

MORE LETTERS OF CHARLES DARWIN

A RECORD OF HIS WORK
IN A SERIES OF HITHERTO
UNPUBLISHED LETTERS

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IN TWO VOLUMES
ILLUSTRATED

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To C. Lyell.

[Dec. 5th, 1859.]

Letter 81

I forget whether you take in the *Times*; for the chance of your not doing so, I send the enclosed rich letter.¹ It is, I am sure, by Fitz-Roy. . . . It is a pity he did not add his theory of the extinction of *Mastodon*, etc., from the door of the Ark being made too small.²

Francis Galton to Charles Darwin.

Letter 82

42, Rutland Gate, London, S.W., Dec. 9th, 1859.

Pray let me add a word of congratulation on the completion of your wonderful volume, to those which I am sure you will have received from every side. I have laid it down in the full enjoyment of a feeling that one rarely experiences after boyish days, of having been initiated into an entirely new province of knowledge, which, nevertheless, connects itself with other things in a thousand ways. I hear you are engaged on a second edition. There is a trivial error in page 68, about rhinoceroses,³ which I thought I might as well point out, and have taken advantage of the same opportunity to scrawl down half a dozen other notes, which may, or may not, be worthless to you.

The three next letters refer to Huxley's lecture on Evolution, given at the Royal Institution on Feb. 10th, 1860, of which the peroration is given in *Life and Letters*, II., p. 282, together with some letters on the subject.

To T. H. Huxley.

Nov. 25th [1859].

Letter 83

I rejoice beyond measure at the lecture. I shall be at home in a fortnight, when I could send you splendid folio

¹ See the *Times*, Dec. 1st and Dec. 5th, 1859: two letters signed "Senex," dealing with "Works of Art in the Drift."

² A postscript to this letter, here omitted, is published in the *Life and Letters*, II., p. 240.

³ Darwin (*loc. cit.*) says that neither the elephant nor the rhinoceros is destroyed by beasts of prey. Mr. Galton wrote that the wild dogs hunt the young rhinoceros and "exhaust them to death; they pursue them all day long, tearing at their ears, the only part their teeth can fasten on." The reference to the rhinoceros is omitted in later editions of the *Origin*.

Letter 83 coloured drawings of pigeons. Would this be in time? If not, I think I could write to my servants and have them sent to you. If I do *not* hear I shall understand that about fifteen or sixteen days will be in time.

I have had a kind yet slashing letter against me from poor dear old Sedgwick, "who has laughed till his sides ached at my book."

Phillips is cautious, but decidedly, I fear, hostile. Hurrah for the Lecture—it is grand!

Letter 84

To T. H. Huxley.

Down, Dec. 13th [1859].

I have got fine large drawings¹ of the Pouter, Carrier, and Tumbler; I have only drawings in books of Fantails, Barbs, and Scanderoon Runts. If you had them, you would have a grand display of extremes of diversity. Will they pay at the Royal Institution for copying on a large size drawings of these birds? I could lend skulls of a Carrier and a Tumbler (to show the great difference) for the same purpose, but it would not probably be worth while.

I have been looking at my MS. What you want I believe is about hybridism and breeding. The chapter on hybridism is in a pretty good state—about 150 folio pages with notes and references on the back. My first chapter on breeding is in too bad and imperfect a state to send; but my discussion on pigeons (in about 100 folio pages) is in a pretty good state. I am perfectly convinced that you would never have patience to read such volumes of MS. I speak now in the palace of truth, and pray do you: if you think you would read them I will send them willingly up by my servant, or bring them myself next week. But I have no copy, and I never could possibly replace them; and without you really thought that you would use them, I had rather not risk them. But I repeat I will willingly bring them, if you think you would have the vast patience to use them. Please let me hear on this subject, and whether I shall send the book with small drawings of three other breeds or skulls. I have heard a rumour that Busk is on our side in regard to species. Is this so? It would be very good.

¹ For Mr Huxley's R. I. lecture.