

November 20th 1945.

My dear Ron,

How immensely kind of you to write to me as you did. Your approval of the Butterfly book is the best encouragement that I can have - I think you have some idea how much it means to me. It is delightful of you too to have got a number of copies: I do so much appreciate that.

So far, at any rate, the book has met with a certain measure of success. The first edition of 20,000 has completely taken up in advance by the shops, and has proved totally inadequate. We have already had to start the second edition, and make it a further 20,000.

I was so sorry to miss you at the Genetical Society meetings. As they were not arranged until so late, long after the University

Courses were complete in all details, I could only get away for the middle of the three days (which I found to my regret was the one you could not) and could only do that by putting off a University Lecture. However, I got there early in the morning and spent the ~~entire~~ whole day, reaching Oxford at 2:15 a.m. The next morning after dining with Darlington and Mullen. I was able to have quite long talks with all the foreigners (to find, in one case, that such French as I had had had become unusably rusty!).

Owing to the return of men from the forces, and to the fact that we are two short in our Staff (!), I am teaching 6 to 7 hours five days a week. I have also been suddenly confronted by the return to my own house. I had been greatly wanting to get rid of my tenants, but mid-winter is not

What one would choose! These things involve an immense amount of work - especially for a bachelor: making arrangements with tradesmen, finding a house-keeper and, it seems, a thousand other things. But in the end, when I do get properly installed, I shall be more than thankful to have my own things again. Then, I hope, you will be able to come and stay with me. You so kindly ask me to visit you, which will be the very greatest pleasure. But I think I must wait until the new year, if I may, as this term is rather a nightmare of work, and the vacation will largely be taken up with moving and all that it involves.

I had hoped to complete the dominula paper this term, but have not had

much chance yet, though I shall make every effort to find time ~~to do so~~ (Somehow!) in the next few weeks. During the summer I had to push forward work for my book on Moths (in the same series as Butterflies), for there is much which can only be done then.

Looking forward so much to seeing you in the New Year - and ~~as~~ I hope soon in April. I am so grateful for your kind encouragement.

Yours truly,
Henry