1004, WEST END TRUST BUILDING PHILADELPHIA

March 8th, 1916.

Dear Miss Mary Day: -

Pardon a dictated letter. My mail is so large that I have to dictate or not answer at all, which would be ruder still.

I began to think how I should answer your question as to which is my favorite book, but I find that I don't know. This is a perfectly honest answer. I know what I have written that I think ought to be better, and that I wish were better, but when it comes to preference, I am lost. My severest critics tell me that a short Memoir of General Grant is the best thing I have done. Maybe they are right.

It is easy to send you a copy of the sonnet you request, in which I make one correction. The sonnet has brought me much blame. This I expected. I think it probably impossible to censure a man who holds the office of President without seeming to censure the office itself, which all Americans hold sacred. It is because I think that he has not been worthy of the sacredness of his office that I wrote the poem.

Yours very truly,

OwnWister

If not delivered in five days, return to OWEN WISTER,
1004, West End Trust Building,
PHILADELPHIA.





Miss Mary C. Day,

112 Jefferson Street,

Wellsville,

N. Y.

WISTER, Owen. American Author; wrote "The Virginian." L.S. lp., 4to. Philadelphia, Mar. 8, 1916.

INTERESTING LETTER. "I began to think how I should answer your question as to which is my favorite book, but I find that I don't know. This is a perfectly honest answer. I know what I have written that I think ought to be better, and that I wish were better, but when it comes to preference, I am lost. My severest critics tell me that a short memoir of Gen. Grant is the best thing I have done. Maybe they are right."