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6, Scrope Terrace,  
Cambridge.

Mar 15. 91.

Dear Fitzgerald,

The reason I considered the tubes of electrostatic induction to be moving quite generally and not merely at right angles to themselves was that I wished to make the treatment of those cases when we ~~find~~ have tubes with ends attached to charged bodies in motion approximate as closely as possible to the treatment of those where the tubes are endless <sup>as e.g.</sup> in the transmission of electromagnetic waves across a dielectric. It was the consideration of cases of the first kind which induced me to take this view of the structure of the electric field and in these I find it much more convenient to consider the tubes without any translation as to their movement, though I agree with you that this is not necessary when all the tubes are closed.

Yours very truly  
J. J. Thomson