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Life of J.M.W. Turner, R.A; Founded on Letters and Papers Furnished by His Friends and Fellow-Academicians (Paperback)

By Walter Thornbury

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Excerpt: . a farthing less. Mr. Robinson, parrying the thrust with the ordinary tradesman s skill of fence, without any notion of the demand being a serious one, blandly suggested, Say eight hundred guineas each, Mr. Turner. The painter turned round upon him like a hurt lion; his clear grey eyes flashed with fury; and his stature acquired increase from the indignation of his soul Was he going to have his masterpieces, that surpassed Claude, higgled for by a printseller? No, he cried; I d rather keep them for my windingsheet and he meant it, too; for the bitter heats and chills of life had tempered that soul of his into stuff harder than steel. But, say his malignant detractors what they may, could a man who was a mere sordid miser have found it in his heart to spurn a cheque for 1,600 guineas? According...



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