

Bank House  
May 15<sup>th</sup> 1894

Dear Mr Ashcroft Noble

Ever since I met you at Norman's a month ago I have been meaning to write to you to tell you how great a pleasure it was to meet you. Often in the depths of the country where my tastes and circumstances have kept me, have I been cheered and aided by your wise true hearted large-spirited essays.

I always find in your work 'breaths of a serener air' and like to read all you write even when I disagree – as sometimes – though very rarely, I do.

But what I wanted to say was this. I would like to send you a copy of The Raiders if you have not one already, or if you have –why then my next book.

You can never know why joy your first article in the Chronicle 'A new Scottish Master' brought to this house. It brought tears to my wife's eyes for the Scottish papers had pooh- poohed the thing. Let me tell you that if ever you are within a hundred miles of Penicuik there is a warm welcome for you there.

Barrie is coming in July, Lang in Sept, could you not come sometime and look in on a pair of quiet folks?

I shoot this at a venture. I don't even know your address but ask Unwin to find it.

With kind regards in which a grateful wife joins

Believe me

Yours very truly

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