

Bank House
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December 27th 1895

My dear Noble,

Reciprocal greetings to you from the wild North and thanks for all your kindness. I thought I recognised your kind hand, sympathetic and on the side of righteousness in 'The Spectator' It always does me good. I live by choice far from the world of men, and rarely come down to the busy city. I hope, however, to see you when I come down in March. My howff is Morley's Hotel in Trafalgar Square. **I have been playing golf for nearly three months so I am in good health and spirits.** I am sorry indeed to hear that you can give no such good accounts of yourself. I trust you and things will both mend so that in March when I hope to see you, you may be fronting the world open eyed again. You must dine with me some night at Morley's.

My dear fellow, my wife and I have been through the bitterest of times together – so black and bitter that we do not speak of them to one another – and we found – it seems a cheap and commonplace thing to say but it is true, that the worst places are just on this side of the Green valleys of Content and Rest. So be it with you.

I am going down to Galloway to fix up some relatives who had had hard times too – for the great Lord tries all whom he loves. I believe it and know it.

With warm regards

Faithfully yours

S.R.Crockett