

Hardwick Par. Feb. 1./68.

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My dear Arthur,

Tho' I cannot but acquiesce in the wisdom of all that your dear Mother has so kindly said, I am very sorry indeed that you cannot come. — However 'tis but a business deferred, I trust. —

Meanwhile there is a thing that just now appears considerable importance. In which I think you might possibly have some power (as I well know you have the will) to aid me. When your father was in London he made some extracts for the Journals of the House of Commons (about 1642-1646) which were of great importance for the work he is attempting

and which he has most unfortunately mis-
laid. Ad this not only troubles him con-
tinually, but makes him even despondent
as to his own finishing what he has begun.
I have written to Sampson (not your
friend Sampson) to try to get them to be
written up. - The ~~Stock~~ Antiquarian
Soc^y have told theirs! Do you know
of any possibility of our being able
to borrow a few vols (if Lord is
well or common, least mixed) for
a short time? If not, I don't know
but I must run to Town yourself to
make the attempt again: - a expense

of time & money I wd not gladly avoid.
I have told you good words that have
ing very lately emerged from under a super-
incumbent mass of matter & intellects
heavy as to be compared with the
stones & sand of Layard's work, I have
been reading her "Stories crying out" with
great interest. I had a particular
fancy long ago for the Sinitai per-
tion; & had heard he had anything about
it since a friend gave me Foster's book
some 10 years ago. -
Write of his reports when & you find
to be I am in my great haste
for very affect. Give J. W. Webb.

A. C. Ranford, Esq:

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