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The English in Italy. 3 vol.

Of which I only read 2, &
thought very highly of my
good temper in getting so far.

This however is contrary to
my principle which always
insists on the injustice of
making away with the
reputation of a book before
one has made way in
its perusal. Thinks I to—
myself, at such awful times
when one hardly knows
whether the last yawn or
the last chapter should be
thought of first—thinks I
to myself if the reader has
so much labour here what
must the poor Author have
had? Therefore, I should

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assuredly have, *canto qu'il canto*,
waded [*? feebly*]¹ to the finis

¹ The word is slightly overwritten and I am not certain what adverb EBB intended for this amusing sentence.

of this book, had not “Winter
Evening Tales” been placed in
my hands with injunctions
for quick reading; & I really
did want to see what [? these]²
Miss Porters had to say for
themselves.

² Microfiche is blurry. Perhaps “those”? But not a major detail.