

The Independent,

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My dear Mr. Garrison,

It was with

somefulness of spirit

that I wrote the  
reply to Mr. Phillips  
which appears in this

week's Independent.

I am half-sick



with the anxiety existing  
in my mind as to the  
steps with which he  
will receive it. Do you  
think it was over-severe?  
Could I have done  
other than I did? I  
meant every line in  
kindness, but this morning,  
on reading the article  
after a day's ~~interval~~ interval,



It seems harsher than  
it appeared to me  
during the writing. I  
have had some  
unpleasant duties con-  
nected with my editorial  
experience, but never  
one equal to the  
unpleasantness of  
answering Mr. Phillips'  
letter. But if I had



left it unanswered  
I would have done  
violence to any au-  
suerce, and have  
permitted injury to  
be done to the country.

I ask you this  
note simply to unburden  
my mind.

Yours ever,

Madre Tilson