My dear Fisher,

I have naturally been thinking over the problem of the presidency for a long time. I had a talk with Blacker about it some months ago, and it is possible that I then influenced his mind somewhat. I saw him here for a couple of hours last Friday, when he came down to help me with an obituary notice which Nature asked me to write, as well as with regard to something in the Times on the same subject. I then heard that you had had a committee meeting.
I have taken up the line that I hope few exceptions—that I would not butt in in regard to the Society's affairs unless definitely asked to do so. I did occasionally discuss matters with Mr. Lathe by letter. And I wish to find a way to adhere to this line of conduct. Even more carefully. You must not think it subtly. Therefore, if I say that all I am prepared to do is to write a careful memorandum on the subject, to be read to the Committee, if you are its chairman, or any other responsible person asks me to write anything, what I write would not please you, and would not please Blacken, in some respects, anyhow.
And if it turns in answer to a definite request, it would not look as if I were merely facing my views on the Society, it would sound as if they were justified. It is not a particularly pleasant task to write opinion, which one knows will not be altogether approved by one's friends. But if you, or any responsible person asks me, I will do my best.

A memorandum is more impersonal than a letter.

I will talk science in a separate letter if I have anything to say.

Very sincerely,

Leonard Darwin.