

W. D. HOWELLS
KITTERY POINT, MAINE

Oct. 12, 1908

Dear Mr. Braithwaite:

I am more desirous
than ever of your great
kindness in sending me your
book, and distributing it
into these beautiful
lines, and of I am under-
-standing enough. I have
truly felt your kindness,
though I have failed so
long to thank you for it.

I have just been
re-reading your book,
with an increasing sense
of power in you while
you have not got at second
hand. Yours is truly a

gift from nature, not a
loan from literature.
I do not think your
error always runs clear,
but if I look again at
any questioned passage
I find it clearer than it
seemed at first. I do
not know just how to justify
to you my peculiar liking
for your "Song of a Syrian
Lace Seller." Perhaps it is
because it blends so finely the
two things I like best, the
realistic and the mystic,
and is so fortunate in wording
and meaning.

Yours sincerely

W. D. Howells.