

Bank House

Penicuik

Midlothian

February 11th 1897

Dear Lord Rosebery,

My friend (and yours) J.M. Barrie suggests that I should ask you to propose me for the Reform Club. He tells me that if you were good enough to write a note to the Secretary, this poor scribbler would go in under your ample canvass with flying colour. I have no qualifications - no right in the matter, But I am hanged sick of certain literary clubs which shall be nameless and want a decent pot-house in London, where I can get a square meal undisturbed and meet some clean men (i.e. who have recently used Pear's Soap). If you care to scribble a note, I think Barrie, Doyle and Wemyss Reid would do the rest. There is an election in March I think.

I am busy with a new book as ever.

May I say that your Edinburgh Speech and decent action made me feel after all that there was some hope of a good ending to the game of politics in the near future. I came near to writing to say so, but having many bores myself, I refrained from adding to yours.

I am

Dear Lord Rosebery

Very truly yours

S.R. Crockett