

Christmas Day 95

Dear McClure.

How are you?

Flourishing and making yourself rich and every other body wise as usual. I hope will you do a little job for me, like the best of chaps and I'll - well, I won't forget.

There is a beast in NY named Fenno, 5th Avenue. And he has raked up a boyish story of mine and published it without my permission and terribly against my will. It is a story called 'A Galloway Herd'. And he issues it as 'Copyright Fenno and Co 1895!!'

He never communicated with me, nor did Watt or myself hear of it till we got a copy of the book mailed from America this week

Of course, every paper has reviewed it as a new book, which I have recently written and published! Now this is bad for the whole show. You might get your syndicate and Maga (or anybody else) to state from me that A Galloway Herd was written in my youth simply to fill up the columns of a religious paper to which I had to supply a certain number of columns, and without any idea of republishing it. It is a most damnable thing to hunt up the numbers and reprint without any note of time or without consulting the author. Of course it will never be issued on this side and quite misrepresents my work and reduces its value. When the American public knows that it is not 'copyrighted' but 'pirated and stolen' against my will, they will know what to think of the publishers who would do such a thing.

I have not forgotten the 'Christ' though I need to incubate on it. I guess you'll get somebody who'll do it quicker but mine will come all the same. I am to be in London in March all the month.

Morley's Hotel as before.

Greetings to your wife

Ever yours.

SR Crockett

(Drawing of Crockett... It may be a sketch of his own!)