

28th Dec

My dear Unwin,

I think you misunderstood me about the illustrated edition. I arranged with the artists for the whole rights of every kind connected with the drawings. These rights in every shape (except only the possession of the originals) I make over to you. I am willing to pay a little more to the artists for the privilege of possessing the originals. I think your £21 quite enough for your share. The cost and rights of the book are wholly yours. I do not expect to make much money out of it. My ten per cent will not be a great deal, and I shall be quite willing to pay the £2 each for the Japan copies. I shall probably ask you to keep one Japan copy to be bound up with the originals for my wife –which would be unique. It is as you say too early to speak of format, but when it comes I would still, if the page could be so devised as to suit a cheap edition, give my voice for a small quarto. I have been [sic] staying a day or two with Thin of Edinburgh and I met a good many of the Edinburgh trade there – they preferred a small quarto. I put the question every evening at supper. That is, of course, the booksellers point of view, and you have the opinion for what it is worth.

I think it is generous of you to give me the extra dozen ordinary and I am quite willing to bear the cost of the two Japan copies.

With the kindest regards of the season

I am, dear Mr Unwin,

Very truly yours

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