

East Hartford, Conn.

22 December 1911

Dear Mr. Deane:-

I mailed on its way to you yesterday which a little paper-cut which I thought might interest you because of its origin and the wood of which it is made. I presume you know that the authorities of Winchester Cathedral in England are at present engaged in the interesting engineering feat of replacing its foundations, the old ones of wooden piles after a faithful service of seven hundred years, are giving way and new ones of cement are being put in in a soil so saturated by with water that much of the work has to be done by divers. Meanwhile the great stone bulk of the building is held practically suspended

disposed to pardon it, on the ground that it is
written on my knee as I sit up in bed - being
still too lazy to arise before mid-morning.

Nevertheless, I have found opportunity to do
a little botanical work in the way of mounting
specimens and have a problem on my hands
in the shape of a considerable quantity of
pamphlets which gathered during my absence
and for which I have no place.

With cordial regards to Mrs. Deane
and best wishes for your Christmas and
New Year - in both of which my brother
joins -

Sincerely yours,

O. J. Weattherly

by an elaborate system of timber traces.

One of the ways in which money is raised
for the work is by the sale of small articles made
from the old pile which have been taken out.
I am sorry that the paper-cutter I am sending
you was slightly injured in the course of a year's
travel: but perhaps you will like to see how
beechwood looks after seven hundred years.
Incidentally, it is interesting to note that the
Norman builders of the twelfth century
apparently knew the water-resisting qualities
of this wood.

The weather has remained so long open and
mild that my time and energies have been
much taken up with the auto. For the past
week also I have been on the sick list with
an annoying indigestion. Of this letter
is unusually illegible, I hope you will be



Weatherby, Charles Alfred. 1911. "Weatherby, Charles Alfred Dec. 22, 1911."
Walter Deane correspondence

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