

Detecting Darwin

Activity 3: Types of evidence

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/learning/7-11/detecting-darwin>

Suggested preparation

Presentation: Detecting Charles Darwin

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/learning/7-11/detecting-darwin>

Film: What was Darwin like and why is he important?

Professor Jim Secord, Director of the Darwin Correspondence Project explains

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/learning/7-11/detecting-darwin>

Detecting Darwin Activity 2: Piecing things together

How long will activity take?

- 15 mins

What do I need?

- Paper and pens
- Evidence of Darwin's life

Find out if some pieces of evidence are more useful than others.

What do I do?

1. Make a list of all the different types or forms of information in the evidence of Darwin's life. (Eg letters, note book, photo etc.)
2. Discuss the different forms and how useful they are when you are piecing something together. For example, how useful is a recent photo of an historic place?



Stop: 1

Darwin's diary: 13 February 1832

This has been the first day that the heat has annoyed us, & in proportion all have enjoyed the delicious coolness of the moonlight evenings: but when in bed, it is I am sure just like what one would feel if stewed in very warm melted butter. —

This morning a glorious fresh trade wind is driving us along; I call it glorious because others do; it is however bitter cruelty to call anything glorious that gives my stomach so much uneasiness. —

Oh a ship is a true pandemonium, & the cawkers who are hammering away above my head veritable devils. —

Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 1



Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 1



London: Pub. Myers & Co., at the Strand, for R. Ackermann, Printers of Cambridge.

Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 1

LETTER 158

From Charles Darwin

To Robert Waring Darwin

February 1832

Transcribed extracts

www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-158

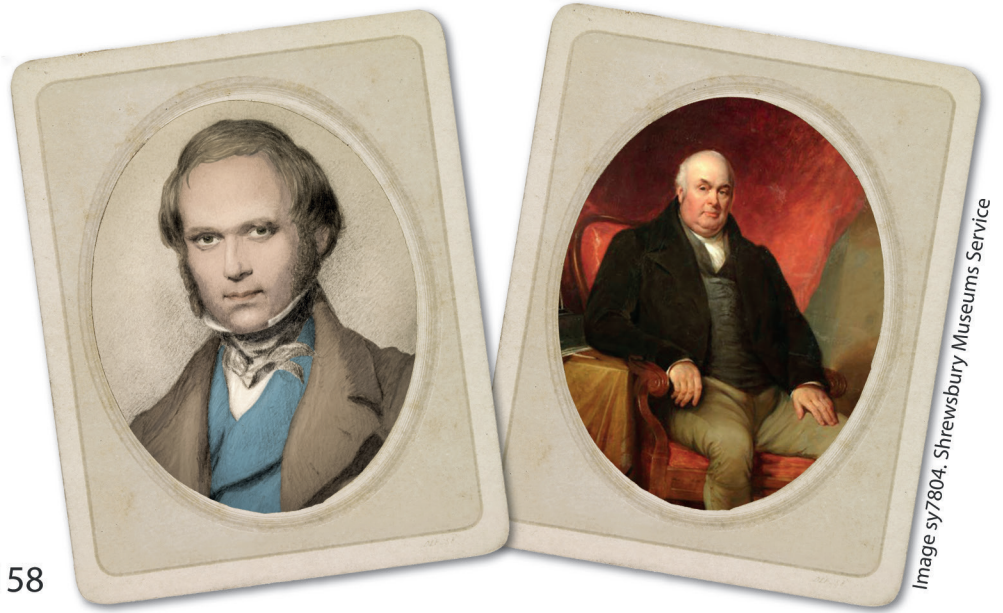


Image sy7804. Shrewsbury Museums Service

Bahia or St Salvador, Brazil

Feb. 1832

My dear Father

We sailed as you know on the 27th. of December & have been fortunate enough to have had from that time to the present a fair & moderate breeze: In the Bay of Biscay there was a long & continued swell & the misery I endured from sea-sickness is far far beyond what I ever guessed at...

From Teneriffe to St. Jago, the voyage was extremely pleasant.— I had a net astern the vessel, which caught great numbers of curious animals, & fully occupied my time in my cabin, & on deck the weather was so delightful, & clear, that the sky & water together made a picture.

