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My dear Sir,

I have not been able before this to find time to reply your letter of the 15th. I am sorry that you should have inferred, as I think your letter implies, that because we could not see our way to make you an offer for the purchase of the copyrights of your "walks" we should therefore wish to disconnect ourselves from them and you and I am sure that I write the sentiments

of my partners as well as myself when I say that our whole intercourse with you has been to us of a very pleasant character; if in a commercial sense it has not been very profitable either to you or to us that belongs to the fortunes of war and is only to be regretted on the ground of advanced civilization which makes money a very essential element in supplying the sinews.

We should certainly desire to print future editions of the Walks, and would be very pleased to find the public roused up to a proper sense of their value, perhaps The Times review may tend to this end but it comes too late.

Your reply in The Times this morning is a very happy one - it will doubtless bring down a shoal of commentators and word-critics - I saw the other day the substantive "linguist" spun out into the adjective "linguistic" is that allowable?

"Joseph and Jacob" as we should like to publish this little book for next season we will give you the sum you ask viz. £30 for the copyright in England and America. We should of course have to expend a large sum in illustrations. We remain Dear Sir,

Yours very truly  
Ed Marston  
Ed Marston Esq

