

Thursby,
Carlisle,
Cumberland.

— September 18th, 1931.

My dear Fisher,

Your most encouraging letter arrived here this morning, having been sent on. I appreciate your writing to me as you did, perhaps more than you suspect. Only two or three people had seen any part of my little book before it was published, and I have not yet heard anything of its fate. May I say then, to no one whose opinion I value so much in this matter as your own. That you should think that on the whole it has been worth publishing, and have indeed spoken so very kindly of it, will make me indifferent

to the purely destructive criticism which it will no doubt receive from some quarters.

All the points you raise are of immense help to me. There is not one the force of which I do not see. I suppose there is always just a possibility of a 2nd edition - and inexpensive little books do sometimes get bought up. In that event it will be immensely improved by your help; and it is obvious, I think, how much it owes to your work already.

I think I gather that you have made further notes, some on verbal points, which you have not included in this letter. If I could have them some time when we meet

I should be really grateful.

I am so very sorry to hear that you are to have an operation. You do not tell me if it is a major affair. I must say I shall await news with considerable anxiety. But of course do not bother yourself by writing to me until you really feel up to it.

I am returning to Oxford today and I expect the hair is about half an hour, so I have had to cut this letter rather short. There are one or two "points" therefore that I should like to bother you about, if I may, when you feel up to it and I can write a more detailed letter. But I am really grateful for your encouragement; it means

a lot to me.

With my best wishes for your
complete recovery,

Yours sincerely,

E. B. Ford