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OFFICE OF

THE COMMERCIAL GAZETTE,

170 Duane Street, New York.

P. O. Box 2448.

May 12/97

Ms. Albion W. Tourgee

Dear Sir,

Noticing in the daily press the announcement of your selection as U. S. Consul at Bordeaux, I wish to congratulate you on the honor which the administration has bestowed on you. I am perfectly satisfied that you will not remember me, When you knew me I was a very small boy and your acquaintance with my father Benj C. Evernghim and the fact that you used to stay at our house when in Peekskill are about all that I imagine you possibly remember concerning me. Nevertheless I wish to make an inquiry of you which may seem to you presumptive but knowing your interest in young men, while I hesitate I feel impelled to ask it. I thought it might be barely possible that there might be some fashion in which you could utilize me in connection with the Consulate. The idea when it first occured to me seemed so preposterous that I laughed at the mere suggestion of it but it is like the iron cage of the Inquisition and I presume will end in crushing me by its very absurdity. I am the assistant editor and advertising manager of the journal above and am ~~also~~ within a few weeks of twenty one years of age. I can claim for myself a persistence which even "Bull" in the Hoosier Schoolmaster could not surpass and the faintest gleam of possibility of going to France put my head in a very enthusiastic condition. Whatever may be your answer I shall be glad of an opportunity to see you when in the city and also to know that I will have, if you are kind enough to take an interest in me, at least one friend in sunny France. Faithfully Benj. C. Evernghim Jr.

CHATTANOOGA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

My dear Sir: I know little about the internal economy of a consulate, but understand that the government kindly relieves the consul of any voice in selecting his subordinates while holding him responsible for any misfeasance on their part,

Yours

Your memory is in error as I was never at a private house in Peekskill and only twice at a public one.

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