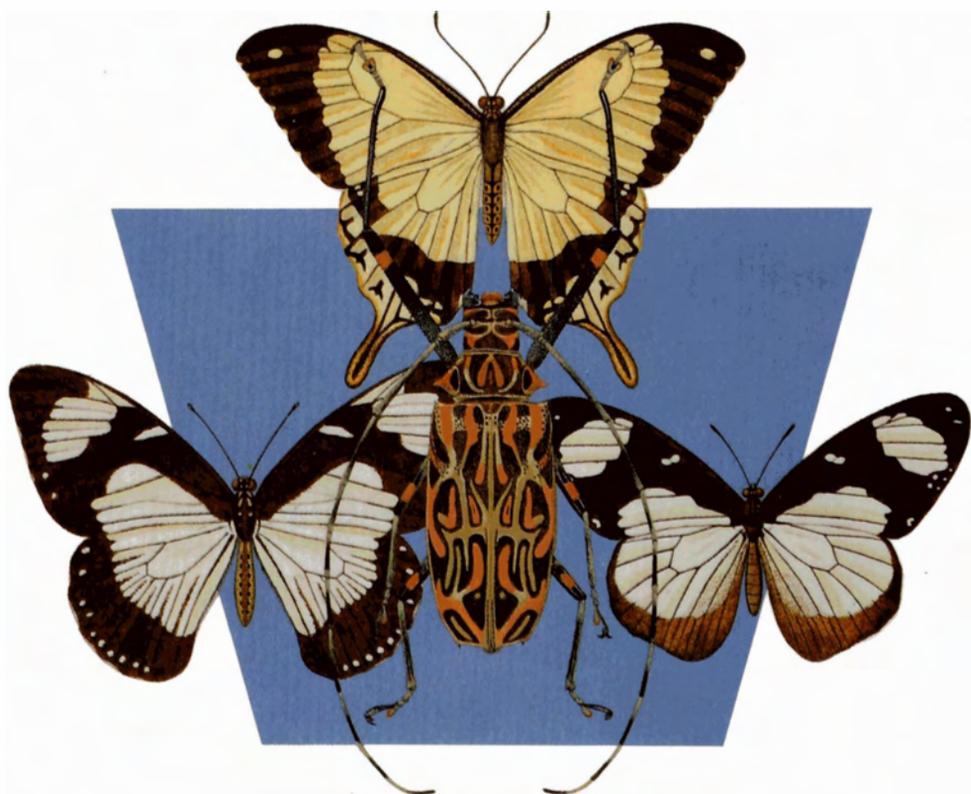


A History of the
Hope Entomological
Collections

in the
University Museum, Oxford

with lists of Archives and Collections



AUDREY Z. SMITH

A HISTORY OF THE
Hope Entomological
Collections
IN THE
University Museum
Oxford

WITH LISTS OF ARCHIVES
AND COLLECTIONS

BY
AUDREY Z. SMITH
Hope Librarian

CLARENDON PRESS • OXFORD

1986

Appendix C. Transcript of Mr Hope's Deed of Gift. Oxford University Archives W.P. α/40/1

