

Ann Arbor, 2nd of June, 1895.

My dear Mr. Dawes:

I have lived of late so much amongst politicians that I feel like apologising for addressing you. Of all the creeping and crawling things that Noah allowed lodgement in his canal boat they have not their coun-<sup>ter</sup>part. Ugh! I can almost feel the vermin squirming on me; but they are laid out! Both the Senate and the House passed a bill to remove the Homoeopathic College to Detroit, but a committee of three of us grappled with the Governor and he let the bill go by default - what I believe politicians call a "pocket veto." When a man has n't lime enough in his backbone to be a MAN, I like to see him make the nearest possible approach to it, and this His Excellency has done.

Your last kindness in the matter of the books from Clark's has added one item to my Thoreau collection. I am glad to have that Necrology, and I think the estimation of Thoreau at that early day is quite remarkable. If you will put your ear to the ground you will hear me murmuring "Thanks!" - for the how many hundredths time is it?

You were contemplating some bibliocidal business when last you wrote, and seemed to have some shadow of compunction in regard to the transaction. As I am a sinner on that line, I assure you no mutilated book has yet stalked in my dreams shaking its (can I properly say "gory fist") what-d'ye, -call-it at me.

I hope you have done the deed here this, and if so, shake hands with a fellow-murderer.

That clipping from the Newark paper delighted me, and I should like dearly to get into touch with that enlightened company. It made me really glad that I had once lived in "Jersey." Seriously, if there is such a thing as a Thoreau Club there I should be glad to know of it, for I would try and send some Thoreau papers to them.

I would even journey there some winter's day to read a brand new Thoreau paper before them. It were well for the land if scores of such clubs could arise, for we need such leaven to-day when the body politic is such a seething corruption as we know it to be.

What have you done with your own good Thoreau paper? Don't let it go by default, as one is so apt to do when once one's MS. gets "cold." Depend upon it, when it is published, every earnest reader will feel all the warmth that you did when you wrote it. I wish you knew that I am a blunt man who never says nor writes what he does not mean - so do not neglect the duty you owe: publish, publish, PUBLISH.

I shall be a prompter correspondent henceforth, an' it please you!

Sincerely yours,

*Samuel A. Jones.*