

EDITORIAL OFFICE OF
THE ATLANTIC MONTHLY.

The Riverside Press,
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Jan. 6, 1878.

Dear Sir:

Your story is very curious, and original in design, and it is very well worked up, except towards the close, where there is a certain bluntness in the revelation, that shocks. I don't know how you are to avoid this, unless you somehow leave the facts to be inferred which you state openly. As it stands, I could not accept the story, and I do not ask you to avoid it for me, for long experience has taught me that

that only results in disappointment.

Very sincerely yours

W. D. Howells.

Mr. Stanford, my story is very curious, and