

Washington 9 Oct 1853

My dear Sir,

I write to beg of you
to a favor.

I learn that Mr. H. H. H. would
impute to you the article in the
and the Boston Post
Union, concerning Mr. C. E. Hester.
This imputation is ^{wholly} ground-
less, and ^{therefore} ~~thoughtless~~ unjust is
letter and spirit.

My personal acquaintance
began with Mr. H. began at New
York last winter. Without hav-
ing any exact knowledge of
his antecedents, I felt in-
terested in him simply from

papers signed for a culti-
vator of literature, and
that interest continued, and
was felt in good faith, until
I heard of his attacks on
the President in the London

Times. I have never seen
the letters in the Times, but from what
I heard of them I could not fail to
regret and condemn them, and to under-
go a change of mind towards

Wm. B. Ewing

Mr. Lister

But I had no particu-
larity, direct or indirect, in the
publication, ^{in question,} & saw them for the
first time in print ~~in the~~
~~times.~~

Mr. Stoddard speaks of
Mr. Lister having naive letters
from Mr. May & myself. I
think; in answer to a letter
of inquiry to Mr. ~~Stoddard~~ ~~I was~~
in Paris, I did write a
reply such as our gentleman
writes to another assuming
the letter to be a demand
of honor. Any person may
give annoyance by publish-
ing private letters. I think
of course do not count such
annoyance; but I think the
case of the letters published
by Mr. Mackenzie shows that
any such act against the
betrayed man that it does
the betrayed, whatever the
character of the letters. If
Mr. Lister has any letter of
mine, I ~~do not~~ ^{know} think that it

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~~any thing which might not have~~
~~been honestly & properly~~
~~handled & settled; and his public~~

It is not an ~~that~~
account, therefore, but from
unwillingness to be misre-
ceived by any person with
whom I have been associ-
ated however casually, that if
it can be done with per-
fect regard to good taste
I should be glad to have
Mr. Lister informed of the
error into which he should
have fallen.

May I ask of your
friendship to see the same,
to make any sign judge, but,
but without any under-
standing on my part towards

Mr. L. - Perhaps you will

~~show also that the~~
~~article mentioning such was as~~
~~you think best of the contents~~
~~of this letter, not to put~~
~~into the letter itself~~
I think it best merely to state

~~I shall the facts as written you~~
~~can hardly~~ I do not see how
~~even my objection to your reading~~
~~the letter to Mr. L., but without~~
~~looking into the letter itself.~~

I remain

Very truly yours

Ch.

John L. Sullivan Esq.

Copy to
J. L. Sullivan
9 Oct 1883