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question. I couldn't do it. But I know that Starks's serial, 'The People of the Ruins', is being written close up to publication; or if they had a clear synopsis or a couple chapters they might, if I thought I could do it, make some arrangement. I believe the short stories might be the wiser plan. One can't do everything. It's now got to be a question of what I'll check.

Arnold has got stalled me about the Hobson trip - I mean, about an article. But could you, if you think, see anything of mine about it? No hurry.

Yours ever
FS

Telegraphic Address
'Bookstore, London'
Telephone Number
1624 Gerrard

97 & 99, St. Martin's Lane,

London, W.C.2, January 8th 1920

PERCY SPALDING.
ANDREW CHATTO.
C. H. C. PRENTICE.
C. F. M. TOZER.

my dear Pinkie

Many thanks for your letter. I had meant to write and tell you that I had appreciated the significance of your little Christmas gift (Hutchinson's magazine). And now here comes this note of this morning.

As you know, I am going to Hobson with Arnold on Jan 30. I had been going to try & get you in a couple of short stories before then; but the truth is that I am so stale as to be unable to work. I am simply fiddle about, to no purpose. I have not been writing a novel at all. Now supposing I think during the weekend of what I could manage in the way of a novel which could be suggested to 'Land & Water', or write to you then about the whole business? It's no good flipping off a sub, and of course my plan was to make the Hobson voyage so through a change that I should be able immediately after it to go full steam at a good novel. And yet I realize the importance of both the possible serial & the short stories. If 'Land & Water' wanted the whole ms. before they began serializing, then that is quite out of the

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