

Nov. 15, 1902.

Dear Alice:-

I wouldn't have believed that so long a time would have passed without my writing you. It has not been because I have not wanted to do it, but I couldn't use my hand and it's been hard to find time and a stenographer together.

I have been on an incessant rush since I wrote you on my arrival in Illinois. Four days around Decatur; eight days in and around Springfield; then Alton, Vandalia and now here. I've come just about to the end of my resistance. This morning it was a real task for me to go to work - that means that I shall go back to New York. When the zest goes, there is little use of my attempting to gather material. I have had a wonderful time, if I have missed you and the rest of the party, I have had interesting people everywhere and such generous ones. The work has been made the easiest possible, the people bringing it to me, but I shall be glad to get home, and begin to put my stuff in shape.

You are dear to about write me about the little "Peacemakers". It isn't much of a book. I don't know that it ought ever to have been printed. It simply gets down something that may be of some little use some day as a historical document. But if you could read it through, I shall think better of it. Tell Cale I am very much set up that he thinks my Wilson broadside was reading to his club. If I had ever dreamed that Collier's was going to embalm it in so dignified a way, I should have gone over it and rubbed out some of the rough places; however, they put it up without my knowing that they were doing it. What I was most pleased about, of course, was that Mr. Wilson himself liked it. Mrs. Wilson that he had it framed and on his study wall.

You needn't think you are the only one that receives letters from the magnificent Mr. Wm. Fortune. I have one myself, long, generous and without a hint so far as I can discern of coals of fire. He says that we must all be his party again and go journeying through some of the Indiana places that he likes. Just as soon as this piece of Lincoln work is done, and at the present moment, that seems a pretty long pull to me, can ask me whenever he will and I will go, wont you? That is, I will go if

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you and Cale will, - not otherwise. I shall be interested to see the kodaks. It was cruel of you to send them to Bert. He's probably illustrating his tale of my break with that picture.

I mean to leave Chicago by Monday night if it is possible for New York. Ella is at Naperville and I am stopping over Sunday with her. I will write you as soon as I am at home.

Love to everybody.

Affectionately,