Chicago Nov. 28th 05

Dear

Mrs Fouger & Miss Fouger. I read in one of our colored papers Saturday a partial report by Miss Ida B. Wells Barnett of the funeral of Mr Fouger Mrs Barnett in this article spoke of the singing out again of Mr Fouger great work. A noble friend, and that she pushed the colored people to assist in doing this. I suppose there will be a public meeting called in this city regarding the plans. If so, I shall be present to do what I can. I enclose at once $2.00 to be used for the publication, & wish it were in my power to send many times the amount. I also wish that thousands of colored people able to do more will do so. We owe much more to Mr Fouger than we have ac knowledged by voice, pen and pocket book.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2014

I know Mr Tourgee felt this through a letter he once wrote me. I am not a woman known to the public, but it was in reply to a request for help when preparing a paper on himself to be read at a Sunday afternoon gathering. Mr Tourgee was at that time publishing a magazin at Buffalo, I think. I know he had ventured before and ~~failed~~ lost. I tried to tell my audience our duty was plain. I'm not willing to believe our men are ungratful. Perhaps people who are yet struggling in deep water must reach the shore before they thank those who are holding their heads above what threatens to drown them. Collectively we may have been unmindful, individually I trust many have not been so. I sent five subscriptions for that last magazine and gave them away. this I tell not to approve myself but that you may know your brave noble, talented husband

and father was appreciated by word and deed. and shall I hope, in an increased way be again. The colored people owe more than they realize to Harriett Beecher Stowe and Albion W. Tourgee. I first met Mr Tourgee where many others did. in ~~the~~ A Fools Errand. afterward, when he came to St Louis. I interviewed him at his hotel. His kind manner, but words of apprehension for the future of the colored people, I cannot forget — France seemed far away when I heard our friend had gone there. Once and again I wished to write, to tell him he was gratefully remembered, but I did not. My world was so limited, so unimportant, so ineffectual, to to do for him as I would — his affairs were many. he probably could not recall me — why trouble him. I now regret that I did not write. that I did not claim his patience

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2015

and forgiveness for our seeming forgetfulness, that I did not assure him our children and children's children, learning all he did for us, would call him blessed. Sitting at my desk I look up and on the face of Mr Tourgee, whose picture is the only one I ever had framed. When writing the names of those who in the last twenty five years have dared defend the black man the name of Albion W. Tourgee, that bravest knight of the right, leads all the rest — May I apart from public life, from race issues, from business matters, say to you as a woman, a widow, ~~a wid~~ow a daughter once bereaved. I have passed your way — I know — "Unto Him who is able" I commend you. I am

Sincerely Yours

Sarah D Brown

5908 Michigan Ave.

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NEW YORK HISTORICAL SOCIETY