

With Dr. A. R. Wallace's Comp^o.

DSI

The Dell, Grays, Essex.

May 31st. 1874

Dear Mr. Carruthers

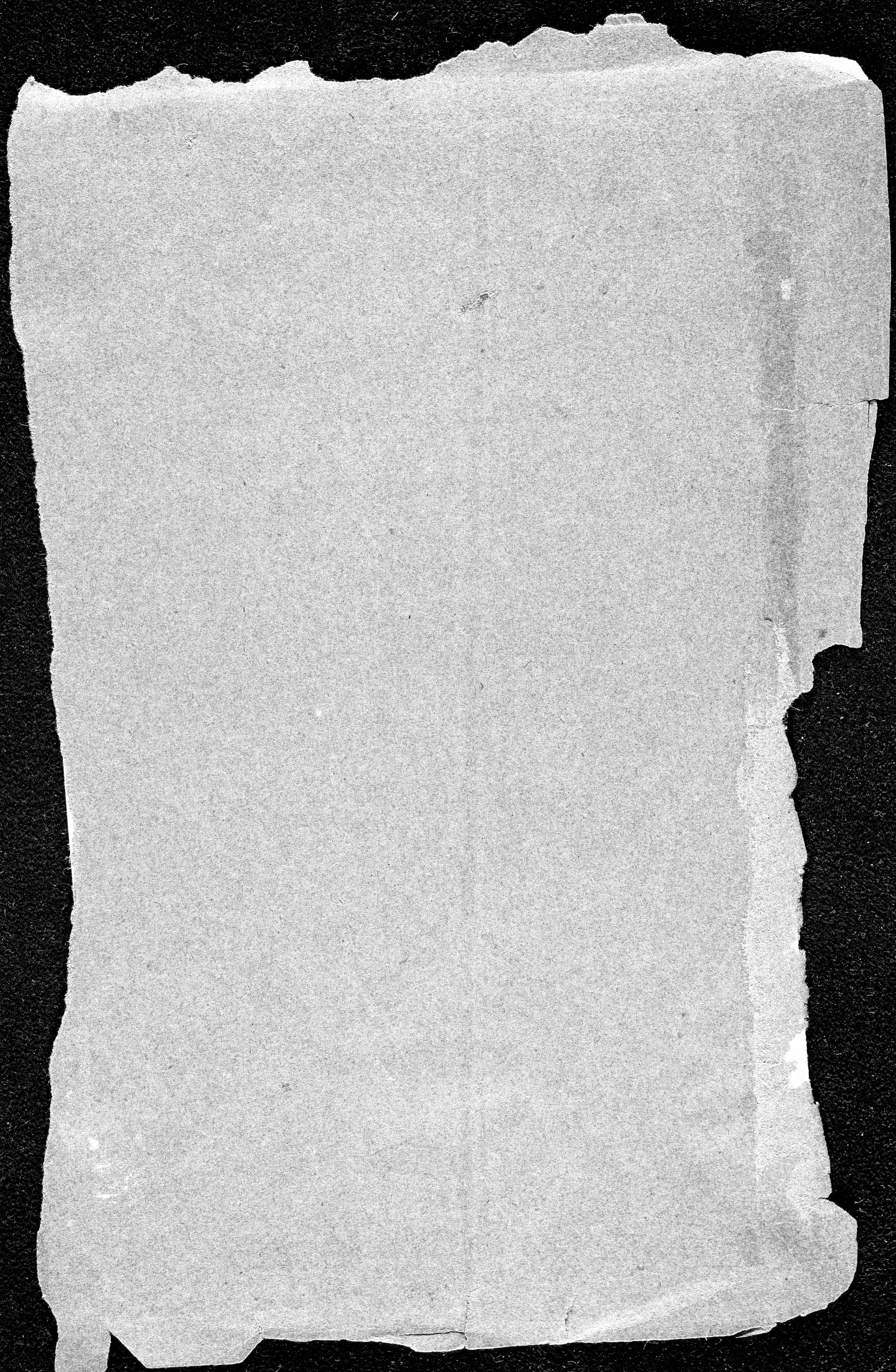
If you can not
tell me yourself perhaps you can
tell me who can give me
information as to the exact
localities of Orchis militaris &
v. sinuata, said to grow plentifully
on the north bank of the Thames
between Reading & Goring. I
am growing here a good many
hardy Orchises and want to
add these to my collection, but
as it is a long way to go I
do not like to go alone without

information from some one
who has local knowledge. If
any one who knows the locality
would join me in an excursion
there next week I should
be glad.

Remain

Yours very faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace.



26 March 1880

SIR,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your
letter of the *25th Inst.* enclosing Cheque
for *£50* Dividend *Bonus*
due to me on the *25th day*

Yours obediently,

Alfred A. Wallace

W. B. HODGE, ESQ.,
Secretary,
General Reversionary and Investment
Company,
5, WHITEHALL.

DSI

Frieth Hill, Godalming
Jan^y. 17th. 1884

Dear Sir

Our Ass^t. Sec. Mr. Evans has
sent me your letter & says he has
written to you. He has probably given
you the information you wish for.
I know of no special point of
importance to call your attention to,
except perhaps to Rev. Stopford Brooke's
sermon about a month ago (repeated
in the papers) in which he showed
from personal observation how the
London Slaves are recruited & their evils
intensified, by countrymen driven away
by Landlordism.

Wishing you a good audience and
a successful meeting,

Yours faithfully
Alfred Wallace

DSI



17. 1. 84

A B Wallace

Frith Hill, Godalming.

Oct. 30th. 1884

My dear Sir

Many thanks for your remarks on my paper. I am always glad to know how my views strike others, as it is so difficult for a writer on these questions to ~~tell~~ put himself in the mental attitude of those who have hitherto held different views, and even if he does not agree with the objections he brings, a more full discussion is needed.

In the case of your main objection there seems to me to be a little misconception. "Peasant-farmers which occupy a main 'shole time'" - about which you are doubtful, form no part of my present proposal except incidentally. What I have in my paper maintained that there is no practical disagreement about, is, that it is an enormous benefit for every

labourer to have an use of land
(or two or more in exceptional cases)
to occupy his own time, & compulsorily
idle time. All the argument of
my paper goes to this point only.

I refer to the use & value of cottage
farms as a supplementary matter
^{importance,}
of great, but not of the vital importance
of the other.

I did not go into the question of
peasant farms because it would
have doubled the length of my
paper, and I have already given
a full summary of the facts in
their favour in my little book on
"Land Nationalisation". I will however
make a few remarks on your
objections.