I already have got to look at going to sea as a regular quiet place, like going back to home after staying away from it.— In short I find a ship a very comfortable house, with everything you want, & if it was not for sea-sickness the whole world would be sailors...

Believe me, my dear Father
Your most affectionate son

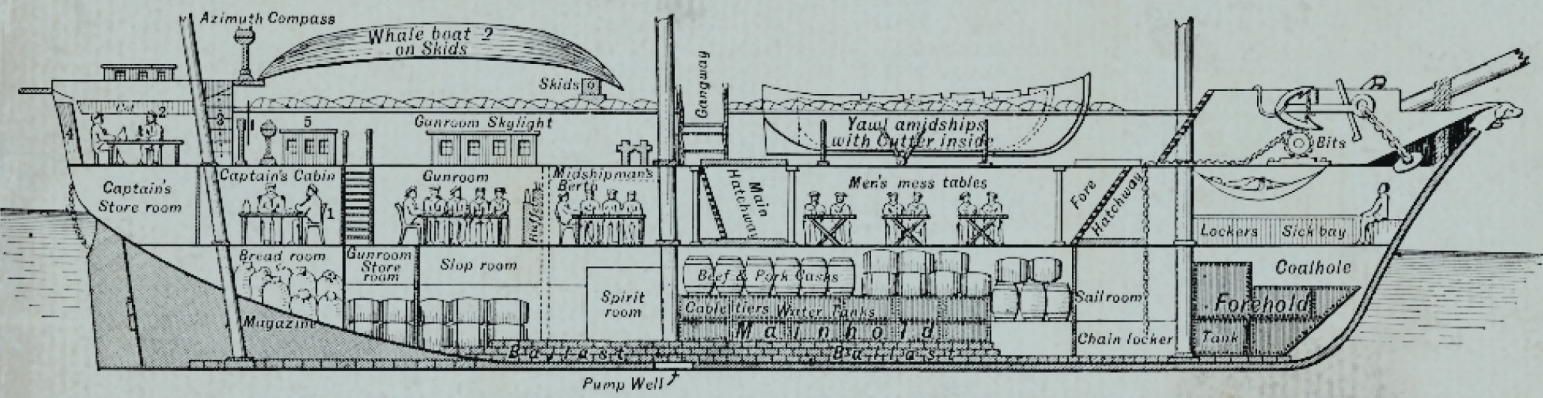
Charles Darwin

Stop: 1

H.M.S. BEAGLE

MIDDLE SECTION FORE AND AFT

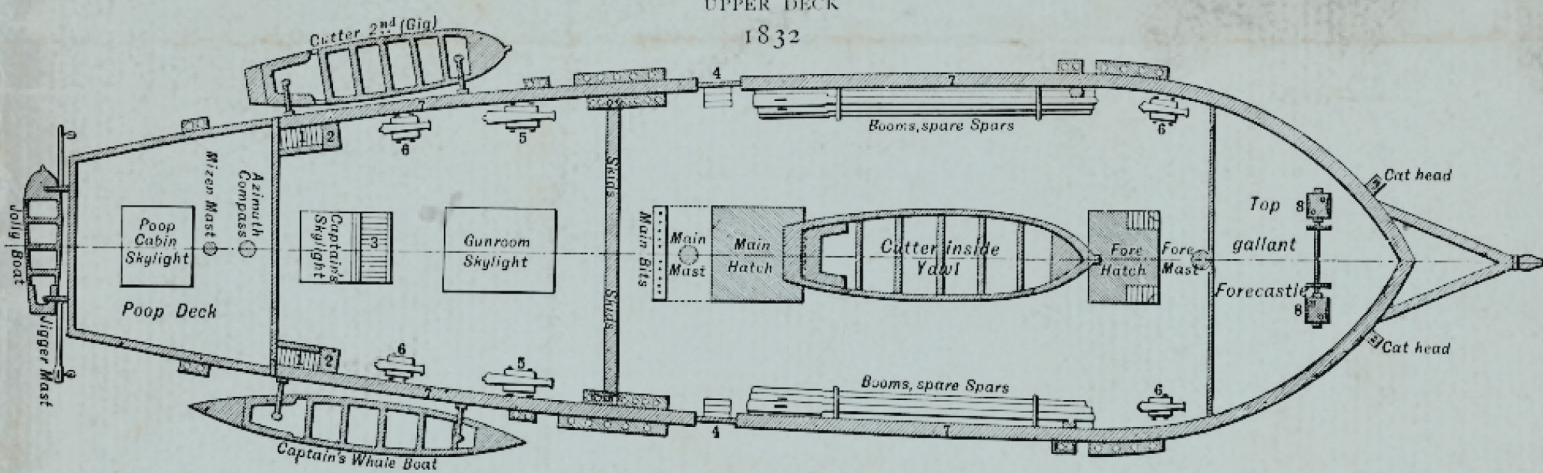
1832



1. Mr. Darwin's Seat in Captain's Cabin
2. Mr. Darwin's Seat in Poop Cabin with Cot slung behind him
3. Mr. Darwin's Chest of Drawers
4. Bookcase
5. Captain's Skylight

UPPER DECK

1832



1. Poop Ladders
2. Signal Flag Lockers
3. After Companion
4. Gangways
5. Brass nine pounders, Captain's private property
6. Six pounders
7. Hammock Nettings
8. Patent Windlass

The Poop Cabin

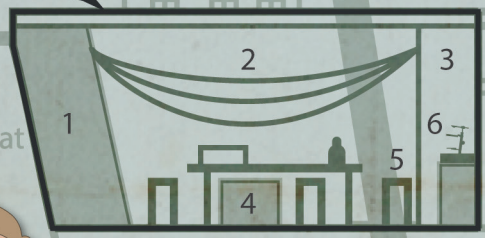


Image courtesy of Simon Keynes



- Poop Cabin
1. Bookcase
 2. My Bunk
 3. Chest of Drawers
 4. My Cabinet
 5. My seat
 6. Microscope

