

3.00 net  
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Dresden Sept. 3rd 1873

Weissenhaus Strasse 13. III.

Jas. R. Osgood & Co. Publishers, Boston

Dear Sir - I owe you an apology for not replying sooner to yours of July 18<sup>th</sup>, accompanying the edition of Nath. Hawthorne's works: and for the courteous manner in which you filled my order for these last, my best acknowledgments. I wished to come to some definite idea, myself, of what my new book was going to be, before communicating with you. My progress in it is very slow, though now tolerably uniform: and I can estimate with some confidence that it will be finished in about two months. It will not, I think, be as long as "Bressant." 300 pp. will probably comprise it. It will be, not a novel, but a Romance. The scene is laid in the vicinity of New York, some twenty years ago: and there is a glance at Boston. But these places are used for little more than the name: I attempt little

or no photography: the story occupies itself more with characters. There is a good deal more plot and incident, however, than in "Bressant." As to title, I have not found any better than "Idolatry". That is short, simple, reserved, and yet conveys the gist of the story. I had also thought of "A Romance of Seven Days", and "Baldur the Beautiful" - a gentleman whose name is Baldur Helwyge being one of the characters. But I think the first title the best of the three.

I will mail you the book as soon as completed. I propose to publish it simultaneously in London, with my former publisher there - Henry S. King & Co. 65 Cornhill E.C. - with whom you might communicate: and I will write to him myself forthwith. But since I shall be unable to furnish him with a M.S. copy, you might send him advance sheet. I fancy I shall have to let the proofs go unweeded, as otherwise a delay of four or five weeks would be necessary. But it will be written with some attention to clearness, so that does not so much matter.

With regard to money matters, I shall be satisfied with the royalty of 10% you offer: by which I do not mean to infer that I shall refuse more, should the sales justify you in giving it. You might render accounts at the same time as for Nath. Hawthorne's books, and make them over to Mr. G. S. Hillard, 14 Pemberton Square, who will act for me. I should wish, however, that you might forward to me the results of the first month's sales ~~as soon as~~ as soon as they are in.

But this is premature. Meanwhile, I remain

Very sincerely yours

Julian Hawthorne.

P.S.

I send by this mail an order for the book accd. \$21.00.