A.W.T. PAPERS Apr-May 1895

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY NY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

Russell House, Detroit,
Apr 1 - 1895.

Dear Mrs [illegible]

Your of 29th is at hand. The Basis came Saturday night. It is a much grander undertaking than the one I supposed. If it can be made to stand alone it will be all the better without that financial backing. I congratulate the Judge and his coadjutors most heartily, and wish it all success. When The Basis gets to the place where, under the head of Americanism it can include my hobby - the relation of the U.S. to the other nations of the western hemisphere, - and as an educator give a corner to the current history of the South American States as gleaned from their own bimonthly editions of the principal dailies, it will be a unique feature in American Journalism that I believe would take, and would do more towards creating real reciprocity in feeling and interest, and consequently in commerce, than tons of garbled press news. When that time comes, call on Mrs Clemens to take charge of that pony. You'll find no better [illegible].

As to the Paraguayan story, it is not in shape to offer for sale. At the time of writing what I did, I was under promise to go back to Asuncion the next year and had a great deal to do aside from that. I therefore thought to abbreviate the work by leaving out one side of the story and at a future time running the dark thread through the meshes left in the woof. The

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Judge detected and condemned the omission, but he could not know its magnitude. After all my plans had been knocked in the head I decided not to take it up again until I could fill it out according to my original design. The Judge's approval of it in fragments has been a comfort to me and his offer to utilize it now, emphasizes the opinion he has heretofore so kindly expressed. If ever finished as proposed it will be a horribly interesting story, illustrating the salient traits of the Paraguayan character and also the results of Romanism as an educator for republicanism. It will require a good deal of time to finish the story thus, as I could not force myself in the task. I have not money to live on while doing it. The simple item of typewriting would cost more than my present salary for the whole summer. After nine and twelve hours alternately of daily labor I have not energy for composition. There is no possibility of doing that work without stopping this, which I cannot do until something better is attainable.

Thus you see the possibility of my making an offer any time soon is dubious. If the Judge sees fit to make me an offer, I will consider it, and will be glad to give him the preference whenever the story is ready for the public.

Kind regards to all. I wish I could step in some evening this week while you are all together.

Sincerely— E. J. M. Clemens.

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