

28 Jermyn Street London.

19. July. 1866.

My dear M. Latet

Press of work has forbidden me to answer your valuable and instructive letter till the present time.

I am looking forward to you for some more light about the fossil Rhinoceroses, and especially about the R. leptorhinus of Cuvier. I really do not know when my paper on that species will be printed. Learned Societies on this side are inert bodies that require the impact of at least one year before they move, or print anything.

Last week I ordered my bookseller, to send you a copy of the Quarterly Journal of Science containing my article. I hope that you will not at all feel annoyed at my inability to take you new. In science I am of Aristotle's opinion with

so far as I could all refer to Treglaine & Postglaine
Manxalia. As the work progresses I hope to be able to work
them out; and therefore am anxious not to stultify myself.

I am not at all surprised at your being astonished at my
views about the Bears. The length of the Introduction would not
admit of my adducing proof of the views advanced. The Ursus
maritimus of Ist. (ante differs as much from U. maritimus
as now alive, as the brown bear (U. arctos) does. If you take
the femora of these two species and compare them you will
see at a glance the difference between U. maritimus of Ireland,
and U. maritimus as now found upon the earth. An Irishman
only could have dared to state that the former was the Polar Bear.

respect to personal feeling and ones
 idea of truth "ἡ ἀλήθεια ὀντοῦ ἁπάντων
 ὁμοῦ προτεμεν τὴν ἀλήθειαν".

You may be right and I wrong: but
 honesty, I can only write what appears
 right to me.

In the deposits that are
 beyond all doubt of post-glacial age
 in Britain there are but 2 fossil
 Rhinoceroses, R. tichorhinus, of Cuvier,
 and R. leptorhinus of Owen (= R. hemic-
boeckius, of the age of the deposits in
 the valley of the Thames, where R.
Megarhinus has been obtained & a
 uncertain; but so far as the evidence of
 the mammalia goes, my belief is that
 they are of preglacial age. I am sur-
 veying the country between these
 strata and the preglacial beds of
 Suffolk, and am waiting for more
 evidence before I can decide their
 age. For this reason in the Introduction
 to the Brit. Pleist. Man. I omitted

With reference to the U. planifrons of
Mr. Dewey. In Britain I have examined
upwards of 50 fossil crania of bears, and
I cannot say that any two are absolutely
alike. The frontal sinuses vary, probably,
with sex and food, and habitat. The
existing brown bears indeed vary in
the same way, and to such a degree
that Dr. Gray of the British Museum
divides the U. arctos of Europe into
5 species. I shall like to give you full
evidence for these views, in the Monograph
on the Bears, which I hope to have
the pleasure of sending you next
Autumn. 1867.

Along with this I send
outlines of all the leptacanth teeth I know
of - except the casts, which I will
send as soon as I get permission to have
the state, from the Trustees of the
Brit. Mus. Pray tear up the 255
I sent you, as I don't want it again, and
excuse the absurd mistake I made in
my last letter. I am, My dear Mr. Lartet, Yours
very truly, W. B. G. Dawkins.