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Barry Ills
June 24. 84

Mr Tougee.

Honoured Teacher

Since reading yesterday's
Bystander's notes I feel
you are indeed my teacher
I wish to thank you person-
ally for that article.

Before reading it I felt
somewhat like your corre-
spondent whom you answer
but those brave words.

They opened my eyes &
I feel that now I can
see the difference between
a pampered slave & even a starving

free man. I spent
two years preaching my
profession in the swamps
& cotton fields of Louisiana
& often I have heard the
gray haired old freedmen
say they were better fed clothed
& housed while slaves. but did
they desire to be again in
bondage. Oh no better death
& freedom than even the best
cared for in a prison.

I hope you will pardon
me for this encroachment
on your valuable time
but I should like to ask
you where I could get a copy
of your poem Yesterday
and Today. (That fourth of July
poem you wrote some years ago
I think I gave the title right)

again thanking you
for the constant instruction
& pleasure I get from your
notes I remain
Sincerely your friend

A. M. Gee. (M.D.)

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