

little help as to some points I should be very glad to be of use. - But, supposing that you have no idea whatever of the kind, had you any intention of putting out a feeling as to my ideas?

I fancy somehow there is a smell of that, about the words. If it were so - and if the Padre would think me competent, I am not prepared to say I could do it, but I should wish, before saying good-bye to the thought, to make some enquiry about it - It might, or might not, be within my power - might, or might not, suit my convenience.

I am very much pleased with what you tell me about the Zodiacal light. Pray send it to the Notices. You will see in the last a paper of mine - to which I have to add that at least I am certain that my beauty is on the increase (What a sentence I have written!) being now unquestionably more brilliant than

her S.P. neighbour, whom I only thought she equaled as recently as Jan. 25. I hope some people more accustomed to star-magnitude-valuation than myself will take her in hand. -

Can you guess how I am led to the conclusion that a variable star should be addressed as a lady? It is a discovery of this morning's date. You know Virgil's statement

Varium et mutabile semper

Femina.

Now this will construe just as grammatically (at least in poetical grammar) - A varying and changeable thing must be always of the feminine gender! But pray take notice, that not I, but Virgil, must bear the blame of the sentiment! whichever end of the sentence goes first!

My wife wishes in kind love, to very best wishes for both the invalids, and I remain

My dearest Arthur,  
Your very affectionate friend,  
J. W. Webb