

19 Rodney Terrace³⁴
Cheltenham

Nov. 25. 1865.

Postscript - our letter not having
been sent from Sturminster, notwithstanding its
date - & Mrs. Webb having come here for
Wick Bath.

Do you think you could without much in-
convenience do me a little favour? - I have
noted (I think by Lardner) that Sir J. Herschel
says in Phil. Trans. 1840, that he made
dark rays of heat visible by concentration
found them of a lavender colour. I have not
seen this curious fact elsewhere, & Tyndall in
his Lectures on Heat considers these rays invisible
on several reasons it is a very curious fact
& I sh^d. be particularly obliged if you c^d. get

a sight of that Vol. Perhaps you might
do so, thro' Prof. Challis - or it may
probably be in some library where you might
see it. And would you do me the favour
just to run your eye over the article &
let me know - first whether there is
such a statement at all - for if so it is
very strange that it sh^d. have been ignored
when so much is said & thought about the
Spectrum - & next, if so, what means he
used for making these rays visible - &
whether they were "lavender". Not only does
Nydall call them invisible but Miller ex-
pressly states I believe that rays can only be
rendered visible by making their undulation
slower - e.g. Fluorescence (such a

mewel to me. -) But the reverse -
i.e. a quickening of the undulation - he
does not consider possible. This is what w^d.
happen if the Heat Rays were rendered visi-
ble by falling on a substance altering their
vibrations. If however they were "brought to
light by simple concentration, there w^d. be
nothing in this against Miller's dictum.

Please answer here when you write, as I
shall be backwards & forwards -

Yours very affectionately
F. W. W.

My