

Bowling Green, Mo.

July 25, 1892

Hon. A. S. Ferguson

Dear Sir,

I have read with ^{interest}
Sir's "Letters to Cleveland"
the "Reveries of the Veteran"
and his pipe" also your
Bystander's Notes. This
much to show that I
regard you as a man
of wide information
& if wide is a good word -
I wish to ask you two
questions: - 1st Why do
the colored people select
the 4th of August to celebrate
their emancipation, I gather
from Carpenter's "Inner Life of
Lincoln" that the first draft

(Emancipation Proclamation)
was made about that time
(Aug. 4, '62,) by Lincoln and
discussed by his ^{own} Cabinet
But some of our citizens
think some other (a French)
emancipation is meant.
Can you tell me settle
this question? I ^{do not}

How do you pronounce your
last name? Tourge
I called, ^{it = Tourge} Tourge tell our Meth-
odist minister said it is
Tourghay. Please settle
this too, and oblige.

Yours respectfully,
W. P. Lewis