

NEW YORK

July 12 1897

My dear Miss Fonges

I don't get much time these summer days for friendly letters; my hours are packed with proof reading & editorial work for fall books. The suggestion of your letter of two weeks ago, however, was not neglected, and Mr. Hullent was immediately to the Erie man. The Chautauque's suggestion could not be acted on for they allow no agents on the grounds, and for several years we tried the experiment of putting on sale with the book the folk there - who was it? Fairbanks? - the Judge's books & others too, but with no result worth the bother & expense. People at such places don't buy much except perhaps cheap paper bound books for immediate consumption.

We have heard nothing from

Blair about "Eastman" and
don't expect to. He must have
got tired of that in "Black Ice".
He sends regularly for the ac-
county in "Furgie's book" and the
Aunt paid Brinton; but he seems
to have subsided to that.

I saw a pretty mention
of Miss Stacey in the Trail Express
the other day, in a column "about
women". Did you see it? How is
the fair maid getting on, with her
study and her health? Well, I hope.
Regards to the folks. I'm glad
to hear of his good health, and
hope he may be able to keep
Mr Blair's warranty of paying pre-
miums for many a year yet!
(I wonder if he doesn't keep it up?)

All the news I get from
Mrs Howard & the children is
abundantly good. She is not
"robustious" & never will be, but
she is in far stronger & better con-
dition than last year, and that
makes me very happy.

Always love sincerely,

J. Howard