

29th. May 1950.

Dear Mourant,

I am enclosing herewith Grettir's Saga. One gets most of the family history in the first thirteen chapters. I remember listing the pedigrees associated with about twelve Icelandic homesteads mentioned in this tale. Because, of course, the point of the pedigrees lies largely in a strong belief that personal characteristics were inherited and reappeared in the now period of the story, i.e. Grettir's lifetime, and also in the explanation they supply of friendships and enmities between different households.

The process of accretion is well shown by the adventures of the Lady Spes in Constantinople, chapter 87 onwards.

Yours sincerely,