

& dislocation of the papers here that makes
me dread a search, if I can avoid it by asking
you first. Selfish enough!

Hardwick Vic. 12 Jan. '85.

~~322~~ (259)

My dearest Arthur,

I am sorely afraid I am going to give
you a good deal of trouble - but I know
your kind heart to everybody, & especially
to your very old friend - & I cannot but
hope for your most valuable aid. -

Some months ago, a man named Lither
of whom I otherwise know nothing, asked
as a great favour for copies of some letters
of Sir Rich^d. Steele, which he had found
out, from the Blue Book of the Hist. MSS
Commission, were in my possession. I
wrote to put him off till I could look for
them - & then in my great affliction for-
got all about it. My silence brought a
written letter from him which I enclose -
& which I answered by explaining my po-
sition & offering a search as soon as I could
manage it. The result has been - 1. that
his MS. on p. 68A is in the Vol. sold
to Mr. Jackson, to whom I have referred