Orwell Ashtabula Co Ohio
October 17 1894

Judge Albion W Tourgee
Mayville on Chautauqua N.Y.

Dear Counsel

Referring to your inquiry concerning Col Jolles my sister suggests that she may have been at home in Burton, and thinks she saw him there the only time she ever saw him. She remembers being in a store in Burton one hot dusty day and hearing my father address the merchant as "Captain" Jolls and being told that he was an officer in the 105th as near as she can fix the time it would have been early in October 62. And the suddenness of our departure from Cleveland may have made it imperative that he should return from Lexington or Louisville to arrange his mercantile affairs.

I have a very distinct recollection of Col Hall and Maj Perkins of Perryville but none at all of Lt Col Jolls

Hon Geo H Ford of "Baughton and Ford Bankers - Burton Geauga Co Ohio a son of ex Governor Seabury Ford and nephew of Hon Peter Hitchcock decd will I have no doubt be glad to aid you in any inquiries relative to Col Toll. antecedent to to his connection with our regiment and subsequent thereto until he went to California, Hon Truman Reeves Treasurer of San Bernordeno Co at San Bernordeno California, - who is a brother of our Sergt Ed Reeves Co I - and neighbor of our late Lt Col might also be able to give you assistance if any information regarding his California life is needed or not otherwise accessible.

In a so called "Biographical History" of Ashtabula Lake & Geauga Cos which I was looking over last night I came upon the following paragraph of possible intrest to you in your work though I have little doubt

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that you have the same information from other sources

In the Sketch of Chester Palmer now a resident of Millcreek by Lake Co. born in 1812 - is the following

"At the out-break of the Civil War Gov Jads appointed a County Committee to secure volunteers in Geauga Co the subject of this sketch being one of the Committee and his associates being Hon Peter Hitchcock of Burton Josiah Tilden of Parkman and Col Erastus Spencer of Claridon. Under direction of this Committee the 105th Regt was organized the incidental expenses of preparing the regiment to go to the front were borne by the Committee who never asked for Govt reimbursement."

In the same volume in the Sketch of Hon Geo H Ford Burton born 1842 I find the following which I do not understand "filling his (Lords)

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"School days" he was a member of "
"a military Co which was thoroughly "
"drilled offering themselves for service "
"when the clouds of Civil war hung "
"like a pall over the land, the members "
"of the Co were called out by Gov Tod "
"in May 1862 and were sent with "
"the 105- Ohio Vol Infy into the field "
"they did duty until the following "
"october when they were mustered out."

If I am not mistaken the Hon Peter Hitchcock—who was an honorary member of the 105th—lost a son I think an only son in our regiment. I knew that at Burton the name of Peter Hitchcock—one of the most prominent men in this part of the state and one of the best—great interest was taken in our regiment and few if any of our members now ~~living~~ living are there. The regiment seems to have been also known as Columbus as the "Western Reserve Regt" I once read a paper from Columbus

in which the regiment was thus
designated. 105th Ohio or Western Reserve Regt"

Our Lieut Learrett Barnard
who was on duty with the Pioneer Corps
most of the time and came home to
die in 1864 has two brothers living
one Hamilton Barnard in Mesopotamia
Trumbull Co and one William Barnard
in Windsor Ashtabula Co. both men of
means and who held in affectionate
remembrance their good brother
I should think that one or both
of them would be glad to advance
the necessary expense of having this
photograph put in our book. They
will certainly want books. I have
no doubt a great many books can
be sold in all this district if judiciously
managed same preliminary work done
in the way of arousing intrest and sales
pushed very rapidly after the book is
issued and before. borrowing dulls the
edge of husbandry" It is forthy in
view of this that I suggest

Communication with Mr Ford of Burton and others, anything that I can do to assist you in obtaining any kind of information I will cheerfully do

Yours Truly
William O. Smith

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