To all to whom these presents shall come The Reverend Frederick William Hope of Upper Seymour Street Portman Square in the County of Middlesex and late of Christ Church Oxford M.A. Sends Greeting. Whereas the said Frederick William Hope is the owner of a valuable Entomological Collection Library of Natural History Plates Engravings and other articles and effects now at N^o 37 Upper Seymour Street aforesaid which or the chief part thereof are particularized in the Schedule hereunder written and he is desirous of assigning and making over the same to the Chancellor Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford for the purposes and upon the terms and conditions hereinafter mentioned. Now these Presents witness that in pursuance of and for effectuating and carrying out his said desire and out of the respect and regard he entertains for the said University the said Frederick William Hope hath given granted bargained assigned transferred and set over And by these presents Doth give grant bargain assign transfer and set over unto the Chancellor Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford and their successors the Entomological Collection Library of Natural History Plates Engravings and other articles and effects hereinbefore mentioned and referred to And all the right title interest benefit property claim and demand whatsoever of him the said Frederick William Hope therein and thereto To have and to hold the same unto the said Chancellor Masters and Scholars and their successors absolutely and for ever But nevertheless upon and for the trusts and purposes and subject to the conditions following (that is to say) First, That a suitable Building or Rooms shall be provided within the University for the reception of the said Collection Library Articles and Effects as soon as conveniently may be arranged either at the expense of the said University or by means of Contributions from other sources. Second That the said Collection Library Articles and Effects shall be made practically useful as a means of extending and improving a knowledge of the Entomological Department of Natural History and that for that purpose the same shall at all seasonable times be free of access to Members of the University and other persons especially to learned Naturalists and other scientific persons of Foreign Countries subject however to such regulations as the Curators for the time being shall think fit and it being hereby declared to be the wish and desire of the said Frederick William Hope that so far as may be found practical and convenient the said Collection shall be opened daily between the hours of ten in the morning and three in the afternoon in Winter and ten in the morning and four in the afternoon in Summer Sundays and Holidays excepted. Third That the Vice Chancellor the two Proctors the Regius Professor of Medicine and the Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum of the said University and their successors in the same several offices for the time being and also the Reverend Richard Greswell of Worcester College B.D. and Henry Wentworth Acland of All Souls College in the said University Doctor of Medicine and their successors to be appointed from time to time as hereinafter mentioned shall be Curators And upon the death refusal or incapacity to act of the said Richard Greswell and Henry Wentworth Acland or either of them then a new Curator or two new Curators as the case may be shall be nominated by the surviving or other curators such nomination to be approved by the University in Convocation and so from time to time as often as any vacancy shall occur in any or either of the non-official Curators it being the intention that there shall always be two other Curators in addition to the

five official Curators. Fourth That the Curators for the time being shall have full power and authority from time to time as they shall see fit to frame rules and regulations for the safe custody and preservation of all the property and for the management of and access to the said Collection and for the use of the Library but in the event of a managing Curator or Inspector being appointed for the better custody and preservation of the said Collection the consent of the said Frederick William Hope during his life time shall be necessary to such appointment. Fifth That the Curators shall also have power on obtaining the consent thereto of the said Frederick William Hope during his lifetime and after his decease of their own authority to dispose of any Duplicates in the Entomological Collection to any Museum Institution or person upon such terms and in such manner as they shall think proper But that this power shall not extend to the disposing of any other Specimens comprized in the said Collection and with a view to prevent any infested insect being added to and injuring the Collection no addition shall be made thereto unless previously approved of by the said Frederick William Hope or some competent person under the authority of the Curators. Sixth That if a new University Museum shall be established in Oxford and a Library formed in connection with it the Curators shall have power to place the whole of this Collection in suitable Rooms to be provided in such Museum but the Library and the Plates and Engravings shall in any case be under the entire control of the Curators who may dispose of the same in any way which they shall consider most conducive to the study of Natural History within the University as well as to the use of the same in connection with the Entomological Collection. Seventh That in all the more important proceedings relative to this Collection such as the framing new rules or regulations the appointment of Curators and the disposition of Duplicates or of the Library the concurrence of four at least of the Curators present at a Meeting to be called for any such purpose shall be requisite Provided always nevertheless and these Presents are upon this express condition that if the said Chancellor Masters and Scholars of the said University shall not by vote of Convocation within the space of twelve calendar months from the date hereof accept the said Collection articles and effects upon the terms and conditions hereinbefore set forth or if after such acceptance of the said Collection articles and effects and at any time during the life time of the said Frederick William Hope or the period of ten years from his decease there shall be any breach or failure in the performance of the said terms and conditions then and in either of such cases these presents and every thing herein contained shall cease determine and be absolutely void. And the said Collection articles and effects shall revert to and become the property of the said Frederick William Hope or his representatives. And the said Frederick William Hope doth hereby for himself his heirs executors and administrators covenant and agree with and to the said Chancellor Masters and Scholars and their successors that he the said Frederick William Hope his executors or administrators shall and will from time to time and at any time hereafter make do and execute any further gift grant bargain sale or other confirmation of these presents by or on behalf of the said Chancellor Masters and Scholars or their successors [as] shall or may be reasonably required In Witness whereof the said Frederick William Hope hath hereunto set his hand and seal this fourth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty nine.