As to why the yeomen disappeared
there is much difference of opinion.
I don't profess to know, because I
do not consider it a point of much
importance, but I have always
considered that the chief cause was
the enormous growth of wealth by
manufactures & Commerce & the
corresponding rise in value of land,
with the greed for land of the wealthy
being a temptation to the yeomen
to sell their farms which they could
not resist. They were absorbed into
great estates, & there was no corresponding
great creation of small estates, owing
to the great demand for land by
great landowners, not necessarily
because the yeomen could not live
on their farms.

Again the whole condition have now

changed. Large tenant farms in
England or large sheep farms in the
Highlands, which were all the rage
50 to 100 years ago, no longer pay.
All I ask for, is, that small farms
may be allowed to grow up again
naturally. If they do not pay they
will not arise, — but that does not
affect the land & the labourer question.

Again as to the flow from the country
to the towns having always existed. I
quite admit it. All I say in my
paper is, that the diminution of the
population of whole Counties was first
noticed 20 years ago. Previous to the
last 50 or 60 years the surplus rural
population went mostly to increase
the country towns & large villages; but for
the last 30 years it has gone mostly
to great manufacturing towns & cities.

The great principle I most strongly
urge is, that no man or body
of men should be allowed to
determine the natural flow of
population over the surface of
our country, or interpose any
barriers to the cultivation of
the land ^{in any way individuals find best.} To all schemes
for establishing peasant farms
I am as strongly opposed as
any one. I only ask for them
to be allowed freely to grow, -
which they will only do if they
fulfill a need and are profitable,
and till they are allowed to
then grow no one can possibly

say they will not succeed.

Never, in modern times, have men been allowed any real freedom in the use of their native soil, and it is impossible to argue from what occurred without this free development as to what will occur under it.

I do not think you can have read (recently) the Chap. on "Occupying Ownership" in my Land Nationalisation, or would hardly say that a case has not been made ab initio in favour of

small farms, at the present day.

I believe myself that with free growth of population over the land, under such conditions of security as I propose, ^{home} markets would be created ~~around~~ ⁱⁿ every district, and moreover that home industries, either purely domestic or in small cooperative factories would naturally spring up as a means of utilising the savings and spare labour of the rural populations. Under present conditions no such growth is possible, - and we have huge & hideous manufacturing

towns on the one hand - a
desert & half cultivated country
on the other.

Believe me
Yours very faithfully

Alfred A. Wallace

Rev. Wm. Cunningham

Fritch Hill, Goddard, Vt.
June 2nd. 1888

Dear Mr. Loper

I return the proof
of "Report" with a few corrections
of my address, & an additional
bit of Ms. to make clear
what I meant to say in

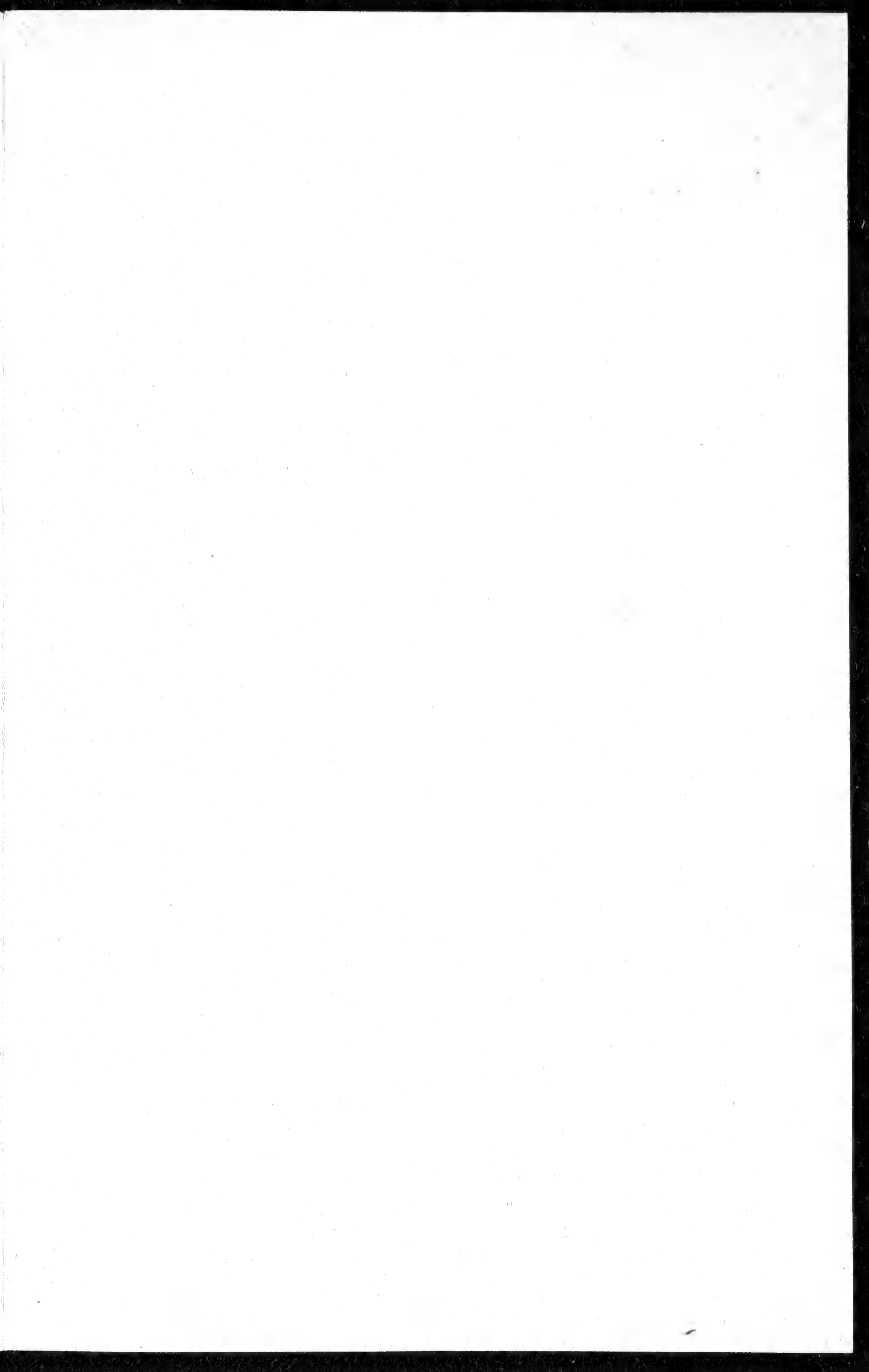
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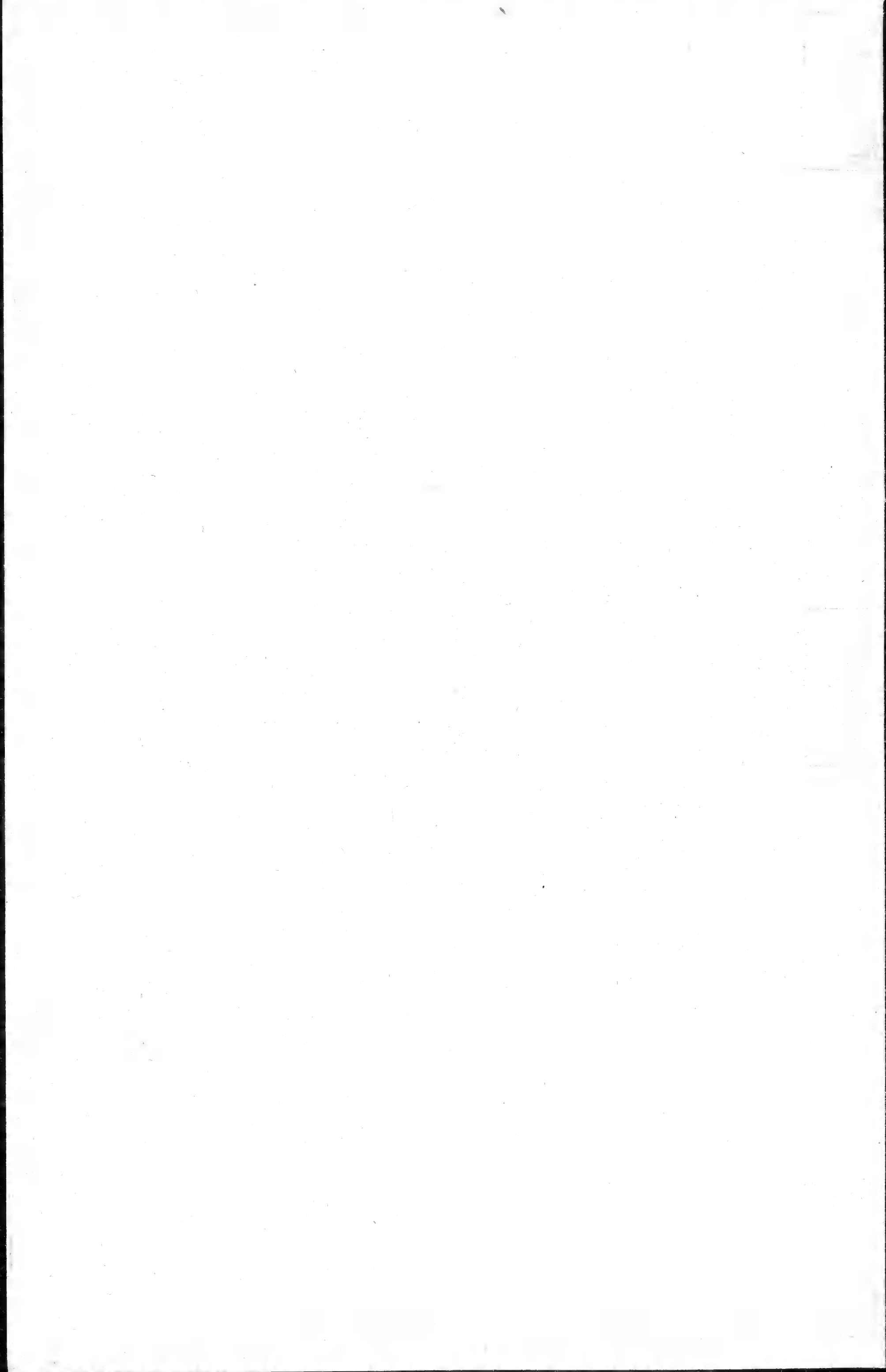
is set up, & corrected.

