

Corsicana. Texas.  
May. 3<sup>rd</sup>. 1916.

My dear M.F.C.

During the past two weeks I have attempted to write you a personal letter and have failed to comply with my desire. First it has been difficult to get the time to do it thoroughly; secondly, I knew you were overwhelmed with other matters, and it seemed best to let the matter rest awhile.

The first thing I'd like to put in order is the fact that my return to Corsicana was not a prearranged plan. I wanted your permission to return, and the remark I made to you at the Brazas "I am so glad you have given me your permission to return to Corsicana, I think I would have gone anyway, but I wanted you to say I could". was not said in the spirit of wanting to force you or in defiance, and I realized later it needed an explanation. My desire to return was honest and due to an overwhelming sense to put into operation the possibilities I saw here. I had met people here who knew my work in the East, and if there was a place in Texas where I could "prove" myself it was here. There was no intent to override you, or force from you a decision you did not want to give; this latter I fancy would be impossible.

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After our painful interview, I set to work to get a sense of values. I soon realized how absolutely you were tied by the promises to keep the names of the complainants secret. So I made up my mind I would work out my salvation to the best of my understanding; and wrote to many of the places where I had been speaking, asking if anything in my talks or actions, to their minds, would reflect discredit on Suffrage also if they had heard remarks to this effect from the general public. I further stated that I desired this information to assist me in my work, being a stranger to the South I wanted to offend no one, and wanted an honest opinion of my work. Also urged that they get behind those in favor of Suffrage and financially assist the State Assn. I have received many replies, either by letter or by visits from these people. Ft. Worth has written several times regretting that they have not raised the money to have me back again. Mrs Sims of Bryan was here last week and made a special effort to let the people here know that she saw the value of my work down here. Mrs Spell of Waco the same. I asked Mrs Spell if she had heard me say anything that could be criticised and she firmly declared she had heard only praise, and that she herself was overjoyed at the opportunity of hearing me again and that she hoped I could come to Waco soon. Mrs Armstrong and Mrs Mahoney came here to a meeting advertised in the papers; without any questioning on my part they explained the reason for not having me come to Dallas when the suggestion was made at their meeting, simply because the occasion did not warrant the expense, and if ever they were going to do any work they must try themselves out on the small organization meetings and not always call for an organizer to come and do their work for them.

There is one thing above all others I want you to understand, and that is: I have not remained in Texas in any sense of defiance, but to do the work that has to be done and to prove to my own satisfaction as well as others that my work is right and good, also that you did not make a mistake in judgement, even though there has been an endeavor to prove it so.

Of course there have been some mistakes, but these were due mainly to the enormity of the state, and a desire to cover as much territory