

Earls Colne

(53)

Essex.

Dec. 9. 84

Dear Howard

The remembrance of
my indebtedness almost overpowers
me: I have not written since
we met: what with almost
more work in Oxford than I
could get through & with having
to come down suddenly to meet
Norman who you will have heard
is in England again - my letter
writing time has been almost nil.
A day or two after you had been with

as I heard from home asking if
I could go + meet Norman in
town as he was coming back from
the Cape: ~~negotiations~~ negotiations on
this point have been passing between
the Cape + home for a month or
two + the result was his somewhat
hasty return. I had to come

down before town was over which made
me specially busy in endeavouring to
crum into three days a fortnight's work.

Also the day before leaving was the
date of our Science Convocation +
spent no less than 16 hours of last ^{Tues.} ~~Wed.~~
in getting the Museum ready + notices
posted up etc. For a change such
work is rather enjoyable but about 1 a.m.

2/

Dec. 8. 86. 53

For four hours we waited watching in a bitterly cold wind for the red & black funnel of the Currie boats to round the corner of the river. When at last it did appear we had another hour to wait while the tedious process of "docking", which is no very easy matter in the case of a large boat, was completed.

After just seeing Norman, Piggott & Dean left for the city & Norman & I spent yet some more miserable time in getting through the custom where they are more strict than I had imagined as with great thoughtfulness they drafted

out ~~to~~ turned over the contents of
my box.

This deal over we came down
here for a few days + on
Wed. shall go up to Tom again
& then on home which I shall
be glad to reach.

Just before coming down Prof
Moyley whose assistant is leaving
at Easter offered me the Catteris post
which I was only too glad to
accept, so now I shall most
likely be in Oxford for a year or
two longer waiting till something better
offers itself + getting at all events

my good practise in the mean-
time. I shall have to

superintend the mens work in the
Laboratory + give courses of
lectures as well.

Perhaps before very long I shall
see you in Manchester.

I suppose nothing is yet settled
with regard to your own course:
I have not seen the honours list
if it be yet published.

Yr W.B.S.