Yours very faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace

DSI





UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE
POST CARD—GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND
(GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE)

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



Henry Howard Esq.

Providence, R. I.

U. S. A.



DSI

Parkstone, Dorset, England.
August 8th. 1889



Dear Sir.

Thank you for sending me
the careful review of my book, in the
Providence "Sunday Journal", and also for
your kind expressions towards myself.

Yours faithfully

Alfred Wallace

Parkstone, Dorset

Sept. 16th. 1890

D. A. Burstead Esq.

Dear Sir

I now bank with the
Wilt and Dorset Banking Company
Limited, Poole Branch, and

shall be glad if you will in
future send my dividends of
the Equ. Provisionary & Investment
Company crossed to that
Bank.

Yours faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace

A.R. Wallace

=

16 Sept. 1890

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Cheques by post to be crossed
Wills & Dorset Bank Poole

P. O. B.
72

Parkstone, Dorset.

Nov. 22nd. 1891

Ms. 26. 1891
My dear Mrs. Besant

As one who admires
your boldness, your honesty, and
the excellent work you have done
for humanity, I take the liberty
of addressing you on a very
important subject - that of the
value of the philosophy you have
recently adopted. I am not
going to argue at all on the
question of Theosophy, but merely
to urge upon you - before finally
and irrevocably committing yourself
to it as founded in truth -
the facts of nature - to read a
book which seems to me to

throw far more light on the
nature of the universe & of man,
and to offer a surer foundation
for morals & religion, than
are to be found in the purely
speculative teachings of the
Theosophists. The author of this
work was, like yourself, an
agnostic, being a man of
powerful intellect and great
literary ability he determined
to see if all the actual knowledge
now attained of organised beings,
through the sciences of morphology
embryology & physiology, could
lead, by systematic reasoning on
these ^{facts}, to any rational conceptions

of the nature & origin of life &
of the material universe, - & of
the mental & moral nature
of man. After devoting many
years to the study he has given
his results in two volumes, - the
first - "Whence comes Man" - the
2nd. - "Why does Man exist." If
my judgment is worth anything
this 2nd work is one of the most
remarkable that has yet appeared,
since, by a train of logical &
acute reasoning, on facts, it
leads to a conception of the nature
of man & God which offers a
sound foundation for morality
and religion, and that could

light upon, if it does not wholly
solve, some of the most difficult
problems of philosophy.

Now, as I know that you seek
after truth - & truth only, and are
moreover a student who can
read, and assimilate what
you read, I write to ask you
whether you will read carefully
and studiously Mr. Bell's book.
If so I will ask him to send
you a copy, which I am sure
he will be most pleased to
do. Having read it I ask
you to compare the two methods
of arriving at some knowledge
of man and the universe, -
(1) that of Mr. Bell, which is, &

(6)

Reason, carefully, cautiously, but
unflinchingly on the marvellous
fact as to life revealed by
modern science; and, in every
case boldly to follow out our
reasonings to their legitimate
conclusions; — or (2) that of
the Theosophists, which is to
accept the dicta of various old
teachers, who were absolutely
ignorant of that ^{exact} knowledge of nature
laboriously attained by modern
research, and the truth of
whose dogmas ~~such~~ we have no possible
means of verifying. On the

a method that has failed again and again in the history of science.

one hand we can test the facts, we can follow the arguments, and can adopt the conclusion just so far as it seems to be justified.

