

Dear Sir.

I cannot answer your letter from 25th May
without expressing in the first line My profoundest
sympathy with all your family for the loss
of your father, without doubt a much severer
loss, ~~at~~ than that of Mr Charles Darwin has
yet been for the scientific world; the latter having
happily ~~been~~ been able to do the greater part of
his work, while the work of a father never
ends and increases even with the duration of his
presence. I humbly beg to give utterance of my
sympathy to your brethren and sisters, being the
more impressed by that loss common ~~to~~, in a different
way it is true, to such a large part of civilised
society, as your letter found me occupied with a
notice on Mr Darwin for some scientific papers.

Searching after the letters received from
Mr Ch. Darwin, I am sorry, that several may
have been lost, as I am forced to send out
the greater part of correspondence at the end of every
year. Yet the subjoined 5 I did survive, with
several others, (amongst them one graciously written
in German by your sister, Miss Henrietta Darwin)
which I did not add being only acknowledgements.

papers received.

Of course you may make any use
wished of the contents of these letters; only you
would oblige me indeed by returning them, as
they now have acquired the character of an
involuntary loan from a man, for whose work I have,
from beginning to the end, felt the greatest veneration.
Nevertheless, if any or all should be wished to
remain in the possession of your family, I consider
it a duty to content myself with the copies.

The letter at the address of Prof. C. Vogt
has been duly forwarded to Geneva, where Vogt
is still in good health.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully

Basle 5 June 1882.

R. Wüthrich