

Papers Relating to Galton's "Inquiry into the Relation between Vigour in the Offspring and Age in the Parents"

Publication/Creation

1876

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Inquiry into the Relation between Vigour in the Offspring and Age in the Parents.

By FRANCIS GALTON, F.R.S.

Instances are sought of old persons of both sexes, who have retained their bodily vigour and activity in very advanced life. It is desired to know the ages of their fathers and mothers at the time of their birth.

The information that is sent will be used statistically, and in no other way.

Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name

Year of his (or her) birth

State if alive and well

If deceased, state year of death

AGE at time } of his Father
of }
his birth ... } of his Mother

How many } older than himself
brothers and sisters }
had he } younger than himself

Is he the last survivor of them

If so, when did the last die

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity :—

On his Father's side

On his Mother's side

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age :—

Date

Signature }
and }
Address }
of }
Sender. }

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brothers and sisters }
had he } younger than himself

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If so, when did the last die

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On his Father's side

On his Mother's side

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age :—

Date

Signature }
and }
Address }
of }
Sender. }

Miss Carnegie is past 91 —
Her mother, Lady Carnegie, ^{née Elliot} was
97. (I think) when she died —
You cd. see particulars by the
Peerage see Southesk (not Northesk)
Southesk was an attainted
peerage for many years
Lady Cathcart, a sister of Lady
Carnegie, lived I believe to a
very old age —

as 1 child
in families

Estimated ages of

Husband	Wife	youngest child

From Miss Brandauer

f. 20

"The ages are tolerably accurate
when they are not exactly so, that
of the children is within a month
or two"

f. 21

Clergymen's families

8	55	49	8	W. W. 8 - 1 died in infancy	1
6	40	45	1	J. W. 6	2
9 +	53	40	2	A. W. 9 - (6 boys 3 girls)	3
11	45	2 nd wife 45	4	R. 5 by 1 st wife. 6 by second	4
4	70	65		H. 4 daughters	5
3	70	66	25	- G. 3 sons	6
3	58	58	20	P. 3 sons	7
1 +	50	35	1	G. B. 8 - 3 sons 5 daughters	8
3	Died at 33	45	18	A. A. 1 son 2 daughters	9
9 +	45	40	2	B. B. 10. 1 d. in infancy	10
3	60	55		G. R. 2 sons. 1 daughter. 2 at 15	11
0	73	Died at about 43		W. W. none	12
0	47	46		G. A. none	13
107	54	50	17	S. M. - 10 ^{ten} 3 died	14
10 +	47	43	about 1/4	B. 10	15
0	50	47		J. W. none	16

(over)

11 cases

22
16/76/5
16/64
88



1.2bv

Husband Wife
1: Over 6 ft under 5.

3. 6 ft 1. 5. 22

4. short 2nd wife short

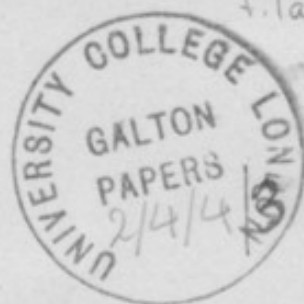
19 short tall

12 tall tale

13 short rather tall

82
16/76/5
64
88





Trinity College,
Perth
31st July 1846.

Dear Sir,

I received yours of the
24th Inst., and also the "Status
of Disease," but the reprints
of your two pamphlets that
you sent by same post have
not yet arrived, though I
have made several inquiries
about them.

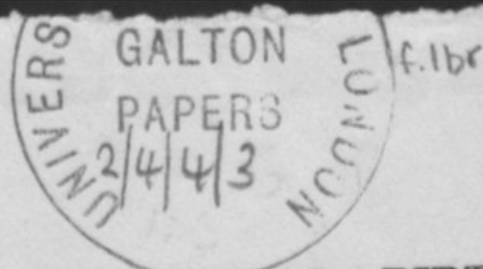
I inquired into any cases

of towns that I knew of, with
regard sickness when separated,
without obtaining any results,
either in support of or against
your point.

At present I do not know
of any case of unusual old
age, but will collect particulars
according to schedule if I meet
with any such.

