

FORDS, HOWARD, & HULBERT,  
PUBLISHERS,  
No. 80, Lafayette Place.

Dictated.

NEW YORK, Oct. 23 1889<sup>0</sup>

Hon. A. W. Tourgee.

My Dear Judge: -

The chapters of "Eastman" down to XXXVII, "The Product of evolution," have come in and gone to the printer. As I understand, there are three yet to come.

As to Murvale and his love-making, it is quite possible that the chapter which I did not see, puts the reader more en rapport with the situation than I could be without it. It was not in my mind that he should do more than he did; but I confess to having been troubled for him that his social fate should seem so to have been laid out by so many fair conspirators, and settled, before he himself -- so far as I had been informed by what I had read -- had become aware of his situation. I always did resent that kind of outside helpfulness, and I knew very intimately one man who came near losing the best possible wife by reason of just such uninvited allies. However, of course you

know Mastman and his affairs better than I do; and, having said my little say, I am at the end of my rope and rest there, assured that you will bring him out all right.

As for the success of the book, I think perhaps you judge it wisely, as to popular sales; but we believe in it and shall do our best to bring it before the public, which just now is interested along that line of thinking and feeling.

The title we have about settled upon is: "Mervale Mastman: Christian Socialist; or, The Church of the Golden Lilies." That, you see, relieves it of the extra words "Pastor of;" and, although I abominate the "or" business, yet in this case it seems almost necessary, since the additional title is a genuine title, indicating the prime element of the book.

Faithfully Yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'W. M. Mastman', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned below the typed name 'Faithfully Yours,' and extends downwards with a long, thin tail.