

Nov. 30 & 25

Glenby Hall. Burgh-le-Marsh
ducks.

My dear Fisher.

I found your kind letter about reading my proofs the next morning after I had seen you. I am very glad that you consent to do so. It was natural of me to hang the two questions together, the triplets and my proofs; for it is really true that I want to promote your inquiries because of their value, and without reference to any other consideration whatever. I am very sorry that the finances thereof are in a bad way, and that makes it all the more pleasant to send you the enclosed cheque.

As to my book, it will interest me to know how much you differ as to birds control. What I have tried to do is to make it a storehouse of arguments rather than of facts, in the hope that this will make it useful for a longer time. I don't think that we shall differ as much as you expect-

in regard to what I say in my book. I hold that Contraception is the greatest factor both for good and for evil in regard to racial changes at the present time. You may agree that this might be so, perhaps; but if so, does it not follow that our Society should have a definite policy on the subject? My proposals may be wrong, but I cannot think that the Society ought to be silent and passive on what seems to me a matter of such vital importance. Continence would do just as well as contraception, only I am quite convinced that Continence will as a fact never be extensively practised, especially by the ignorant. To rely on it is to skirt the real issue. Don't answer this now, but let me know what you feel after reading my book.

Did I give you the impression that I thought my book could not be injured? Well, that is my belief!! But there are two opposite reasons why a thing cannot be put right, and the reasons for my belief

are such as are our flattering to my own
productions.

I agree with much you say about
Mrs Hudson. I suspect she shows me her best
side. I can easily write to the leopard and
give her a careful description of her
spots; but will that result in any modification
of the pattern of her coat? If not, what
else can be done? In short - I see the
difficulties of the situation far more
clearly than any solution. I wish others had
seen the candidates that came forward
to the post on the last occasion. It would
make them hesitate greatly before making
a change. And I don't think we can
afford a larger staff.

No answer needed to all this
talk -

Yours sincerely
Leonard Darwin