

Asbury Theological Seminary

ePLACE: preserving, learning, and creative exchange

Correspondence

Hannah Whitall Smith

1983

**Box 2_1 (Correspondence- Gallagher, Ges. W to Griffitts, John H.-
1887-1911)**

ATS Special Collections and Archives

Follow this and additional works at: <https://place.asburyseminary.edu/hwscorrespondence>



Part of the [Christianity Commons](#)

Bristol Rhode Island
January 15th / 1887

Dear Mrs Smith

I am a stranger
to you; but I have felt for a long time
that you were my friend. I have
often wondered where you lived &
whether you are the Mrs Smith who
was Mrs Elizabeth Prentiss' friend.
Last week my friend Miss Mattie
Luther gave me your address.

I have read one of your books, "The
Christians Secret of a Happy Life"
I have had the book in my Library
for the past eight years, an inva-
lid lady friend lent it to my
husband but he did not read
it & put it in the case with other

books; one day I went for something to read, and noticed that strange book. I immediately began to peruse it, little thinking what a comfort it was to be to me in after years. I feel as if you are a very dear friend.

I purchased one of the revised & enlarged editions two years ago & it lies on the table with my bible and next to my bible I prize that more than any other book.

It has cheered and comforted me more than any thing. and I have felt as if it was a message sent direct from God. to comfort me in my deep sorrow and distress.

I have often thought that if I had the money I would love to buy a thousand and give them away to those whom I thought they would do good. I wish there was one in every home in the land & read by all

I have been thinking for the last two weeks that I would try and sell some to my friends and if I succeed say farther. Can you tell me the best way to purchase them? and do you know any thing about the terms? I had a mind to write to Mr. Revell, but thought I would write to you first. If you can give me any information will you do so please?

It is necessary for me to earn my support and I am trying to furnish my house, so that I can open a Home school for young ladies. I will give you a short sketch of my life for the past twenty 22 years and you will understand better why I have written to you.

Twenty two years ago ^{last October} I was married (my home was in Conn-) and came to Bristol & lived my husband and thought

He loved me, and I looked forward to a life
of happiness. I expected to have crosses to
bear, for who does not? But I never dreamed
of the sorrows that I have been called to bear.
My husband was a professing christian
I had been trying to live a christian life
since I was eight years of age I united
with the church one year after I was
married at the age of 21. When my first
child was 2 months old, when I had
been married seven years I was left alone
for nearly two years with four children the
youngest 18 months of age. My husband
gave no reason for going away & when
he came back - to tell me that it was my
patience & forbearance that brought
him back. Three years ago he left
again took my first children and put
them where I did not know where they
were & took away all of my furniture

I was left with no means of support
in an empty house sick with nervous
prostration. no one could do anything
unless I ~~entered~~ ^{entered} a complaint
that, I could not and would not
do for he is my husband and the
father of my children, and I trusted
to God to give me strength to bear
all and to do for myself. I have
sewed some at the dress making,
this winter I have been teaching at
my home a few day scholars and
a class in evening of ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~old~~ ^{old} boys & girls
I am not earning enough to pay my
expenses and have been thinking what
I could do to earn more I could
live money & furnish my home but
have no security to give. I have
prayed about it a long time and

asked God to make it plain to me
what His ^{will} is that I shall do, and I
believe that He means for me to teach
I thought of opening a home school
more than a year ago & I believe God
has ordered it so to be & I believe that
He will help me do it. You can
never know what a help and comfort
your book has been to me. How I wish
I could see you and take you by the
hand: if we never meet here on earth
we surely shall in heaven. Often I
read your book I feel like a little child
listening to its mother.

I know that God has permitted this
sorrow to come to me for some wise
purpose, I cannot see it now but I
feel sure I shall some day.

My burdens have been so heavy at times
that I have been almost tempted to
doubt whether there was a God but
I will not allow myself to dwell for a

moment on such thoughts. I know
I am one of God's children and He
will not give me any more sorrow
than is good for me to bear, for He
does not give His children willingly
Many times when I have felt discouraged
and sad, and did not know which way
to turn, I have taken your book up
and read and it never has failed to
cheer and comfort. I seem to hear a
dear friend talking to me one who I
think cares and feels for me

And now I ask you to pray for
me for my husband and my
children. The members of our
church prayed for my husband for
two months one year ago - but God
has not answered their prayers yet
I have prayed earnestly and I know
God will answer in His own good time
I have tried to be patient and lowly
and make submission to my Father's will

But O it is so hard so hard.
If you are interested in Temperance
perhaps you are acquainted with
my friend Mrs Mary R. Denman
of Newark New Jersey.

I shall be very glad to hear from
you please pardon me for troubling
you. but I think you will be glad
to know that you have been the means
of adding one more of comfort to my
lonely life - again I ask your prayers
for myself and my family

May God be ever with you.

Yours sincerely,

M. E. W. Gallup.

Quakertown Pa. 3. 4. 1892.

Meers Garigus Brothers!

Gents! Having rec. your Advs. from Mr. Stauffer (D. G.) I write to you to inquire for the Advs. of Mrs. H. W. Smith, Author of "The Christians secret of a Happy Life." I found this valuable christian book last fall in Elkhurst, Ill. and was so much struck with it that I wrote to Revell Chicago to sell it. Sold some, but had occasion to come east, to see my old mother, in her 76 years of age and some other old friends especially Rev. J. H. Oberholzer 84 years old of the unionite Church to which I also belong, after an absence of nearly 16 years. Having found by trying to sell ^{from} book that I could dispose of many in the german language I have made up my mind to translate it and after learning from Mrs. G. Stauffer that Mr. Revell & Co. don't care I would like to find out whether Mrs. Smith would allow me to translate it. either for her and on her account or on my own as Mr. J. G. Stauffer who also seems interested in, and fully agrees with the contents of

The book. I am a young German well educated
and have just translated for Mr. Stauffer Christ
Alone and too I am a vigorous mind my right
hand and would much like to get more of such
work to do to be useful and earn an honest liv-
ing and serve the Lord.

Respectfully Yours.

Jacob A Egey

Cadre. care of Mr. J. G. Stauffer.

608 Arch St Phila

Dear Friend

We venture to address thee at
G, with this request, will thee
kindly answer Jacob A Egey
C/o J G Stauffer Quakertown Pa

Years ago we should have
seen thee at E H Farnum's during
her mtngs, how is it?

Very Respectfully Garrigue Bros

yes ! Eucum does
look up !