

Bank House

Oct 12th

My dear Friend,

I have had a lonely evening and your letter of this morning lying at my elbow cheered me and made me think of the dear little house in the glen and its well-beloved inmates.

I am glad you liked the Lilac and that you were reading it in the new form for the second time. I shall never forget the first reading and the pleasure it was to have my own words read out by your voice.

I never heard a story of mine read in my life before by anyone, and you gave me a new pleasure.

You will not be surprised to learn that the Lilac S. has been well abused by envious Cockney Scribblers. They have said all they can against it, but they cannot help it pleasing or selling. The Glasgow Herald had an article to prove that I had taken a few words from an old pamphlet I had never seen or heard of. But it is all no use. 18,000 of the Lilac were sold to date and it is going as fast as ever.

I am looking forward to your visit with very great delight and we hope that you will make up your mind to come and see us next month, before the winter quite sets in. All you have to do is to take the train at N.S. and arrive at Princes St. Station. Then if you take a cab to the Waverly you will get the 5pm train for Penicuik, and we would meet you at the station with great joy in our hearts. But if I possibly could, I should come down and guide you across town myself.

In any case, it would be a pride and a joy to see you. Andrew Lang comes tomorrow, the Barrie's next week, but none should have a gladder an' a prouder welcome than Marion and John Macmillan, our dear friends of the quiet and beautiful Glen. And for myself, I would rejoice to see you more than if the Queen were to come and say she was my Auntie!!!

I am delighted to hear you like the literature (book). You are delighting me every page that you read of it.

With my best love to you,

I am ever your friend, with all affection SRC

I wonder if John could knock off and bring with him a little bit of the Clashdaan rock showing the burn the lightning made in the middle.