

earthly honors to belong. I do not mean
for a moment to insinuate that you are out
open to conviction - but, dearest Arthur, you
must bear with me when I tell you in all
faithful friendship that the course you have
adopted of reading what Christians in general
consider dangerous books, - without even studying
the answers to them - can never lead to a
good result. You are too well acquainted
with my engagements to suppose that I could
have leisure to put before you, as you express
it, what is to be said on the other side - this
would not only require much leisure, but abili-
ty to which I lay no claim - it is not for
want of inclination. Now I cannot think
with you (I should be delighted if I could)
that "our differences of thought are only to
be expected, & are only the natural result

of the differences of our lives & times of life".
I fear there is much more in them than
that - more than I like to think of -

I have no hesitation in saying that the
habit of reading dangerous books without
their antidotes is no better than keeping
bad company. - One question weighs upon
my mind - Dearest Arthur, do you regularly
read God's word? Do you read it with prayer
for true understanding & knowledge? Do
you really know, what you venture to
criticise? I think not. In several respects
I feel persuaded that you have made up
your mind partly on false, part you misap-
prehended data - but as long as you will
let me be, I must ever be, your dearest
Arthur,
your most affectionate and friend,
J. W. Webb