

November 25, 1929

My dear Mr. Stowe:

I hope you will not be too impatient with me for having been so long a time in keeping my promise to read the proofs of General Palmer's book and write you how I felt about it. I have been in a badly congested condition, as to my work, and the first really free time I have had I found yesterday. As I have just written General Palmer I finished the book in a state of real enthusiasm.

He has made a contribution not only to military history, and that a very important one, but he has illumined the situation of the North in 1861 quite beyond what anybody else has done. He shows quite conclusively why Lincoln was in such desperate straits and why there was nothing else for him to do but interfere. His comparison between the military ideas of Lincoln and Calusewitz is striking and convincing. The book seems to be a conclusive argument for the type of Army which he has proved by his newly discovered documents, was in Washington's mind. He proves too, to my mind, that our repeated disasters in making war have come from not understanding and following Washington's advise.

I believe such an Army as General Palmer advocates in this book could rightly be called, "An Army of Peace." I can scarcely think of any greater practical contribution towards insuring peace for this country than such an army.

I hope you can carry out your idea in getting your book before Secretary Root. He would grasp its meaning as nobody else, and I am inclined to think would be willing to place it before President Hoover.

With renewed apologies for my delay, believe me my dear Mr. Stowe,

Sincerely

Beacher Stowe  
W. A. Doran & Company