

## The Inter Ocean.

*Chicago, Feb. 25, 1892.*

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

My dear Judge:--

I am glad you liked the little notice of "A Son of old Harry". It ought to have been better, but circumstances prevented my giving the time and attention to it that I expected to. The book pleased me very much. As I wrote Mrs. Tourgee, Mabel, the younger daughter, and I read it while Mrs. Busbey was away. Mabel, I should say is naturally fond of horses and dogs and has gone so far as to purchase on her own responsibility a colt, which she proposes to make one of the finest horses in the country. I do not know whether I ever spoke of the fact that our family is a horse family, excepting always myself. My father, still living, has always been an enthusiastic horseman. My earliest recollection is of a stable full of the better graded horses, and of my father's maneuvers in managing and training them. The horse sentiment, however, jumped me and broke out in my brother Hamilton, who is now the editor of the "TURF, FIELD AND FARM" in New York, and who has been an associate with Mr. Robert Bonner in many of the negotiations that have carried so many fine horses to Mr. Bonner's stables. He always had a strong love for horses and rode nearly all sorts of horses before he was out of frocks. I speak of this now so you may know there was a double interest to me in the story, and if you ever have occasion to talk with my

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brother Hamilton, you will probably learn that he was as much interested as myself.

I suppose that you will on first thought repudiate the charge I made against you on one occasion that you have a tendency to have always in your stories, women fluttering about a disabled, or wounded or invalid man. You nominally reverse the order in this story by having a man hang in solicitude and tenderness about a woman. This looks like a new departure, but it is'nt, because you get back to the old situation before the act is played out. This you understand is not mentioned in the spirit of criticism because I like it, but as I claim that the discovery of this tendency on your part is original with myself, I am in duty bound to keep my eye on you.

I hope that your health is as good as you would like it and as good as I would like it.

Very Sincerely,

W. H. Busbey