YOUR LETTERS

Dear Sir,

While I was overseas last year, I was able to see a harmonograph (as described in Vol. 7, No. 3) at the British Science Museum in Kensington, London. It was an item the same size as the Parabola published, working on the same method. However, they also had a set of drawings done by one which came to the size about 6″ square (all the Parabola one can do is about 2″ or 3″ square). I enquired about the bigger pictures and was told they'd been done on one with pendulum of about 30 ft which is very much bigger than the others — approx. 10 times.

Jimmy Pike

Dear Sir,

First of all, thankyou for being so kind, printing this letter.

It's an honour.

I feel I must tell your readers, however, that in it a coded word is hidden.
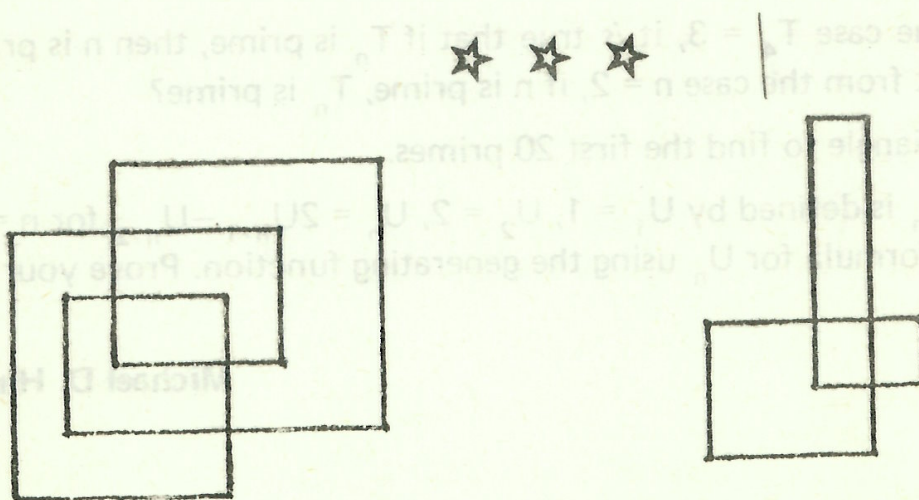
Here are some clues.

The word has eight letters.

You must know your binary alphabet to decode this letter.

The method of letter frequency is useless for decoding it.

From Stephen Thompson.

[The method of decoding Stephen's letter may be found on page 36 — Editor.]

See Mathematical Games