The Registrar-General of
England inserts a table (19)
giving particulars of each
centenarian who dies
during the year, and from

11/12/75



THE LANCET,]

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS.—BIRT

A MAN named Savage died in Kerry last week after completing his one hundred and sixteenth year. He was born in 1759, and three years ago voted at an election at Listowel.

f. 16v

~~AND ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS. [DEC. 11, 1875.]~~

~~INJUSTICE TO MEDICAL WITNESSES IN POLICE COURTS.~~

~~We lately published a case in which a medical witness received very inadequate remuneration in a Police Court. Mr. J. T. Williams, Barrow-in-Furness, complains to us of a still greater injustice. He, on request, attended the magistrate's court and was kept waiting an hour and a half.~~

CENTENARIANS.

THERE is always some doubt respecting these, and often the simplest documents are wanting to place the real age on a secure basis. A very interesting little book on this subject has just been published, called "Recherches sur les Centenaires nés ou morts dans le Département de la Marne," by Amédée Lhote. This department appears favourable to the threading out of numerous years, as there centenarians are not scarce. Some verses are scattered in the book, among which we notice the following epitaph quoted by *L'Union Médicale*, Nov. 27th, 1875:—

"Ci gît Paul, qui, docile à cet avis du sage :
Dans tout ce que tu fais, hâte-toi lentement ;
Pour gagner l'autre monde, alla tout doucement ;
Et mit cent ans entiers à faire le voyage."

f.1.c.r
Hauet
25/2/75.



f.1c v

L. E.—In estimating the population of a town or district, it is assumed, failing a more reliable basis for calculation, that the increase which prevailed between the last two census enumerations has since been maintained. In the case of Sharncliffe district we know the population was 31,113 in 1861, and 33,925 in 1871; from these numbers we first find the annual (geometrical) rate of increase in the ten years, then add the addition of four and a quarter to this rate to the number in 1871, and we give the estimated population in the middle of the year 1875. Very few annual reports of medical officers of health can be obtained, except on application to medical officers of health or sanitary authorities.

THE KEIGHLEY UNION.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

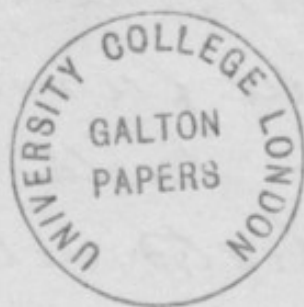
it you could investigate
some of the cases by
sending your schedule to
the Registrar of the district
in which the person died.

I enclose two cuttings
from the *Lancet*. The particulars
regarding Savag's could possibly
be furnished by the Registrar
of Births Deaths & Marriages at
distown, or he could put you
in communication with the Dis-
pensary Doctor in whose dis-
trict the man died.

I do not know of any
writings that contain

investigations on the
subject, unless possibly,
~~the~~ Quetelet's "Physique
Sociale".

Yours faithfully
Charles Marriott



Francis Galton Esq



St Bildas, Laurie Park,
Sydenham.



March 13th / 76

Sir,

I much regret that
my information seems not
complete — as I do not
possess any more the notes
which furnished the div. data
I am unable to correct any
possible mistake.

For the best of my recollection
the birth year of Anne Taylor
~~was~~ stated as 1812 & the persons
whose ages were stated to be
resp. 87, 78, 73 & 71 were brothers

x sisters of the mother
of Anne Taylor.

I am, Sir,

yours truly
H. Robinson



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Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name Anne Taylor
 Year of his (or her) birth 1812
 State if alive and well alive, very strong & healthy
 If deceased, state year of death _____

AGE at time } of his Father 20
 of }
 his birth ... } of his Mother 20 (still alive)

How many } older than himself 5
 brothers and sisters }
 had he } younger than himself 4

Is he the last survivor of them there are 8 living still
 If so, when did the last die _____

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity:—

On his Father's side nothing remarkable

On his Mother's side 1 brother 87 very vigorous yet, i.e. active till 87
1 sister 78 & still active (anecdotes of)
1 " " 75 } all hardy & hale, still
2 " " 70-75 } alive

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age:—

Anne Taylor, born Mockett, also Cambridge
very energetic, with a particularly quick way
of moving, never quietly back almost at running
pace, very strong & active, quick tempered. 5
children, all alive & strong.

Date March 10th 1876

Signature Mrs T. R. Robinson

and Address 14 Tildes Laurie Park

of Sydenham

Sender.

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Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name *Living MacLae*
Mrs E. M.

