

229 Washington Street, Bath, Maine,

January 20.

My dear Mr. George:

Fortunately you are one of those whose friends can follow them to some extent. You have made marks all along the way. I have said the ~~same~~ Privilege and the letters from Japan ~~will~~ will ~~attract~~ attract our satisfaction. You are doing just the work I can see that your good fortune would have you do, and doing it gloriously.

When in the history of this country has right thinking been more important than now? A handful of men, by means

of stolen wealth, have ruled the nation
for years, and now that a person to some
extent representing the interests of the
people has by a sort of accident slipped
into the presidential chair and has tried
to check some of their rascalities, they
order their agents in Congress to break him
down, and to prevent the election of any
more of his kind. I remember that a
king of finance once said to me that
he feared that the time would come when
the line of political cleavage would lie
between the rich and the poor. If great
fortunes can be gained only by fraud, and
these must be used to oppress the masses,
I thank Providence that the issue now

seems likely to fall just there.

I am pleased that you have found time in your busy life to write me a few lines. It is a word from the living to the dead - from the very much alive to the very much dead. Think of any one as active as in North American soil. Former days I used to be reading in a leisurely manner Lyves's two-volume history of Philosophy, or reviewing Robertson's whole French Language; Mrs. Metcalf leads a more stirring life than I, inasmuch as she keeps up a pretty large circle of lady acquaintances. Of the two, as we grow older, she suffers rather more pains and aches than I, and if we both live, or live

account I think that we shall pass the next winter in a somewhat warmer climate. I have been in New York but twice in quite a number of years. Once I was there but twenty-four hours, and in very severe weather, and during the second visit I was confined to a hotel nearly all the time by a bad cold. On the two trips I saw of my old acquaintances only Miss Warner, whom I chanced to be very near, and her but once.

Mrs. Melcalf sends her regards to you, and both of us wish to be warmly remembered to Mrs. George.

I should like much to see you.

Sincerely,

L. S. Melcalf.