

FCM

27th Jan 1894.

Dear Friends among the hills. I hope to look up your way before very long. We are just flitting from the Manse, not yet from the Kirk, and going into a larger house. Certainly and surely Mrs Crockett and I are coming up. It is the dream of her life to see Loch Enoch – as it is now the dream of many folks lives. I fear you will be more pestered even than now but I am glad to think that you have kept the warmest part of your heart for the man who wrote ‘The Raiders’ and whom your good hearted husband took to see Loch Enoch. All the rest I had seen before on the Kells range and Loch Dee side; but not Enoch and the Wolf’s Slack. I knew Slack was right, but Slock was the better word for writing.

I am glad you liked The Raiders. I thought you would. I have just finished a short book called ‘Mad Sir Uchtred of the Hills’ I have used the Clints of Clashdan – which I have called Clashdaan, and the Dungeon as a background. The names are so grand. I have to come down again to get stuff for a great book (in slips) about the Galloway Covenanters. So John must be picking up all the tales he can for me about them. You would see how I used the ‘Breaking loose of Loch Valley’ and other things. I never forget anything. This Covenanting story is bought by Good Words to be their leading story next year, running through the whole year.

So I must come to you, if you can stick me in somewhere – a shakedown will do, and if I am in the way you must tell me just to march. I think of making Glenhead a leading place in the story – a headquarters of the hill folk. So it will be famous some day, no doubt.

I must see the Dhu Loch, Loch Macaterick, and get over into Shalloch on Minnoch. Perhaps John can get a day off and go with us. Now you will just tell me whenever I write if it is not convenient.

With regard and affection from my wife and myself.

Your friend

SRC

[I have just been staying a week with Andrew Lang. I promised to bring him up for a night to Glenhead. James Barrie also wants to come with some time. May I bring them at some time? They want to see Enoch and the Dungeon.]