

Such a rumour has reached me by a
very circuitous over-land route - & I want
to know the truth of it, that I may not,
in congratulation, by making a Bull, re-
veal my A.S.S.'s ears.

I am very sorry to say that poor, dear,
good, worthy Bird (of Birn^m) is in misera-
ble health - so thin & weak & sick. I was
shocked to see him when I called upon him
some time ago. But he says his doctor
does not give him up, & his intellect is
clear & strong as ever.

Longman will soon have my MSS in
print! Deo gratias. Yours truly
Wm. Webb

Wm. Webb

J. W. Webb

I have taken the liberty of referring a newspaper agent to you
for my solerency - you will
understand if he
sh. require.

Hardw. Vic. 3 Nov. 1775.
160 (131)

My dearest Arthur,

Your lecturing ~~tour~~ absence is at an
end for the present, & we are to have a
gain. But as Trumpon says

— "always rain." —

I have seen A. Fleming, & was very much
pleas'd with him. There is I think a family
resemblance to yourself. I hope he may be
doing good service - & he seems very comf-
ortable - He gave me quite the impression of
knowing what he is about: & his boys I sh.
think w. like him much.

I don't myself think I have much ground
to claim about succession duty, tho' it is un-
doubtedly a hardship - & in Equity (??) a
wrong. I mean, it is not right that I