1731 Tenth St., N. W.,
Washington, D. C.,
May 14, 1897.

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

Dear Sir:

Permit me to congratulate you on your appointment by Pres. McKinley as Consul General to Bordeaux.

I am prompted to pen these lines by a feeling of deep appreciation of and a sense of sincere gratitude for the man who has done so much for an oppressed people — the Negroes, of whom I am one, — and a people whom I fear, as a whole, have yet to fully appreciate what you have done and the sacrifices you have made for them.

When I say that I am glad and have cause to rejoice, I simply voice the sentiment of those among my people whom I have met and who watch things and events. The Negro press of the country, I am pleased to say, has been unanimous in its indorsement of you for any place in the gift of the administration.

I hope that the Allwise God, will preserve and prosper you, so that you may continue to do good to those

of his creatures who by reason of their condition have ~~so~~ many trials and afflictions to bear.

I want to here add that I am glad to say that such works as a "Fools Errand" and "Bricks Without Straw" have not failed to make themselves felt. This is verified by a statement (editorial) which I read in the Louisville Courier Journal this week and to the effect that the only trouble with your appointment was that Bordeaux was not farther away. The Courier's Editor evidently knows something about your writings, and fears them too.

I hope that your position is such that you can devote much time to literary work. Believe me

Very truly yours,
H. P. Slaughter.

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