

My dear Sir: I have read your manuscript with careful attention and every desire to have my opinion accord with your desire. You must remember that publication is business. One may write for pleasure or because he cannot help it, but books are published for profit.

The profit can be secured only in one of two ways: (1) By sale of the work or (2) By its author or another, paying for it for gratuitous distribution.

In this case, I do not think the sale would be such as

to pay the expense of publication.

There is not a little ~~ambiguity~~ ambiguity about the idea of publishing a book to do good, and not for money. A book can do no good unless it is read and it will not be read unless it has the quantity of salubility. Neither books nor money do any good except by circulation and these are but two ways to get that, either by giving an equivalent of taking it as a gift.

The idea of your book

would — many of them — do good if they could find readers; but unless you put them in a form to convince readers, they can do no good.

In your case, I think you have not kept this closely enough in view. You may do good words and much good thereby if you will keep this fact in view and put your matter in such form as to compel people to read it. It is a long, hard road to such power and will demand the undivided attention of much work.

Mayville N.Y.

I could not recommend
any one to publish this and
you would sometime blame me
if I did.

Yours truly

Wm. Sawyer