

Mayville, Chautauqua Co. N. Y.

October 10th, 1907.

Messrs Little Brown & Company,

254 Washington Street,

Boston, Mass.

Gentlemen:

Your telegram and letter of yesterday, both reached me at the same time to-day.

I regret that your estimate is altogether too high for me to consider. Button's Inn has a purely local interest, and will always have a small local sale. The interest in the book has been renewed in the last year or two by a trolley line between running between the two lakes, Chautauqua & Erie, which goes right by the site of the old Inn, and a station at this place. In the summer months hundreds of thousands of people pass and repass over this line which has become a great tourists route. Dealers who have been inquiring for the book with great pertinacity during the last few years, do not wish to pay me but 50 cts a copy, and as your estimate is 45 cents a copy there, and the packing, freight, etc, added to this, would scarcely leave any margin of profit, and I do not wish to handle the book for the fun of it.

Again I would call your attention to the fact that in purchasing the plates from Roberts Bros., you assumed their place in regard to the terms of contract of publication. If you desire to put out a new edition and advertise it locally, paying me the royalty stated in the contract, I am willing but I would much prefer to buy these plates, and get out the edition myself.

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When Roberts Bros., went out of business in 1888-9--these plates were offered the author for \$50. This offer was accepted by Judge Tourgee, then in France, and Fords, Howard and Hulbert directed to close with them at this price, and until a few weeks ago I supposed these plates had been bought for us and stored in New York with others of my husband's books. Will you not now sell me these plates for \$50, as the book is not one you can have much hope of a profitable sale? I can handle it here, having plenty of room for storage, and could sell to the local dealers 5 or 10 copies at a time, --this being the way they prefer to buy. Please let me know about this without delay, and if my proffer is accepted, I will send check by return mail.

I am, gentlemen,

Very truly yours,

E. K. J.