

TO
DAVIES GILBERT, ESQ.

D.C.L. (BY DIPLOMA), F.R.S., HON. M. R. S. E., HON. M. R. I. A.,
F.S.A., F.L.S., F.G.S., F.R.A.S., ETC. ETC.

MY DEAR SIR,

I ONLY fulfil a gratifying duty in dedicating to you the present Essay, which owes its existence principally to your favourable opinion of my ability to discharge the trust confided to me.

To have been thus selected for such a service, is a distinction which I prize, as one of the most honourable results of my devotion of many years to the study of the mineral structure of the Earth. I fear, however, that your estimate of my qualifications has been raised above my deserts, by your affectionate regard for the University, with which it has been our common happiness to be so long connected.