

gave me a shilling for it, & I promised him it should be sure to go. So -
(very unwilling to give you the trouble) may I ask you to do me the favour
to give the same shilling to Mr. Kimball if you happen to see him - or
anyone else that will take charge of it. - I saw but the other day that
though things are mended on the whole, the distress in Teheran (or Ispa-
han?) is still appalling. - Deus misereatur!

And next - business ended - a bit of science. (Such as may be ex-
pected from the little Sun Zum Althah.) You are too well acquaint-
ed with my scientific (or, as Lord Clarendon might call it, no-scientific)
scepticism, to be surprised at my doubting the received idea, that the
heat-undulations are only slower light-undulations gradually passing into
visibility. If Seebeck's observations are worth anything, that with some
fluid prism (I fancy it was reines Wasser) the greatest heat is in the
yellow ray, the idea must be wrong, & heat & light must be 2 distinct
& partially superimposed spectra. The whole idea of simple, continuous,
progressive undulation, however simple & beautiful, depends I fancy on
some very slender foundation, & ought to be strengthened & tested. You
could do it perfectly well, & you I presume would now have easy ac-
cess to the means of doing it. No doubt many effectual means might
be devised - I would only mention some that have occurred to me. -

You would want a delicate galvanometer - hollow & solid prisms - a rock-
salt lens (you said something about this - & that made me think you
could manage the thing) & a Tyndall screen of iodine in sulphur
of carbon, to filter out light. - Now take a well-developed spectrum
of any light - throw it on a screen in which is a hole, through which
you can admit any separate colour - receive that colour on the Tyndall
screen, & ~~so~~ so place the rock-salt lens as to bring whatever
through that screen to focus on the galvanometer. If the

theory is all right, it seems to me that the maximum of heat, when
even prism is employed, ought to be found beyond the visible red ^{in fact,}
or that theory I do not comprehend how there should be heat in the
red itself, or in any coloured space - the undulations changing from heat
into light, & ceasing to glow when they begin to shine. But let that pass
- at any rate, if with any material, solid or fluid, the maximum of heat
should be found removed down among the colours - e.g. anywhere beyond the
red into the yellow, as Seebeck found - then it seems to me the theory
will have at any rate to be considerably modified. It would be a worthy
enquiry - I hope you will take it up - & I wish you all manner of luck
with it. But should anything hinder the experiments, do please let
me know "some day" what is the meaning of so-called dark heat
being found in the red space - when the quickening of the undulations
ought to have turned it into light - which as such would not affect
the galvanometer. Qu? Is there any but dark heat? -

Pension Kaufmann, à Lucerne - Thursday nachmittags -
The Châte de Rhin was splendid - we had never seen it so well -
the weather here has been sehr schlecht, but I hope we have brought
amendments with us - it is very glorious here today with heavily capped dark
purple mountains, still mantled with violet Schnee. On our arrival here
yesterday evening I found a letter sent on to me from Harvard by Prof.
Meyer - dated Stevens Institute of Technology (what in the world is that?)
Hoboken, New Jersey - saying - Immediately on the receipt of your
letter requesting that I should procure for you the photographs of the comets
taken by Mr. Whipple, I wrote to procure them; but failed in obtaining an
answer from Mr. Winlock of Cambridge Mass? U.S.A. I have concluded
that he is at present absent from his home. I have just written to Mr.