

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK LEDGER,

P. O. BOX 3268.

COR. SPRUOE & WILLIAM STS.

New York, May 25, 1891

(Dictated)

Hon. Albion W. Tourgée,

Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

We are extremely sorry that you misconstrued the meaning of our letter of May 18. We did not think for an instant that you meant any kind of an attack on what we were publishing, and we understood that you meant rather a defense than otherwise. However, we did not think the discussion wise or necessary, and we did not intend to say more than that. Just where our "ill-natured wack" came in, we are unable to see, and beg to assure you that we did not mean to do anything of the kind. When the writer of this gives anybody a wack it is generally plump and square, so that there is no doubt about it, and he is extremely sorry to have unintentionally hurt your feelings.

What we said in regard to the advisability of publishing such a series of articles was simply our opinion of the popular taste. In it we may be wrong, but on such matters we must stand or fall by our own judgment. Kindly read our letter again, and we think you will see that there is nothing but good feeling in it.

The concluding installment of "A Son of Old Harry" we receiv-

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ed on the 8th or 9th inst. We fear very much that we accidentally omitted to acknowledge receipt of this MS. It is our usual custom to acknowledge MS as soon as we receive it, but we wished to read this and write about it at the same time, hence the slip occurred. The MS has been read, and our reader reports that the corrections have been admirably made, and in his opinion the story much improved.

Regretting that you mininterpreted our letter of the 18 inst, and with kindest regards to Mrs. Tourgée, we remain,

Very truly yours,

Chas. Sumner