

Bank House

Re Vanna manuscript by Stewart sent me to read.

5th December 1894

Dear Unwin

I ought to have written you about Vanna before. But I could not grip it when I first read it and I wanted another look. So this forenoon I sat down again and went through the book.

And what do I think? Well, I think dealing with Galloway characters you might sell a small edition following in the wake of other things in that field.

With even good will the book did not grip me at all though it interested me being as a background well known to me. Perhaps I am not quite the person to ask. I felt at the time that desire to correct and do the thing better.

The book is quaintly and stiffly written and the writer has some knowledge of the period but he has not been able to make us live with the characters and the Mrs and Drs and Misses weary me.

I am not much taken either with the characters so far as I can make them out. ~They are dim and unrealised specially Vanna. The smuggling chapters are very poor stuff.

Award of praises due to the crisp references to scenery which are in good taste. The book is to me pleasant though of no very definite flavour.

But I think it might have a small sale. I should not think of it for the Pseudonym but rather issue at 3/ 6 say a 1000 copies.

This is just what I think exactly as I think it and very likely may be of no value.

ever yours.

Crockett

I return it by this post.