

again - & to say the truth I do practically  
see my way to the end of it - & so much the  
more as I never intended, even if I could, to  
receive a penny out of it. - & contra it is,  
it was meant to be, an algebraic minus.

But having I. fancy to deal with one of the  
Clerks of the Circumlocution Office, I shd.  
feel especially obliged if you w<sup>d</sup> just satisfy a  
mere curiosity.

I must not go on. We were delighted  
with your beautiful Card - pray accept <sup>2</sup>  
far inferior ones, but the best I have at  
hand. - You know you leave the best  
wishes of us both for your best happiness.

Time? finished this stupid letter

Your very affec. old friend

J. W. Webb

P.S. May I trouble you with another little matter? I  
have received the enclosed circular which I have signed ex  
animis - for it seems more a foolish move - but like a great  
goose I destroyed the letter accompanying it without copying  
Mr. Fordham's address - & now don't know where to direct  
it. I dare say you know. Will you kindly fill up for me?

Hardwick Vicarage, 27 Dec. 1882.  
~~234~~ (234) after Post.

My dearest Arthur

I am so much obliged by your kind  
letter - which has very much enlightened  
me as to the spectroscope, as well as the  
Married Woman's property act. - I can I  
know very troublesome - but the fact is that  
in the hurry & turmoil of this Christmas -  
which has exceeded I think all previous expe-  
rience, I can't lay my hand on the informa-  
tion (scientific) which I believe I possess all  
the while.

I am so sorry you were not here at the Tru-  
th. You would have made something of it. I un-  
derstand there is something curious in the time  
which I shall see tomorrow. When are we going  
to see you again? Years slip away so fast - & though  
you don't perceive it as we do, & I trust may  
not for many happy years to come (God send  
you many!). till the right cometh! —

I have been very much concerned at re-  
port about poor H. Sader - that he is falling into