New York, January 19, 1920.

Rev. Thomas W. McKinney
Coatesville, Pa.

My dear Mr. McKinney:

Your very kind letter of December 12th, sent to me in care of the Coit Lyceum Bureau of Pittsburg did not reach me until last Friday, January 16th. I was just leaving town for the week end, and had no opportunity to write you. I hope this will explain the long delay.

I appreciate very much your courtesy in invitin me to speak at your church on Sunday morning or evening the day I am to be in Coatesville, and particularly to be your guest in your home. It is impossible for me to accept your invitation to speak in your church. I am just beginning a speaking trip, and one is the servant then, you know, of the railroads. My schedule shows that I do not reach Coatesville until 12:43 Sunday -- if I should miss a connection not until 2:19. I must leave at 5:53, as I come back to New York, and go on from here to Hamilton Ontario , my next engagement. You see how impossible it will be for me to speak for you.

As for being your guest, I am afraid I will be a very unsatisfactory one. I shall have to take my time between my arrival and the hour of speaking to rest and make myself tidy. After speaking, I should be glad to have a visit with you and the other members of your family. If you are willing to take me on these terms, I shall be glad to come; but I always feel when on a speaking trip that I am a very unsatisfactory guest. At all events, I shall hope to meet you xxx in Coatesville. Very sincerely,

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