P.S. E.C. Stevens is a member of that Liberty Club you organised. He lived at Graham's Island Benson Co. N.D. then. What has come of it? I forget the proper name of it.

Towner N. Dak.

May 22. 97.

Albion Tourgee Esq.

Dear Sir

I am heartily obliged to you for your courteous and helpful answer. I did not need, or intend to ask for, any endorsement of yours, for the P.C. but only endorsement of the truth of my statements as to account re lynching in Towner May 1894, described in Inter Ocean Nov. '94 and copied and answered in Herald of Grand Forks N. Dakota next day Nov. 94.

At the time I advised the Attorney General, John Cowan, still in office, and the man who so nobly defended and

No national Religious Bigotis Asoli
No nation can do wrong and suffer
U.S.C.

cleared Sam Smith the negro whose only offense had been defending at the risk of his life the wife & little children of the man who had been a loyal citizen and who had gone east the day before to secure a peaceable home to which to remove his family. I advised John Cowan, I say, that we had won, and we would let the other talk. But the matter is still used as a club for my husband's back, for the 1st Commander of Jerry Rusk Post (organized by my husband in '93) had been abetting the lynchers, and my husband remonstrated with him & has never been forgiven for — doing his duty like a man and a brother.

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I have tried to secure a copy of those two issues of the G. F. Herald to send to you, but so far have failed to secure them.

I did not send them to you in Nov. 94, for I thought it would only grieve you that your well-meant reference to good conduct in me had only drawn down further vials of wrath ~~on~~ my poor head. I thought I could live that down, but like the poor Fool & his Errand it is a herculean task - not hopeless, however, but the old race of "Ishmaelites" out here will probably have to die out before the promised land

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of Dakota flows with milk and honey.

My husband and I are heartily glad to see your appointment as U.S. Consul to Melbourne. I have 2 boys doing duty as good citizens within 150 miles of Melbourne and I mean to notify them of your work in U.S. and your correspondence with me. Duncan I have not seen since 1874 and Fred not since 1884 I think. Both have found worthy helpmeets on their.

I would be glad if Mr Stevens got the P.O. but we will survive it if we don't.

Cordially & gratefully
J. Mon. Stevens

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