

Ms. A. 1. 1. 1. 1.

Yakrank, L. I.,

July 13, 1887.

Dear May,

I am very much obliged to you for giving me an opportunity to see my Commonwealth letter of 1881 in reply to H. W. Waters. I suppose I have a copy of it somewhere, at present out of reach. Waters's attack was wholly unprovoked and foolish, and though Slack gave him compassionately the last word, he was wholly unable to meet the points I made or to retreat with honor from the controversy. ~~With~~ I never

had any acquaintance with
him, but have no doubt your
description of him is accurate.
I must believe there are not
many of his class of oppo-
nents to Garrison now living.
Phayer is the only one known
to me. As you intimate he
will furnish welcome am-
munition to Leonard Woolsey
Bacon, from whom a broad-
side may be expected in the
life of his father, which he
is understood to have in
preparation. If I am still
alive when that work appears,
I may find another job on
my hands.

I have a letter from
Mrs. Villard to-day, in which

she speaks of my ^{to Thayer's} reply in the
generous and appreciative
terms, corresponding well with
the sentence you quote from ^{her}
Best of all, however, is the
calm judgment of Wendell,
as expressed in the letter I
enclose. Knowing how im-
possible it is for him to utter
an unfelt word in the way
of compliment, his words
give me very great pleasure.

No, I have not read Tol-
stois "My Religion," but mean
to do so ere long. He must
be a wonderful man.

I am sorry to be un-
able to give you William
Still's address, or that of Vt.
R. Johnston.

Both Mrs. Johnson and

our keen desire to be re-
membered to you and
Mrs. May.

Yours, affectionately,
Oliver Johnson