Jan. 29th

Knole,
Sevenoaks.

Dear M. Raemaekers

Perhaps you will remember that last spring in London you and I talked of "Heritage"; and I ventured to hope that some day we might collaborate in some way or other? You were kind enough to echo my suggestion, or at least not to turn it down! So I am now taking my courage in both hands, and writing to ask whether (if you are not too busy) you would consider

doing a cover for a book I have just finished and hope to publish in April? I know it is a lot to ask, but I should so love it. The book is called "Rebellion", and I had in my mind for a cover the single figure of a young man (standing) holding a revolver, and with his head bandaged. (not in uniform.) This sounds vulgar & melodramatic, but the publishers tell me that covers must be simple & striking, and must be of such nature as to catch the eye at once. As the rebellion in question takes place on an island, the background could be the curved horizon of the sea.

The story has nothing to do with the war. It is, roughly, the story of a young man who goes out to Greece and ~~not~~ heads a revolution in one of the islands of the Aegean. This will give you some idea what it is about.

May I hear from you soon?, whether with refusal, which I should quite understand, or with agreement, which would hugely rejoice me. The publishers say that it takes some time to cut blocks & to print off etc.

I do hope you will forgive me for writing to you like this, but you

were so kind about 'Heritage' that it gives me courage.

Yours very sincerely

Vita Nicolson.

P.S. Of course I only mean the paper wrapper outside the book. The publishers say there ought to be as few colours as possible, — I should think blue sea & sky, and grey clothes for the young man.