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My Dear Mrs Hope:

It seems to be the universal desire of the many friends of your beloved and lamented husband that his Poem which he had prepared in honor of Gen Lee shall be read at the dedication of the monument on the 24th of October. I hope that this arrangement will be agreeable to his bereaved household. I am glad that the Poem is a perfect gem and fully sustains his high reputation as our Poet Laureate. It is unnecessary for me to tell you how much I was shocked and grieved by the announcement of his sudden death. He was my best friend and the noblest Gentleman I ever knew. I have an abiding faith that he has entered into rest for I have often said that in my opinion he exemplified in

his life all the Christian virtues.
May the God of the Widow and
the orphan give you Comfort and
Consolation in this the hour of
your sore bereavement With
kindest regards to your daughter
I am very sincerely yours
John Goode

John Goode's present
to the
Lec. Department
of the
1887