On the other hand we have doctrines given us whose truth we have no means whatever of testing either as to fact or reasoning, — but ~~by~~ solely by their supposed ~~power~~ power of explaining a few of the phenomena of human nature and the amount of inherent probability they may have for each of us — You, I am sure will admit, that we shall be

rather able to judge of that inherent
probability if we make ourselves,
acquainted, ^{first} with what can be
learnt from the facts of our
organisation & ^{our} mental faculties,
by means of those faculties; and
I therefore on this ground hope
that you will at least
read this one book.

It seems to me that the whole
history of human progress warns
us against accepting beliefs on
authority instead of ^{founding them} on fact and
reasoning. The acceptance of the
Aristotelian philosophy barred the
way to all advance in knowledge
for more than a thousand years.

The dogmas of St. Paul & St. John
accepted by theologians, ^{as truths,} have ~~to~~
a longer period blinded the
human intellect. The metaphysicians
have argued & spun their theories
in vain from the earliest epoch
to this day. Should we not
therefore beware of again accepting
theories or beliefs the rational
ground for which we can not
ourselves test and examine?

Only when we have exhausted the
knowledge gained by patient study
of nature, and all that is to be
derived from it, should we accept
teachings that claim to be from higher
minds than ours; only then so far as
they are consistent with what we have
learned by more legitimate modes of
study. Believe me
Yours very truly

Alfred Wallace

B

Parkstone, Dorset.

March 31st. 1892

Dear Mr. Besant

I could very easily
answer the questions you send
but I do not see what purpose
it would serve. Opinions are of
no value without stating the
evidence on which they are founded.
Again; the questions seem altogether
onesided, as none of them touch
on the special teaching of Theosophy.
Get further, so few Spiritualists see
Succifer that the discussion would
not reach them. It seems to me
that to serve any useful purpose
the questions should be so put as

to bring out the crucial difference
between Spiritualists & Theosophists
The evidence, for each special
doctrine should be summarized
in the answers
And, lastly, arrangements should
be made to have the whole
discussion published in Light
as well as in ~~the~~ Lucifer.

Yours very faithfully

Alfred R. Wallace

52

UNION POSTALE UNIVERSELLE

POST CARD—GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND

(GRANDE BRETAGNE ET IRLANDE)

THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



M. Olaf Halvorsen
 Nordal Baumgadi, 6,
 Christiania
 Norway.

DS

Dear Sir

I myself find no satisfaction in Theosophy, and its elaborate and complex theory of man and of the universe seem to me very improbable and unsatisfactory. It is wholly theoretical, and no part of it can be brought to the test of experiment or observation. Much of it is spiritualism under other names, but where it goes beyond I see nothing but the speculations of the old Indian philosophers full of the fanciful numerical arrangements and vast cosmic cycles in which they delighted.

Yours very truly

Alfred Wallace

Parkstone, Dorset.

August 14th. 1893

My dear Swinton

I have sent the
stone axe fragment to Miss Shore
with a note. I could get
no definite opinion about it
either from Australia or here,
except, that, being ground smooth,
exactly like native axes now used,
it cannot be so old as the
gold drift. I think I told you

this before (I do not agree with this.)

I have written to Mr. Glendinning
about the photos. sent me. Without
details of precautions &c. they are
valueless as they have all the
characters of frauds, & it is a pity

that he lets any copies go out of his possession without the exact mode of taking them written or printed on back of each, with his name & address. The figure is evidently made up, the face being from a cast or statue, the holes for the pupils of the eyes being visible with a lens. The hair & drapery seem real. They are exactly like artists' lay-figures dressed up with a plaster bust for head, with a wig of real hair. Of course this does not in the least diminish the marvel, if no such things could get on the plate by normal means. The baby seems the portrait of a real baby - fleshly or spiritual.

I am glad to hear you are going

to build a good land at last.
It will be a good investment if
you do not want to occupy it, as
pretty houses in such a situation
are sure to let well. But when
built I expect Mrs. Swinton will
enjoy it.

I have had a letter from Dr.
Hertzka asking me to be a
Vice President of his Society. I shall
stipulate it is to be honorary.
I did not go to see H. V. Mills
Colony because when at Ambleside
every fine day was occupied with
excursions, ^{and reach} it would have taken
a day to find the place, & then
Mills might not have been
there. Many places we would
have liked to have seen were
left unvisited for want of

time. My sister is I fear very
ill. She has tumours on her
neck & her doctor thinks they
are very serious. A specialist
is going to see them & I
am waiting his report. She
could probably not stand an
operation.

With best wishes

Believe me
Yours very sincerely

Arthur B. Wallace

Parkstone, Dorset.

Jan^y 9th. 1894

D. Pidgeon Esq

My dear Sir

Thanks for your very

interesting letter. Ever since I first

took an interest in the subject of

glaciers - more than thirty years

ago - I have been looking for

estimates of the quantity of mud

in glacier streams. But, as you

say, the quantity in the Greenland

ice-cap streams would be far

more varied as that would be

all due to erosion. Yet even that

might not give the full amount of

erosion of the old Alpine ice sheets

owing to an unfavourable agency of

grinding material, due to the
few mountain peaks above the
ice. I wish you would write
to "Nature" giving all that part
of your letter referring to Greenland,
and the vast importance of its
wind-charged streams as an
actual measure of the erosion
due to an ice-sheet. The Brit.
Assn., Royal Geog. Society,
between them, should arrange
to have these streams measured
regularly for wind discharge in
a year. It would not cost
very much, & would give more
valuable information than many
more costly expeditions.

