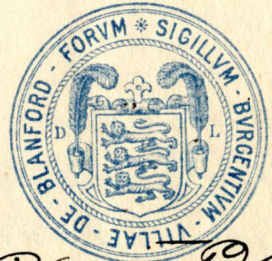


2

And I very much regret indeed that some unkind individual has suggested to you, "The Mayor of Blanford" was responsible for it! This is entirely unwarranted to be a gross libel, without the slightest foundation! I have just succeeded in tracing how it came to Blanford, & it was in this manner viz. 'A man who attended Shaftesbury Market on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>r</sup> - heard it openly stated, that a member of your family had done Iris death accidentally. He told Iris Son on the Sunday, who coming to Blanford on Monday, told people here of it. as far as I can find, no one had heard of it in our town. Later in the day Mr. Johnson from Larmer was seen here and questioned as to the truth of it,

Courtesy



L1667

Market Place, Blanford  
 Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1846.  
 My friend Mr. P. Ruse.

Dear Sir,  
 Mr. Creech whom I saw a few days ago informs me you have generously promised to send some set of your very interesting and valuable books, on the works & excavations you have executed at and around Rushmore. I shall prize the books most highly and beg to assure you of my appreciation of your kindness. I know you will forgive my referring to a false & unfounded report which was circulated by some unscrupulous persons on Saturday Aug 29<sup>th</sup>,

and he stated it was a false report  
 soon after Mr. D. Aridge told us  
 it was unfounded the statement.

Early that morning I left  
 home, & knew nothing of the  
 unfounded rumour or its de-  
 nial, but on my return in the  
 evening, was told of it, and also  
 that it was untrue. I expressed  
 my surprise and regret that  
 such a statement should have  
 been circulated, and thought no  
 more of the matter. It was some  
 three or four days after, I heard  
 where the report came from, viz  
 "Staffesbury Market"

You will understand my feelings  
 when told that I had spread the  
report in Stamford.

May I ask you to do me the favour  
 of telling your informant, that he  
had done me a great injustice,

by using my name in Con-  
 nection with his business, and  
 tho' my least he can do will be  
 to clear my reputation with those  
 to whom he stated it.

Believe me, Dear Sir  
 Yours faithfully  
 C. Curtis.  
 Mayor.