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# Military Order of the Royal Legion of the United States.



HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

New York, October 5, 1905.

CIRCULAR No. 18. )  
SERIES OF 1905. )  
WHOLE No. 841. )

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In Memoriam.

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**Albion Winegar Turgée,**

FIRST LIEUTENANT, 105TH OHIO INFANTRY.

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Died May 21, 1905, at Bordeaux, France.

# Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

HEADQUARTERS COMMANDERY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

140 NASSAU STREET.

*New York, October 5, 1905.*

At a stated meeting of this Commandery, held at Delmonico's, corner of Fifth Avenue and Forty-fourth street, the following was adopted as the report of the Committee appointed to draft resolutions relative to Companion First Lieutenant ALBION WINEGAR TOURGÉE, 105th Ohio Infantry, (Insignia No. -13949), who died at Bordeaux, France, May 21, 1905, aged 67 years.

## REPORT.

Albion Winegar Tourgée was born in Williamsfield, Ashtabula County, Ohio, May 2, 1838. His ancestors were Huguenots and Swiss. He was fitted for college at the academy in Kingsville, Ohio, and at the outbreak of the war was a student at the University in Rochester, N. Y. In May, 1861, he enlisted in the 27th New York Volunteers and was badly wounded at the first battle of Bull Run. In August he was discharged for disability. He then studied law and was admitted to the bar at Painesville, Ohio. In the fall of 1862 he re-entered the army as First Lieutenant of the 105th Ohio Volunteers and was captured in battle at Murfreesboro, Tenn., and was for several months a prisoner of war at Salisbury and Libby Prisons. In 1864 he resigned the service on account of wounds and in July, 1865, he settled in Greensboro, N. C., where he commenced the practice of law. In 1866 he was a delegate to the Southern Loyalist Convention, which met at Philadelphia, taking a prominent stand as one of the first advocates of negro suffrage. In 1867 he was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention of the State, and was chosen a member of the commission to prepare a code and revise the laws of the State, so as to adapt them to the condition of freedom. In 1868 he was elected Judge of the Superior Court of the State and served as such until the fall of 1874. As a Judge he was quick, efficient and fearless; at the time crimes in his district by the Ku-Klux-Klan were numerous and unrelenting warfare between bands of these outlaws and the courts lasted for full five years until the organization was finally broken up. How Judge Tourgée managed to escape assassination during this period seemed to many of his friends, as well as his foes, a mystery. After this he was appointed Pension Agent by President Grant, which he held until 1877, when his district was

consolidated with that of Tennessee. He afterwards practiced his profession of law until 1879, when he closed his office and entered the field of literature, publishing a number of works, chiefly fiction, but some of them dealing with economic and political questions; many of these were very ably and interestingly written and widely read.

In 1863 Judge Tourgée was married to Emma L. Kilbourne, of Conneaut, Ohio. They had one daughter, Miss Amiee, who was born in North Carolina, and who, it is said, inherits her father's literary ability. In 1879 Judge Tourgée left the South and removed to Denver, Col., where he engaged in editorial work, but in 1880 returned East and settled in Mayville, N. Y., near the grounds of the Chautauqua Assembly, where his family has since remained.

In 1897 Judge Tourgée was appointed United States Consul at Bordeaux, France, and in July, 1903, was transferred in that service to Halifax, N. S. Judge Tourgée died at Bordeaux, May 21, 1905.

The New York Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion desires to express its appreciation of the very valuable, patriotic and distinguished services of Lieutenant Tourgée, rendered by him, in behalf of his country. The Committee therefore recommends that the foregoing memorial be entered upon the records of the Commandery, and that the same be published and a copy thereof be sent to the family.

JOHN BYRNE, Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. V. EDWARD L. COOK, Captain, U. S. V. EDMUND S. WHEELER, Acting Assistant Paymaster, late U. S. N.	}	Committee.
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BY ORDER OF

BREVET BRIGADIER-GENERAL THOMAS H. HUBBARD, U. S. Volunteers,  
*Commander.*

A. NOEL BLAKEMAN,

Acting Assistant Paymaster, late U. S. Navy.

OFFICIAL.

*Recorder.*

*Thomas H. Hubbard*  
*Recorder.*