

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Sir,

In his review of Leon Stover's edition of *Things to Come* (*The Wellsian*, No. 31, 2008, 66-68), John Partington takes me to task for failing to discuss Stover's edition of *The Time Machine* in my book *The Time Machine: A Reference Guide*, published in 2004.

The omission of any mention of Stover's edition was a deliberate decision on my part. As I was under limitations of space I decided to confine my bibliographical essay to those works which in my judgement students would find most helpful. I have grave reservations about Stover's edition, which does not seem to me to qualify as a scholarly work. In any event, at the same time as his edition was published, two excellent critical editions appeared – one published in Britain by Patrick Parrinder and one published in Canada by Nicholas Ruddick – both of which can be recommended to students with confidence. This being the case, it seemed to me that it would be prudent to concentrate on those works which students of *The Time Machine* would find most valuable – including the Parrinder and Ruddick editions noted above and Bernard Loing's *H. G. Wells at Work*, Harry Geduld's *The Definitive Time Machine* and the 1995 Symposium volume *H. G. Wells's Perennial Time Machine* – instead of directing their attention to a work that would inevitably lead them along many blind alleys.

John Hammond