

P
Jena May 19, 1882

Dear Sir

In reply to your letter of May 17, I beg to state that I have sent 12 letters, which your father wrote to me, to Dr. E. Krause in Berlin, who wished to make use of them in writing a biography. I have written to him immediately and he must return them very soon. As soon as they will be in my possession again I shall send them to you. Some are very interesting particularly the one answering my queries, where he says "I never wrote so much about myself in my life". That was in 1869 or 1870 I believe. I have not the slightest objection to your publishing those letters which have according to your opinion any biographical or scientific

for interest.

I am not sure whether you are in possession of the short biographical sketch which I published for the first time in "Das Ausland" April 2, 1870 and - with some corrections - in the "Kosmos" in Vol. IV p. 339-350. As this paper was acknowledged by your father to be quite correct as to facts, and as it contains the only complete list of all the works and published papers by him up to 1877 (excepting perhaps some letters to "Nature") it may be of some use to you and I send you a copy.

I am sorry I cannot find more than a dozen letters, but I remember having seen others addressed in Mr. Darwin's own hands -

to and
writing (in the possession of Dr. W.
Breitenbach / who is now in Porto
Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- this is the full address -). Besides Mr.
E. Ray Lankester showed me a
very interesting note [interesting as to
vivisection] in 1871 I believe. It was
addressed to him. - My friend Gch.
Rath Dr. Hugo Thiel (Landgrafen-
strasse 7 Berlin) received in 1869 a
letter which proves that at that
time Mr. D. it did not occur to
that his views could be applied
to moral and social questions.

But it does not seem necessary to
publish this now. - Prof. Hilde-
brand, the botanist in Freiburg
(Baden) is in possession of a letter
the contents of which I know not.

In the beginning of this month
I sent the "Kölnische Zeitung"
No. 117 (Apr. 28, 1882) to Mrs Darwin.

I hope no serious mistake (besides
the 27th of Nov. instead of the 24th as the
birthday of Darwinism) has crept into the
article therein. I was obliged to write
it at Wiesbaden rather in a hurry and
without the material I would have
had at my disposal here.

Believe me, dear Sir,

Yours sincerely

W. Preyer

To F. Darwin Esq
Down