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8 W. 57<sup>th</sup> St  
The Cosmopolitan Magazine,  
Editorial Department. Dec 30<sup>th</sup> 1893

Dear Mrs. Tourgee:

I have a very great prejudice in favor of anything from the pen of your distinguished husband. In fact I have at my bedside his latest novel and <sup>am</sup> find time for a few minutes of it every evening.

I think he is to be congratulated that he is not here in New York editing "Our Continent". I have succeeded at last in printing 405,000 copies of a magazine and find myself about as badly off as any slave of ante-bellum days. No time to do

anything but work - I can not  
have or even visit galleries  
and theatres. Hard pushed from  
morning until night - doing many  
things indifferently because of  
lack of time - that is my life  
and that would have been the wretched  
existence of your husband if the  
fates had not been kind to him  
So when you talk of his "bad heart"  
I smile and think, "there is a  
woman who does not know that  
her husband is to be envied." Thank  
you for sending your daughter's  
address. Mrs. Waether hopes to have  
the pleasure of calling soon.

Yours sincerely

John Birken Waether

Mrs. Albion W. Tourgee  
Mayville, N.Y.