Jany 23 1869

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 sho [sic] therefore wish to disconnect ourselves from them and you and I am sure that I write the sentiments of my partners as well as my own 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 grounds of a [indecipherable] civilization which makes money [underline in original] a very essential element in supplying the sinews—

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

Your reply in the Times [underline in original] 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” [underline in original] is that allowable?

“Joseph and Jacob” [underline in original] 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 sho [sic] of course have [underline in original] to expend a large sum in illustrations. We-[crossed out in original] I remain Dear Sir

Yours very truly,

E Marston

Elihu Burritt Esq.