

habits of intemperance. I feel much concerned about this. Do you ever see anything of him now?

Schiaparelli has sent me such a love of a drawing of the Cornet - with its wonderful external envelope, which must have been enlarged in the coronae (unless it were developed afterwards) - its strange dark lacuna - its anomalous tail &c. - But I have said very little about all this, because I think perhaps he may prefer ~~to~~ telling his Tail his own way - as most folks do. - I like that Schiaparelli -

When you are quite at leisure & have nothing else to do, would you kindly answer as to a point or two? That stupid & troublesome business will now be very soon I trust at an end - but the Dol^r though a real good fellow & a man of peace, has been a little of what is called shilly-shally, & not quite straight-forward in expression, tho' I dare say he is quite so in his own ideas. And therefore I should feel especially obliged if you will kindly tell me, in the case of an unmarried sister being entirely dependant on others, on whom lies

the legal obligation to maintain her. Is her brother solely responsible - or does any liability extend to sisters or sister's children? - This of course is only legal responsibility - the moral & equitable question being another matter.

(Of course I am aware that I as a sister's husband have nothing to do with it in law.)

- 2. Supposing the troublesome cousin whose extravagance has caused so much botheration had brought in an account - which he has not done - the result of which would have been to swallow up all hopes of balance for anybody out of the assets - Would it have been competent to any members of the family to dispute his account on the ground of extravagance - or from want of vouchers &c? - They are not thinking of doing any thing of the kind, especially as he has - with a very bad grace - abated part of it - I sh^d only like to know whether such a step c^d have been taken? - And pray understand dear Arthur, that I only ask for my own satisfaction - for the affair is on that point of completion & I trust may never be heard of