March 28, 1933.

Mr. J. W. Hammond,
General Electric Company,
Schenectady, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Hammond:

I am sorry there have been so many days' delay in replying to your letter of March 21st. As my secretary wrote you, I have been out of New York, and not attending very carefully to my correspondence.

Now, as to my doing a magazine article on Professor Elihu Thomson, I wish I had the time for it. What little I have known of Professor Thomson's work has interested me greatly in the man. I think you are right in saying that the public is not as familiar with the part he has played in our electrical development as it should be. If I were not so tied up, I would seize the opportunity to do the piece of work you have in mind; I fear it is out of the question, however, at least for some little time.

As I think I told you when I saw you in Schenectady, I am at work on a book on the industrial development of the last twenty years of the Nineteenth century, a book which belongs in a series that the MacMillans are publishing. Into this, I want to incorporate some references to Professor Thomson's work. I have been depending on your manuscripts and upon fugitive material which I have collected, for what I want. Possibly, if I find that what I have is not enough, you will let me look at the material you have in hand, or ask you some questions.

Later, I might be able to do this article, but as I suppose you are wanting it within a few months, I can not see how I can make a place for it.

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But please believe me, dear Mr. Hammond, I am glad to be thought of in such a connection, and I really regret that I can not do the work.

Very sincerely yours,

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