

My dear Sir,

I telegraphed you immediately after finding that I had missed my train beyond hope, this afternoon, I am exceedingly disappointed & mortified. The immediate cause ~~of~~ was a failure of ~~the~~ connections on the New-York Elevated road at Chatham-Square; a matter which has been complained of before by the traveling public, but

which it seems is not yet wholly corrected. I do not need to trouble you with further details. It is too bad to have this happen at an hour perhaps too late for you to fill the pulpit. I telegraphed you as we arranged, on Tuesday morning early, that I was free from my other engagement. Dr. Wilson found some one else as I desired, who will occupy his pulpit tomorrow.

Now what can I further say? I am at fault with you & you suffer on my account, & if you think this is enough of an acquaintance I cannot deny you are justified in so doing,

but I do not want to have it so. Unfortunately again, I had made an engagement in ~~yet~~ another direction to occupy a pulpit for next Sunday (25th of November) — which I should not have made could I have foreseen this frasco; & I do not know whether I could alter that (as I did the other) or not. But if you care to see me again in Bridgeton, I should like to come. With my cordial regards to Mr. & Mrs. Allen (the loss of whose genial hospitality is part of my disappointment), and my

Sincere regrets & apologies to
the West Church, believe me

Your very truly

W. H. Belden.