



Franklin Square,

New York, November 3<sup>d</sup> 1874.

Dear Madam,

The events of this week, so impressive simply as connected with your individual career, have to the most thoughtful of your friends a wider suggestiveness and meaning. So that your name is associated not alone with a memorable success, but with the development of the loftiest features of the histrionic art in this country, and with the realization

---

 Miss Charlotte Cushman.

of the greatest possibilities in  
Art by Woman, without derogation  
of her womanliness.

The aspects of a career with  
such associations - of such an  
experience as yours - would be  
peculiarly interesting to American  
readers, and would be elevating,  
instructive & stimulating. Your  
experience has been unusually rich  
& varied. You have been associated  
with the best artists in your  
field. You have witnessed the  
brave successes of many young  
aspirants & the touching  
failures of others. You have

carefully followed the successive steps  
in the progress of dramatic art  
in this country, & the fluctuations  
of the popular taste. In your  
remembrances lights & shadows  
blend. the odd & humorous with  
what is most impressive - the  
little with the great.

These considerations lead me  
to ask you if it would not  
accord with your inclination to  
offer to the public, through the  
pages of our Magazine, such  
remembrances of your career  
as you may consider most  
appropriate & interesting to  
our readers.

In making this request, I am  
not giving expression to a wish

which any editor may legitimately have  
to add a great name to my list of  
Contributors. I represent rather the  
wishes of your many friends - the  
most thoughtful of our readers.

As to the length of your paper,  
I should prefer that it come within  
the limits of 16 pages of our  
Magazine. The compensation  
would be Five Hundred  
Dollars (\$500.). Hoping that  
you may be able to respond  
favorably to my request, I  
am, dear Madam, with sincere  
regard,

Yours truly

Henry W. Alden

Ed<sup>r</sup> Harper's Magazine