Dear Mr Kohler,

Thank you for your kind little letter. Although I am forgetful, your name is quite familiar, and I also have a recollection of a piece in The Bookman which gave me great pleasure at the time; but it is all too vague and disconnected, and I shall look it up in my files in the country.

I wish you would criticize me again — but that is an impertience; there is no Bookman; now no one "bungles" as you put it; criticism is left to the experts, alas... My point is that I am honestly anxious to know what readers of my early books honestly think of my little fresh start. Your words of praise delight me. If on the other hand you like to criticize, and when you read the second half of The Pilgrim Hawk you find a fault or faults, I should be happy to hear of that also.

This morning I also received a severe scolding from Mr Maugham -- who is one of my masters, as I now conceive my future as a writer -- and it appears to have whetted my appetite.

Yours truly,

gwescott