Stop: 1

The Beagle Voyage



Plymouth

Ascension Island

Cape Verde

Salvador

Rio de Janeiro

Montevideo

Falkland Islands

Galapagos Islands

Callao

Valparaiso

Chiloe

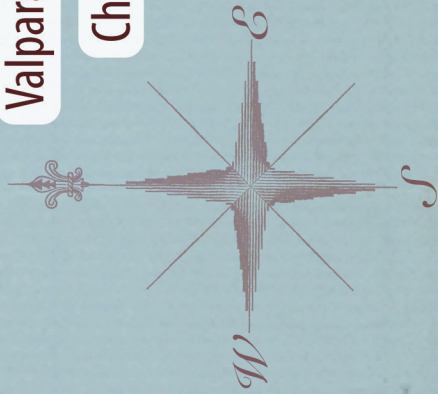
Straits of Magellan

Cape of Good Hope

King George Sound

Sydney

Hobart



Stop: 1

Some things that Darwin collected

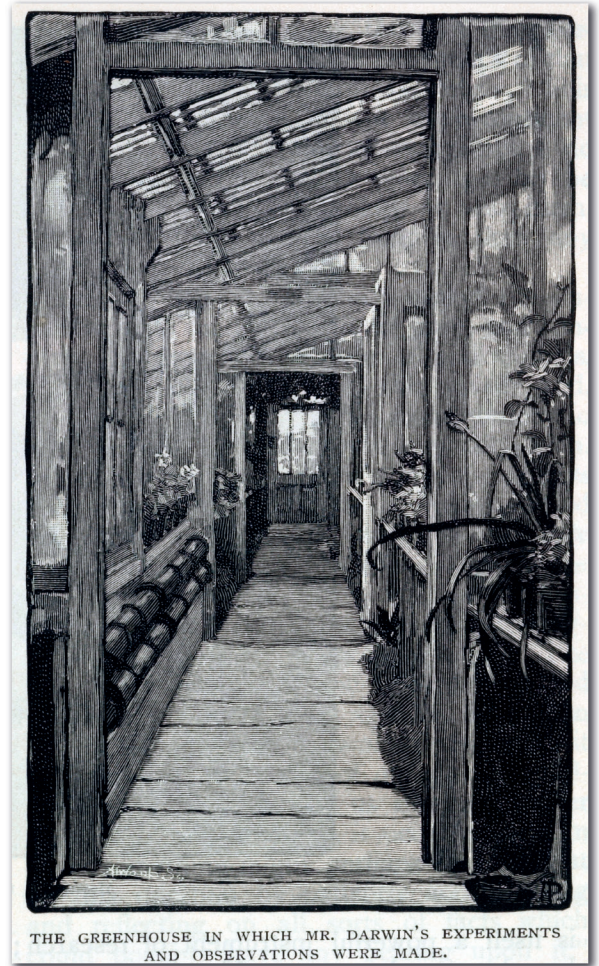


Stop: 2



Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 2



Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 2



Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 2

The Wedgwood and Darwin Families



Stop: 2

Joseph Hooker

Joseph Hooker was a botanist, plant hunter and he became director of the Botanical Gardens at Kew. He went on many expeditions including to the Himalayas and even a trip to Antarctica – looking for plants!

When Darwin returned from his round the world voyage he sent some of the plants that he had brought back to Joseph Hooker to help him indentify them.

They became lifelong friends. Darwin exchanged 1,400 letters with Joseph Hooker. They helped each other carry out research by sending letters about experiments that they had done and new information that they had found.

They shared personal stories and sadness too, as both men experienced the death of a young daughter.



Stop: 2

LETTER 456

From John Stephens Henslow

To Charles Darwin

16 December 1838

Transcribed extracts

www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-456



Cambridge
16 Decr 1838

My dear Darwin,

...— All I can wish you is, that you may experience as great content in the marriage state as I have done myself—& all the advice, which I need not give you, is, to remember that as you take your wife for better for worse, be careful to value the better & care nothing for the worse— Of course it is impossible for a lover to suppose for an instant that there can be any worse in the matter, but it is the prudent part of a husband, to provide that there shall be none—...

But I am afraid you will think I am writing a sermon— Only take it in good part, & believe that I most heartily wish you all joy & prosperity— Is there a chance of your coming here this Xmas Mrs H is anxious to know & bids me ask you—

