Down Bekenham
May 22, 1882

Sir,

I should be greatly obliged to you if you would allow me to see any letters written by my father, the late Charles Darwin, which may be in your possession. I should like to make copies of them and they should afterwards be carefully returned to you.

I need hardly add that not a word shall be published without your full consent

Yours faithfully

Francis Darwin

P.S.

I may add that I have not any one to consult about my father's letters for me, nor shall I do so. Therefore if you have a [illegible] wish to have any one else see my father's letters to me or but myself, you may feel sure that it is an unauthorized request