Year of his (or her) birth *or about Nov 15. 1774*

State if alive and well

If deceased, state year of death *died Nov 30. 1874*

AGE at time of his Father
of
his birth ... of his Mother *Not known*

How many } older than himself *I believe one brother older*
brothers and sisters }
had he } younger than himself *2 brothers & 1 sister younger than*

Is he the last survivor of them *himself, Mother of whom attended*

If so, when did the last die *many years ago*

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity:—

On his Father's side *none that I am aware of*

On his Mother's side *none that I am aware of*

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age:—

*She was able to walk in her garden to provide
at her table & to do needlework, &c. &c. 20 & 22, within short
time of her death — Her husband lived to nearly 95, but none
of her children, completed 16 years of life —*

Date *Nov 10. 1876*

Signature *E. M. MacLae*

Address *16 Stonetree Park, Wiltshire*

of
Sender.

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Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name *Sarah Downing*

Year of his (or her) birth *1799*

State if alive and well

If deceased, state year of death *June 1872*

AGE at time of his Father *about 30*

of his birth ... of his Mother *or 29-*

How many older than himself *one sister older*

brothers and sisters had he younger than himself *3 brothers & 3 sisters*

Is he the last survivor of them *younger - 2 more died infant*

If so, when did the last die *4 brother & sister living*

brother died age 92 Feb 1873

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity:—

On his Father's side

On his Mother's side

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Date

Signature

and

Address

of

Sender.



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Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name *Thomas Leathes Stanley Leathes*

Year of his (or her) birth *1790*

State if alive and well *Alive & well*

If deceased, state year of death *—*

AGE at time of his Father *37*
of his birth ... of his Mother *31*

How many } older than himself *a sister who lived to be 83, a brother who*
brothers and sisters } *died at an*
had he } younger than himself *a brother ~~who~~ still alive, a brother died*
last year 77, a sister died last year 81 a brother died in
Is he the last survivor of them *One brother alive as mentioned above*
infant age 84 last April

If so, when did the last die *—*

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity:—

On his Father's side *—*

On his Mother's side *brother's grandmother lived to 97*

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age:—



Date *Jan'y 31st 1896*

Signature *James Stanley Leathes*

Address *Elm Bank, Lillingstone, W. Leamington*

of Sender. *—*



Cham Bank
Lillington
Jan'y 31. 1874

Dear Mr. Bamber.

According to your
request - I have filled
in the dates & facts to
the questions asked in
the enclosed paper & I
hope it is done satis-
factorily - My dear

father says his grandparents
 on both sides lived to good
 old ages but nothing
exceptional & he could
 not speak with any
 certainty to their exact
 ages. I fancy few carry
 their burden of years so
 bravely as my father
 does his power of enjoy-
 -ment & faculties of
 mind & powers of body

So beautifully preserved
to him -

With kind regards
believe me to remain
Yours very truly
Fanny Stansfield





3, Kenton Terrace, F. 11r
17 Jan'y 1896.

My dear Francis,

I send the enclosed towards
your collection of Antiquities. I could
put in more, but it is so difficult
to get at the age of the Parents of very
old people. Some of these I got out
of Burke's Commoners. I have not put
down my dear Mother because you have
her of course. My Grandmother
Darwin was a wonderfully active
Person body & mind. When 80 years
of age my Father went with her to
^{North} Wales, & she walked all thro' the pass
of Stanberry before there was a
regular road made there. I think it
was 12 or 14 miles. She used to be in her
plantations all day watching & directing
her labourers. She died in 1832 aged
84. My Mother's Mother Darwin

died aged 95 & was up at 5 o'clock
as usual the day of her death, &
very active. Her eldest son Robt.
Darwin lived to 92. So much for that.
We have a thick fog to day, & could
not see across the road this morn.
Emma is marvellously well.
About two months ago she seemed
to make a jump, if I may express it
so, in her health, & to become so much
better, all at once. This cooking school
has been a great interest to her, & tho'
she overworks herself, I think it does
her good on the whole. She must have
an object. It opens on Thursday & I
do hope & believe will be a success,
for she deserves it. We are a nice
family party of sisters, having
Adele with us, which is a great pleasure
& I think she enjoys it as much
as we do. Emma keeps you so well
up in the news I have little to tell.