Yrs ever affectly
J. S. Henslow

Stop: 2

LETTER 456

From John Stephens Henslow

To Charles Darwin

16 December 1838

Pages 1 & 3 of original letter (reduced in size)

www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-456



DAR 254.166

Cambridge 16 Dec. 1838

My dear Darwin,

This day 15 yrs ago I entered on that state which, in regard to my pericardium I think that you are about to enter - I have been scrupulous in not telling you so soon, but I am sure you will not think me unmindful of your happiness from having added one more specimen of my carelessness to the many you have witnessed before - All I can wish you is, that you may experience as great content in the marriage state - as I have done myself - & all

piece of mine knows advice I shall be taken at - that we do well daily that our greatest earthly happiness can be taken from us in a moment. This reflection annoys us & our happiness from being as earthly happiness can be - I wish you to experience as great content in the marriage state - as I have done myself - & all

Remembrance - only take it in good part, & believe that I most heartily wish you all joy & prosperity - Is there a chance of your coming here this year? I am anxious to know & bid me with you -
Yours affly
J. S. Henslow

Stop: 2

LETTER 1012

From Charles Darwin

To Joseph Hooker

[26 October 1846]

Transcribed extracts

www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-1012



Down Farnborough Kent
Monday Morning

My dear Hooker

Your drawing is quite beautiful; I cannot thank you enough, & I feel, as I before said guilty—your good nature is as wonderful as mesmerism.— I have been reading heaps of papers on Cirripedia, & your drawing is clearer than almost any of them.

The more I read, the more singular does our little fellow appear, & as you say, looking at its natural size, a microscope is a most wonderful instrument. How different would the drawing have been, if I had employed an artist! not to mention the invaluable assistance of having my loose observations confirmed, & the several points observed only by you.— I shall of course state this in the beginning of my paper, & when I have not seen the thing, give it on your authority...

