

Bradley View Newton Abbot

April 5, 98

Dear Fitzgerald, [your paper Zeeman & Faraday. On
first hearing of Z's discovery. I had the same idea, that Zeeman
had supplied us with an explanation of the F. effect, but I stuck
at the vibration of negative charges only. Don't you think there
is something very extraordinary about it? I can't swallow it.
What on earth is to keep the positive charges still? If true, then
it is of course of remarkable significance in molecular physics.
But then that the result is obtained may be indication of theory
being on a wrong track. I note you state the theory as free
from "unnecessary hypothesis" as it will go. Helmholtz's dis-
persion theory won't do as a whole. It is quite incomprehensibly
inconsistent. All the same, I suppose H. Mr? be credited
with the step made of allowing from the motion of ions
& the force on them, in the one circuital equation, as a
special extension of meaning, one of any number possible,
through we may dissent from his general development. What
is your opinion on this matter!

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H. 90

Heavyside