

Hardwick Parsonage, Feb. 18/68.

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My very dear Arthur,

As many thanks to you, every which, as if you had been entirely successful. You have taken a world of pains - & we are truly obliged to you - and your friends who have kindly interested themselves in the matter. -

As for the alternative of references you mention, it is impracticable - for we sh^d. have to make search first to know where the points are - & then to turn them out to see if they are the right ones. - And as to the 3rd idea - so very kindly entertained to so very pleasant use - of my coming to hunt these matters up, I am obliged to say there is no hope of it. It is possible that my dear Father might stay enough - & inclined - to come to Town after Easter - & in that case I sh^d. make search - as he might - if Mr. Eye came here - & he would be for a short time. But I will not look forward - as of a general rule, but in this special case, I see how desirable it is, to take no thought for the

murder

Then we are saying - implying hard work & tough jobs - about "having our nose to the grindstone". But I suppose you are by this time having your nose to the Blackstone - & hardish grinding I sh^d. think it was. Well - it must be a great comfort to you to have advanced one such step in the journey, & left entirely behind

a period of considerable toil, dudgeon, & anxiety. My best shell of the 2^d Edib. is an ought to be in the press, & when it is really done I could find it in my heart (if in my strength!) to step up my hat to the Moon - where it might stay till Stolfo went to fetch it down - full, maybe, of the ashes of Linne'. - I have been conceiving a Mezzino article on human Affairs - but when it will go to, I can't at

present tell - or whether it will go anywhere. -
You know I dare say that the Intellectual
Observer is at an end - Its successor The
Student seems to me below its mark at pre-
sent. I have been asked to write in it - but
at present have done nothing.

My father is very much obliged to you &
sends his kind regards & best thanks. My
wife always likes to write to you, so I shall let
her speak for herself, & remain,

My very dear Arthur,

Your truly affectionate friend

J. W. Webb

I will write another

day dear Arthur about
the water makers -