Holland. N. Y. April 21. 1875.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee.

Editor "The Basis."

Dear Sir: Learning from a friend in Buffalo that you had become the editor of a magazine in the Queen City, I thought I would take the liberty to write you regarding a work that I am engaged upon at present. Being acquainted with your well-known reputation as a writer of books, and believing that your support in the work would be of incalculable benefit to me. I thought I would write you. give a brief description of the work, and invite you to come out and examine the same, and to make such suggestions as your long experience would enable you to do.

The work in question is a History of the United States; entitled "America and the Americans." It consists of two volumes. divided into 68 chapters. and the Mls. consists of over 3000 pages of written matter, averaging 500 words to the page. The period covered by this work is from the discovery of America in 1492.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

to March 4. 1895., and is subdivided into three general parts, viz:

Part I—"Voyages and Discoveries"—giving a geographical description of North America, its soil, climate, and aboriginal inhabitants; an account of the voyages of discovery, and the attempts of the several European powers to establish colonies in the New World, each one treated seperately.

Part II—"Development of the English Colonies"—gives a description of the events connected with the thirteen original colonies, each one seperately, until the year 1765, then a general history of all the colonies till the Declaration of Independence July 4. 1776.

Part III—"The National Period"—gives a full and accurate account of the events of the United States—civil, political, and military as they occur, each year by itself.

Among the many prominent features of the work are a list of the members of the First Continental Congress, Signers of the Declaration of

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Independence, Framers of the Constitution, Members of the First United States Congress, officers of both Houses of Congress from the First to the Fifty-third, both inclusive; list of all the Cabinet officers, with date of appointment; general officers of the army, and officers of the navy, from 1775 to 1895. Also, full texts of the Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, Emancipation proclamation, and other noted State papers; debates in Congress on the most important subjects considered by that body; full census reports, giving population by States, Presidential elections; the four great National Expositions — Chrystal Palace at New York, Centennial, Columbian World's Fair, and California Mid-Winter Fair; and an Appendix containing biographical sketches of Columbus, the Presidents, and the most famous statesmen, generals, and naval heroes that have made our country famous.

In the preparation of "America and the Americans," I have consulted every important authority on the subject of American history that was

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

obtainable, besides I have had free access to the Congressional Library, through the courtesy of Hon. Chas. Daniels, Hon. John B. Weber, and Hon. Thomas L. Bunting, also Senators Hiscock, Hoar, Chandler, and Aldrich, and I feel justified in claiming for "America and the Americans" a place in the front rank of the Histories of the United States.

I have not yet completed the work, but hope to get it ready for the press about May 1st. Neither have I engaged with any Publishing House to publish it and I would be highly pleased to have you call and examine the work, pass judgement upon it, and suggest some good Publishing House to place it with. Will you publish books, if so would you wish to undertake the publication of my history? or could you suggest some good House with whom I could place it.

Hoping to hear from you in the near future I am, dear Sir.

Your obedient servant.

Marcus W McKellips

P.O. Box 121, Holland, Erie Co. N.Y. (over)

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2018

If you desire any further information regarding me, or my history, I would refer you to Mr. Elbert G. Hubbard, East-Aurora, N.Y. or Mr Harry P. Taber, "Citizen Office," East Aurora, N.Y. both of whom have examined the Ms. for my history) and could give you information on the points mentioned

M.G.H.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY