

STATION, POST AND
TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
RICHMOND, SURREY.

519
No. XIV

ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO
BE ADDRESSED TO
THE SUPERINTENDENT.

New Observatory,
(Old Deer Park.)

Richmond, Surrey.
July 20 1898

5/82

Dear Professor Fitzgerald

I communicated what
you said about the climate of Valencia
& the desirability of having as much
metal & as little wood as possible in
the magnetic instruments to Dover.
He wrote some time ago that he could
have the case of the Dip Circle of metal
and the vibration box of the unifilar
(retaining however wooden sides) also metal.
The additional cost would be about £2 for
each instrument or £4 in all.
I had to write him again for the figures
& this occasioned the delay. I have

consulted the Chief Assistant
Mr J. W. Baker on the matter, as his
experience of magnetic instruments
is very extensive & he knows Valencia.

He is distinctly of opinion that
the change is not one he would recom-
mend, the introduction of any unneces-
sary metal being he considers a
source of risk not to be encountered
without very strong cause. The climate
of Valencia is not he thinks a sufficiently
strong cause; supposing at least the observer
likely to exercise reasonable care.

Of course if there is any serious amount of
magnetic metal about, the test here can hardly
fail to show it.

I have told Mr Owen to stay his
hand until I hear from you.

Yours faithfully,
Charles Chree
Superintendent

P.S. There is more metal in Prof. Riecher's
instruments than in the old Kent unipolar;
possibly Prof. Riecher may have views on the
subject.