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Marion, Iowa, April 9th, 1890.

My Dear Judge:- I am sorry, very sorry to hear of your physical debility. You had better follow advice and let up on your mental ~~de~~ work, you do enough to kill an ordinary man. Give what time you can to "Golden Lilies" and let every thing else go. You are too young a man to be laid aside. I want to see you husband your strength and do twenty years' work yet.

I enjoyed your dissertation on creeds. I am not such a stickler for Church creeds as you were led to infer. I say almost nothing about the subject either in the pulpit or out of it. My denomination is noted for liberality in that particular and I am in the fullest accord with the idea. At the same time every man of force ~~on~~ of ideas has a creed in which he not only believes but for which he is willing to fight. Your creed on these things is just as clearly defined as mine, but it is not just the same. Your creed on the southern question is also most clearly defined and you are battling manfully to convert the Nation to your views. I want to see your strength spared until the victory is won.

My work goes on much as usual. Sometimes the harness galls a little. In some lines I think I have some success; in others I fear I am a failure. I enjoy the work in the study very much. I occasionally think I may go elsewhere, but my stay of nine years makes it difficult to think of leaving.

Yours very cordially,

W. W. Gist