

A letter from Sylvester to Kronecker (\*)

Keswick  
Cumberland  
4<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1884

Dear Professor Kronecker -

Having chosen "Descartes as  
a Geometer" as the subject of  
a Public lecture which I am  
compelled by the Statute to deliver  
at Oxford next term <sup>if you</sup> could  
~~you~~ suggest any moderately  
sized book or books or article  
in some mathematical notice or  
review which would be likely to  
be useful in enabling me to  
say anything worth hearing on

the subject (with which I have no special acquaintance) you would be rendering me a great service. I have Balleit, Mittel and Lindt (the last one I think of no value except to embroilich).

Anything in the way of a condensed history of Analytical Geometry from the time of Descartes down to the present day would I think be likely to be very useful. Does anything of the kind exist in German or any other language that you ~~could~~ could bring to my knowledge? Until this business is accomplished I am obliged to suspend all

Mathematical work.

I have 3 ~~papers~~ articles to appear in the (next) ~~number~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Journal~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~London~~ ~~Mathematical~~ ~~Society~~ sent in some time ago on the solution of the linear equation in Matrices or Quaternions.

Yours very truly  
S. J. G. G. G.

Please present my kind regards to Mr. J. J. J. and your daughter

(\*): Thanks to Dr. Sid Kolpas at Glendale Community College, Glendale California, for providing the copy of this letter.