

I am old enough to stand a little kicking by
this time: but to get myself even if I
should not be thought worth the trouble of
kicking.

Did you ever happen to meet - in a dark night
& in a winding stair - the queen tradition in
your immediate neighbourhood about Thurloe's
lodging? I want much to know something about
it. That O.C. was an inexplicable man.

My wife is just getting better of a horrid cold,
attended with very severe, as well as unusual,
rheumatic symptoms. I have not seen her suf-
fer so acutely for a long time. She sends
much love & will be truly glad to see you again.

Your very affectionate old friend

J. W. Webb

1845 on another
paper

St Andrew Vicarage, 13 May 1848.

225 (184)

My dearest Arthur

I suppose this may find you at home after
your success in the North - for which I am very cor-
dially glad - Here I should have been ready to do
what little I could - ~~but there~~ according to the in-
structions kindly sent me - but there was not
one clear moment - & the whole afternoon was
worked with heavy clouds & rain - in fact I fear
our nice observing weather is at an end! - There were
one or two very fine nights last month - & one especial-
ly such as I had not seen I don't know when - &
on such a night & at no other time I see the fine qua-
lity of my mirror - splitting with abundant ease A & B
of ζ Cancer at about $0^{\circ}8'$ or $0^{\circ}8.5'$ - & dividing β into
pairs $\sigma \Sigma 175$ - which cannot exceed $0^{\circ}6'$ & is probably
clear. - I hope Mr. Eddale has been able to go on
right well. It has struck me that if he is still an-
nayed by that great plague of damp, he might get most
valuable aid from Mr. Common who must have had
considerable experience of this time. I never heard of