

(I brought paper with me, as it is so difficult to get any in Hotels now!).

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Thursday morning

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My dear Ron,

Thank you ever so much for your letter, which I have never had a chance to answer until now. One of my oldest friends (haven) who lived for 25 years with my dear Cousin Thurnam, who died in 1941, had an operation in Worthing last Thursday. The result was to show that he has inoperable cancer. I went down to him on Saturday and made numerous arrangements for him. I travelled from Worthing to Cambridge on Monday, reached Oxford late on Tuesday, and caught the 9:15 a.m. train to London yesterday, and spent part of the day with Julian.

How very kind of you to suggest a visit the week-end after next. (I think that was the date you suggested, but I find I have not your letter with me; I will confirm it on my return to Oxford later in the day). There will be so much to discuss together, and a lot I want to tell you about. I shall look forward to it immensely.

On going into the matter in detail, I do think it will be worth while to write the book on British Butterflies which I mentioned to you. I was going into the matter with Julian yesterday. I will show you a suggestion for the Chapters and Section headings, and for 48 coloured plates, when we meet.

I hope you will have received safely the lantern-slide which I sent you. Also that it is satisfactory.

My visit to Cambridge was ever such a success, and Taylor and Race were immensely kind and helpful. We got a great many points clear, and have now overcome the difficulty of obtaining Salvia from the mothers, which we shall be starting - and there were difficulties, as I shall explain to you. From many points of view I am sure this will be valuable. The blood from expectant mothers is still accumulating at the rate of 60 to 80 a week.

I had thought it very likely that, not knowing the details, Taylor and Race would think that I had been doing rather badly in obtaining such small numbers as you. However, I found them

wonderfully good in appreciating the difficulties, both having had Hospital Experience themselves. They were so obviously genuine in saying that they had anticipated that it might be considerably more - or impossible - that I was greatly heartened and encouraged.

One great excitement is that Taylor is clearly convinced, as I expect you know, that his deficiency of AB is a real one. This is so very important since his technique is so perfect; and even he, critical of it as he is, puts complete faith in it. And because he had at an earlier stage evidently made up his mind that this would not happen: especially when there was no indication at all on 16,000 (2 short, I think!). He was impressed when I asked him to consider that if he is able to show this up in young men from 20 to 30, might not the deficiency in AB be rather striking in those (say) from 75 upwards.

Munro Fox kindly put me up in Cairns (your own College, I believe), and after dinner

I had the joy of seeing Storrington again and having  
a long talk with him: and again at lunch. I also  
saw Gray for a short time at his own house.

The results of Cambridge I must really  
tell you about in detail when I see you. But it was  
very nice going there. Everyone so appreciative —  
so unlike the usual Oxford atmosphere.

Ever yours,

Henry