Ever yours
My dear Hooker,
C. Darwin

Stop: 2

LETTER 1012

From Charles Darwin

To Joseph Hooker

[26 October 1846]

Pages 1 & 4 of original letter (reduced in size)

www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-1012



Down Farnborough Kent .68
Muddy morning

My dear Hooker

Your drawing is quite beautiful; I cannot thank you enough, & I feel, as I before said guiltily - your goodnature is as wonderful as mesmerism. - I have been reading heaps of papers on Cinipedia, & your drawing is clearer than almost any of them. The more I read, the more singular does our little fellow appear, & as you say, looking at its natural size a most wonderful instrument. How different would the drawing have been, if I had employed an artist! not to mention the invaluable assistance of my having my loose observations enforced, & the several points ascertained of you - I shall of course state this in the beginning of my paper, & when I have not seen the thing, give

bin-shaped, & twice as long as in the last ^(not fig. 21) previous state, & the two projections: I send you two figures, for the I see I state the two shaped organs in fig 21. are longer than in fig 20. knowledge enough to describe the limbs in this larva; divided better any one has, for it to various very distinct families. less, with very many thanks, & with ditto for being written to Alice - My lens has been altered (for 3.5. only!) & a great comfort it is. You really are the most goodnatured man I ever knew, - too goodnatured for so true a zealot to your own science, - and I thank you cordially - Ever yours
My dear Hooker, C. Darwin

This is the Question

Marry

Children—(if it Please God) — Constant companion, (& friend in old age) who will feel interested in one, — object to be beloved & played with. — better than a dog anyhow. — Home, & someone to take care of house — Charms of music & female chit-chat. — These things good for one's health. — but terrible loss of time. —

My God, it is intolerable to think of spending ones whole life, like a neuter bee, working, working, & nothing after all. — No, no won't do. — Imagine living all one's day solitarily in smoky dirty London House. — Only picture to yourself a nice soft wife on a sofa With good fire, & books & music perhaps — Compare this vision with the dingy reality of Grt. Marlbro' St.

Marry—Mary—Marry Q.E.D.

Not Marry

Freedom to go where one liked — choice of Society & little of it. — Conversation of clever men at clubs —

