

4850

69, LANCASTER GATE, W.

16 May / 99

My dear Pen

I have accepted  
of Darwin's invitation to  
go to them on 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> June  
in course of the celebration  
of Sir G. Stokes Tercentenary  
or whatever it is called.  
Also to go to Downing College  
to lunch on June 2, and to  
dinner at Pembroke on  
June 1<sup>st</sup>. Therefore I must

provide myself with the proper  
accountments of my degree  
and I think you might devote  
your leisure moments in begging  
or borrowing - not buying - a  
suitable array - I don't know  
whether a Hat can be borrowed  
but if not I may venture to  
buy one perhaps - But a given  
no - no. Inform me in due  
course what can be done - but  
not by return of post - because  
we three are off on Thursday  
D.V. to Belgium & Holland  
for a Whit Sunday holiday  
which we have all well deserved.

We must be back before the  
end of the month - so arrange  
accordingly - Dorothy can  
forward letters.

The enclosed red tape shows  
the girth of my brains.

Your mother is off to make  
her obeisance to Her Sacred  
Majesty & Co. &c. - & I to  
my shop. So goodbye

Yr ever  
W. Thackeray