

My dear West:

I have your letters. Thanks.

I had been outside "the ring" so long that I hardly knew whether I could hit a decent blow or not. It is a blackmailing whipper-snapper business with a deal of cowardice behind it.

Half against my judgment I have just sent a motion to the Special County Judge who granted the order for its dismissal alleging that the affidavit contains no statement of fact sufficient to justify the issuance of such an order. I thought this better than to specify that it was "no information and belief" as it includes that and does not specify it. Besides, the City is thick-headed and Butts the Judge was so named, I think, because his head is essentially overbalanced in that way. I hope he will refuse the motion. That will give an appeal and exit as far as it may go. I suspect Burdick is working on a contingent of what he can squeeze, as the exits in the motion to dismiss become an essential part of a matter.

I have decided, however, not to have her appear tomorrow. This will put them, as I take it in this dilemma - Either they will have to let Betty dismiss the order or she apply for an order for her to appear and show cause why she should not be attached <sup>as</sup> for contempt. Of course, no judge will grant such an order pending an appeal.

If they apply for a new order they will be <sup>very apt</sup> to specify so much about books, &c., as to get themselves into a sling and give room for a motion to dismiss on the question of "property" or "indebtedness." You see I want to work overly on mainly for annoyance and trouble. I offered to be frank and let them try out the question fairly. They refused to do so. Now let them take the consequences.

Judge Turgenev's novels have well  
been designated "epoch-making volumes."  
Scorning all school of fiction, he writes  
of the life of today in a way so real that  
the reader forgets that it is fiction  
~~he traces the~~ which he wants, yet never once  
forgetting that human destinies which makes  
all life beautiful. His pictures are always  
striking. No reader ever leaves one of his books  
incomplete or can see his example of the  
characters he draws. He hates injustice and  
hypocrisy; believes in the people; despises  
snobbery; is the dread of politicians and  
~~despises~~ the ruthless enemy of  
shams. Of weakness he is always tolerant  
and never forgets that inheritance  
and environment are the chief ele-  
ments of human life. So he is kindly  
of error but always seeking in