

A transcription by Bob Millward March 2010

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- To - Mr. - George - E. - Roberts -

- VICE PRESIDENT -

- of the -

Church - of - England -

- Mutual - Improvement - Society -

- KIDDERMINSTER -

1860.

Sir:

It is with feelings of mingled pleasure and regard, that we take the liberty to address you, upon your ceasing to be Vice President of our Society and as about to leave Kidderminster for new duties in London.

It is with feelings of pleasure because we are assured that the new duties which you are called upon to perform are such as will suit your character and be congenial to your tastes, whilst by placing you in a Society where your eminent Geological talents may be better appreciated they will present to you a more favourable sphere than Kidderminster for fuller exercise of your intellectual abilities; believe us we feel no little pride that Kidderminster has produced one whose talents have made him thus conspicuous and singled him from among many candidates to achieve your position in the Geological Society.

We would we could end here by only expressing pleasure at your success, but the feeling is mingled with our regret that we shall lose you.

On this point we would say that we are not unconscious that Kidderminster will lose a good and faithful Citizen, one who takes with him a character of untarnished probity, and whose uniform courtesy has endeared him to all, who have had

intercourse with him; one who has always set to others an example of Perseverance in Self Education; and is himself no mean instance of the success that such Perseverance is likely to secure.

But it is as Vice President of our Mutual Improvement Society that we would address you: especially in expressing our regret. Sir from its earliest efforts to its present more mature position you have invariably been one of the warmest friends and ablest supporters of our Society; you watched its first struggles, to you we attribute much of its late success. Through your able Vice Presidency and constant supervision we owe it in great measure, that we have carried out the object of our Society "Mutual Improvement on Church Principles".

Your sound sense and erudition has frequently directed our discussions, your valuable lectures have enriched our Winter sessions, as your pleasant guidance has rendered instructive many Summer rambles.


In the valuable acquisitions of Geological and Botanical specimens with which you have adorned our Museum we have an abiding monument of your liberality and kindness, whilst through your influence with the Scientific World we have enjoyed many other similar advantages; in short throughout all your intercourse with us, to you eminently have our members looked up for advice and assistance. Permit us then Sir to express our thanks to you, and our hopes that tho' absent from us you may long enjoy a career of health and prosperity.

We have not failed to mark how in all your Geological Studies and works you have been actuated ever by a feeling of Christian Reverence towards that Great Creator to whose Glory it has been your delight to ascribe all the wonders of Scientific knowledge.

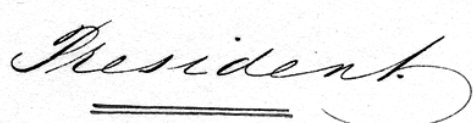
That He may be with you, guiding you into all Wisdom; and blessing your every effort is our earnest hope and sincere prayer.

SIGNED

on behalf of the Members of the Church of England Mutual Improvement Society.



J. L. Cloughton



President