Villenova October 24, 1894.

Albion W. Tourgee,

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 22nd Rec'd, and in reply will say that I am very sorry to learn that you are so much dissatisfied with the way that I used "Dom"; you refer to his starring coat you well know that a horse's Winter coat does not look as fine & sleek as his Summer coat, and his ankles were sore when I first got him. & I took the best of care of him. & his ankles, he was bandaged, & blanketed & cared for in proper shape after each drive. & we kept the stable

blanket on him all of the time when in the barn,

Now about the amount of drive that I gave him, as near as I can remember it is as follows, He came here on Wednesday Sept. 26th Thursday, jogged him on the track, Friday. drove him on the track. & drove him a quarter in 45 sec, about the same gait that you drove him on the road on Wednesday Saturday, drove him on the road, The next week drove him a part of the time on the track, drove him a few quarters during that week, in 4½ sec. & all of the time cared for his ankles the very best that I knew how you will know that horses will sometimes have cracked ankles

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2017

when it seems that they will defy all remedies that we can find.
"Dom" was not speeded more than a quarter of a mile at any time while I had him, and but a very few of them. The next week I started him a little & his ankles being sore I did not speed him any more while I had him. I tried to carry out your wishes with him just as near as I possibly could. & if I have failed, then I am very sorry
I always make it a point to please the man that owns the horse & if I can do that, then I am satisfied. "Dom" wore his Quarter Boots every time that he was speeded,
And with "Dollard" if you think

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2014

that I can not please you with him, I will return him at any time whenever you say. & we will settle up & be good friends, it is a very delicate task, to handle a man's best horse & please him in every respect, I have been to work at this work for more than thirty years, & always try to please the man that owns the horse,

Hoping you will be better pleased in the future

I remain

Yours Truly

John B. Gardner.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013