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My dear Madam

I was not aware of any change of views relative to the meteoric iron until I received your letter by Mr Shepard. She did not bring the mass of iron owing to the delay which the President of the Sy[illegible] Major Delafield, desired until he could obtain the consent of that body - which he supposed would be a matter of course. I take it for granted that the Syceum cannot detain the specimen in opposition to your wishes ~~& that they~~ will not ~~think of~~ doing it. We shall of course receive it, as a deposit, as you request & subject to your order. Permit me however to make a few remarks referring to an idea which Mr Shepard named - viz - that something was said by your deceased husband, & intimated by some of the family, as to a monumental disposition of the meteoric iron [illegible] You are, perhaps, aware, that Col T[illegible] gallery of pictures is permanently deposited here, in an appropriate building.