

Mayville, N. Y.

June 13th 1894.

Mr Wm. Waldorf Astor:

London England.

Sir:

I am preparing for publication next year, a novel entitled "IN THE DRAGON'S MOUTH," which will be on the same line as "OUT OF THE SUNSET SEA," published last year, a copy of which I send you with the same mail as this letter. It will be a novel of English adventure of the last years of the XVth Century and opening years of the XVIth.

"OUT OF THE SUNSET SEA," has been much commended for its accuracy to the English life of that time. My daughter, who illustrated this book, will also illustrate the other, from sketches made on the spot during a cruise we are to take next winter for that purpose.

I would like to dispose of

1--The English serial and book right, or

2--The English and American serial right, or

3--The entire serial and book right for both countries.

I think the work would be popular in England, as taken with the "Sunset Sea," it justly and properly emphasizes the relations of English enterprise in connection with the Discovery. "IN THE DRAGON MOUTH," is based upon the testimony of Alonso de Ojeda and others, that an English ship visited Cabagua and traded for pearls with the natives before 1499, probably in 1497.

There is no known English record of the fact of such a voyage, though there are some allusions which seem to be explained only ^{on} ~~by~~ *such an hypothesis*. There are so many Spanish assertions of it, however, as to leave

it undeniable that a Bristol ship visited this region at that time.
 I assume that it was a voyage either unknown to the authorities or
 winked at, like Drake's first trip to the Spanish Main.

I enclose "ads" ^{of my works} lest my name alone should not ~~serve~~ ^{at once} serve for
 identification. I should be glad to dispose of ^{this}

Respectfully,
 work to the Pall Mall Magazine, if it
 would suit your purpose.

never submitted a manuscript to any
 publisher, ~~my work~~ ~~has~~ ~~been~~ ~~of~~ ~~any~~ ~~kind~~
~~for the~~ ~~to~~ ~~for~~ ~~the~~ ~~good~~ ~~reason~~ ~~that~~
~~it~~ and never shall. The
 serial publication can begin any time
 after June 1st 1895.