon, and if
your judgment should accord with mine, in the sug-
gestion herein made, the Country may have the ben-
efit of your wisdom and thought, embodied in a bill
for the Control of elections for Presidential electors and
Members of Congress.

Yours very truly
Harrison Kelly