403-Michigan St.
Buffalo, N.Y.
8-8-95

Albion W. Tourgee Esq.
Mayville, N.Y.

Dear Sir:-

I have frequently been in your Buffalo office and while there have noted the absence of a clerk or representative who could attend visitors and give the desired information without some delay, and I know of several gentlemen who desired to see you but whose time and business would not permit of a visit to your home. I desire employment in the capacity of a clerk and would not allow financial considerations to disturb any arrangement we would effect if my position would advance me in the line of journalism.

I am a young colored man, twenty-seven years of age, born in Batavia, Kane Co. Illinois, thirty eight miles west of Chicago; have had a common school education and by reason of my father Rev. A. T. Hall being the oldest Minister in the Illinois and Iowa A. M. E. Society, my own business ventures, associations etc., in various parts of the country, I am generally and hope favorably known in all sections; Was a clerk in the Census Bureau at

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Washington D.C. during the Harrison Administration and subsequently was one of the promoters of "The Washington Co-Operative and Improvement Society of Spokane Wash. whose object it was to encourage Colonization of Eastern & Southern Colored people in the Northwest. At that time I was engaged in the Real Estate & Loan business under the firm name of Ryan & Hall. The suspension of silver mining and the general depression of business, brought about a change in my affairs and I returned to my home and subsequently came to this city establishing myself in a small barber shop.

Would enclose letters of reference but they have been sent elsewhere, however I can refer you, with pleasure, to Hon. Jno L. Wilson, U.S. Senator, Spokane Wash., Messrs E. H. Morris, F. L. Barnett & wife, L. G. Wheeler, S. L. Williams & Jno G. Jones of Chicago, Robt Pelham of Detroit Mich., Mrs Anna J. Cooper Wash. D.C. Pres. S. T. Mitchell or Prof J. P. Shorter of Wilberforce, Ohio. Hon A. J. Hopkins, Aurora, Ills. Lawyer A. M. Thomas of this city or any merchant or firm in the town of my birth, Batavia Illinois.

It is my ambition to become a Journalist

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and I am of the opinion that an association with you upon the line mentioned would bring about the desired effect. Believing that I would be of some use to you and hoping that you will see your way clear to assist me in the direction indicated, I am

Very truly yours

Chas. E. Hall

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