Bordeaux, France.
May 13th, 1897.

Hon. Albion W. Tourgee.
U. S. Consul at Bordeaux.

Dear Sir :~

I presume you have already received a letter sent through my father, Mr. John S. Beecher of New York, in which I expressed to you my desire to retain, if possible, my present position as Vice & deputy Consul at Bordeaux; and I trust to hear from you in regard to the same in the course of a few weeks.

As already explained, it is important that I should know as soon as possible what your desires are; for in case you have made, or intend to make, other arrangements, an early reply will give me sufficient time to apply for a Vice Consulship elsewhere. I need not say, however, that I prefer to remain in Bordeaux, where I have been for eight years, and therefore trust that your answer will be favorable. As to references you may consult almost anyone in the State Department.

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While Bordeaux is a very quiet place and lacks the life and activity of most American cities, I am sure that you will like it very much. It is interesting, picturesque, clean and healthy and in proximity to a number of delightful mountain and sea-side resorts. Its only drawback lies in the extremely long, foggy and rainy winter, which lasts from October until April. The mercury during this period, however, rarely falls more than four or five degrees below the freezing point.

I dare say you have visited Bordeaux already, but in case you have not, I enclose you an article regarding the city written by me about two and a half years ago for a New York trade-paper for which I correspond.

Should you happen to stop over in New York before sailing for France, I should be happy to have you meet my father. His office is at 69 Fulton Street, and his residence 38 West 35th Street. If you will be good enough to notify him of your arrival he will be pleased to call upon you and invite you to dine with him at his club.

Trusting to hear from you at your convenience

I remain, dear Sir,

Very respectfully yours
John Preston Beecher.

Address.
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