Deeey & Margaret Galton (Puffie) were
at the Hunt Ball at Warwick at which
Ball Sophy Wiggs made her first
appearance. We expect Eddy on the
12th Feb. to stay till the 15th. He is
so busy he cannot stay longer & will
probably take Deeey back with him
to pay him a visit. He is very
happy. He dined last week at Mr.
Mark Rolfe's & sat next to Sir
Stafford Northcote who was very
entertaining. Askeith Wiggs was
here the other day. He says Walter
has come out remarkably well
in the examinations & has an
idea of trying for honours. We
all join in best love to Louisa
Yourself I believe me

In Affectionate Sister

Eliz A Wheeler,



Name? ————

Age —————

Year of birth —————

(If deceased State year of death) —————

Age of Father at time of birth —————

Age of Mother at time of birth —————

Number of brothers & sisters —————

Has he married them all. —————

If so, how many years since the death of the last
brother or sister —————

State facts illustrating the degree
of his body's vigor in old age —

Was there exceptional longevity
in the family of the Father

————— Mother



		Father	Mother
C Wheeler	3 child	36	35
Mrs Wheeler	eldest	prob: young	?
Mrs May	1 st 12 3 rd	33	?
Mrs Edmond	2 nd 1 20	21	about 20
Salem	?	?	?
St. Blair		prob: young	
Wood	?	?	;
Mrs Saltin (mother)	youngest	51	34
Gibson	breaking out first time her	54	27

was at 14 when her last
brother was born



and that by extending its influence
to the promotion of the study of the
Cancer which by their

Voluntary

Ward

230 202 285- 216 227 10/199

200 288 205 502 191 061 061 217

Old & Vigorous People

F.15r

Mr John Wheeler (Edw.^d Father) born 1766 died 1856 age 90
His Father Sir Charles Wheeler was 30 & his Mother 35
years old at his birth. He had 7 Brothers & Sisters
& was the 3^d Child. ^{He survived all his family (except one sister)}
He was a very strong Man, never wore a great coat, never
had a fire in his bedroom or dressing room, & could
eat any thing. He was lame from an accident in his
hip. Scarcely deaf till the last year of his life.
When his health gradually failed. His Father died
in the 92^d year of his age



Mrs William Wheeler (Edw.^d Aunt by marriage) born 1785. now
living, aged 90. Her Father, Mr Harding of Karaket, probably
young at her birth as he married 54 years after
his Father was born. She was the eldest of ~~nine~~ 12
Brothers & Sisters & has survived them all. Her Mother
died old. She is a very quiet person but wonderfully
strong & vigorous, & recovered from a very severe illness
last year. She lost the 3 last of her family 3 years ago.
They were much younger than herself.

Mr James Molony of Kiltannon, ^{Ireland} born 1785 died 1874.
age 89. His Father 33 years old at his birth. He was
one of nine children, & probably the 3^d Child.
Remarkably strong & active till the last year. When
he was past 70 he had his arm torn off by machinery.
It was twice amputated after being many hours
before a surgeon could reach him, but he completely
recovered. His mind weakened to a degree latterly.

F15V

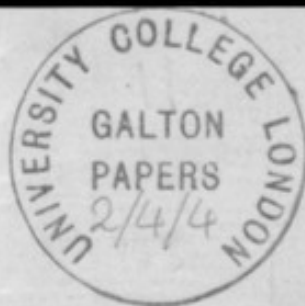
Miss Edgeworth died aged 82. Her Father & Mother were about 20 or 21 years of age at her birth. She was the 2^d out of 20 children. Remarkably strong & vigorous to the last. Survived her own Brothers & Sisters many years. The children of the two next Miss Edgeworths all or all but one died consumption. Some of the last Miss Edgeworths live but are all older than I am. Miss Edgeworth 97. Could sew & make poor clothes to

the last & I think seldom wore spectacles, did up her weekly accounts the Monday before she died. Not active in body. Had an elder Sister who died about the same age, upwards of 90 a year or two before she did. Dr. Blair 94 or 95 still living Had one Brother & a Sister probably young when he was born. Active in mind, indolent in body.*

Mr. Wood died age 90. Very active body & mind till he had an accident to his leg but prevented his walking much. Survived two Brothers many years. I do not know when his Sister died or whether she * I hear Dr. Blair has lately had a stroke.

Mrs Galtton died aged 90. born 1783 died 1874. Her Father was 51 & her Mother 36 years of age when she was born. Her last own Brother died in 1859 age 73. Her last half sister died in 1857 age 88.

