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49, QUEEN ANNE STREET.
W.

Feb. 12/75

Dear Mr Darwin.

Potassium phosphate is certainly decomposed in the animal body. A double decomposition no doubt takes place between it and common salt which is always present, by virtue of which Potassium chloride & sodium phosphate are produced.

It appears to me likely that the reason why potassium phosphate does not act upon Drosera is that it is present in considerable proportion in the juices of plants & in degenerates probably in Drosera. I think it would be found

that to those ~~[illegible]~~ ~~the~~ salts which are present in the plant are indifferent, even though it may be excited by others which are chemically closely allied to them.

With reference to the subject of experiments on animals, I have after-

conversation with Mr Huxley prepared a memorandum intended to serve as the basis of a Petition. It is now in his hands. I have lately been considering very carefully his whole question and am of course very anxious that if anything is done, it should be done in such a way as to promote rather than to hinder his progress of science.

Believe me, Dear Mr Darwin
Very truly Yours
J. B. Sanderson