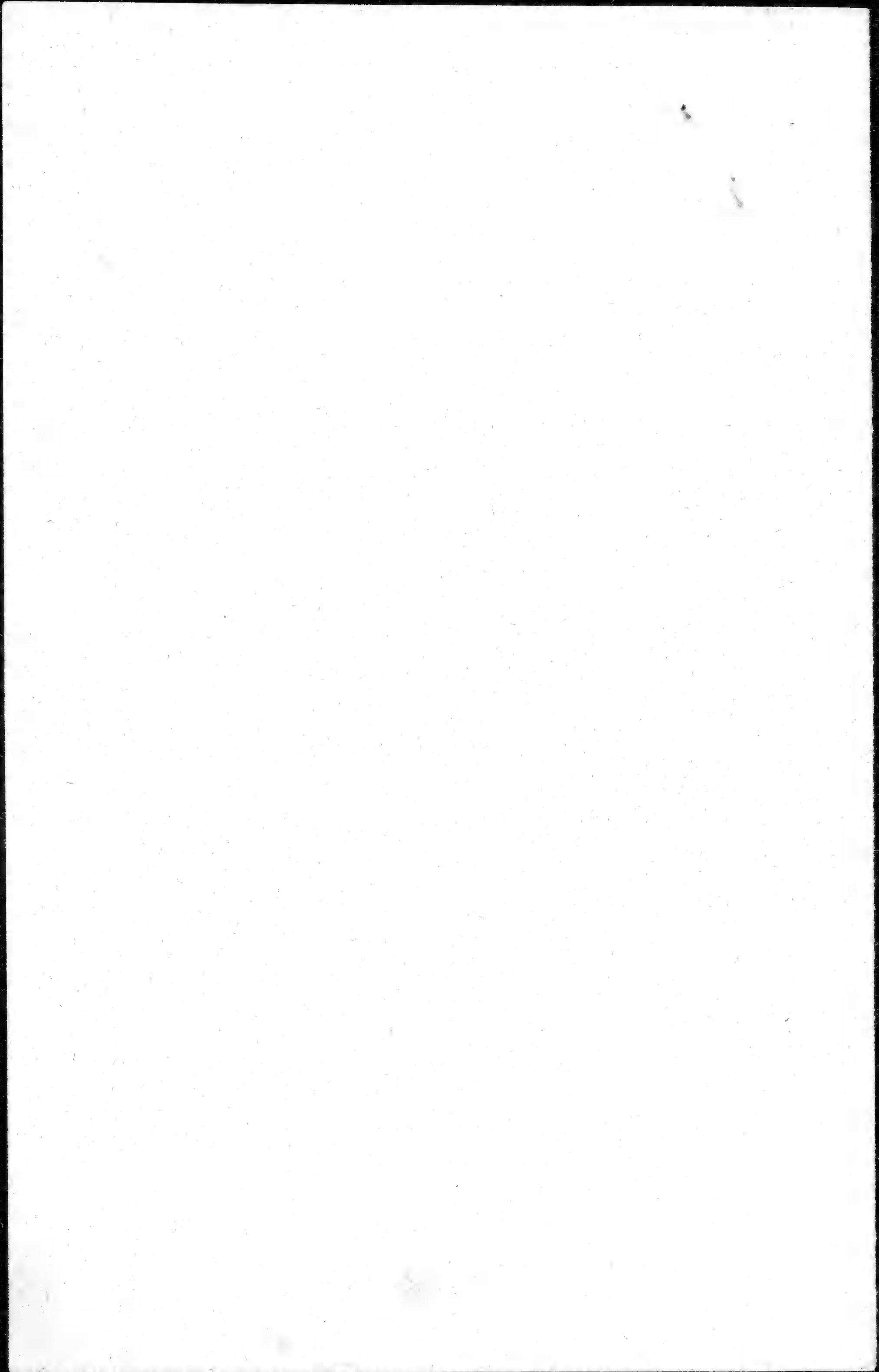
The only recent paper on the
American Great Lakes was that of
Prof. J. W. Spencer in Q. J. G. S. of 1890;
but he was against ice-erosion.
It was injudicious of Ramsay to
claim those lakes as ice-eroded,
though it seems to me certain
that ice-erosion must have
deepened them in parts.

Shall I return your letter
for you to write "Nature", or
will you write afresh? What
you say about Greenland will
be a real contribution to
the discussion.

Fishermen were

gone over the

of the



Parkstone, Dorset.

Feb^y. 12th. 1898

Dear Son

My new book is not quite finished yet. It will be a volume of about 340 - 350 pp. of the same sized page & type as my "Darwinism". I hope to go to press with it before the end of this month.

I do not know whether Mess^{rs}. Swan Sonnenschein & Co. propose to reprint it in America through their agents. If wish I might make an arrangement with you; but perhaps you had better communicate with them on the subject.

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace.

DSI

Parkstone, Dorset.

March 22nd. 1901

Prof. Silvanus P. Thompson

Dear Sir

I write to ask if you will allow me to have copies of a few of the cuts in your Elementary Lessons in Electricity & Magnetism, to illustrate a chapter describing the main features of Electrical progress during the century for a new edition of my "Wonderful Century".

Those I wish to use are given on other side. If you have no objection I will

ask Macmillan to let me
have electros of them.

Your old pupil, William
G. Wallace, after 3 years
work & play in America, which
he greatly enjoyed, is now
at Newcastle-on-Tyne working
for one of the new American
London firms at Power
Installations.

I was very much pleased
some months since to find
that you, like myself, are
opposed to this horrible S. African
War. Believe me

Yours very truly

Alfred Wallace

Illustrations from Thompson
Elementary Lessons in Electricity &
Magnetism - Edition 1895.

Fig. 107 - page 182

" 67 " 109

" 68 " 110

" 71 } " 112
" 72 }

" 132 " 217

" 245 " 480

" 166 " 308

Alfred Russell Wallace

re

Use of cuts for new
book.

Parkstone, Dorset.
March 28th. 1901

Dear Professor S. Thompson

Many thanks
for permission to use the cuts.

Everything you say about the
War or Chamberlain I agree
with. I have done the little
I can in writing a few letters
& signing memorials &c. but
when men of political influence
like Mr. Courtney are not
listened to it seems hopeless.

The amazing statements made
astonish me. I read today that
Lord Selbourne said last night that
the terms of peace offered were

