

C4/C34

New York, April 24, 1892

230 WEST 59 STREET.

My dear Clark,

My ink ought to be red, to symbolize my blushes at seeing the date of your last letter, though I am consoled by observing that it opens with an apology for delay in answering my epistle of Sept. last. Only yesterday did I send the last page of my *Life of Paine* to the printer; and today, for the first time since I wrote you, have I had even a breathing interval, - and a brief interval it is. For before I leave for Europe, in September, I have to write a book on colonial Virginia!

My *Paine* has given

me more happiness than  
 any other work I ever wrote.  
 I had no idea when I  
 undertook it how great  
 a man I was about to  
 deal with. Michelangelo,  
 it is said, recognized his  
 decline in the fact that  
 he had done some work  
 that satisfied him, and  
 perhaps my friends will  
 think the same of me  
 if I say I am content  
 with my new work. Well,  
 I am not entirely content,  
 but know well that it  
 is my best work.

Wife, daughter, & I, leave  
 Sept. 3 for England. I am  
 to give discourses at  
 South Place from Oct. 2  
 to April, - then career

about until Sept. when we  
return home. It would be  
sad if you should come  
to America & depart before  
we return! There is some  
talk of a liberal thinkers'  
conference at Chicago  
next year, and I fear  
it will be over before  
our return.

The War-stake July  
arrived, and I showed it  
to one of our chief set  
publishers. He was much  
pleased with it, but doubts  
whether America is quite  
up to it. It certainly  
is beautiful in every  
way. The pictures are very  
fine, - that of the Flight  
wonderful.

Mr. Judge, who it is said

here is to replace Col. Olcott  
 as Theosophist leader, has  
 written a reply to my paper  
 in the "Arena". An answer from  
 me will appear, possibly in  
 the May number (a page  
 or) pointing out that he  
 has waited six months till  
 my article was forgotten,  
 then rewritten some of  
 my sentences to make me  
 in error; also left out satirically  
 my main charge; - the  
 effort to impose on the  
 Broughtons. Mr. Gray, I fear,  
 takes too much stock in  
 Theosophic occultism. The  
 collusion with Effington about  
 the letter cannot be explained  
 away. It was a clear fraud.

Remember me all of you,  
 as I do you! Wife & daughter  
 send hearty regards.

Your friend,  
 Moncure D. Conway