

November 13th 1894

Dear Mr Payn,

Your letter comes to me this morning - I may say to us, with some pleasure but some pain also. We had no idea, reading your delightful book that your case was such a sore one. Though our friend Andrew Lang who stayed with us a while some time ago, told me that you had not been well. Let me say that our sympathy is of the deepest and truest; my small boy, whom Lang calls the "young Cameronian" because of his bloodthirsty disposition (in the pursuit of bears and lions in the shrubbery), brought in his mail-cart with the intimation that he was going to forward it to you that you might be able to get about in it.

I feel just like him. I should like to do something to cheer one who has so often cheered me. But I am as powerless as the three year old Cameronian.

In both our cases, will you take the will for the deed?

I am glad as if I had been a frog-eater and just been [??] to hear you like "The Raiders".

You are strictly forbidden to answer this.

With all our sympathies and remembrances.

Ever truly

S.R. Crockett

The Barries were also with us some time and he talked for you. So I felt emboldened to write - And I am jolly glad I did.