

Jan. 7, 1907

Dear Dean:

As you requested, I have written hurriedly something which, if you choose, you can read at the meeting of the Shakespeare club.

It must be understood that it does not pretend to be a complete statement of the explanation of the Hamlet theory which, after many years of study of the play and other theories about it, I finally settled down upon, and which the more I ponder upon it the more I am satisfied that it is by far the best theory and the true one. My good friend, Dr. Furness, tells me that he also is more and more convinced that it plucks out the heart of the mystery.

Of course I don't know whether Mr. Brown adopts this theory or some other. If he disagrees with me, and if in the discussion which may follow the reading of his paper other members of the club ~~also~~ are also inclined to quarrel with me, I hope there may be somebody to take my part, as I cannot be present to defend myself; but if ~~no~~ nobody

speaks in my behalf I beg that you will suggest to the company, or those of them who have not read my introduction to Miss Wilder's translation of Werder's book, that they look it up some day - if only as a fuller discussion of the theory and the objections to it.

If what I have written is too long, cut it down or omit it entirely, at your discretion.

No other use must be made of it than at this meeting, and of course it must not be printed or quoted in any ^{newspaper} ~~printed~~ report of the meeting - though I suppose that there isn't likely to be any such.

Always, with best wishes
for the club and for yourself,
affectionately yours,

W. J. Rolfe



Rolfe, W. J. 1907. "Rolfe, William James Jan. 7, 1907." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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