

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

NEW YORK, Dec 3 1890

My dear Judge

Your telegram is at hand, but it is too late to change the Eastman programme again. London has been notified; the trade has been notified; notice of postponement sent to the press, &c. There was not the ghost of a chance for the book to take hold before the Holiday, delayed so late. It would have been bad enough in November; but December 15 simply meant that dealers & booksellers (to say nothing of the Holiday book buyers) would pay no attention to it - wouldn't look at it or order it; and there would

be no time for reviews to
call attention to it. Then
in January they would have
been all dummed (to no
effect) and would not take
any unless there were calls
for it.

The delay to Jan if
given it the chance that
a December issue would
have utterly prevented. People
then begin to buy for reading;
periodicals have leisure,
having disposed of the multi-
tude of holiday books, to
review books with some care,
London folks will get their
copies for copyright early &
their sheets in time to bind
& publish simultaneously
with us; & whatsoever chance
there is we shall get.

I write this without seeing
your letter of details; but you
must see it is now a foregone
conclusion. Faithfully yours, R.H.