

*Author's Alterations*earnest- -] *second dash added in margin*

About] about

met] meet

At] at

in a remarkable degree] *interlined with a caret*

Love] Tell

*From John Louis O'Sullivan**July 28, 1843*

New York. July 28. 1843.

My dear Sir,

I am very sorry that with so much in it that I like very much there are others in the paper you have favored me with which have decided me against its insertion. I trust, however, soon to hear from you again,—especially should I like some of those extracts from your Journal, reporting some of your private interviews with nature, with which I have before been so much pleased.¹ That book of Etzler's I had for some time had my mind upon to review. If you have got it, I should be very much obliged to you for a sight of it, and if you would not object I think it very likely that some addition & modification made with your concurrence would put your review of it into the shape to suit my peculiar notion on the subject.² Articles of this nature are not in general published in the D. R. on the responsibility of the individual name of the author; but under the general impersonality of the collective "we"—(the name of the author being usually indicated in pencil on the Index in the copies sent to the editors of newspapers). This system renders a certain pervading homogeneity necessary, inviting often the necessity of this process of editorial revision, or rather communication.

Very Respectfully Yours,

J. L. O'Sullivan

I am at present staying out of town. When I return to the City, if you are still in these latitudes, I shall hope to be af-

forded the pleasure of renewing the acquaintance begun under the auspices of our common friend Hawthorne.

Correspondent: John Louis O'Sullivan (1813-1895), son of John William Thomas and Mary Rowly O'Sullivan, graduated from Columbia University in 1831 and from the Columbia Law School in 1834. In 1846 he married Susan Kearny Rodgers, daughter of Dr. John Kearny Rodgers. O'Sullivan and S. D. Langtree founded the *United States Magazine, and Democratic Review* in 1837 and published literary work as well as political commentary devoted to the Democratic Party. O'Sullivan sold the magazine in 1846, supported Narciso Lopez's filibustering expeditions in Cuba (1849-1851), and was named minister to Portugal in 1854. During the Civil War he lived abroad and wrote sympathetically about the Southern cause.

¹ O'Sullivan probably refers to "Natural History of Massachusetts," published in the July 1842 *Dial* (pp. 19-40; see *Excursions* 2007, pp. 3-28), or to "A Walk to Wachusett," published in the January 1843 *Boston Miscellany of Literature and Fashion* (pp. 31-36; see *Excursions* 2007, pp. 29-46). T responded that he would search his Journal for suitable notes on nature, and he offered to send a translation of a Greek drama (see p. 216). In the end, "The Landlord," rather than a nature essay, appeared in the October 1843 issue of the *United States Magazine, and Democratic Review* (pp. 427-430; see *Excursions* 2007, pp. 47-54).

² O'Sullivan had rejected T's "Paradise (To Be) Regained," an essay-review of J. A. Etzler's *The Paradise within the Reach of All Men*. T subsequently revised the essay, and O'Sullivan published it in the November 1843 issue of the *United States Magazine, and Democratic Review* (pp. 451-463; see *Reform Papers* 1973, pp. 19-47).

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Editor's Note

This letter is addressed "Mr. Thoreau. / care of Wm. Emerson Esq. / 64 Wall St. / New York.," postmarked "CITY DESPATCH JUL 29 4 oclock", and endorsed "J. L. O'Sullivan".