

Penicuik

Dec 4th

Dear Mr Unwin

Your letters are to hand. I think the criticism of your critic is very true and helpful, and in going over the Playactress I shall benefit by it. I must pull it together as far as I can, and I have no manner of doubt that I can considerably improve it. I shall do my best. Be good enough to convey my thanks to your critic for his kindness, and for his patience and courtesy.

I shall try my hand at the Raiders map some of these days and see how it comes out. It is, with a great deal of other rubbish, safe in my head.

I am delighted with the Doge's Farm. It pleases me more than anything I have read for a long time and bring back old days most vividly. I read it yesterday and was much improved and pleased thereby.

I am glad to hear of the new type for the Raiders – and shall pass the proof rapidly when it begins to come in. I have passed half of the Lilac to Appletons – I like it better as it goes on, being about the only thing I ever wrote that ... as far as I have seen it in type, I can say I am pleased with .Not that that makes it any better of course.

I have noted a note re the St Nicolas on a separate sheet. Of course I shall be glad if you can be troubled to get the thirteen vols for me at your leisure. Since 1887 I have got in in vols, each half year, and Sweetheart counts the week till it is time to get another, and informs me of the results of her calculation nearly every night when I lay aside the toiling oar and take to the nursery for the Children's Hour.

Pardon the brevity of the letter. I shall not be able to do anything more to the Raiders for a day or two... Mrs Crockett has been very ill indeed and still is so. We are extremely anxious about her, and I have not been able to leave her for long. We hope that our great anxiety will soon be relieved.

With kind regards,

Ever Truly

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