

The SHORELAND

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My dear McVittie

This is to report my safe and comfortable journey back here. After a peaceful couple of days I moved to this hotel yesterday, so as to meet the people. So far we have had organisational committee. H. Shepley is running the one they put me on, dealing with the origin of life (I suppose on the ground that no one knows much about it so that my ignorance can do no harm) Tomorrow the real thing starts in the afternoon, and in the evening I give the lecture on the Voyage of the Beagle - quite low brow compared to everything else, so I think it will be popular. And then the various sections deal with their subjects day by day.

On return on Friday as I think I told you, I went to the C.B.S. and had a TV discussion for $2\frac{3}{4}$ hrs with Hurley, Shepley Sol Tax (our organiser for the centenary) and Adlai Stevenson. It was really quite fun, and was performed on Saturday night at midnight. The people I was with wanted to see it, so we sat up till nearly 3!

I carry away very pleasant recollections of all you do for me at Urbana. It seems to me you have a very fine university, and that your own particular part of it is going very strong. I would have liked to hear more of what the various graduates work at, but that takes a lot of time to do, and frankly it would mainly reveal my ignorance more than anything else.

So best thanks, and to our next meeting. Kind regards also to your wife.

Yrs sinc
[sign] Charles Darwin [G. G. Darwin]