

Hardwick Personage, May,  
June 30. 1865.

My dear Sir,

The pleasure we felt at hearing from you was sadly allayed by the contents of your letter - we had been so anxiously hoping for the gratification of your visit. And I don't know why the Hay fever need have hindered it. Certainly not for want of sympathy, for I had it myself - or I have done any time these 50 years (there's a prospect of future pleasant summers for you!) - and I think Hardwick would prove less salutary than Brighton air.

A further sentence in your letter admits of two interpretations - you <sup>must</sup> hope you have not lost the chance of seeing us, because you hope to be at the B. A. meeting at Birmingham. Does that mean you think we shall be there, or do you mean to take us on the road? The latter, we hope - for our going there is every way certain matter.

You'll forgive scolding which - as you will  
easily perceive - arises simply from the very  
great regard we feel for you, and the conse-  
quent regret that we should have such very  
few opportunities of meeting. Life is short  
and we, especially, are advancing in it. Your  
own fresh experience of friendship has been far  
too pleasant to allow of our willingly fore-  
going any opportunity of cultivating it - that  
is with anyone whose principles qualify him  
to be a friend. -

I am writing in the midst of talks & inter-  
ruption & have but little time. - but I must  
thank you for kindly sending me the London  
Review on the Meth. Soc<sup>y</sup>. - you speak of  
"a couple of reviews" but one only has reached  
me. Shall I return it? -

Do you know of anyone who takes in the Geologi-

cal Magazine, and would not be disinclined to lend  
me the recent No. (for May I think) containing  
a paper by Mr. Osbourne on the Auvergne vol-  
canos - my pet subject? I mean if possible to  
dig for them in the lava. - It has been hand-  
led I fear unwisely by Archd<sup>o</sup>. Fairbairn but I  
have no right to an opinion till I have seen  
what he has written. - This is either in the  
Guelphian or Daily News of last Sept. - I  
fear I shall see no file of them till I can  
go to London - & when that is, I have no  
idea where to go. I think I have all the  
ancient materials of any value relating to  
the Mammoth of Spain - but oh? must like  
to know what shape other people have twisted  
them into.

He had splendid definitions during the  
clear skies - but I get of old into better  
country. With's specks are very fine -

It is now attempting  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches. -

I hear a very queer account of your New-  
Hampshire Telescope from one who ought  
to know. It is I guess neither homogeneous  
nor achromatic, tho' a grand work. -

Birth's  $4\frac{1}{4}$  Cooke is very nice: his driving  
Clock more fit for a windup Jack (if you  
know what that old fashioned machine was)

Peters' 16 inch which we saw at Beth, fair.

I think that "Meteorium superabundans" - It  
showed me by respectably. But what a sight  
was the Annular Neb: in Buckingham's 20 inch

Mr. Stiggins kindly showed me much to w<sup>d</sup>.  
I have showed me more, but for weather &c. He is  
a very obliging man - & is a splendid line of  
discovery. -

Mr. Webb sends her very kind regards - &  
earnestly wishes each blessing may attend you

I remain

As ever Sir,

Yours affectionately

J. W. Webb