

Robert Palmer's Trus

I am in receipt of

Yours of the 26th inst. concerning Judge
Fouquet's story. Corporal Billee. I am
inclined to think that I have been made
the victim of a practical joke. That the
Ledger should offer him \$2.00 for an
"acceptable" story seems incredible.
He has never been offered that before
for anything he has written, and for
a water has been paid for \$25. for any-
thing his name is attached of it is written
more than ten lines. He has written
but few short stories - always ^{very} ^{short} ^{and} ^{go}
an excuse for not writing them, that
it used up good material which would
work up in long stories - which it would
pay better - and this too when the
J.C. has paid him from \$300. to \$500. for
them. Somewhat longer than this, perhaps
but not \$10,000 words - and not as com-
plicated as "Propaganda" ^{and} ^{he} ^{paid} ^{him} ^{\$100.} ^{for} ^{every}
I think the communication, which I en-
close must have come from some one

"not in authority." - But if it is really to be considered in earnest, ^{most certainly} by all means re-tire the mes. for which I enclose stamps & sincerely hope however, for the credit of the Ledger, that the letter is a joke - not that I shall have any difficulty in disposing it at the price named - which is the lowest sum he was ever asked to accept, for a stock story.

That there might be something in the text which would not make a story acceptable to the Ledger I can easily see, like the "dangerous" element in the front of July form but for an "acceptable" story to be offered a sum, which would hardly be sufficient to pay the stenographer and expenses too absurd. - I am sorry I was so deluded as to make a grandiose show in sending it to such a market.

I trust this letter will be placed before the proprietors.