

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

# The Associated Sunday Magazines

INCORPORATED

ISSUED EVERY WEEK,  
CO-OPERATIVELY AND SIMULTANEOUSLY  
AS A PART OF THE SUNDAY EDITIONS OF

THE BOSTON POST  
THE PITTSBURGH POST  
THE WASHINGTON STAR  
THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE  
THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC  
THE PHILADELPHIA PRESS  
THE MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL  
THE CHICAGO RECORD-HERALD  
THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS AND  
DENVER TIMES

62 EAST 19TH STREET  
NEW YORK

April 27th 1908.

Mrs. A. W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N. Y.

Dear Mrs. Tourgee:-

When your daughter's story arrived I was toying with the grippe, and it was not until yesterday that I so far caught up with delayed work that I was able to find time to finish reading the story.

I am pretty well up on Brittany, although I have never seen the country. The lady who writes only as "the author of 'The Martyrdom of an Empress'" is a greatly admired friend of mine, and being a native of Brittany she has written a number of stories with her native country for a background. "Grey Mist," "The Trident and the Nat," "Emerald and Ermine" are all stories of Brittany, beautifully illustrated by the author, and elegantly printed and bound by Harper and Brothers. I mention this latter fact because no publisher would go on putting so much money into seven or eight successive books by any author unless they brought good returns. So much for stories of Brittany.

I found "The Tower of Ys" good reading throughout, but I doubt if it is a good story to serialize, at least in its present state. The latter part of the story conforms best to serial requirements, but the earlier chapters are certainly lacking in that quality. But as you know, many of the novels that run serially in the magazines in these days do not lend themselves at all well to serialization; and I think that our Sunday Magazine is more insistent upon this quality than any of them.

The market for serials as well as for everything else, I am told, is in bad condition at present, owing to the slump in advertising in all newspaperdom and magedom resulting from the financial panic of last fall. But the book publishers do not seem to be suffering except for a lack of variety in the new books offered.

I am sorry that the story is not an available one for The Sunday Magazine. Its lack of serial qualifications throughout, and its

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

# The Associated Sunday Magazines

INCORPORATED

ISSUED EVERY WEEK,  
CO-OPERATIVELY AND SIMULTANEOUSLY  
AS A PART OF THE SUNDAY EDITIONS OF

THE BOSTON POST  
THE PITTSBURGH POST  
THE WASHINGTON STAR  
THE NEW YORK TRIBUNE  
THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC  
THE PHILADELPHIA PRESS  
THE MINNEAPOLIS JOURNAL  
THE CHICAGO RECORD-HERALD  
THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS AND  
DENVER TIMES

52 EAST 19TH STREET  
NEW YORK

Mrs. A. W. T.

lack, too, of any American interest, puts it outside of our range. Many times while reading the story I found myself lamenting that Miss Tourgee has not done for some American girl what she has here done for a French girl, for Simone is, I think, one of the best character delineations I have encountered in any recent fiction. This delineation, too, is all done in so quiet and unobtrusive a manner, that, following as it does the action of the story, it would surely charm even the critical reader of good fiction. When Miss Tourgee does this for some American girl, I'd like to see the story, and with good action and interest in each instalment of such a story I'd like to see it in The Sunday Magazine.

I really wish I were able to suggest a market for the story as it stands. Ainslee's might like it; but they would probably wish to greatly condense the first half of the story so as to make it practically a novelette of some 40,000 words. I don't think I can do better than refer you to Paul R. Reynolds or some other literary agent.

The manuscript is not returned. I shall be pleased to send it to anyone here in New York you may designate, and I shall be pleased also to answer any questions or to serve your interests in any other way that I may.

Respectfully yours,

*Wm A Taylor*  
Editor.