

Such work is not easy to do and what a man should have for it would depend very much on the form in which the data is put into his hands.

I do not at all know ~~what should~~ ^{that such a} book would be what is desired.

I think enough might be sold to pay for a nice publication, if only a special number were printed the plates destroyed, and a good price charged and no more published. That is the only way to get a really good thing of that kind — one that will be a monument. If I were able to work for nothing I would gladly write such

a book without charge. But that
is out of the question. I suppose it
would require six months ~~to~~
to do it ^{of}
and occupy fully half that time in
actual work. You will see that
is a serious matter to me though
it may seem a light affair to
others, and under the circumstances,
I would suggest whether it would
not be better to drop me from
consideration. If such a book is wanted
and however, and you will let me
know what are the plans for publica-
tion, I will see what I can do or how
I can edge it in with my work. Also
let me know what the "data" ^{to be furnished} consists of.
Regards &c