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50 SOUTH ST.,
PITTSFIELD, MASS.

OCT 17 1887

Hon. A. W. Tourgee,

My dear friend:

Please accept my cordial
thanks for your very
kind letter of October 12.

It will doubtless be a
partial relief to you to know
that I have steadfastly re-
fused to shoulder the slightest
financial responsibility for
The Swiss Cross. That is
assumed by the publisher
entirely.

He is bound by a contract, (and a gas-tight contract, too,) to publish at his own risk, until 1890, paying me an annual salary - nominal it may be, but sufficient for my needs at present.

I do not worry myself, therefore, over the success of the paper. further than to try to make it as good as I can, with the limited means at my disposal. I am not

over-working - rarely working out of hours - 9-3, with an hour for luncheon.

I consider the magazine almost essential to the continuance of the Agassiz Association, and therefore am willing to work for it - to a certain extent of self-sacrifice. But I shall never put any money into it.

Subscriptions are now coming in more satisfactorily, Mr. Hodges writes, and I think there is no reason

yet, why even a wise
man may not have
hope of ultimate success.

I will bear your kind
advice in mind, and en-
deavor to keep so watchful
an eye on the nodding
head of the mountain ash,
that if it begins to topple,
I may step aside in time
to avoid being caught in
the catastrophe.

Gratefully and Sincerely Yours,
Harlan H. Ballard

Could you give me name of any
one who might like to subscribe!