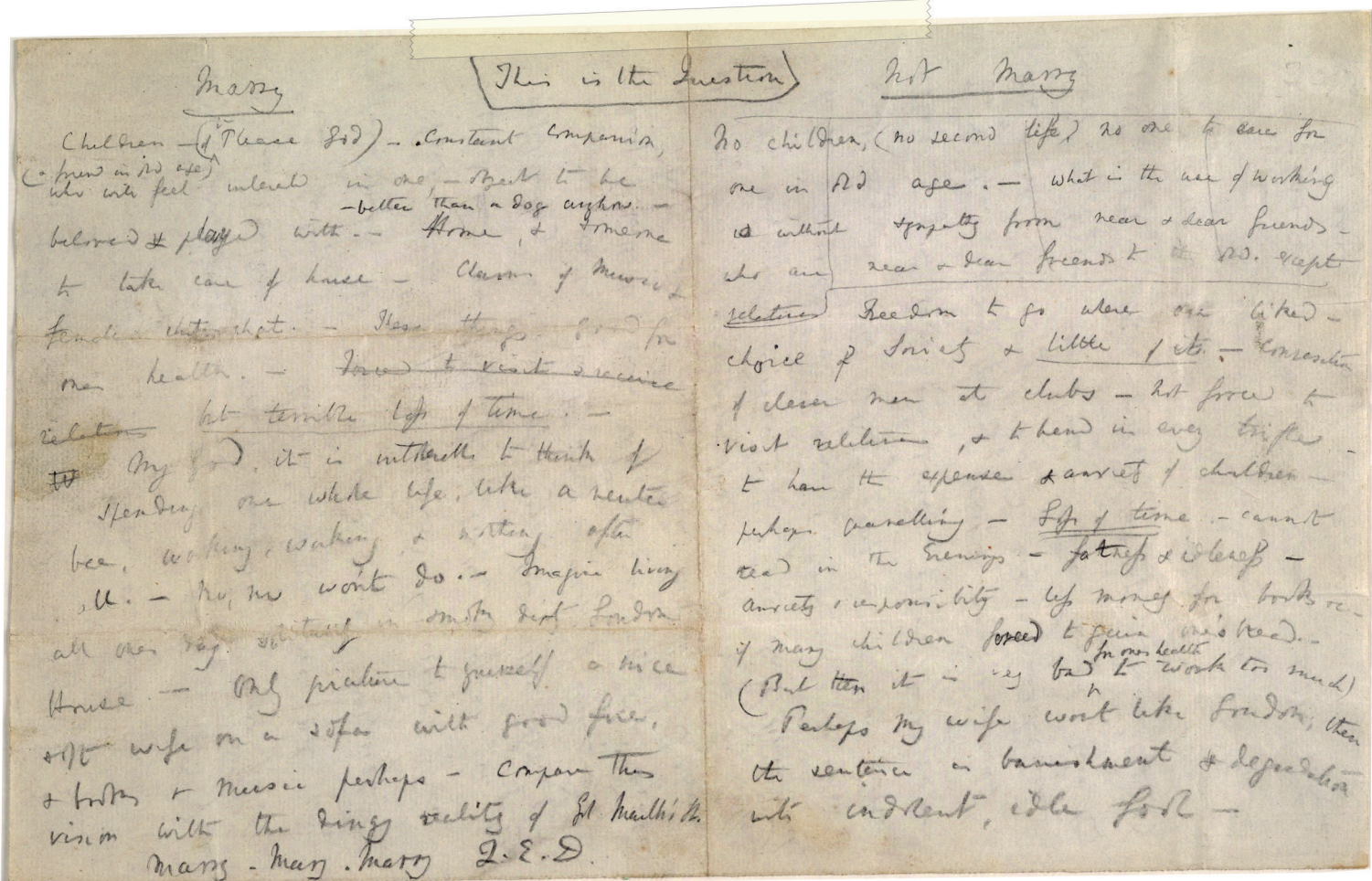
Not forced to visit relatives, & to bend in every trifle. — to have the expense & anxiety of children — perhaps quarelling —

Loss of time. — cannot read in the Evenings — fatness & idleness —

Anxiety & responsibility — less money for books &c — if many children forced to gain one's bread. — (But then it is very bad for ones health to work too much)

Perhaps my wife wont like London; then the sentence is banishment & degradation into indolent, idle fool —

