

expressing work - that will pay fairly. I get something out of occasional reviewing in "Nature" - but they are not so very liberal as I have heard you say. JNL professor - 10s. 6d. per column of small type is nothing very wonderful. -

I am very sorry about that Horrox business - I have not seen the Punch (a thoroughly discreditable thing to them) - but do you know, my dear Arthur, I am scarcely prepared to agree with you as to retiring. If a thing is right and good, we ought not to fear ridicule - especially the ridicule of ridiculous people. There are those whose abuse is a compliment - & whose success are encouragements. I cannot possibly blame you for anything you may see fit to do with your great knowledge of the whole affair, & of the London world - but speaking simply for myself I should say, that mean childish piece of epimetry is beneath notice. It is a derogation from the real greatness & honour of science to allow its course to be turned aside by such rubbish. But if not beneath notice, then it would be a shame to let it have the victory. What a pity, to allow

ridicule to become the test of right - a ~~poor~~ way of proceeding, the ultimate end of which one can only regard with horror. Such an impertinence, if not despised, ought to be out-faced & put down - & I dare say you could get some of the influential newspapers to take a very different view of the matter. Had I time, influence, & the peculiar kind of talent required - in all which I am entirely deficient - & were I into the bargain, upon the spot, which is essential, I would take it up & go through with it, *coute qui coute* - if only to establish the principle, that the honour of science & the just claims of one of the greatest of Englishmen are not to bow to the success of penny-a-liners. For myself, I should feel myself much more contemptible for submitting to the dictation of such an unworthy lot - who live by getting up poor jokes - than they could possibly make me by any representation or misrepresentation of theirs. -

Do not mind me, dearest Arthur. I ought not to inflict all this upon you - but I really do feel strongly about it - and feel always stimulated to perseverance & fresh energy, by any attempt to laugh me down. I could never give way to that, in a good cause.