

FCM

Jan 20th

I have received your two letters, and thank you for them very much. I have been ill in bed (where I still am) with white throat;¹ but I still hope to be in London next week. I shall let you know where I am stopping and we shall arrange when it would be convenient for me to call. I am perfectly willing to leave the binding and all details in your hands. The buckram was the suggestion of an ignorant layman. Of course you know best.

About the poems, the question had better be over. I know there is no money in poetry. I know that I have made over £300 in the last two years in writing stories for magazines etc but never in my life made as many pence off verse, though, comparatively I have done well with that too – a *succes d'estune* – at all events, and got rid of an edition of 500 at 6/-.

But if the 'Stickit' goes and some others of prose make, then would be the time for the poems? – with some district dialect ones more in line with the Galloway prose.

Yes, I think there would be little difficulty in getting Wylie of Glasgow and Thin (of Edinburgh) to take half the edition of 500 if you put it in the Cameo. I would not care for it otherwise much.

But as I never meant it to be more than a nice thing to do sometime, I am by no means sharpest on it. For some years I meant to stick to prose. I am rewriting the latter part of 'A Galloway Herd' I had very important literary advice which advised me that the French chapters weakened it.

I shall let you know when I come to town and shall probably call next Wednesday or Thursday if that is convenient.

With kind regards

Yours very truly SRC