Image of original

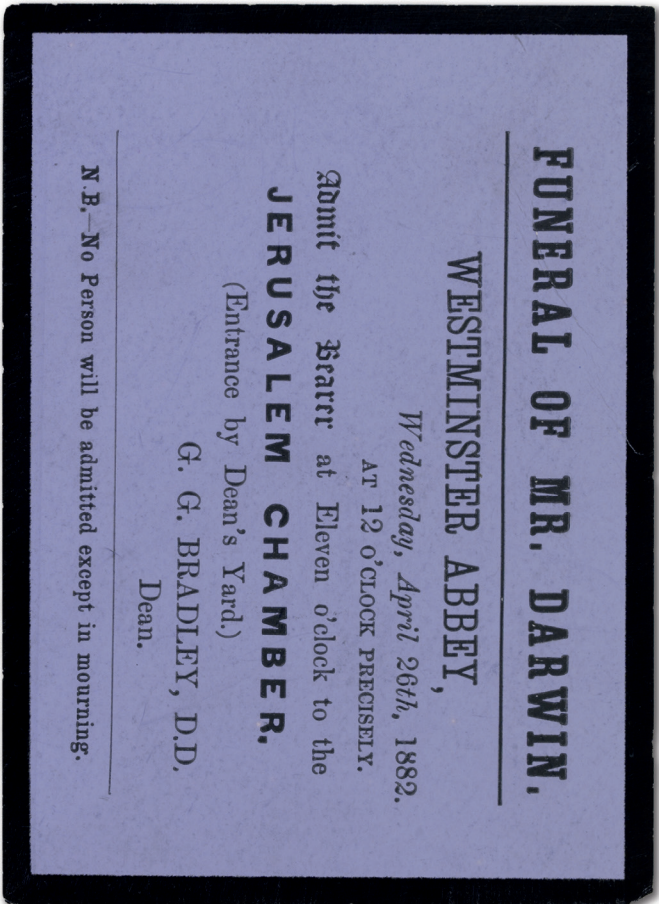


Stop: 3



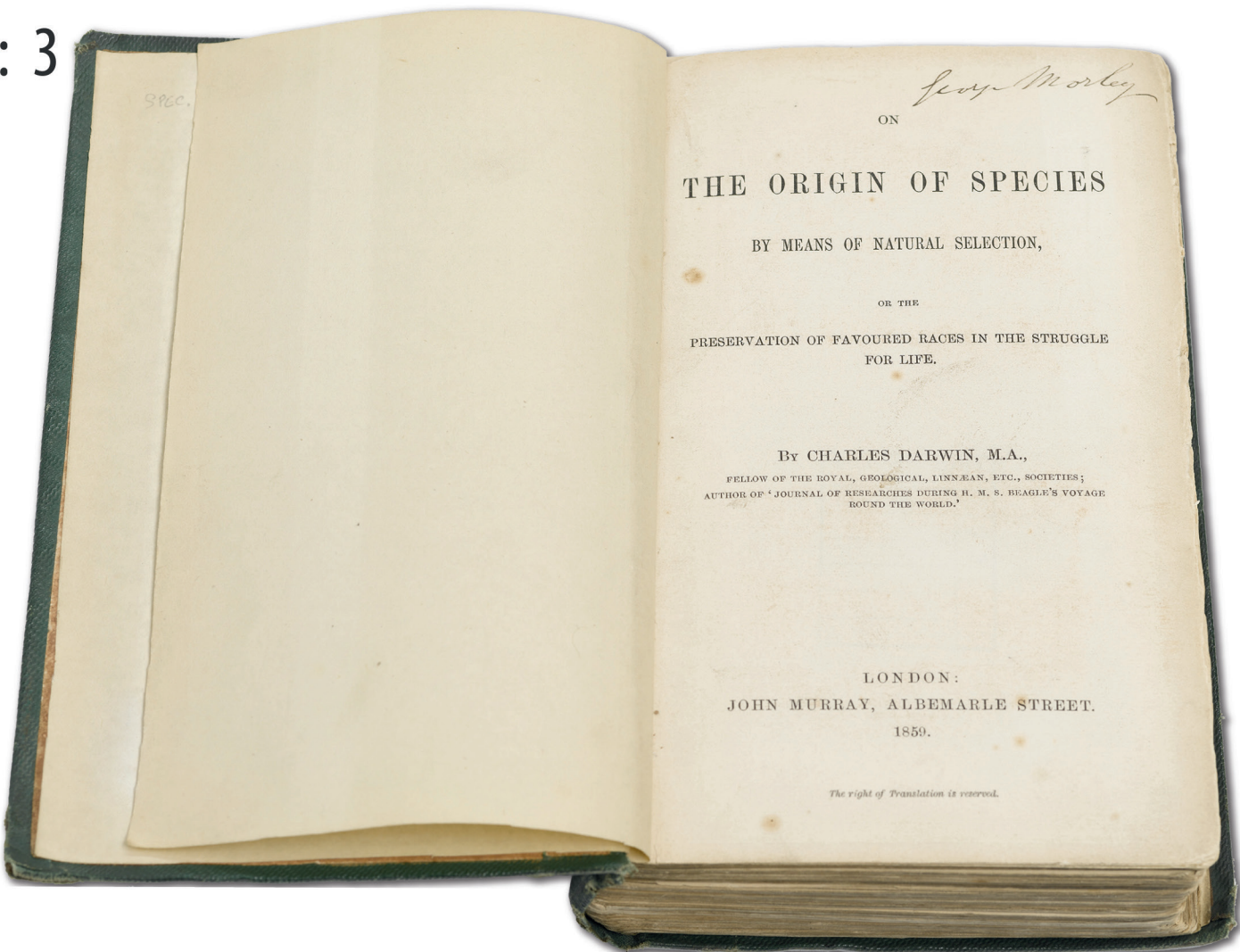
Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 3



