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26 Nov. '81.

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My dearest Arthur

Best thanks for your letter & all the many kindnesses it contains. -

As to matters. part, I am too busy to go into it ~~now~~ this morning - but with the less obliged.

As to the Council idea and all the accompanying generosity - so like my dear old friend; I am very sorry to disappoint you, but I think it would not at all suit my arrangements here. And I sh^d be very sorry, again, to think so badly of the RAS as to imagine that it had not many better men to whom it would be less inconvenient and some pleasure.

Again, about the Lectures - How good of you to send in my name - This is more in my way than the other - get I fear