

Bank House
Penicuik
Midlothian

18th August 1898

My Dear Shorter,

Why, gladly! I would like to do a rattling adventure and generally [] tale for the Illustrated. I'm pretty pressed but the others are magazine people, Windsor etc and perhaps I could arrange to do yours first.

I'm glad you like the "Red Axe". I had many letters about it, from America especially, where generally they like my love stories best.

Sixty thousand words is a little short for me for book form, but you can give me a little rope and I'll be easy in the matter of counting words. It's too little for a six shilling-er, and I find I can sell as many at that price as at a lower.

I've not been in town for a long time. I've taken to Earth-wandering of late - my last being Spain and North Africa.

Ever yours

S.R. Crockett