

Amesbury
Nov 169 Toronto Nov 29. 1869

My dear Sir

I am much obliged by your
letting me see the proof sheets, of the first portion
of your forthcoming volume. I do not doubt that
it will be a useful work and it may perhaps,
notwithstanding some considerable difference of opinion
as to its practical importance, be made useful
in my classes, as I have no intention of pub-
lishing an introduction according to my own views
and there is none published which comes nearer
to them than yours which in many respects I like
much, so I must employ the most convenient
textbook I can procure and trust to my own explana-
tions and reasonings in the lecture room for impressing
on my pupils what I think important. I may
possibly print for the convenience of students an
outline of the animal kingdom as I arrange it.

possibly accompanied by an outline view of the
Vegetable Kingdom, the classification of which I very
confidently hope that I have done something to improve
but such a work would not be intended to supersede
another text-book and would not therefore prevent
my employing yours. At present I use Agassiz
& Gould's comparative Physiology - putting aside
entirely the introductory outline for which I
substitute one of my own, and enlarging on the
subjects as much as time will permit but my
fuller account of the structure and arrangement
of animals forms a higher course at a more
advanced period. I should still press the claims
of Subold's 5th subkingdom, which I cannot admit
to have any close relations with Radiata and
which stands on totally different grounds from
Coelenterata Mollusca or Annelida. All my
observations and reflections confirm me also in the
conclusion that the structural conditions or tendencies

represented in the divisions of nature - are five
not four - sense and motion yielding two
nutritive two, the lower being a sort of imi-
tation of that in the vegetable kingdom - excre-
tial or absorbent, and the fifth representing the
lowest condition consistent with the type - In short
the more I consider the more strongly I adhere
to the arguments of my former papers so that
... these matters were at issue - but I would not
exaggerate their importance and I would gladly
have a good Canadian book on our subjects.

I am just finishing my long uncompleted
paper on the Mollusca for our Journal but
I was so stopped by various illness that I have
had a difficulty in resuming my task and must
cut short details. In going through your proofs I
observed one or two errors of the press besides those corrected
with the pen - thus at the first word of p. 13 is printed
ae sophageal instead of oe - . It is difficult to obtain

correct printing in Canada with all the care we
can bestow. I often wish Montreal weren't
quite so far off, as it would be a great pleasure
to visit it occasionally. you are strong in
Naturalists compared to what we are.

believe me dear Sir

faithfully and sincerely Yours

William Hincks

