

June 13 1895¹

Dear Wallace —

Bucke writes me about “Homogenic Love” ~ Carpenter’s latest pamphlet ~ and of that B????² has claimed in his correspondence with ??? that Carpenter endorses sodomistic [sic] practices + claims that Walt himself is to be construed in the same sense. Marion has heard from someone of her friends who interprets Carpenter as B???? has done. Bucke says the charge is impossible of justification. I have never seen the pamphlet spoken of.

Ever,
Traubel

If you cannot send me a copy of the book in question or pass me³ the substance of some passage that may have given rise to the nasty suspicion.

¹ The original letter is held in the Archives at the Bolton Library with the reference ZWN/5/1/759. The transcript is mine.

² I was unable to decipher the names in this and the next instance, as Traubel’s handwriting is quite difficult; I was unable to find a transcript elsewhere either. It seems that Traubel is speaking of the correspondence between B??? and Sixsmith, but I cannot say for certain. Charles Sixsmith was also a preeminent member of the Bolton Whitmanites.

³ As Traubel does not separate words, I am unsure of whether “pass me” is exactly what he wrote; I have no doubts regarding the rest.