

But how it has been arranged so as to lead you to think of giving up your own copy (which I cannot possibly hear of) passes my comprehension. Meanwhile Mr. Osken (No 3.) writes to say he has sent to Parlt. St. & there is no copy for him there. — I think & earnestly hope this little claimerment will get over the difficulty. —

I have been at Cheltenham for 3 days (i.e. one day there & most of 2 on the road. On my return, too late for post, I find a letter from Mr. Birmingham, & ~~an~~ paper which I had hoped he would write about two of the Red Stars in Schjellerup's Catalogue. — The meeting is I believe tomorrow. Whether you will have time, or room to get this paper in, I don't know — but if you cannot this time I dare say you will give it its turn another day. I presume you, as Secretary, can lay it before the Society without the formality of a note from a Fellow — but if more in etiquette I presume you might say you had requested by

myself to ask permission to have it communicated to the Society. — I have made one or two trifling additions to it — he says ~~he wrote~~ it in a great hurry in his very amusing style "I wrote it in an immense hurry in a neck and neck race with the post, which I just beat by half a head or so". — His Irish humor, and much kindness, make him a charming correspondent. — He fancied I was in the habit of attending the meetings — but says, if I do not, he thinks Mr. Lyman would read the paper & would be the one most likely to do justice to it. And I should accordingly have sent it to Lyman had I returned time enough for post, but as he may perhaps not be at the meeting, I thought it better to send it to you, who I suppose are sure to be there — and then, should Lyman be there, you can, if you please, hand it over to him.

We have got a tremendous pinch — the more felt as so unexpected. About 21° here on Tuesday night — 19° last night — & the country all white with hoar-frost.