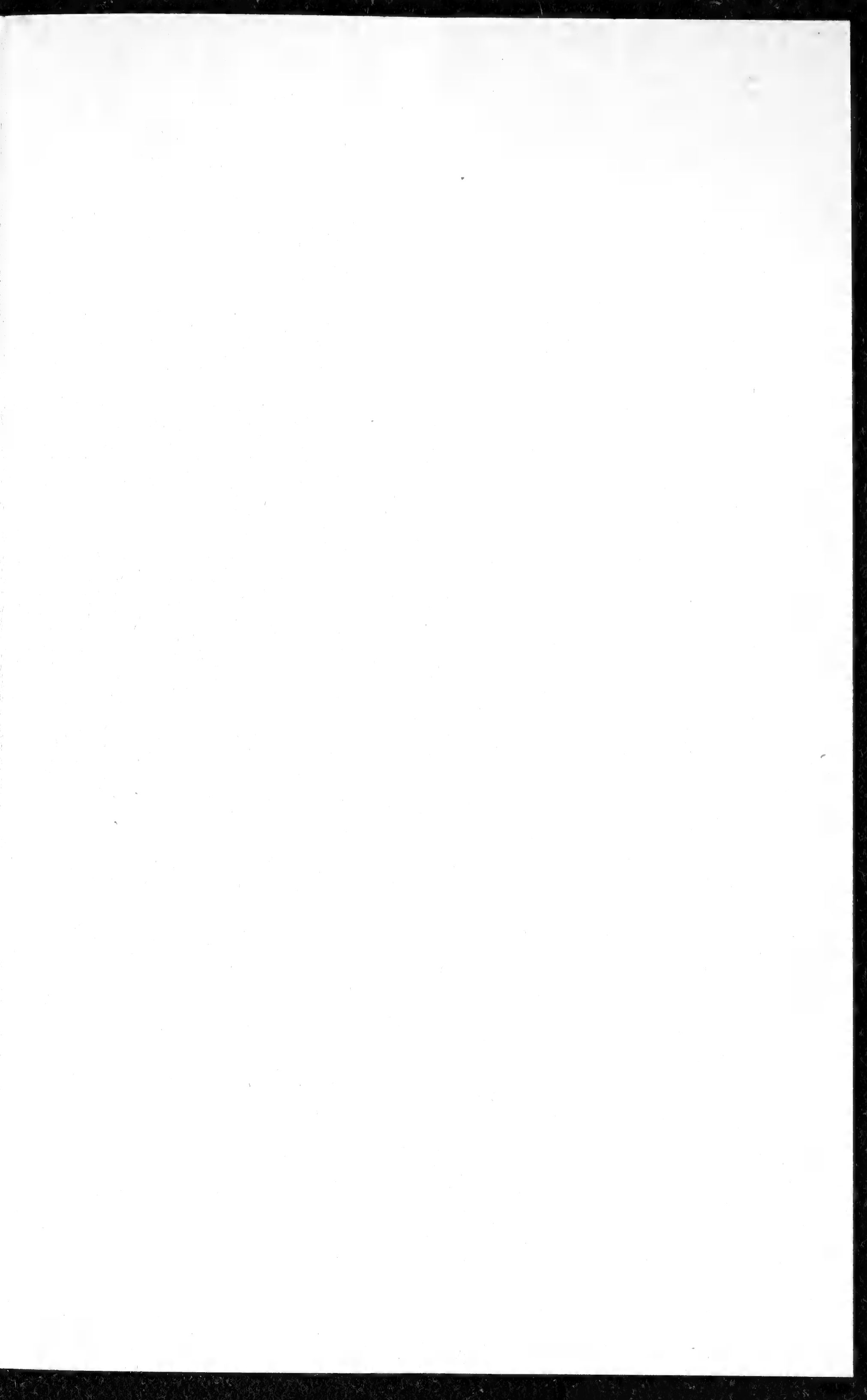
"the most generous ever offered
by victor to vanquished".

And his hearers seem to
believe it!

The people seem war-
mad! We must wait till
they come to their seats.

Yours very truly,

Alfred R. Wallace



Alfred R. Wallace

^{re}
Boer War

7112
25-3-03
Broadstone, Dorset

March 21st. 1903

J. B. Gilder Esq,

Dear Sir

Such a work as
you suggest^{*} is out of my
line, and one which I
could undertake.

I am however now writing
a book of I think much greater
interest, & I will ask my
Agent Mr. Curtis Brown to see
you, if he has not already made
arrangements for its publication
in America.

Yours truly

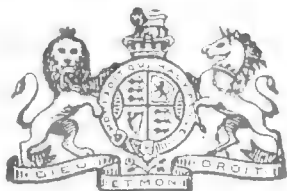
Alfred R. Wallace

DSI

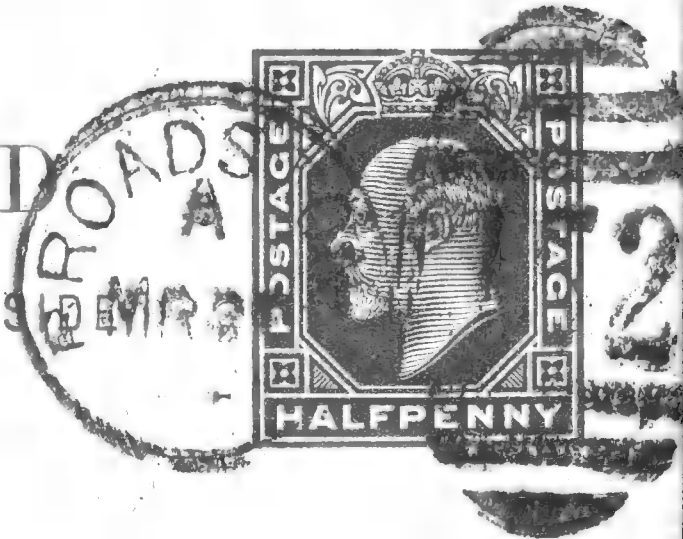


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POST CARD



THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



A. R. Wallace

*26 Mar. 1903
127*

clears for card book

D. A. Bumpsted Esq.

Secretary G. R. and In. Comp^{ny}

26, Pall Mall

London. S.W.

DSI

Broadstone, Dorset.

March 26th. 1903

Dear Sir

Please cross my cheques in
future Poole instead of Parkstone
as I have removed my banking account
to that Branch instead of Parkstone,
for greater convenience.

Yours truly

Alfred T. Wallace

Broadstone, Wimborne

Jan^y. 10th. 1907

J. H. Jackson Esq.

Dear Sir

Thanks for your
good wishes & kind
appreciation. I am glad
to say I am still in very
fair health.

Miss Chant, The Studio,
Parkstone, Dorset.

has the best & most recent
portraits of me, & will no
doubt send you specimens
if you write.

I am very much surprised.

at your request as to
my writing any remembrance
In Oct 1905, I published
2 vols. entitled "My Life" - &
I think from that date till
January & February last
every newspaper in the
Kingdom, almost, had
more or less lengthy Reviews
of it. How you can have
missed seeing any of these
Reviews is very strange.

If you have a good
public library in Croydon
no doubt you can get to

see the book.

Only in ~~last~~ ^{this} week; "Reader"
June^y. 12th. Sir A. Conan Doyle
in a post card about the books
that have impressed him
most in the past year - names
4, and concludes - "These have
impressed me most, together
with Wallace's autobiography"

Yours very truly

Wm. A. Wallace.

DSI

Nov. 28th.
1908

Old Orchard,

Broadstone,

Wimborne.

