

sometimes asked Huxley to go in his place.

When Darwin told Huxley about his theory Huxley declared that he did not believe that new species could develop by accident. He read Darwin's book before it was published and was not convinced. Yet after it appeared he became its most active defender. He said that when he read it in book form he had come to see that it was true.

There is much reason to believe that two psychological forces may have played a part in Huxley's change of attitude. One of these would be his great fondness for Darwin. He knew that there would be severe criticism by believers in divine creation and he wished to protect his friend.

Two days before the scheduled date of publication he wrote a letter to Darwin which included the following paragraph:

"I trust you will not allow yourself to be in any way disgusted or annoyed by the considerable abuse and misrepresentation which, unless I greatly mistake, is in store for you. Depend upon it, you have earned the lasting gratitude of all thoughtful men; and as to the curs which will bark and yelp, you must recollect that some of your friends, at any rate, are endowed with an amount of combativeness which (though you have often and justly rebuked it) may stand you in good stead. I am sharpening my claws and beak in readiness."

Soon after this THE TIMES invited Huxley to prepare ~~for it~~ a review of Darwin's book.

The other psychological factor was Huxley's feeling about churches and church leaders. As a boy he had been obliged to listen to long and dry sermons which greatly repelled him, and he had developed a strong animosity to the church.

X