

P. S.

I presume the paper was read in Englewood; but in the "revised version" I would leave out all mention of "Dr. Jones" other than the quotation. I am pleased to think my little self was for a moment recalled to the recollection of old-time Englewooders, but it should end there.

Ann Arbor, 15th of March, 1895.

My dear Mr. Dawes:

If I felt assured that anything I have ever written had given you as much real pleasure as your paper on "The Humanism of Thoreau" has afforded, I should indeed be gratified.

It sent a thrill of delight through me to think that the Eternal Justice is taking care of Thoreau's memory; that he who was buried in May, '62 so little known then, so widely and deeply mis-understood since then, is to-day finding expositors and apologists (read that in the old sense, defenders) who are reading into the heart of him, and saying, "O my Brother, of a verity thou art NOT a Sham, but a sincerity so rare that the mob could not understand thee!"

If I may use a high name solely for the sake of illustration, I should say that, in regard to our mutual regard for Thoreau, I am more like the impetuous apostle Peter, while you are more like the less emotional Paul. I might make a more ardent presentation of the case; but your method would carry with it a deeper conviction. The practical result of this will be that you will <sup>win</sup> more souls to Thoreau than I; and in a work so precious for Humanity, I heartily wish you God speed!

I greatly like the manner in which you have put the case for him; it is not strained; it has the note of genuineness; it displays a sound acquaintance with the core of him, and it has the uncounterfeitable mint-mark of originality stamped upon its every period. I will lay it aside for a few days, and then, if you wish, I will give <sup>you</sup> certain suggestions -- mark the word, "SUGGESTIONS," not instructions -- which you will please accept as sincerely as they are offered.

I would also advise you to put it away for three or four weeks until the ardor of composition has lost its fervency, THEN you yourself will be its best critic.

It should most assuredly be published, but unless you have a "pull" on the Atlantic, I doubt if you can get it accepted there. I KNOW that Mr. Scudder is not in sympathy with either Thoreau or his admirers. It will also make a more desirable addition to the "ANA" if privately printed; and ~~that~~ this making of your mark by the "printed, but not published" method will sooner secure you readers in our serial literature. You can estimate my interest when I tell you that I lost my lunch to-day for the sake of reading it, because I was pressed for time. I can stand SUCH a fast just as often as you afford the opportunity.

More anon; meanwhile, I am delightedly and gratefully, and

Sincerely yours,

Saml A. Jones.