

point regarding which I consulted you. And while so doing, you have confirmed my own judgment,—perhaps too liable to be swayed by partiality,—by expressing your conviction that this work is calculated to advance the reputation of its author.

Long may you be spared to be, as now, the life and soul of those scientific pursuits so successfully carried on in your own district! Many a happy field-day may you enjoy in connexion with that Society of which you are the honoured president. Would that all associations throughout our country were as harmless in their methods of finding recreation, as invigorating to body and mind, and as beneficial in their results to the cause of science! In exploring the beautiful fields, and woods, and sunny slopes of Worcestershire and Herefordshire, in earnest and healthful communings with nature, and, I trust, with nature's God,—the perennial springs of whose bounty are seldom quaffed in this manner as they ought to be,—I trust that much, much happiness is in store for you and for the other gentlemen of the Malvern Club,¹ to whom, as well as to yourself, I owe a debt of grateful remembrance.

And for the still higher and nobler work which God has given you to do, may He grant you no stinted measure of His abundant grace, to enable you to perform it aright.

Ever believe me, dear Sir,

Yours most faithfully,

LYDIA MILLER.

¹ The Malvern Club devotes stated periods,—monthly, I think,—to rambles over twenty or thirty miles of country, when the naturalists of whom it is composed,—botanists, geologists, etc.—carry on the researches of their various departments separately, or in little groups of two or three, as they may desire. They all dine afterwards together at an inn or farmhouse, as the case may be, where they relate the adventures of the day, discuss their favourite topics, and compare their newly-found treasures. As a consequence of this, the Malvern Museum is a perfect model of what a local museum ought to be. There is no town or district of country where a few young men, possessing the advantage of an occasional holiday, might not thus associate themselves with the utmost advantage both to themselves and others.