Chicago Ill
June 28-'95-

Judge Albion W. Tourgee
Buffalo N.Y.

Dear Sir:- Soon after the Basis made its appearance it occurred to me that an opportunity had offered to the colored people, indeed to all who have been beneficiaries of your patriotic devotion to the cause of justice and law, to make a partial payment on the debt they owe you by aiding to promote this new venture in fearless journalism which is no less their friend and benefactor. I was not then prepared to give the matter the consideration it deserved. However, I am fully convinced that a Chicago edition of the Basis would be liberally and profitably supported by your friends in this city and throughout the state. Your paper, brought to their very doors, and reporting events which most deeply concern them, would be gladly

seized by your friends and patrons who, I hold, are more numerous in Chicago than they are proportionately in any other city in the country. A page or two devoted to the local situation would shorten the distance between you and your friends here and make the paper a home industry entitled to the patronage of the business community. Your work through the columns of the Inter Ocean has not been in vain; you have made a place to put your lever. A little energy and enterprise on the part of competent local management would soon put the venture here on a paying basis. I am proceeding on the assumption that you are familiar with this octopus style of journalism. Several weekly papers managed by colored men are thriving in this way, notably the "Appeal" which has a paying circulation here with headquarters in St Paul. I would like to have you consider the proposition. I am building up a practice in the law

here now and have plenty of time in which to manage the undertaking. It is due to you to state that I am President Harrison's appointee on the National World's Fair Commission; although Gov. Furnas' alternate I did all the sitting with the Commission as the records will show; am a graduate of Oberlin College class of '73, of the St Louis Law School, and am at present president of the Frederick Douglass Memorial Ass'n chartered under the laws of this state. References Hon. John F. Dickinson, Ex Sec'ty W. C. Com. Marquette bldg. Hon. Adlai T. Ewing Ex Nat'l Com'nr Montauk blk. Hon. E. H. Morris 193 Clark Str. Ex-member of the legislature & now first ass't County Atty — an able & prosperous colored lawyer. I make the above personal statement simply to make out a prima facie case of competency. You are entitled to this protection. It is not proposed to devote the local space exclusively to the interests of the colored people. This would reduce its usefulness to very narrow limits. The arrangement of matter should illustrate the doctrine of your life and labors.

address me at my residence as
I shall be out of town for a short while.
Please hear from
you at your earliest convenience.
Yours truly
Kaley Parker
6342 Greenwood Ave