

White Salmon Nov 22, '82

Dear Tealter,

I think of you very often. I have been thinking of you a good deal in connection with my work here. I suppose that for some time you had no larger audiences than I can get together here. How do you keep up your interest in your work? How do you resist the feeling that it did not make much difference whether you did your best or your worst? How did you prevent the general stupidity and inappreciation =

ref of most of your audience
from blunting your purpose
to make your sermon facts
as keen and bright and
logical as possible. If a
man knows that most of
his good points will not
be noticed, he feels a
general sickening, trying
to make good points.

My audience do appreciate
person and earnestness, but
few of them see a good
point. I keep up
my interest by thinking
that I am in some way,
to some extent benefitting
the people, and that by
getting a hold upon the course
and rough I am training
myself to get hold of all
kinds. If I can learn to

interest such people as these,
I can surely interest those
of higher culture.

I think it will work. I
thought, with me, and I
suppose it is so with all, a
great deal of the strength of
what I say depends upon the
audience. There is a magnetism
about an audience that electrifies
a speaker. If I feel the
lack of this I feel weak.
A dull unresponsive audience
does not furnish much mag-
netism. So I have to depend
upon my own mind more.
In this way I am able to
be more self-poised, and when
I do speak before a large
audience I feel the stimulus
much more. If a man gets
into the habit of depending upon

a large audience, when he goes
before a small one he will
feel entirely spiritless. But if
he learns to speak audently
before a small audience, before
a large one he will double
his power.

I have been to the Delta,
and will go to Wood River
next Sunday, - Friday rather.

The weather has been
off and on, for a month.
It is on today. It is a
close fit too. Clouds heavy from
mountain top to mountain top,
and the air is gray with rain.
It tried holding a little yesterday
and snowing a little today, but
was not cold enough in this
zone to allow much of that
sort of prohib. veg.

Well, Farewell, Write,
H. P. Lyman