Mrs Gisborne died age 83 in 1857 born 1774. Her Mother was 27 Her Father was 56 at her birth. Remarkably active & strong, a great walker till she lost her sight late in life. Survived her own Brothers & Sisters 37 years. Her Half Brother Sir Francis & half Sister Mary Mother survived her. She was a Twin & the youngest of 4.



f.16r

Mr. Nixon			
Mr. Lea	cc	30	0
Mr. Wright	no	45	5 or 6
Mr. Pearson	cc	40	2
Mr. Howden	cc	35	x 3
Mr. Erdly Wilmoth	cc	grown up	9
Mr. Wintthrop	cc	grown up	8 or 9
Mr. Young of Whitnash	cc	grown up	5
Mr. Whitehurst	no	grown up	1
Mr. Randolph Skipwith	cc	grown up	2
Mr. Humberstone Skipwith	cc	grown up	1
Mr. Henry Steward	no	grown up	5
Mr. John Wise Greaves	cc	grown up	2
Mr. Pixell	no	grown up	3
Mr. Blackburn	no?	grown up	1
Mr. Worcester	no	30	0
Dean of ditto	no	my old	3
Dr. Dixon	?	?	6
Mr. Cad	cc	grown up	11
Mr. Hereford	cc	43	x 6
Mr. Legman	cc	grown up	7
Mr. Powell	cc	grown up	5
Mr. Hazlard	cc	grown up	3

Name	Notes	Age	Sex	Value
Mr. Genshaw	Bubnell CC	old		0
Mr. Thompson	aldernymule well to do	30	X	4
Mr. Newgate	Hallam	?	X	9
Mr. Burrows	no	grown up		4
Mr. Head	?	grown up		4
Mrs. Davies	no	33	X	2
Mr. Morgan	Li Saffolk CC	33		0
Mr. Fullerton	CC	35	X	4
Baring Gould	CC	30	X	1
Compton	CC	?		1
Bigg (nee Whitmore)	CC	37	X	2
Sadrove	CC	25	X	2
Shepherd	CC	grown up		3
Hopton	CC	grown up		3
Warren	no (managers room) bad health	30		0
Robinson		40		0
Chas. Currie	CC	grown up		0
John Harding	CC	very old		0
Willisins	CC	28	X	3
Wright				1
Granville	Granville	grown up		3
Court Granville	CC	old		0

CC = conf clergyman

p. 17r

Philas

acc'd wife
of James

acc'd wife
of John



J. BENTLEY TERRACE

ELAMINGTON

Mr. Elsee	Rugby	Curate	Rugby	x 5	35	
Mr. Moultrie	"	Rector	Rugby	5		group
Mr. Allen	Curate	at Rugby	50	?	1	50
Mr. Ashton	Wilton	rector		0	38	
Mr. Rhoades	Rugby	Curate	45	?	1	45
Mr. P. Wheeler	Dunchurch	rector		0	45	
Mr. Sindell	Repton	clergyman		3	40	
Mr. Kenney	Bourton	CC		6		group
Mr. Blencoe	Thuckburgh	CC		0	40	
Mr. Deffe	Sitwell	CC		x 6	32	baby
Mr. Hickman	Birdingbury	CC		2	48	9
Mr. Rhuddock	dean			x 2 or 3		wife dead
Mr. Craig	3 wives	"		1		
Mr. Smith	"	"		6		group
Mr. Hamilton	Devies	CC		0	50	
Mr. Hearn	Worcestershire	CC		8	50	6
Mr. Lea	CC			0	40	
Mr. Congreve	?			5 or 6	45	
Dr. Rickmore	no			5	43	head
Mr. Boudier	rector of Warwick			4	40	very old
Mr. Hauchope	rector of Sharnb. Lawford			x 3	30	
Mr. Boudier	Int. ?			1	35	12
Mr. Price	no			1	55	group
Mr. Mills	no			3	50	group



117v

Children

Mr. Cairns Wilson cc	5	45	10
Mr. Charles Hume cc	9	60	
Mr. Wm. Hume ?	11		group
Mr. Torre ? no	0	65	
Mr. Cameron cc	14	75	group
Mr. J. M. Wise cc	2	80	
Mr. Colville cc	40	55	
Mr. Begg cc	x 5	35	
Mr. William Rendell no	9	40	
Mr. Ambrose Paine cc	x 9	35	
Mr. Wm. Fox (2 wives) cc	16		group
Mr. Douglas M. H. Force cc	8 or 9	45	
Mr. Somers Cochrane cc	x 7	35	
Mr. Wood (Canon) (wife no)	1	25	
Mr. Henry Wheeler cc	9	50	group
Mr. Wm. Charles Pole no	x 2	32	
Mr. Daffinorley no	5 or 6		group
Mr. Archer ?	1		
Mr. Rodd ?	3		
Mr. Handlock cc	x 2	32	
Dr. Collier no	0	80	
Dr. Wickmore	5		
Mr. Swift ?	5	4	
	2	50	



15 Feb. 7 1876

f. 18r



3, BERTIE TERRACE,
LEAMINGTON.

