Feb. 6th. 7

My dear Lie,

Until today I have been unable to see the President and consult with him regarding your photometric measurements. We come to the conclusion that the income of the Observatory is so fully occupied that it would be quite impracticable to undertake any more work at present. I regret that this decision becomes necessary as I appreciate the value of your investigation. We will of course consider any claim you may have on the Observatory for having your volume through the press or that assistance for which additional compensation was permitted.

Will not the following plan meet the present difficulty? The Rumford Committee can devote a considerable sum annually to original investigation in light or heat, & approval by the Academy. If you will send me a writing a brief statement of your proposed research and will ask the Committee (of which I am secretary) for the sum you named, I will bring it before them, and think they will recommend the appropriation. If more agreeable to you, you might state that you make this application at my suggestion.

Cordially yours,
Edward C. Pickering

Wm. C. Peirce
New York.

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