uninspired paraphrase of the play. (The ending of the play, in which there is an awakening to life's possibilities, impressed Joyce so much that he gave Stephen a similar vision at the end of the fourth chapter of A Portrait.) It was not a good article, as Joyce later acknowledged, but was good enough to be printed. Courtney wrote to accept it on February 5, 1900, asking only that Joyce cut out a derogatory reference to Pinero and quote from Archer's just published English translation instead of the French. Joyce made the requested changes.

When the Fortnightly Review was published on April 1, 1900, with 'Ibsen's New Drama' by James A. Joyce included in it, his fellow-students were dumbfounded. That he received twelve guineas for it amazed them still more, and encouraged several to try, unsuccessfully, to follow his example. From now on Joyce was the man who had published the article in the Fortnightly and this confirmation of his good opinion of himself encouraged him to stand even more aloof. What exalted him, however, was not their admiration, but a compliment from Ibsen himself. The master wrote from Christiania to Archer on April 16: "Jeg har øjet læst—eller støvet mig igennem en anmeldelse af Mr. James Joyce i 'Fortnightly Review' som er meget velvillig og som jeg vel skulde have lest til at lække forfatteren for deres jeg blot var sproget maestig." Archer relayed this message to Joyce on April 23: 'I think it will interest you to know that in a letter I had from Henrik Ibsen a day or two ago he says "I have read or rather spelt out, a review by Mr. James Joyce in the Fortnightly Review which is very benevolent ('velvillig') and for which I should greatly like to thank the author if only I had sufficient knowledge of the language." Ibsen's unexpected message arrived at Richmond Avenue while Joyce was swinging with the girl from across the street, Susie McKean. It fell upon him like a benison at the beginning of his career. He had entered the world of literature under the best auspices in that world. After meditating his reply for a few days he wrote to Archer:

13 Richmond Avenue
Fairview, Dublin
April 28, 1900.

Dear Sir

I wish to thank you for your kindness in writing to me. I am a young Irishman, eighteen years old, and the words of Ibsen I shall keep in my heart all my life.

Faithfully yours,
Jas A. Joyce.

William Archer Esq.
Southampton Row,
London.

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