

My dear Sir
Dec 20/69

My dear Sir

I have now two letters of
yours before me - that of the 5th
and that of the 8th - and
must say in beginning that
I am very much obliged to
you for your promptitude in
replying to the Ad Institute
affair. I have written fully
to-day to Mr Jones accepting his
offer and suggesting some titles
which I hope will suit. I enclose
in this a shorter note in case
the other should miscarry, which
please stamp & drop in the
post-office. I am amused at
Mr Jones' about not being popular
enough. I have no doubt I could keep
any audience he may give alive for
an hour; from G.R.'s the cool heavens
I even a mixture of the two; but
I quite sympathize with his fears;
many popular lectures are so deadly
& so silly. As for the pay that
is of no consequence. I had rather

on some grounds he without it,
I have given him several
very simple titles & choose from
Will you send to the ^{recipients}
from Darbyshire — when it comes
acknowledge its receipt and say
you will inform me of it. It
is some matter of shells which
I shall arrange with Mr Carpenter
when he returns from Washington
whether he has gone to spend the
holidays.

Anna has gone to Quebec
to spend Christmas so that without
you and her we shall be
quite lonely. We shall however
remember you with all good
wishes and prayers, and
shall hope that you may spend
a happy Christmas and New
Year. Sarah was married last
night of what great event I suppose
other letters will inform you.

Give my sincere thanks to Mr. Chapman
when you see him for his kindness to regard
to the old mother and give my good wishes to
all friends.
Ever your loving father
W. Darwin