

FORDS, HOWARD, & HULBERT,  
PUBLISHERS,  
No. 27 Park Place.

NEW YORK, Sept 23 1887

Dear Mr. Tennyson

Your letter about the changes comes in good time, for I was getting very restless at seeing such an expensive scale of re-writing on a book that had come to us as revised by the author for book printing. We made an unusual contract with Mr. Cummings, - to make the plates and the book & pay 15% royalty: a thing we have never done before. But certainly we can't make the book & remake it, & still pay such a royalty, can we?

Now who can revise it? Not I, because the judge seems to take a peculiar pleasure in saying "No" with a whip-crack to every suggestion I make on the proof. So I confine myself now to pointing out infelicities & letting him mend them or not as he likes. He should do it; and I don't see why it need recall his horror any more to do it in book page form, than in the slips prepared for the printer.

What we shall have to do is  
the same that we did in case  
of Dr. Lord the "Beaver Rights".  
He insisted on extensive work  
in proof, and we consented  
on this basis: the usual average  
of "time charges" is 10 per cent. of  
the whole bill; & all over that  
was to be charged to him. He  
consented, as a reasonable man,  
and had his swing.

Now, will the judge revise  
the slips, or shall we arrange  
to have Mr. Cummins agree to  
pay for his revising the book in  
proofs? Or, will he employ some-  
one in whom he has confidence  
to do it for him?

I have done a stupid thing:  
the proof I read & read last  
night I have sent to another  
author! Ask forward them to come

Faithfully yours,

J. R. Howard