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Dear Professor Lederberg,

I was very pleased to get your letter and additional material. I enclose a copy of the chapter on χ transformation in my forthcoming book, The Path to the Double Helix. I would be grateful for any comments you may like to make. I shall have to add something on the basis of what you have had to say.

I know Wyatt quite well now. He is a stimulating person, but strangely unmoved by the inadequacy and distortion of what he has published. Perhaps this is only to be expected when he is more interested in using history for his views on the dissemination of scientific knowledge and on education, than in history for its own sake.

I expect I also have failed in one way or another in the enclosed chapter - Wyatt claims that it is unreadable! I hope it does not seem quite as bad as all that to you.

I may be in California next January. If so, I would greatly value the opportunity to meet you.

Yours sincerely



Robert Olby

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