William Strang Esq

Dear Sir

I have received
a letter from the Librarian
at Windsor Castle informing
me that you are commissioned
by the King to take a
portrait-drawing of myself
as a member of the Order
of Merit.

I presume you ^{can} come

here for the sitting,
as it will be impossible
for me to come to
you, unless it were delayed
till summer, on account
of my very delicate health.

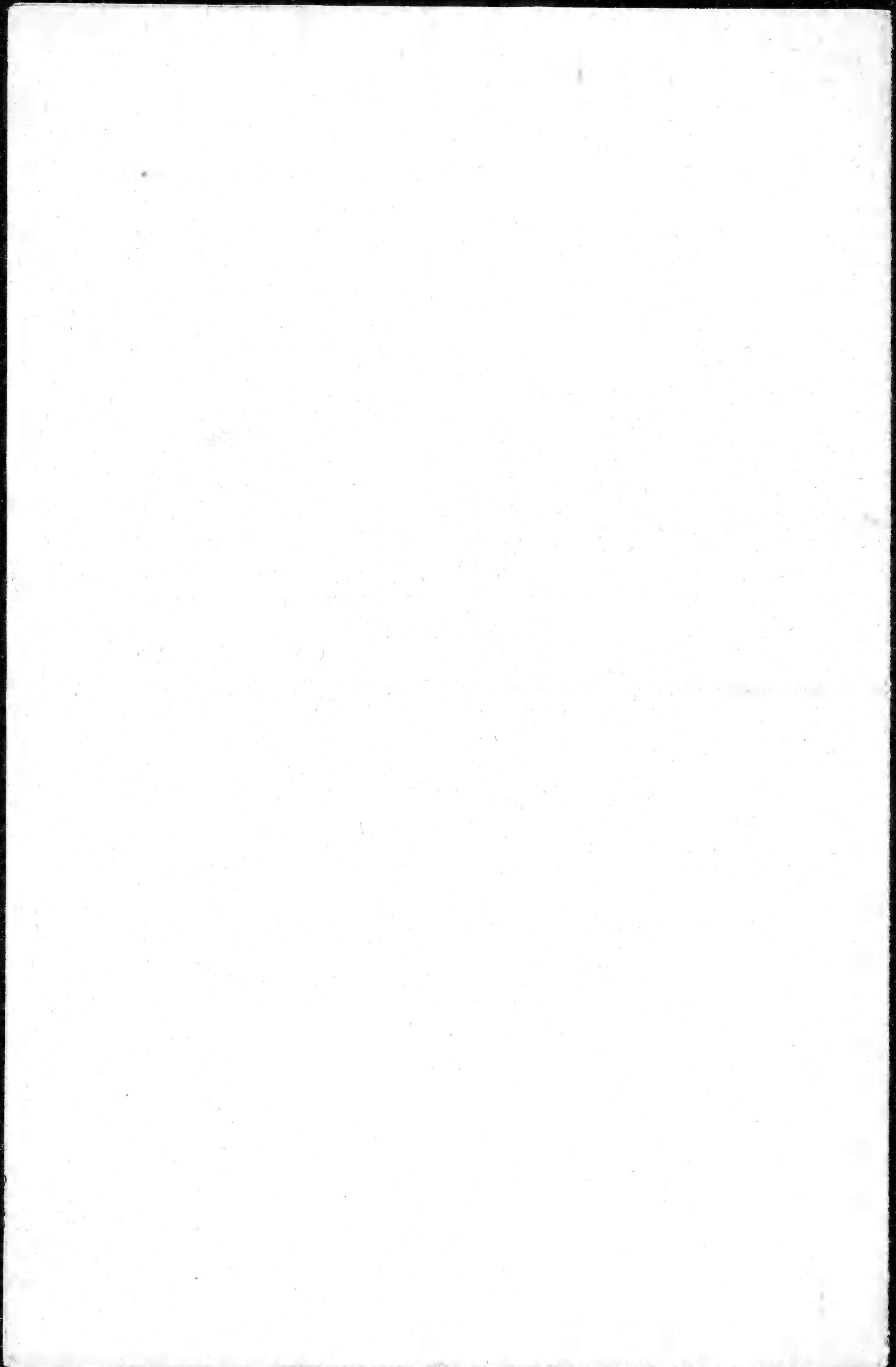
Here I can be at your
orders at any time you
may appoint.

My station is Broadstone
Junction, from which I
am about half a mile off.

Yours very truly

Alfred Waller





Naturalist (1822-1913)

Dec: 2nd,
1908

Old Orchard,

Broadstone,

Wimborne.

