Dear Doctor,

Being in Town two days since, I heard for the first time, that a parcel of books were awaiting me; forwarded by thyself. A very Substantial package; which on reaching home we found to be three valuable, & beautifully bound volumes of the ‘Popular Educator’. Now I know thou does not want ^ to be ['to be' written above line] overwhelmed with thanks. But I must tell thee that I value the gift, and the Kindness of the giver exceedingly. Thou hast chosen books of almost perpetual utility and interest; which for long years to come will Keep thyself fresh in our Remembrance, and myself or my boys in most instructive Reading.

In glancing through the work, I have already promised myself much pleasure in going afresh into such subjects from the beginning as Botany & Geology. And I trust our young people will more & more value the advantage of having such a work to refer to.

I tender my very sincere thanks to thee dear Doctor, & remain

Thy obliged friend

William May.