JOHN R. HOWARD
174 HICKS STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Ans. E.K.T.

May 31, 1905

Dear Mrs Tourgée:

Your letter of the 18th came duly, and I have written an article, especially about "A Fool's Errand," and the Judge's preparation for it, which may be published and may not be. In these days the papers are mighty well supplied with folk in their own offices to write what they need, and it is not so easy to get things accepted" as it was some years ago.

Today is June 1st: my date at the top was a mistake. And today has come your kind letter telling of the departure of our dear friend. Thank Heaven, he went at the last peacefully! If he had any sensation, I doubt not it was one of sweetly sinking to a profound rest: a bliss in being able to let go, and find the end of endurance.

We had seen the announcement of the going to Paris, and Mrs Howard was recalling the fact that it was the Judge who first called her attention to the pure beauty and general desirableness of cremation. We all harmonize in that — all our family — and it was thus that the body of our dear boy Ford was sent to mingle with the universal elements: while we were sustained by the blessed belief of the continuous life — not "the other life," but this one, carried forward in other, freer, finer conditions. To believe this is a blessing: Should it be untrue we shall never know that!

I wrote you in a day or two after getting the sad news,

I send you a few notices which I have seen and cut out. These were of course very many more, and some may turn up. I will send any more that I find.

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feeling sure that if you had gone the letter would be forwarded. And so, now that I know that you are to remain in Bordeaux for a while at least, it will be best just to write you there until further advices.

I noted that the Consulship vacancy was promptly filled by Prest. Roosevelt, having been applied for by a Mr. Murphy, who had been, I think, Secretary to the Panama Canal Commission. I did not think to cut it out for your benefit, but that is as I remember it. The man is well known to the Prest. and liked by him. I don't know that anything has been said about when he will go to his post, but trust that it will be delayed long enough to enable you to get your matters into shape with comfort. Perhaps you will prefer to stay over there through one hot summer, any way, — although if it keeps on as it has begun we shall have but little summer weather. We kept the furnace going till the middle of May, and since then we have had no real heat. Today it is cloudy and cool.

I do not know whether I wrote you of Aimée's removal from the pretty but lonely Winchester to the less open but very agreeable & convenient Brookline — really a part of the city of Boston — where she is surrounded by a troop of kind, hospitable, friendly, cultivated neighbors. She is very happy, even though her husband has had to go away to Texas and leave her and her two bewitching little girls for a month or two. Mrs Howard sends love to you and

Aimée, and I very cordially join in! All were deeply interested and touched by your letter. I have sent it to Mr. Hubbard & Mr. Bell.

Yours sincerely
[illegible]

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