

5 April 1933.

E.B. Ford, Esq., M.A.,  
Thursby,  
Carlisle,  
Cumberland.

My dear Ford:

You had let me know previously that your mother's life lay under the shadow of a dangerous operation; but I had not previously heard the outcome of what must have been for you a terribly prolonged anxiety. May I offer you my entire sympathy on the loss you have suffered.

I read your typescript, as you will have expected, with the greatest interest and pleasure. Many of the facts you mention I had grasped, if at all, only obscurely and I found the whole exposition exceedingly interesting and remarkably clear. I have put in the margins or tacked on a few criticisms, chiefly where you have put more into a sentence than it would bear and at the end finished too abruptly. Do not take any particular notice of the suggested re-wordings. I put comments in this form only because it is more explicit and therefore more likely to be useful than any other.

Yours sincerely,

Notes on "The Genetics of Mimicry" typescript.

Final sentence on page 5 not clear: expansion suggested.  
.....a simple Mendelian relationship between them, we are none the less entitled to regard them as the products of slow and continuous evolution. Again the mima and wahlbergi forms of Hypolimnas dubius Beauv. segregate in crosses in a way that shows the difference between these forms to be due to a single factor. The same is true of the cyrus and polytes forms of the females of Papilio polytes. All these forms have doubtless been modified continuously in the course of evolutionary change by the selection of genes other than those responsible for the polymorphism.

Insert after magnitude on page 6, omitting underlined part of sentence.

.....and we may suspect that this was originally true of the genes now controlling strikingly contrasted polymorphic forms.

Before "In support of" (Half-way down page 18)  
.....and that a previous pairing was involved is strongly suggested by the progeny showing nearly a 1 : 1 instead of a 3 : 1 ratio; it may be added further that,.....

Page 24: line 9. "value" to what or whom?

The sentence reads as though it were value to the species, but this would be nonsense. It must be profitable to the individual females to choose mates unaffected by an incipient mimetic tendency. ?How wide-spread is polygamy in butterflies. Are non-mimetic males more frequently polygamous than mimetic males?