39 Lincoln's Inn Fields
April the 5th, 1883.

Dear Professor Marsh,

You have often been in our thoughts although we have not written, and we were very glad to receive the excellent photograph you so kindly sent us, my husband says it is very interesting to have so
After delivering a lecture to see him, sometimes sitting up with him all night, however, he was very ill, and at last the time of his departure resulted awry—to a well-known uncle, his wife and all their three sons with him, "Blest are the dead which die in the Lord, for they rest from their labours, and their work do follow them." You will...
remember seeing Dr. Flower with us, and so perhaps will be interested in some particulars of his life which I now outline, he was always so fond of America!

Our children are all well. I am thankful to say, I little Vitlling often sees you and hopes that you will soon come to England again. It would be a good time, with so many mutual friends in London, the Tuesdays, Lubbers see! My husband joins in kind regards & best wishes to you, with your sincerely, J. Rosetta Flower.
EDWARD FORDHAM FLOWER.

From the Stratford-upon-Avon Herald, March 30th, 1883.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of our former fellow-townsmen, Mr. E. F. Flower, which took place, after a somewhat lengthened illness, at his residence, No. 35, Hyde-park-gardens, London, on the 26th inst. He was born on the 31st of January, 1805, being the younger son of Mr. Richard Flower, of Marden-hill, near Hertford, a brewer, banker, and well-known agriculturist of his day, who, among other public services, took an active part in an attempt (not ultimately successful) to introduce merino sheep into England, with a view to improve the character of the wool grown in this country. His mother was Elizabeth Fordham, an old Hertfordshire family of that name. One of his uncles was Mr. Benjamin Flower, a political writer and newspaper editor of some celebrity, who, when "advanced" views were less popular than they are at the present day, suffered more than once for his too free expression of his opinions by imprisonment in Newgate. This uncle was the father of the talented and accomplished sisters, Sarah and Eliza Flower, the former of whom composed the words, and the latter the music, of the hymn "Nearer, my God, to Thee," now found in every collection of sacred poetry.

When the subject of our notice was a boy of thirteen, his father, actuated chiefly by political motives, sold his estate in Hertfordshire and all his possessions in this country and emigrated with his whole family to America, founding the settlement of Albion in what was then the "backwoods" of Illinois. In the conflicts which soon afterwards took place between the advocates of negro slavery and of freedom, he threw all his influence on the latter side, and had a considerable share in preventing Illinois from finally becoming a slave-holding State. At the age of twenty Edward Flower returned to England, and a few years afterwards married, and, selecting Stratford as his future residence, commenced to build the brewery, which has now become, under the able management of his sons, so important an element in the commercial prosperity of the town. His wife, who survives him after nearly fifty-six years of married life, is the eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Greaves, of Radford House, near Leamington, and sister of Mr. Richard Greaves, of The Cliff, Warwick, formerly High Sheriff of the county, and of Mr. Edward Greaves, who for many years represented the borough of Warwick in Parliament on the Conservactive side.

During the early part of his residence at Stratford, Mr. Flower lived near the brewery, the rapid development of which was due to his extreme activity and perseverance, but in 1855 he built the pleasantly situated house, a short distance from the town, known as "The Hill," now the home of his youngest son. Here all cultivated visitors to Shakespeare's birthplace, especially those from the other side of the Atlantic, were sure to meet with a hearty and hospitable welcome. The active part which Mr. Flower took in all the affairs of the borough (of which he was four times chosen mayor) and of the county, of which he was a magistrate, is so well-known to all our readers that it is scarcely necessary to do more than refer to it here. The energy he threw into the organisation and promotion of the tercentenary celebration of Shakespeare's birth, in 1854, of the managing committee of which he was chairman, will also be fresh in the memory of many. Being a very ready speaker and uniting very strongly the political convictions of his family, he was at one time desirous of Parliamentary distinction, and at the election of July, 1855, at only two days' notice, he stood for the borough of Coventry, losing the election by only a few votes. In 1858, when it was thought that the Reform Bill just passed might have altered the balance of the parties in the counties, it was determined to contest the hitherto firmly-held Conservative seats of North Warwickshire, and Mr. Flower was selected, in conjunction with Mr. G. F. Mantz, as the Liberal candidate, with the result, however, of the return of the old members. Shortly after this, a severe illness caused Mr. Flower to renounce public life for many years, and in 1873 he removed his residence to London, though continuing to the end to take the greatest interest in all that concerned the town of Stratford, and rarely missing attendance at the quarter sessions at Warwick, whenever his health permitted him to be present.

As it was quite inconsistent with his energetic nature to be idle, he henceforth devoted himself to an earnest endeavour to mitigate the sufferings to which horses are exposed by improper harness, especially tight bearing-reins and severe bits. Mr. Flower from his childhood had always a passion for horses, having seldom passed a day of his life without riding or driving, and had a great love for the animals which were to him such a source of enjoyment. Hence he could not bear to see them ill-treated through the ignorance or carelessness of their employers. He wrote, published, and largely circulated, at his own expense, pamphlets upon "Horses and Harness" and "Bits and Bearing-reins," and either wrote himself, or caused others to write, innumerable letters and articles in various journals calling attention to the subject. He also gave lectures upon it in various parts of the country, and never lost an opportunity of denouncing, exhorting and enjoining all those who, generally, solely for fashion's sake, were offenders against the laws of humanity. He also took up the question of road making, showing in a pamphlet entitled "The Stones of London," how the admirable methods of Macadam have been completely departed from by his professsional followers of the present day. In Rotten Row, where he daily took his favourite exercise, his noble, erect figure, finely cut features, and flowing white beard and hair were familiar to all, and will be much missed by a large circle of friends, to whom his warmth of heart and openness and generosity of disposition had through life been strong sources of attachment. He leaves three sons (1) Charles Edward, of Avonbank, and Glencorseley, Sutherlandshire, who married Sarah, daughter of Mr. Peter Marimeau, of Highbury; (2) William Henry, F.R.S., and LLD, Hunterian Professor of Comparative Anatomy at the Royal College of Surgeons, and President of the Zoological Society of London, whose wife is a daughter of the eminent astronomer and hydrographer, Admiral W. H. Smyth, and (3) Edgar, of the Hill, Stratford, and Middletown, near Broadway, who married Isabella, daughter of Mr. John Dennis, of County Westmeath, Ireland.