

June 24, 1939

Dear William Lyon Phelps:

I have just come
in from the country and find on my desk
a copy of your autobiography with an
inscription that I hug to my heart.
It has always been a regret to me that
I did not belong in that great circle of
real writers that you have so warmly
and generously encouraged and presented.
What a service you have rendered to the
country by your introduction. I do not
wonder that the whole staff calls you
Billy. What higher compliment could
there be than to have an affectionate
name like that given to one's friends.

I am having a beautiful
time reading your autobiography with
its intimate glimpses of so many writers
that I, myself, have loved through their
books and sometimes even personally.

With affectionate gratitude
for the color and warmth you have given
to the writing world of our day, believe
me

Cordially yours

Dr. William Lyon Phelps
New Haven, Conn.

S
K/21
Dr. Phelps
by
colleague
in person