

Norwalk, Ohio

June 21st/93

Mrs A. W. Tourgee

Dear Madam

Yours valued

favor of 16 inst is at hand

Permit me to

thank you for giving me the exceedingly interesting details concerning your dear Father & Mother. While it was far from being my intention to pry impertinently into your sacred private interests or gain any statement concerning them I cannot express my pleasure and deep interest and appreciation derived from the sad yet comforting recital which so fully confirms my estimate of your Mother's character based on the notice in *Evangelist*; Well may you miss and lament & mourn the loss of such a Mother & Father, My tears of mingled sympathy & joy scarcely allowed me read it, ah, how it gladdens me to learn of your noble Father's interest & efforts for the Lord's little ones, the

oppressed & your Mothers in like manner
But while you weep for your loss the remem-
-brance of what the love & the grace of God
enabled them thus to be & to do causes tears
of joy to mingle with the sorrow; It would
have given me unspeakable pleasure to
have known, greeted & labored & suffered
with such a man as your Father.

I wonder not that he could not understand
the white Southern Baptists for to myself
it is the most amazing spectacle under the
Sun, who can understand them except thus,
that they even most of all are most fully
in the condition of hypocritical Pharisees
'blind leaders of the blind', of whom the
Master says 'let them alone'. My Father
was threatened and barely escaped with
his life on several occasions while living
near Clarksville Tenn in 67 & 8 for
reasons virtually similar to incidents you give
Indeed your recital brings up so vividly

the dreadful effects & incidents of the years since 61 on my own Father & his family & my own, of my companion suddenly removed & laid to rest 5 years ago at Nashville & only one sister left whose husband is the man of whom I wrote as saying concerning the Negroes "oh, kill em all off" that I am constrained to confess that the tears which blurred my eyes were partly for my own loved ones, my own woes & of anguish and shame that some of my kindred have acted so unworthily, so differently from your parents & even from my own

All these things it seems to me should lead us to more zealous efforts, more earnest crying to God on behalf of the oppressed and for mercy, truth, justice in all the earth so that when we depart we may leave a memorial like that of your loved parents

Yours most sincerely

Thomas Green