

A.W.T. PAPERS

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CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

W. W. Gist,
Pastor Cong'l Church.

Marion, Iowa, March 26, 1889.

My dear Judge: I have just about completed my elections. Have some five hundred pages of manuscript. I want to ask a question or two. In "Types", page 358 of "A Royal Gentleman" in third line should not has be had in the expression - "to which he has devoted life". Is not this necessary to make the tenses consistent? In same Chapter, page 354, you speak of the "Poor-White" President. This is correct. On page 358 you speak of the Poor White President. Should not this be written as the first? The was of course a white President

but not a poor President.
He was a "Poor-White" President.
I am not mistaken in
supposing that Lincoln's
associate in that
journey was Seward, and:

One word as to
dialect-writing. It is
not difficult to point
out small defects; it is
difficult to write without
faults. What I refer to applies,
I think, to most writers. For
instance in "Zuri's Christmas"
I think you write the
word "Chris'mas" when the
word is put in the
mouth of the uneducated.
The t should never be
~~it~~ sounded in that word.

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Pastor Cong'l Church.

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The word written that way would indicate that the person had pronounced it correctly. Why not write it correctly? Dialect writing in my opinion should simply indicate peculiarities of pronunciation. Another common word is again. In dialect writing it is often written agen. This means that it was pronounced according to the proper standard. Why change the spelling? Said written sed is another familiar example.

After a year's reflection I would like to hear your opinion of "89" or rather I would ^{like} to ask you whether there was not

something in my
criticism of the visionary
part of it. I did not
doubt the artistic ~~of~~
element of it, but I
imagined that would
make the public in
general overlook the
really strong parts of the
book. Has the book
had much of a
run? I have never
seen it mentioned,
except in the one
review that I wrote.
That did not help
it any & I hope it

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Not hurt it any.
I suppose you have
had a busy winter,
but the lecture season
is nearly over. I have
not yet received the
notes I sent you in
December.

Yours truly,

W. W. Gist.