Appendix D. Transcript of Manuscript Oxford University Archives W.P. α/40/5

Report of the Committee on Mr. Hopes proposed Benefaction to the University.

The attention of the Committee has been directed

1. To the Conditions of the Benefaction,
 2. To the Responsibilities incurred by its acceptance.
1. The Committee are of the opinion, that some of the Conditions should be modified ; and, as the Collection must remain for a while in a temporary apartment, where some of them would be impracticable, they should be, for that period, partially suspended.

They have accordingly instructed Mr. Morrell to prepare a kind of Supplemental Deed, with provisions for the above purposes, to which Mr. Hope might, (if the University be disposed to accept his benefaction) give full authority by his signature. The Draft will be submitted to the Board.

2. The Responsibilities of the University, incurred by the acceptance of this Benefaction, refer (1st) to the necessary accommodation for the present reception, and permanent lodging, of the Collection. (2^d) to the Expenses involved in its care and due Exhibition, and (3^d) to the continued Renewal of the Collection, as the present Specimens, which are many of them necessarily of a perishable nature, shall suffer by decay.

1. An apartment in the Taylor Institution has been readily afforded by the Curators for a limited period ; but the Committee are at a loss to name any existing room, belonging to the University, suitable for the permanent lodgment of such a Collection. The University therefore by its acceptance will be bound to *erect* a suitable Edifice for the purpose.

2. The Care and Exhibition of the Collection will involve further liabilities, and these duties obviously cannot be satisfactorily discharged, without some considerable annual expense. There must be a person, above the lowest rank, to attend to, and exhibit, the Collection to Visitors ; nor would it be creditable to the University to appoint a person to this office, with little or no knowledge of the subject, and his salary must of course be in proportion. It appears indeed that Mr. Hope has intimated his intention should he survive his Father, to contribute towards this expense.

3. Further, there is the responsibility of keeping up the Collection. For the University could not with any regard to its character, after accepting, suffer the Collection to waste or perish. What however may be the expense of purchasing new specimens in place of those, which decay, in order to preserve to the Collection its present reputation, or what Functionary of the University may be competent to give his attention to it and from time to time make the needful purchases, the Committee are not prepared to state.

Appendix E. Transcript of Manuscript Oxford University Archives W.P. α/40/4

The Board of Heads of Houses [& Proctors]† consider it their duty to communicate with Mr. Hope on the subject of the Conditions contained in his proposed deed of Gift to the University, in explanation of the sense in which the Members of the Board interpret them, and in which alone they could recommend to the University to accept the obligation.

In so doing they desire, in the first place, to express their high sense of the liberality & public spirit which, they feel assured, induces Mr. Hope to propose that his valuable Collection should be deposited in Oxford for the benefit of Students in his own favourite department of Natural History, and they hope that, in any objections they may make to the strict terms of either of the Conditions, or in any proposed qualification of them, no end or object will be imagined to exist on their part which is inconsistent with an honest & sincere intention to render this donation effectual for the avowed purpose of the donor.

As to the First Condition, the Board think it right to repeat, what they understand has been already explained to Mr. Hope personally by the Vice-Chancellor, that the University has no distinct Building at its disposal which can be allotted as an Entomological Museum: Also, they feel it right to say that, whatever possibility, or even probability, there may seem to be of other Buildings being erected, the University must not be held pledged, by its acceptance of this Collection, to any scheme of building. The utmost for which they can engage, and that only with the consent of the Curators of the Taylor Building, (which however has been obtained for the purpose) is that, as a temporary arrangement, the Collection shall remain in the room in which it is at present deposited, where it is safe, & where there is space for the disposition of the Cabinets & for the partial display of the specimens.

