

Osage, Iowa, July 19, 1892.

My Dear Judge:-The address at the head of this letter indicates that I have made a change in my residence and place of work. After eleven years ~~of~~ of work at Marion I resigned and accepted the pastorate of the Cong'l Church of this palce. I have a nice field of labor and we are enjoying it very much. My affairs were unsettled for some time. I had serious thought of returning to the work of a teacher again, but did not. I almost had the presumption once to ask you for a commendation in the line of literature. Of my work in the class-room you know nothing, of course. Of my general or limited knowledge

of literature you know something. That is all passed now. Should a position promise to open in the University of Minnesota, would I be at liberty to refer to you as who knows me at least? I believe you have a personal acquaintance with President Northrop. I may never do any thing of the kind.

I enjoy my work here very much. Last Sabbath I tried to preach on "The Obscure Workman". Text: They shall go hindmost with their standards. Num. 11., 31.

The unsettled state of my affairs accounts for my failure to acknowledge your letter of a few weeks ago forwarded from Marion. I thank you for permission to go

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forward with that volume of selections which I made some time ago. I have not opened correspondence with any publisher as yet, but will do so soon. Of course I am not confident that I can prepare a critical estimate that will meet with your approval. I should dislike to send one forth that would displease or annoy you. I should prefer to drop the whole matter. I shall do some more work in that line, but I may conclude that it would be best for you not to publish it.

I acknowledge the receipt of a copy of "A Son of Old Harry". I read it with great interest and will notice at an ^aearly date. Would have done so sometime ago had it not been for the cares of moving and fixing up.

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I do not see the Inter-Ocean often of late, but I rejoice in the work that you are doing in the Citizens' Rights Association. I desire to be enrolled in it and will do what I can to promote its objects.

I shall mail to you to-day a copy of an essay of mine on Emerson that I wrote sometime ago.

Yours cordially,

W. W. Gist