

Bank House

26 December 1899

My Dear Unwin

Many thanks for Zurbriggin. I find him great. Such terse narrative can hardly be imitated by any literary art. It must be done simply and naturally or not at all.

I have done no mountaineering for a long time but had a good many guides in my time. Some of them notable men. Alt Peter Baumann, Peter Schlegel, Christian Yossi, August Gentinetti, all Grindelworld men except the last who belonged to Brieg.

I have not yet written a mountaineering novel, though part of Ione March takes place in Switzerland. When I was last in London, I went to see 'Hearts are Trumps' at Drury Lane. And I don't think I ever laughed so much as at the concluding scene. To see those idiots going up and down, plain wooden steps as safe as those of the Royal Exchange was killing, to say the least of it.

with kind Christmas regards

ever yours

SR crockett

The chap book was A1.