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5. 2. 98

20/20

Dear Professor Fitzgerald

It is very good of you to have taken so much trouble over my paper; I feel remorseful at having thrust it amongst your innumerable occupations. I am going to send it off now, with all its imperfections on its head, for I know what it is to be over-crowded with interests myself, & just now I am occupied with some experimental work in Physical Chemistry (I have just finished

one section of it) and it is difficult to get oneself back into the groove for thermodynamical speculations. Moreover the thing has been hanging on hand so long I am tired of seeing it.

The question whether the variation in the specific heats need be taken into account is referred to, on p. 4, though perhaps not so ~~straight~~ glibly as might be. Boltzmann shows that a complete knowledge of the specific heats would allow of determining the absolute scale without any other calorimetric

data. He does not - in the paper referred to - consider whether the same information could be got out of $f(\bar{p}, v, T) = 0$ and the porous plug experiment alone. I do not think it could.

I am sorry I missed hearing you at the Physical Society the other day; it was not down on the notice paper, else I should have stayed. You still cross the channel pretty frequently I see, & a home-ruled government has not yet turned you out of Ireland!

20/20 Yours sincerely

R. A. Leffler