Darwin Correspondence Project/Cambridge University Library (CC BY-ND 2.0)

Stop: 3



After L0051514, Wellcome Library, London (CC BY 4.0)

Stop: 3

LETTER 4555

From Ernst Haeckel

To Charles Darwin

9 July, 1864

Translated and Transcribed extracts

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-4555>



Jena (Saxony & Weimar)

9 July 1864

Most honoured Sir

...Of all the books I have ever read, not a single one has come even close to making such an overpowering and lasting impression on me, as your theory of the evolution of species. In your book I found all at once the harmonious solution of all the fundamental problems that I had continually tried to solve ever since I had come to know nature as she really is. Since then your theory—I can say so without exaggerating—has occupied my mind every day most pressingly, and whatever I investigate in the life of humans, animals or plants, your theory of descent always offers me a harmonious solution to all problems, however knotty...

Hoping, dear Sir, that your health will improve and that it will allow you for many years yet to continue the battle for truth and against human prejudice, I remain with the most sincere esteem,

Yours truly devoted
Ernst Haeckel

Stop: 3

LETTER 4555

From Ernst Haeckel

To Charles Darwin

9 July, 1864

Pages 1 & 8 of original letter, in German

(reduced in size)

<http://www.darwinproject.ac.uk/entry-4555>



Haeckel

35
Jena G.
(Pachsen-Weimar)

Hochachtung geehrter Herr

Von einer längeren geologischen Reise
Mittelmeer zurückgekehrt, fand ich
schon vor mehreren Monaten abge-
nommen, da mir eine außerordentlich
bereitet hat. Derselbe giebt mir
Gelegenheit, Ihnen, theuren Herr,
persönlich die vorzüglichste Verrechnung
außerordentliche Hochachtung zu besetzen
die ich für den Entdecken der „Struggle
Life“ und der „Natural selection“ hege. Von
allen Büchern, die ich jemals gelesen habe,
hat kein einziges auch nur annähernd einen so
mächtigen und nachhaltigen Eindruck in mir
hervorgebracht, als Ihre Theorie über die
Entstehung der Arten. Im diesem Buche fand
ich mit einem Male die harmonische Lösung
aller der fundamentalen Probleme, nach deren
Erklärung ich beständig gestrebt hatte, seit-
dem ich die Natur in ihrem wahren Wesen kennen
gelernt hatte. Seitdem hat mich Ihre
Theorie — ich darf dies ohne Uebertreibung
sagen — täglich auf der angelegentlichste
beschäftigt, und wo ich mein Auge in das
Leben der Menschen, Thiere und Pflanzen

Haeckel

Verzeihen Sie, hochverehrter
Herr, wenn ich Ihre kostbare Zeit
mit diesem langen Brief schon allzu sehr
in Anspruch genommen habe. Allein
war mir das lebhafteste Bedürfnis
es derjenige einmal auszusprechen, was
mich täglich auf der Vielfachste bewegt
bei allen meinen Arbeiten durchdringt.
Wess das Herz voll ist, des fließt
der Mund über“.

Meine hiesigen Freunde und
Kollegen, der vergleichende Linguist
Gust Schleicher, und der vergleichende
Anatom Carl Gegenbaur, mit denen
sehr häufig von Ihnen spreche,
die meine feste Überzeugung von der
Wahrheit Ihrer Lehne theilen,
wünschen Sie ihrer vorzüglichsten Hochachtung
zu sein, theurer Herr, hoffe, dass Ihre
Unruhe sich besetzt und Ihnen noch
lange gestattet, den guten Kampf für die
Wahrheit und gegen der menschliche Vorurtheil
zu kämpfen. Bleibe ich mit den vollkommene
Vernehrung Ihr ganz ergebener Ernst Haeckel

