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Hereford.

18th November, 1982

The Editor,
Biology Curators' Group,
Sheffield City Museum,
Weston Park,
Sheffield,
S10 2TP

Dear Sir,

I was pleased to see that my enquiry as to the taxonomic validity of the human species raised at least one reply, albeit somewhat flippant, but none the less very readable. However, I intended my question - "what form does the type of Homo sapiens take, and where is it located?" - as a serious point. Mr Tynan correctly points out a mis-spelling - a fine example of how such errors arise. (I do not think it arose from my pen, but if it did, why did the Editor not correct it?).

In the mean time ladies and gentlemen I suggest you pursue the search for the ideal Lectotype and Lectoallotype - in the name of science of course (but it makes a good opening line!). Alas, count me out as I am happily married, though I have my nostalgic youth to fall back on - but enough smut.

To Mr Tynan I can only say that to the true Natural Historian Iconotypes are a poor substitute; though folks in other professions would no doubt disagree - Master Bakers for example.

Yours faithfully



Jonathan Cooter.

Ed. The fault was all mine. Since these early days the proof-reading has improved and I doubt if any similar errors will slip through in the future.