

OLD TOKEFIELD,
CRANLEIGH,
SURREY.

August 12th 1926

My dear Eric

You and I are too old birds to be caught by chaff; and you may believe me when I say that I attach no credence to what I am now going to repeat. But, having heard it, I feel that the only thing I can do is to lay the statements before you.

Mrs Moody, of whom I think I have spoken to you, a Chicago ~~WA~~ woman of great experience and intelligence (really an exceptional woman), came down here the other day. She said she really must take some of the credit for the successful filming of 'Coquette' by the Famous Players — that she had urged it upon them, had been told it was 'too strong', and had then learned that they were doing it. She said a friend of hers — a woman — had reported having seen the film. I said 'But it hasn't been sold.' She was amazed. She said: 'But I saw the marked book!' I said 'That doesn't, of course, mean anything.'

And so on. Now as all has been silent over any possibility of 'Cigarette' being filmed, I cannot believe what she says. Famous Players aren't likely to do a book without mentioning it. But — though I think she must be wrong — Mrs Moody so clearly identified the book, and seemed so sure, that I wondered if you could get your New York house to make some slight investigation. They could, if necessary, ask Mrs Moody to give them some reference to the matter. Don't you think it wd be worth while?

Mrs Moody's address is :
Mrs William Vaughn Moody
2970 Ellis Avenue
~~Harlem~~ Chicago.

Another point. You remember G.T.D. sending you a letter a few weeks back regarding the sales of 'The Elder Sister.' He said that the buyer at Marshall Field's, Chicago, had taken 500 copies as a first order. I have just heard from said buyer that of 'Summer Storm' she has ordered

2500

How's that? I don't say it means anything — except that it gives G.T.D. a good send off. But it looks nice, & earns half the advance straight off.

As ever
Garr P₃