

Hardwick Vicarage, 27 Dec. 1873.

~~1026~~ (76)

My dearest Arthur,

You will be sorry I know to find the cause of this mourning - tho' I believe the deceased was not personally known to you. He was the D. Webb of 22 Woburn Place, to whom you sent the Birch. His loss - most unexpected to us - threw a painful gloom over our Xmas Day - He had expired soon after going to bed on the previous morning - from heart disease, his daughter tells me in the few hurried lines she sent - I did not know he was so affected, but had long thought him grievously overworking himself for 10 children. He had a little before attained some high medical honour, I am not quite sure what - & was Editor of one of the principal medical Journals. Many will feel his loss: and it has been a great blow to us, for we loved him & respected him greatly - & much before nearly all my other numerous relatives. But sudden as it was, I am certain he was well prepared for it. He lived in the faith & fear of God, and departed,