

OLD TOKEFIELD,  
CRANLEIGH,  
SURREY.

December 20th, 1928.

My dear Eric,

Gobless you; I am delighted to know that you are safely here. And as to a date for our meeting, I suggest Jan the Third--a Thursday. How's that? You won't be back here until the 27th, and though I could come up on the Friday, and should be delighted to do so, there is no likelihood of our going to France until about the middle of Jan. We have got workmen in the house, putting in a heating system, and they will be with us until God knows when. We want to see them out before we go. Therefore, on that account, there is no need to hurry our meeting. The only point is that I should like to see you as soon as possible--merely on personal grounds, as it is so long since we met. However, if Jan 3 is O.K. for you, let us make it so. Now where? How is your health? Does the doctor prescribe B U R G U N D Y W I N E ? If he does, then what about the Reform?

As for your news as to the short story called 'The Housekeeper,' next to the news of your arrival it is the most welcome you could send. I am delighted, and very much obliged. We had in any case felt justified in spending something on a holiday, but this sale puts the exploit beyond reach of a peradventure, as the late lamented American President would say.

All the best, and may you have a very happy Christmas. We are Christmassing in Hell, owing to the builders and their delays, but Hell is not such a bad place, I find.

Yours ever,



Eric S. Pinker, Esq.