

Monday p.

My dear Sir:

The terms of your syndicate are the only just ones between author and publisher I have ever seen. There are two objections to it, at least to that form of it which you present to me:

- 1- The author has no voice in determining the price to be realized from his work and, ~~which~~ ~~should be asked~~.
- 2- The limitation to 6000 words, is unjust to the conscientious author who must look to his work for an income.

A story of 6,000 words, having plot, etc., is a great deal harder to do than one of 12,000 to 20,000 words, in which one has a chance

*
to study harmony as well as
rhythms. The ~~free~~ French remedy
this, sometimes, by paying for
quality instead of quantity.

Our journals insist on pay-
ing for space rather than
quality. So a new rule has
emerged as a reward for con-
fident work may get fairly
paid for a story of 20,000
words, but is only modest
if he accedes to the ^{popular} demand
and writes one which costs more
time and labor for 6,000
words.

So too, I have never found
a man dealing in literary
wares on commission who
was willing to take a man's
work ^{and} market it with limita-
tions as to price.

It is for these reasons that

I have always considered
"expedient" business, or rather
have always arranged for it
myself. A man with good con-
nections ought to be easily able
to get 1/3 more for ~~business~~ ^{an ordinary}
work than he himself can do
and that should yield him a
fair profit. I do not do 6000
word work because it is waste-
ful and foolish for the reason
I have given. I will spoil one
good story, however, to make
trial of, the prevailing fad and your
agency. If ~~it is~~ ^{the result is} satisfactory, I know
no reason why you should not
handle ^{a great deal of my} ~~all my~~ work of this sort
if you desire to do so.

I will send you in a day
or two, a story of the required dimen-
sions, — what a ridiculous paper —
as if a story — a concept — could be
expressed and printed at each end

would be being robbed of due
proportions! Why not buy pictures
by the eye and such and sculpture
by the tone?

The title of the story I shall
send will be

"Joan Joel Pike."

Copyright 1892 by A. L. Turgie.

~~If you see above~~ Please copyright
~~above in the same~~ ^{above} England
in the same ^{summer,} ~~way,~~ without further
instructions.

Yours very truly

~~Wm~~

(*) From that reason, I have always demanded
the same price for a 5000 word story as
for a 20,000 one. ~~Author~~ ^{Author} ~~Right~~ ^{Right} ~~Copy~~ ^{Copy} ~~even~~ ^{even}
considered, ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~action~~ ^{action} should ~~know~~ ^{get} even
more for the shorter one because he
cuts himself off from a greater part
of its book value.