As to the Second Condition, the Board desire to say that, with the sincere intention on their part of making this Collection useful & accessible, free from the payment of any Fee upon any pretext whatever, they must be distinctly understood to reserve to the University [in Convocation] the absolute right of fixing what shall, from time to time, appear to be proper hours and regulations for the admission either of Strangers or of Members of the University.

As to the Third Condition, the Board are satisfied [have no desire to propose/suffer any alteration].

As to the Fourth, the Board approve that the Curators named in the deed, & their Successors, s^d have full & Entire control & management of this Collection: But it seems to them necessary to declare distinctly that their authority will not extend beyond the room in which the Collection is deposited, but must be subordinate to that of the Curators of the Building of which that room forms a portion, [as well as] also to that of the *Governing Body* [Convocation] of the University in respect of rules & regulations as to access.

The Appointment of a managing Curator, or Inspector, being alluded to in this Fourth Condition, (Such Inspector being of course understood to be a scientific person to whom an adequate Salary must be paid) the Board are not prepared at present to make any engagement on the part of the University: But it seems to them highly important to the safe custody & preservation of the property, as also to its usefulness,

† Note: Items in square brackets represent contemporary annotations by Westwood and others.

that some such Inspector s^d be appointed, and they would be glad to receive Mr. Hope's opinion on this point, & on the means of effecting it.

As to the Fifth Condition, the Board are satisfied. [have no alteration to suggest].

As to the Sixth Condition, they w^d only observe that, in the *possible* event of this Collection being transferred to a new University Museum, the Authority of Mr. Hope's Curators, although absolute and distinct so far as regards their own property, will be held subordinate to that of the Curators of the Museum and liable to all the general rules necessary for the regulation of such an establishment.

As to the Seventh Condition, the Board are satisfied.

From the preceding observations it naturally results that the Board would wish to modify the Conditions proposed in the deed of Gift; and accordingly they beg to submit the following alterations for Mr. Hope's consideration Viz:

That the *First* Condition s^d stand thus: That the said Collection, Library, Articles, & Effects, shall be deposited in a suitable Room, or Rooms, within the University, especial care being taken for their safe Custody & preservation, & for the suitable arrangement & display of the specimens, so far as [may prove practicable] the space will admit—

Second,

'That the said Collections Library Articles & Effects shall be made practically useful as a means of extending and improving a knowledge of the Entomological Department of Natural History and for that purpose the rooms shall be at all reasonable times free of access to Members of the University & other persons especially to learned Naturalists & other scientific persons of foreign Countries' subject however to such regulations as the Curators for the time being shall think fit, which regulations also *are* to be at all times under the control of the University [in Convocation].

Fourth,

'That the Curators for the time being shall have full power & authority from time to time as they shall see fit to frame rules & regulations for the safe custody and preservation of all the property and for the management of and access to the said Collection and for the use of the Library' so far as may not be inconsistent with the general rules & regulations established by the Curators of the Building of which the room or rooms in which such Collection & effects are [or may be] deposited [that may] form a part—

Sixth,

'That if a new University Museum shall be established in Oxford and a Library formed in connection with it the Curators shall have power to place the whole of this Collection in suitable rooms to be provided in such Museum, but the Library and the Plates and Engravings shall in any case be under the entire control of the Curators but subject to and so as in no case to conflict with any general rules & regulations which may at any time be established [by the University in Convocation] for the management of such Museum, and the said Curators shall have power to dispose of the same Library Plates & Engravings in any way which they shall consider most conducive to the study of Natural History within the University as well as to the use of the same in connection with the Entomological Collection'.

In Conclusion, the Members of the Board assure Mr. Hope that the alterations which they have thus suggested do not originate, on their part, in any [other] feeling (of jealousy) (but in) [than that of] a sincere desire that this valuable Collection, when formally accepted, may become practically serviceable: And they take the liberty of [expressing their conviction] reminding Mr. Hope that, according to all experience, such a desirable event will be best promoted, not so much by strictness of legal conditions, which may possibly be evaded, as by a liberal expression of the spirit & intention in which a gift of this nature is presented & accepted.

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