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P. O. ANERLEY,
South Coast,
Natal.
South Africa.

20th August, 1948.

Charles Scribner, Esq.,
c/o Messrs. Charles Scribner's Sons,
597 Fifth Avenue,
NEW YORK.

Dear Mr. Scribner,

Thank you for your letter of August 10.

I wrote to you on August 17 setting out what I thought was a clear statement. You need not worry about the mistake regarding the foreign sales. This did not prove embarrassing in the least, and Aubrey Burns was the first to bring it to my notice in very emphatic terms.

I have had a letter from Alexander Korda in which he says that he will not touch the motion picture until he has seen Anderson's play. Although I agree with you that it will certainly be exciting to see how both picture and play work out, yet there is another sense in which I feel that the first book is finished and that the most important thing that can happen is to start on something new.

I resigned on June 30, and the month of July we devoted to our children. We have now left them in Johannesburg at school and are living some 500 miles away from them at a little place called "Anerley" on the shores of the Indian Ocean.

I am devoting this month of August to the tremendous task of replying to months and months of unmanageable correspondence, but, at the same time, I am writing some verse. This verse deals essentially with South Africa and is really the expression of feelings and ideas that have accumulated for a very long time. I am, at the moment, working on the assumption that you would not be interested. I hope, however, to write to you one day and tell

/you....

you that I have begun work on another novel.

I enclose one copy of the revised contract duly signed and witnessed, and am sending back the first copy as you request.

Yours sincerely,

Alan Paton

