

Gentlemen:

I sent your letter to my daughter who is in California engaged in the illustration of a work for the World's Fair. She writes in reply as follows:

Please tell the Melbourn people that I cannot consider their proposition for a new ^{drawing} ~~work~~ alone ~~worth~~ ^{worth} all that I charged them without the idea which is itself a valuable one. I have

~~but~~ no doubt I can adapt it to something else and get more for it. That means of course ~~to work~~ ^{working} it over, but I would rather put it in the fire than submit to such imposition as they have put upon me. I do not say they meant to steal my work but if they had they would have done exactly as they did.

Only look at it and see the injustice of their course. I sent them three drawings and asked all of the others and asked if they would like them. I explained the design of using for a calendar and as monthly "ads." They said "much pleased." "if the others as good would like to purchase" "will ~~return~~ decide at once", "no delay at all."

Of course, they know that if I finished the drawings for "Mellin's Food" I would have to do them over for anything else.

They know, too, that such a thing in Oct. Nov. + Dec, was worth 50 per cent more than after Jan. 1st, because then every body is looking about for

advertising for the next year.

Yet what did they do? After I sent the drawings, and they waited two months before they ^{even} acknowledged them, their receipt.

Of course, I could not take up other work as I had promised ~~this~~ by ~~June~~ to finish this ~~when~~ if they wanted it in a ~~few~~ short time. So I lost nearly two months by ~~their~~ neglect and now that they think the favorable time is past and I will take any thing for my work, they offer what I might have earned in any week of the time if they had treated

me with ordinary commercial
country.

This is the business view
of the matter. Because I am a ~~man~~
man and an artist & am no less
entitled to fair business treatment
than if I were a man and made
bricks or "Food".

I needed the money then, as you
know, for a particular purpose. Now,
I have other work and do not care
so much for it. I suppose if they
had offered \$300. for what they
have in hand I would have taken
~~it~~ ^{through very little work} and rather than have any further
difficulty with them I will accept
~~and give them~~ that is surely as much as
that now. Of course, if they insist
they can expect me to do, under the circumstances,
I should have to do the ~~the~~ whole
I have determined always to ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~offer~~ ^{offer} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~may~~ ^{may}
twelve for \$700. but I would ~~rather~~
~~do this~~ ^{do this} as it would ~~rather~~ ^{rather} ~~rather~~ ^{rather} ~~rather~~ ^{rather}
rather not ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~people~~ ^{people} ~~with~~ ^{with}
delay my present work for the ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~people~~ ^{people} ~~with~~ ^{with}
the same ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~would~~ ^{would} ~~require~~ ^{require} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~not~~ ^{not}
which is very pleasant, as besides the pay & have
tickets ~~lost~~ ^{lost} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~money~~ ^{money} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~already~~ ^{already}
~~was~~ ^{was} ~~everywhere~~ ^{everywhere} ~~I~~ ^I ~~ought~~ ^{ought} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~go~~ ^{go}
~~to~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same} ~~place~~ ^{place}.

I am sorry to have so pretty
and original a conceit spoiled
but I cannot afford to submit
to such palpable injustice. I
~~made it a point always to follow~~
~~my father's advice, give my best~~
~~work and always have it ready~~
~~at hand.~~

I am ^{very} sorry ^{this misunderstanding} ~~the~~ ^{has} occurred, but you will see
yourself, gentlemen, the justice of
her claim. Aside from the inherent
value of the work she has ^{recently} ^{two}
months waiting for your decision
and all the chances for 92 ad-
vertising. When I wrote she was
still a Pensioner and I asked for
her. She is now of age and ~~she~~
~~manages~~ her own affairs. ~~Should you~~
~~accept~~ her offer you will make
your draft payable to her ^{A. F. Lowry} but ~~would~~
better mail it to me to forward as her
~~to~~ address is subject to constant change.