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**The Outlook**  
A Family Paper  
Clinton Hall · 13 Astor Place  
New York

April 16, 1897.

Dear Mr. Howard:

We have considered this story pretty carefully. It is certainly a striking, and in some ways a rather extraordinary tale. To our minds the first part is more effective than the latter part of the story. The opportunity the author made for himself to show how the New York of to-day and the world of to-day would strike a man who had been in absolute retirement from it for many years, was a particularly good idea, but it seems to us only fairly well worked out. The story is too long for The Outlook to use in a single issue, and we are more and more becoming reluctant to divide anything in the paper, unless it is an absolute necessity. We want each paper to stand entirely by itself. Everything considered, we have decided that it would be better not to print this story in The Outlook.

Yours sincerely,

THE EDITORS OF THE OUTLOOK.

*R. D. Townsend.*

Mr. J. R. Howard,