

March 5, 1921

Mr. George Eustis,
1717 Eye St., N.W.,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Eustis:

I have just returned from a western trip of some weeks, and my secretary has put before me your letters of January 22 and 28. They interest me very much.

I know, without further consideration, that the story of your grandfather, William W. Corcoran, would be a captivating task. The man, the period and the city all appeal to me; but it is out of the question for me to consider it, at least within a reasonable period of time. I have on hand now four book contracts and another rather difficult piece of serial work to which I am pledged and which in the end will, I suppose, mean another book. Interesting as the proposed task seems to me, you can see how unfair to you it would be for me to consider it. I must not do it.

Please believe, however, that I am gratified that you should think that I could do the work satisfactorily to you and to your family.

Regretting that I must make this decision, believe me

Very sincerely yours,