

Hardwick Vic. 5 Aug. 1846.

185 150

My dearest Arthur

It will be simply an act of good nature if you don't say Webb never writes unless he has something to bother me about. I can only reply that it is too true - only, *per contra*, I have so little time just now that I can hardly write mere letters of friendship or affection.

The fact is, please - as you were once so kind as to offer me the Cah of the Loan Coll. at Kend² - & I was so stupid as never to claim it - to ask the favour of your sending it to me. If it is in sections, I only want to see the portion about the ancient optical instruments - astrolabes, quadrants, helioscopes &c. - And if you can conveniently do me that favour, I should be glad if it might be soon. -

Next I want to tell you that I am very much pleas^{ed} with your article in Athenaeum - which I return. It seems not only very intelligent, but exhaustive - such merit of such a paper. - I wonder by the way whether our old friend Baker ever had one of Hall's telescopes in his hands? ^{one} The curious part - to which no attention, as far as I know, has been paid, is, that