

number means to blow me into  
atoms. He does not in least  
appreciate the difference in my  
views & Lamarche's, as explaining  
adaptation, the principle of  
divergence, the increase of dominant  
groups, & the almost necessary  
extinction of the less dominant &  
smaller groups &c. &c. —

Talking of adaptation, I have  
lately been looking at our  
common orchids, & I dare say  
the facts are as old &  
well-known as the hills, but  
I have been so struck with  
adaptation to the circumstances,  
that I have sent notice to  
Gardner Chronicle, The Ophrys

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Down Bromley Kent  
June 8<sup>th</sup>

My dear Gray

I have to thank you for two notes,  
one through Hooker, & one with some  
letters to be posted, which was  
done. — I anticipated your request  
of making a few remarks on Owen's  
Review. Hooker is so weary of Review;  
that I do not think you will get  
any hint from him. — I have lately  
had many <sup>more</sup> kicks than half-pence.  
a review in <sup>Review</sup> Dublin Irish Lit. Mag.  
is the most unfair thing which  
has appeared, — one map of misrepresentation.  
It is evidently of Haughton's, the  
geologist, chemist & mathematician.  
It shows innumerable conceits &  
contrivances of all, who are not mathematicians.



He ~~is~~ <sup>discovered</sup> Beer-cells, & puts a  
series, which I have never alluded  
to, <sup>in</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>intermediate</sup> <sup>cont</sup>  
of Melipona which alone led  
me to <sup>the</sup> <sup>interest</sup>. The article is  
a university of unfairness & arrogance.

But as he sneers at Malthus,  
I am content, ~~that~~ for it is  
clear he cannot reason.

He is a friend of Harvey, with whom  
I have had some correspondence.

Your article has clearly <sup>as he admits</sup> <sup>influenced</sup>  
- <sup>and</sup> him: he admits to  
certain extent natural selection,  
yet I am sure does not  
understand me. It is strange the

very few do. & I am become  
quite convinced that I must be

an extremely bad explainer. To recur  
in moment to Owen. He gives <sup>Harvey</sup>  
miscegenet & is <sup>very</sup> unfair to ~~him~~.  
You say that you think the article  
must be by pupil of Owen; but  
no one fact tells so strongly  
against Owen, considering his former  
position at Coll. of Surgeons, <sup>as</sup> <sup>this</sup>  
he has never treated one pupil  
a follower. - In the number  
just out of Fraser's magazine,  
there is article of Review on  
Lamarck & me of W. Hopkins,  
a mathematician; who like  
Huxley despises the reasoning  
powers of all naturalists. I myself  
he is extremely kind towards me;  
but he evidently is following



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apart, often, as you will see,  
a curious contradiction in  
structure. — I get on very

very slowly with my larger work;

& of late from a very unhappy  
cause, my poor eldest daughter

about 16 years old, has not been

40 days ill with her fever:

we have had a good deal of  
anxiety, but I hope & think

she has at last turned the

corner, though the fever has

not gone. — Farewell. When

so inclined, my wife; — it

is a great pleasure to me to

hear from you. — Your most

loyal & grateful  
C. Darwin



P.S. I have been making some little  
trifling observations which have interested  
& perplexed me much. I find with  
Junos & Lotus like, that about  
an equal number of plants  
are thus characterized  
(good)  
10-celled or male plants

Pistil much shorter than stamens;  
stigma rather smooth, - pollen  
grains large, throat of corolla  
short. -

10-celled female plants

Pistil much longer than stamens,  
stigma simpler - pollen-grains  
smaller, - throat of corolla  
long.

I have marked a lot of  
plants, & expected to find the

10-celled male plants barren; but  
judging from the feel of the capsules,  
this is not the case, & I am  
very much surprised at difference  
in <sup>the</sup> size of pollen, which I  
measured many times & always

found  $\frac{2.53}{100}$  of an inch less in  
the "female" than in the "male" plants.  
Diameter  $\pi$  - If it should prove

that the 10-celled male plants  
produce less seed than the  
10-celled females, which a  
beautiful case of gradation  
from hermaphrodite to unisexual  
evolution it will be! If  
they produce about equal  
number of seed, but perishing  
it will be.  $\pi$



Darwin, Charles. 1860. "Darwin, Charles June 8, 1860." *Charles Darwin letters to Asa Gray*

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