

9 (7) Hardwick Vicarage, Dec. 23. 1869.

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My dearest Arthur,

The red ipizimus that we had been
longing for - come by all possible means
on Wednesday - & stay as long as ever you
possibly can. Jolly! -

I have a bit to write today & must be
brief - but I want to tell you - to anticipate
any disaster - or rather disturbance - at this
season so fatal to the ~~for~~ reputation of dead
herons of the poultry-yard, that I started off
a Hampden from Hereford yesterday in a heavy
fall of snow - which was to have been at Tad-
dington (or rather, in London - I don't know
which is the Midland terminus) last night -
but where it may be at the present moment
is another question - I hope at N^o 13.