

TO HARRY DE FOREST SMITH

Gardiner, Me., Dec. 15(?) 1890.

Dear Smith:

Do you remember one day that we were speaking of Matthew Arnold's "Fragment of a Deianeira"¹--and were wondering what or who Deianeira was? I find the following in Beren's Mythology--page 254 under the subject "Heracles":

"Heracles now proceeded to Calydon, where he wooed the beautiful Deianeira, daughter of Oeneus--King of Aetolia; but he encountered a formidable rival in Achelous, the river god and it was agreed that their claims should be decided by single combat. Trusting to his power of assuming various forms @ will, Achelous felt confident of success; but this availed him nothing, for having at last transformed himself into a [bull?] his mighty adversary broke off one of his horns and compelled \langle himself \rangle him to acknowledge himself defeated.

Oeneus (?)

" After passing three happy years with Deianeira etc., etc."²

The whole story of Heracles is most interesting.

Yours very truly

E. A. Robinson