

3036

Metuchen.
Oct 25th 1887.

Dear Sir.

As during the six years, which I have been in Prussia, you may have changed your address, I send this letter registered, for the sake of making sure that it will reach you. I am the person who, heeded by Dr. Barnardo and Dr. Jago's letters of recommendation, undertook to translate your "Lark's Brand" into the Prussian language, but owing to "circumstances of which I have no control," most signally and ignominiously failed. The first "circumstances," rusticness of the mother tongue, was easily enough remedied and polished away, the others, "too long a hour," "too much politics," were in

surmountable, especially when I was
expected to make one chapter out of
two or three, that is virtually to recite
the book, and this latter proposition
proved of such herculean dimensions
that I gave up in despair. Add to that,
that I arrived in St. Petersburg on the
day the late Emperor was murdered,
and ^{you} will understand, that (I received)
a book coming from free America,
whose freedom over there is supposed
to consist in everyone's doing just what he pleases
and no one else, was most unpalatable.
I find however, that since my
absence from America every thing
new has been brought forward very
much, that translations from the Russian
language and Russian stories are very
much in demand and as following
in the general lead, I have read myself

down, and have indicated what my
friends have been misled enough to call
"a lecture," but what in reality is only
"parlor talk." It treats of an imagin-
ary journey through, or rather around
Russia and the rights to be met with
and my audience having consisted
mostly of my former pupils and their
mothers, it was most comically well
received, quite misleadingly so in fact,
but I found after I was through,
that I had enjoyed it as well myself,
that I should not at all be to be
feared the experience. I am living in
a boarding house, on the Pennsylvania
R. R. where I am free from Tuesday of
morn until Thursday morning,
and from Friday afternoon until
Monday, so should there be any inquir-
ing people in Philadelphia, inquiring

to be informed about what is to be seen
on an "Imaginary journey through
Russia," already written and delivered,
or about "How the present Emperor is
being guarded," or about the "Manners
and Customs of the Russian people,
and their religious beliefs and super-
stitions," only as yet planned, I shall
be most happy to contribute my mite
towards their enlightenment.

Hoping you will kindly overlook
my errors of commission and omission
with regard to the "Lolo Brand," and
that you will favor me with a few
lines, even if only in acknowledgment
of this letter, I remain

Respectfully Yours

M. Soudryan

