

6, YORK ROAD,
NEW DELHI.

India

26. 3. 39

To Thomas H. Raddall Esq.

Dear Sir,

Your contribution to "Kaja" in the February number entitled "The Dauntlet" has interested me very much indeed. Would you consider it great impertinence on the part of a one-time fellow-contributor to Blackwood, to ask if the tale is based on known facts? I mean known to you personally? I am well aware that such things can be - that extraordinary cases which appear inexplicable, do occur, & queer things have come into my own life & experience, both personal, & otherwise.

New Delhi
2 York Road

This is my excuse for writing to you & I hope you will be good enough to answer my question.

I am leaving Delhi shortly, so will you please address your letter to
% Sir Eyre Gordon, Chairman, Federal
Public Services Commission, Simla, India,
unless the letter can reach me before
April 20th, in which case Mr. H.S. Prothman
& the stamped address on this paper will
aid me.

Yours faithfully

H.S. Prothman

Dear Sir

With regard to your letter of March 26th which has just reached me the central incident of my tale "The Amulet" is fiction. The aged squaw, the belief of her own people that she was of "The Primitives", the amulet, the kitchen-midden, all were ~~factually~~ ^{factually} and faithfully described, but the tale was suggested by the separate facts and my own firm belief ~~that~~ such in the possibility of ~~that~~ extraordinary longevity. Several cases ~~of~~ have occurred (amongst the Micmacs, ^{and other} allowing for the Indian habit of exaggeration ~~that~~ ^{where was I as experienced creature} that these ^{ancients} ~~people~~ ^{people} regarded unasily by their own ~~people~~ ^{modern contemporaries}) were familiar with scenes & events belonging to the remote past. Like Micmacs called ~~by~~ ^{by} "Boween" ^{magicians} believe them to be of another race called vaguely "Boween" ^{magicians} - whose ~~power~~ ^{power} ~~enabled~~ ^{enabled} them to live forever; their relation to the ancient people ~~known~~ ^{known} "The Primitives" being ~~apparently~~ ^{apparently} that of the Druids to the ancient Celts.

D. M. Coostwaite, Esq,
c/o Sir Cyril Gordon, Chairman,
Federal Public Services Commission,
Simla India.

Yours truly,
J. W. Liddell

Those whose ~~best~~ choice was to live beyond the normal
span were comparatively few

I think this is a case of ^{superstition} ~~fact~~ growing out of
fact, because ~~at~~ instances ~~in their midst~~ of great
~~to their~~ age in their midst being accepted as proof of
magic. ~~In this connection~~ In this connection, the Boween seem
to have been to "The Prometives" what the Druids were to the
ancient Celts — with the same cult of immortal life

6, YORK ROAD,
NEW DELHI.

% Postmaster
Srinagar.

Kashmir, India . 11. 6. 39

Dear Sir.

I should have acknowledged your kind reply to my enquiries about your article "The Amulet," in Blackwood, long ago, but the upheaval consequent on my husband's retirement from the service, combined with illness, have made it difficult to cope with my correspondence.

Very many thanks for your very interesting letter in which you tell me how much (& it is a lot!) of the tale is founded on fact. I think the time will come when the 'now, so-called, uncanny things, "magic" & so on, will become scientifically proved facts just as so much else, which was regarded

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NEW DELHI.

To Postmaster

as gross superstition not long since, has
now been scientifically accepted & proved.

Anyway, thank you very much for
your courtesy in replying to my inquisitive
letter.

Believe me

Yours truly

Dorothy M. Crosthwaite