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1212 21st

Lincoln Neb. January 12th 1897

Judge Tourgee

Dear Sir

For many reasons I have hoped to meet you, Now knowing that this hope is not to be realized, have concluded to write. Please excuse my troubling you. Excuse an old woman who feels most anxious you should learn from her something of the chivalric loyalty of her loved husband Gen. James D. Jackson of Kentucky.

I have been an interested reader of your books and magazine articles in which he has several times been mentioned — perhaps mentioned from merely accidental circumstances, and not from an interest in or knowledge of his character.

A Jamestown paper of several years ago was given me by a gentleman Mr Mathew Cheney his family are treasured friends, he and wife born and reared in Jamestown. In this paper you are mentioned as visiting the battle field of

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Perryville, Judge Tourgee of this fact you may rest assured, I cannot believe there was in any other breast such loyalty, such disinterested interest in our country's cause, as filled his thought heart and mind. This feeling was perhaps intensified by the war, though the war did not in the least originate the loyal sentiment. He loved his country believed in the Government, believed it the best that had ever been instituted, only lacked strengthening, the states made subordinate thereto. Years before the secession move, remember his troubled anger on reading speaches or listening to utterances, imbued as he thought with something of treason, such certainly engendered a lessening of loyal thought.

My father and relatives were among the largest slave owners in Ky. I not only disliked slavery, but beieved it to be a wrong. My father has often said I was born an abolitionist.

Perhaps you can imagine the effect produced on hearing my husband say (this before our marriage) that Ky's interest called for free labor. He was the first person, man woman or child that I had ever heard speak even so far as this against the institution. O, that cruel heartbreaking war, it found me in happiness and luxury left me full of sorrow and penury, so came north for benefit of Public Schools.

Please excuse my troubling you with so much. The memory of my husband is all and all with me. My acquaintance with you through your writings assures me of full justice to the memory of a brave and loyal soldier. Our State has gone wrong, and many times have thought the bitter disloyal talk, greater than the year preceding Secession. If not asking too much would be glad to hear from you.

Yours Respectfully
(Mrs) Pattie Jackson
Widow of James D. Jackson who fell
at the battle of Perryville Ky.

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