

Cripps's Corner. Forest Row. Sussex.

Nov-17. 28

Dear Fisher.

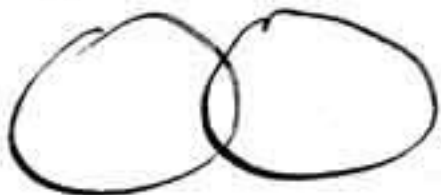
It you are likely to wish to compare the VI Edition of the Origin with the 1st - or the 2nd which is practically the same, I could lend you the 2nd small edition; and the Key in proof, which makes it quite easy. It is easiest if you have the VI in the Edition with 432 pages, the current one. There are others. This I can't lend, but you could probably borrow. Let me know if you would like Key of the VI Edn. Hope you will have them anywhere in Jan.

Your letter brings us much nearer together. It you say ^{as to blending the} he accepted it, ^{logic} consequences, all right. I do not mean that I had myself thought it out thus, but that I agree. Remember that if you say 'universally', it includes your self. Also on p. 10 of Origin VI, my father wrote that "the laws governing inheritance are for the most part unknown". In the II "quite unknown". I suppose that he saw the difficulty of blending, and until he could see the way out, he must hold that the laws were unknown. I have not now studied the passage, and don't know quite what he included in these laws; but anywhere you have ^{to} reckon with these words. I took the words about ignorance of laws of sanction being

proposed from p. 122. Chap V beginning of
Summary. That may help you to judge what
he meant. As to supplementing what he
said to Huxley, it may be worth noting that
on top line of p 246, summary of Chap IX, he
says sterility depends on the organism of "the
hybrid being disturbed by being compounded from
two distinct forms"; whereas he was, I suppose,
nearly right; though he goes wrong in the next
sentence.

Under the heading of Causes of Variability,
p. 6 he says that the nature of the organism
seems to be much more important, "for nearly
similar variations sometimes arise ~~in~~ under
dissimilar conditions". I think this supports
your view. Page ⁸ he speaks of "determining each
particular form of variation".

I cannot find the passage, if there is
one, about interlocking species. My memory is
that he meant species with
habitats like these circles.
I have wanted to find the
passage but can't.



The Parallel Roads are parallel lines
along the sides of a Scotch Valley. My father
thought they had a marine origin. Durdley

geological knowledge about glaciers
increased, he saw that the origin must
be glacial, and he owned up.

I should like to read your other
Chaps, and shall be ready for them a
week hence. But I shall not understand
them! And I shall anyhow do ~~not~~
no harm -

Yours sincerely

L. Darwin