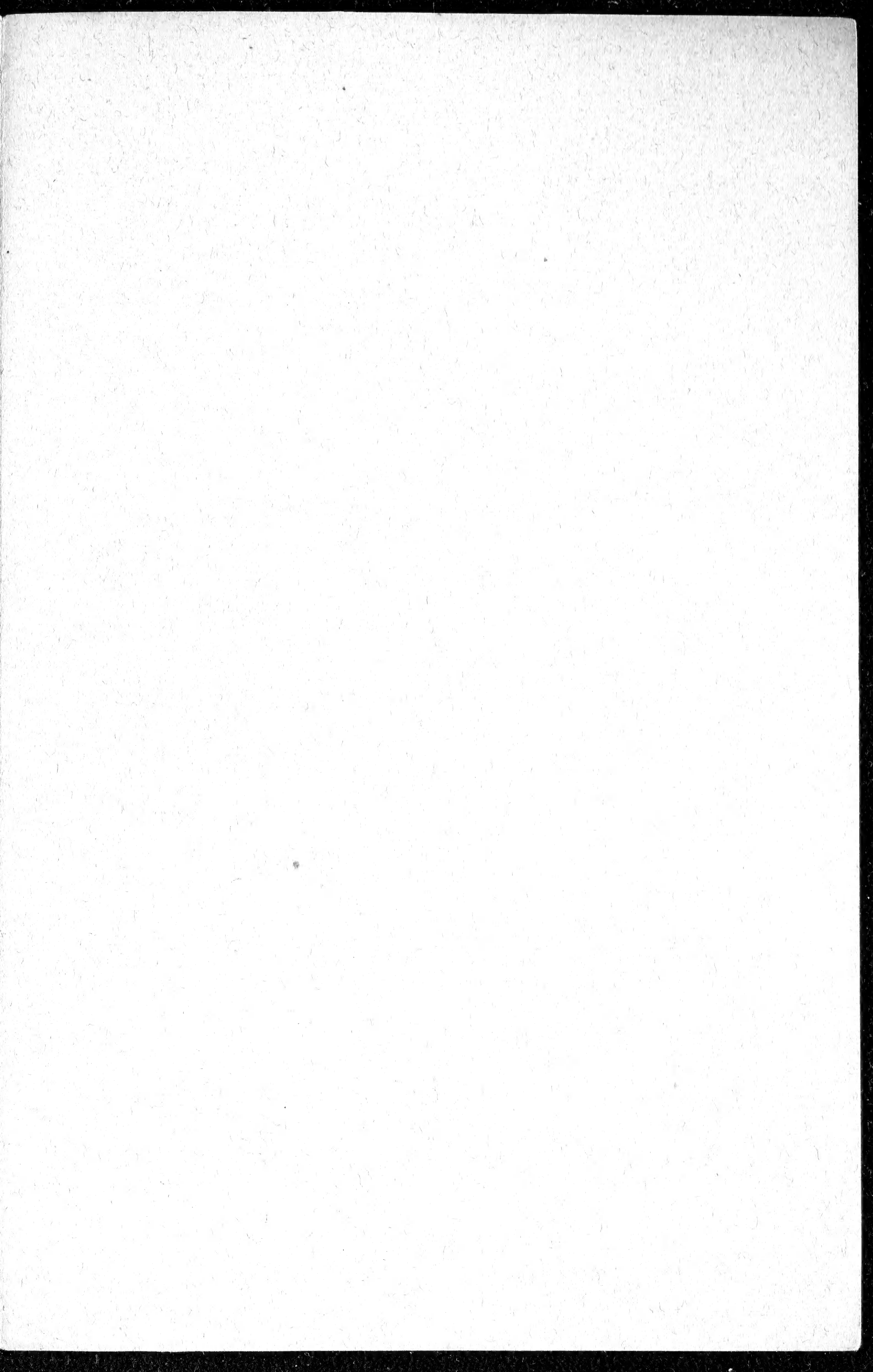
Dear Sir

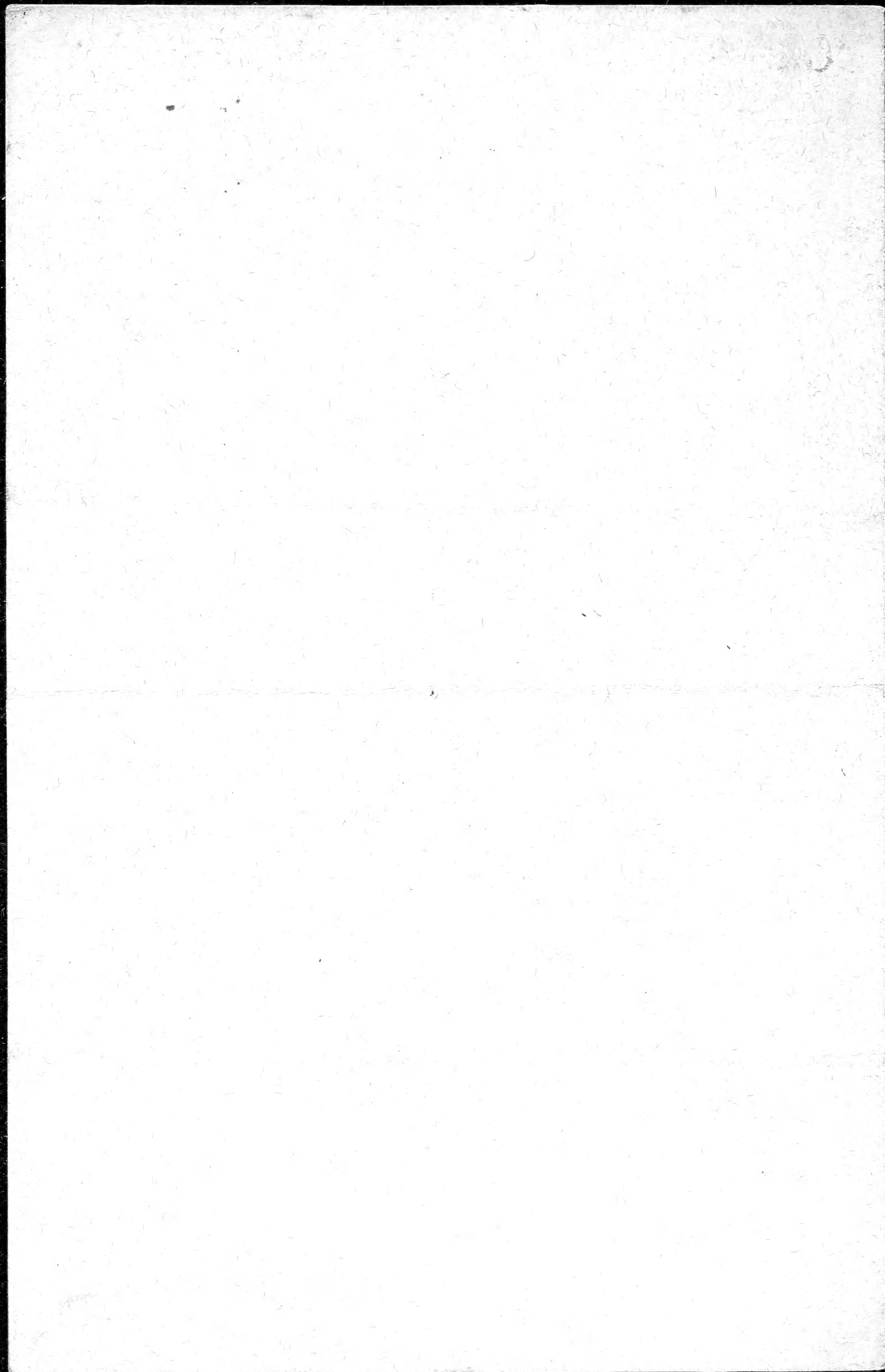
We shall be very
glad to see you on Thursday
Dec: 10th. To do your drawing
and will give you a bed
if you will put up with our
very plain living & accommodation.

My daughter has a few
little girls to teach & we
have always dined at 1 pm.
& had a light supper at
7.30 to 8.0; but I dare
say you can put up with that
Yours very truly

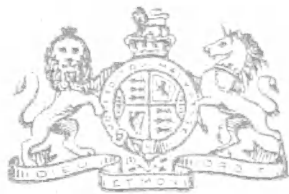
Alfred Wallace

DSI





POST



CA



Professor Eug. Warming
Copenhagen
Denmark.

DSI

63)
Broadstone, Wimborne

Sept. 20th. 1910

Many thanks for the long and interesting
paper you have sent me about the fires
and underground plants of the Campos of
Lagoa Santa. I have now just sent
the Mss. of my book to the printer, &
shall hope to be able to send you a
copy before the end of the year.

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace