

FORDS, HOWARD, & HULBERT,
PUBLISHERS,

NO. 47 EAST 10TH STREET (5 DOORS WEST OF BROADWAY),

New York, Oct. 20th. 1893.

Mrs. A. W. Tourgée:-

My dear Mrs. Tourgée,

I have been trying in vain to get time to myself write in answer to your letter of October 16th, concerning "Button's Inn", but I have not been able to get down to it.

First, however, about the Cassell Sale: some one of us will go up there and bid in the "Pactolus Prime" plates for you, if they go cheap. We presume you would hardly care to pay much for them. As for the balance which they owe you on copyright account, I am afraid you will not be able to work that as an offset, since the way seems to be that the receiver takes in all assets, and divides the proceeds among the creditors *pro rata*. However, if you will send us their statement showing the amount of indebtedness we will see what we can do in the matter of offset.

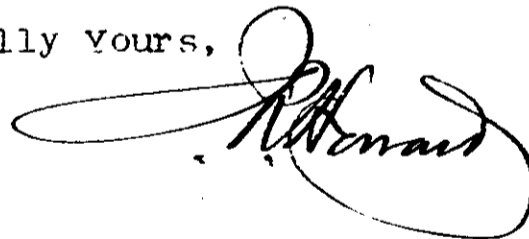
As to the "Buttons Inn", the Autograph Souvenir Edition is a very pretty idea. The suggestive drawings of Miss Aimée add quite a spice of interest. In the one sent to us I notice the remains of penciled outlines, which I suppose in those regularly finished up are more carefully removed, leaving the ink alone. There would be no question about our devoting a page to the Souvenir edition in our new

catalogues if there were in it any margin of profit to justify us in the expense. Since there is not, we can only say that we shall take pleasure in getting up a page for this edition which shall refer all customers for it to you, and printing it with the group of the Judge's other books in our new catalogue, if you will pay the cost of it:—

That is to say, the composition and electrotyping of the plate, and the proportion (1/56, or whatever it shall turn out to be) of the cost of paper and printing of the new catalogue. Of course we shall charge you only what we have to pay for it, and shall be glad to do you this small service. *(In that case, send me a material, - notice, &c)*

I am glad to hear that Miss Tourgée expects to be "in New York at the League" this winter. Doubtless it proclaims my ignorance, but if you will further inform me the full name and address of "the League", I shall be glad to know it, and shall hope to find the young lady, whether we have any need for her artistic services or not.

Faithfully Yours,



P. S. Just this instant, in running my eye over the notice of sale, I notice that the property and assets are to be offered "as a whole, in one parcel, at public auction, to the highest bidder, at a price not less than \$150,000". If I have read that correctly - and I send it

herein for the Judge's decision thereupon - there is no use of our trying to do anything at that auction; but we must wait until some bidder (probably the new Cassell Co) shall have bought in the "whole, in one parcel" and then see what bargain we can make for the particular package which we desire out of the parcel.