

Bank House

August 4th 1894

My dear Unwin

I knew Sir U would meet with adverse criticism. Literary sympathy is almost wholly cavalier and that naturally. It is easy to speak of 'psalm singing prayer mongering covenanters' but I am going to show the other side.

Besides they neutralise one another. The Daily News thought the covenanting admirable - the Chronicle 'unconvincing'. 'Here [] loyalty never in doubt'. Of course not. I meant it so.

I fancy what Lang says is true that after two rapidly successful books with the 3rd it suddenly strike the reviewers that this fellow is going too fast and that it is time to put a spoke in his wheel. He says, I am lucky to have the operation over on a short book. I myself think, Mad Sir U the most original conception I have ever worked out. And in a year or two, people will see that too.

It would not escape Mr Laurie that the last part of their DN review was admirable for quotation. So was that of the Chronicle. But they all want to say something which will not smell of log rolling.

The DN calmly [evaded?] the intention of slating all it could, for which I am grateful. It is not often that a short book receives so much notice.

I have written to Mr Dudgeon but fear he won't have the glossary for the first edition.

I enclose Stevenson's poem facsimile in the illustrated edition of the Stickit. You will of course take great care of it.

My five dozen bound copies and the one vellum have not yet come to hand.

very truly yours SRC.