

pictures &c, & not merely by a
multiplicity of 'specimens'); & at
the same time a local collection -
illustrating local interests in the
manner brought forward in your
speech at Dorchester: - a
Museum which I believe would
considerably help - not detract from -
such a Museum as they have
at Dorchester, by incorporating a
respect & love for Natural History,
archaeology &c.

Perhaps you will excuse this long letter.
If you should be at Weymouth at
any time & will allow me the advantage
of discussing these matters with you
I shall be very much obliged.

Yours faithfully
Christopher Childs.

2155

2 Royal Terrace
Weymouth
March 3/84

Dear Sir

Thank you very much
for your kind letter received this
morning, & the cheque for £5
enclosed in it.

The addition of your name as
a patron of the Society will I am
sure give us increased strength.

I have always held that local
Exhibitions are amongst the
most useful undertakings in
work such as the "Town Society" has
before it; & in one instance have
found them productive of much
good.

They require very careful manage-
-ment, if they are to produce
permanent good & not fall into
abuse.

Lectures are our great difficulty.
In the present state of our
provincial towns it is almost
impossible to secure good lectures
without
~~the~~ outlay of large sums of money.

I am trying to know each
expenses by persuading neighbouring
towns to combine in securing
lecturers, who will come to each
town in succession.

I am always rather afraid
of debating Societies. But

in towns like this, where
stagnation of thought & action,
& want of union of all kinds
are the prevailing ~~the~~ obstacles
to good work I trust they may
do more good than harm.

Our debates so far have been
sensible & well-ordered: - & show
that there is much thought &
capability amongst classes where
one would little expect it.

The Society has no idea of
promoting a theatre.

With regard to the Museum -
if we can succeed in starting one -
my hope is to form an educational
collection (illustrated by diagrams,