

Columbia, So. Ca. May, 14, 1890.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee.

My dear Sir:

Your late articles in the Tribune, and your experience in this Country lead me to believe you will feel interested in the Barnwell Massacre. I enclose a circular which will explain to you the starting of a fund for the benefit of the families of the lynched men. My letter which Senator Chandler published in the N. Y. Tribune will give you an account of their condition which came to me in confidence.

The Barnwell Widows and two old Mothers are all church members they own among them two cows, one mule, and one ox. Their little children twenty five in number, are most of them too young to be of any assistance. Ralph Morrell had at the time of his death \$500.00 but I can not trace it. It is my earnest desire to raise \$2000 to buy land and build nine small homes in the farming district near Columbia, where these heart broken and sorely afflicted women may begin life anew away from the daily sight of the horrible place, where their husbands were brutally murdered. This butchery has caused a terrible hopelessness among the negroes that their wrongs will ever be righted and that they will be free men. That money is coming to me for the help of these widows, seems to be to them a sign, that they have friends

some where beyend So. Ca. The Colored people North and South are doing all they can to help me, should there be any colored churches among you or friends whom you could interest in this mission I beg that you will do so, for I feel sure every Christain who could see the crushed, hopeless, despair of these people would feel as I do impelled to help them.

I lived in Aiken at the time of the Hamburg Massacre, those poor women saw their husbands riddled with bullets, fled terror stricken seventeen miles, and fell at our door begging for shelter and protection, and in the early morning four little children were born, and yet no one feels touched by their sorrows, and conscience is soothed by the belief they are inferior and not capable of the fine instincts of the white race. I saw all the agony and terror caused by the riots of Ellington and Ridge-springs and for the patience, endurance, and religion of the negroes I feel the deepest respect.

After you have used the enclosed cuttings will you return as I can only obtain a few copies.

Very truly yours,

Wm. C. Bryant.

Contributions received for the Barnwell Widows to May, 14, 1890.

Colored churches North. -----	\$143.23
" " " " " South. -----	\$219.33
Through Gov. Long, Boston. -----	\$543.52
Through personal friends, and in reply to Senator Chandler's appeal in the N. Y. Tribune. -----	\$529.32
	Total. \$1435.40