Bohemian Club.
San Francisco.

June 14. 1896

Hon A W Tourgee
Mayville New York

My dear Judge:

It is a long time since I heard from you but I have thought of you very often and have kept the run of your work. For some three years and until recently I did an editorial leader for the San Francisco "Chronicle" without giving up the law; during that time I took the "Interocean" and had the opportunity of reading your letters which were a source of inspiration to me.

Life has been dragging rather heavily as compared with my past active experience but while I have been out of the whirl of politics

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Bohemian Club.
San Francisco.

2

I have found much personal gratification in literary work of differing grades. Aside from Editorial writing I have finished a couple of novels.

I lay a good deal of store by one of them in which I have treated certain phases of life in the South with which you and I are familiar. I have not however attempted to handle the political social questions which you have treated with such incomparable skill.

A few friends and relatives of excellent judgment, as I think, have read this story and have encouraged me to put it forth. Well and good. But so far I have failed to get a publisher. It has

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

been submitted to two houses of good standing and has been read and carefully considered by one of them; it was declined by both.

I am at sea and possibly utterly at fault in supposing that I am capable of producing a story worthy of publication. Therefore I need the advice of a frank and competent friend. If the story has no literary or artistic merit I ~~want~~ want to know it for my own good.

Thinking it all over I have turned to you as one whose heart and mind have been touched and exalted by the experiences and emotions which have been mine in some

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San Francisco.

4

has been mine in some degree.

Do me the favor to look the story over — it will interest you I think — and tell me with absolute frankness whether it has any merit. The Ms. is type written and conveniently portable

I see perfectly well how presumptious this request may seem, and yet somehow I feel that you will not be offended. I know that I would like to serve you in any way.

If you can do this for me I will send the Ms. to you by express.

Yours Sincerely
Hugh Dibble

Address 1812 Vallejo St
San Francisco —

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5

I enclose a sketch and
cup which will enable you to
fill up the outline of myself
which you may have in
your mind