My dear Francis,

I send you a paper, quite
correct of Mr. Plowden filled up
from his Daughter (Mr. Fred. Wheeler's)
report. I sent a paper to Emma
Wilmut, I send you her reply. If
you will send me two or three more
papers I will try to get them filled
up. Mr. Redford, whom I Wilmut
mentions, was a wonderful old man.
When more (I think much more) than
80, he walked 5 miles to Derby, over
such hills, to attend the petty sessions,
& I think walked back also. You see
I Wilmut thinks the old people's children
the strongest. I have a theory of my
own that the eldest child has very often

poorer health ^{are} less strong than
the rest, & I attribute it to the
Papa & Mama trying experiments
& theories of their own upon it,
from ignorance how to take
care of a child, & when they ^{hold} ~~have~~
killed it trying to harden it
or over coddled it; the rest of the
children are brought up according
to common sense, & do well. —

We have just parted with Lucy
& Eddy, who are gone into Devonshire.
Eddy came on Sat. looking so
well & happy it has been a
great comfort to us to see him.
I enclose a little bit of his

last letter to us, about Mr. Corrie.
Eddy was much amused listening
to all he said about you, little
thinking who Eddy was. He ^{p. 19r}
spoke most highly about you
& your books. As to travel, &c.
Eddy liked him very much.
Emma works hard at her
Cookery, & has been wonderfully
well. I hope she will now spare
herself a little, for I think
she wants a rest. It is doing
wonderfully well, & doing great
good. I see in my case, & every
one tells me the same, that
talking to my Cook of what
I have seen & heard at the Lecture
& showing her how interested I
have been gives her more
interest in her work, & we discuss

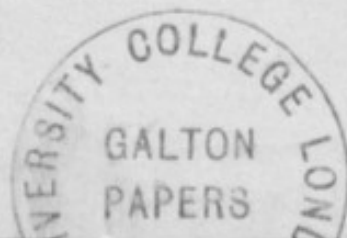
together whether to go to the ^{F. 19v}
expense of an extra oz of butter
or not to make some dish better,
& that is the great thing for a
lady to know what is required
for good cookery. I wish Louisa
could get suited, every one complains
how very difficult it is to get
servants & how high their wages
are. It has just struck me
you will receive this on your
birthday. Many happy returns
of it dear Francis & with our
kind love to Louisa & yourself

Believe me,

Yr. Affectionate Sister,

Elizabeth Wheeler.

Burn Mrs Wilnot's letter
When I have done with it



Inquiry into the Relation between Vigour in the Offspring and Age in the Parents.

BY FRANCIS GALTON, F.R.S.

Instances are sought of old persons of both sexes, who have retained their bodily vigour and activity in very advanced life. It is desired to know the ages of their fathers and mothers at the time of their birth.

The information that is sent will be used statistically, and in no other way.

Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name *William Plowden*

Year of his (or her) birth *1786* age *89*

State if alive and well *yes remarkably vigorous*

If deceased, state year of death

AGE at time of his birth
of his Father *43*
of his Mother *31*

How many brothers and sisters had he
older than himself *7*
younger than himself *4*

Is he the last survivor of them *yes*

If so, when did the last die *2 years ago aged 85*

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity:— *2 other sisters died unmarried aged 86 & 73, one brother 71. 43. 57. one for an accident & the rest died young*

On his Father's side *Mr. Piddeter lived to 80 & father to 42*

On his Mother's side *Mr. P's mother lived till 80 & was hearty her sister lived till 81 or 82*

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age:—

memory good, sight very good. keeps his acct. & papers with accuracy hearing very fair, sits up late, & down early travelled abroad after his 80th birthday, always packing his own portmanteau, not fatigued with long drives, goes to large dinner parties, attends meeting of directors in the City, & till lately went about alone in cab.

Date *Feb. 7 1876*

Signature *Wm. A. Wheeler*

Address *3 West Terrace Leamington*

of Sender.



Miss
Mrs. W. W. W. W.

143 Ashbourne Road, f.21r

Dublin Feb 11th / 96

Dear Bessie

Many many thanks
for your letter which was
pleasant enough & read
tho' before I got it the end of
it I perskined with the
utmost freedom, for I never
know what you will hear
next - Last time you kept
me on pins lest you should
speak to Mr Torre - and now
you "have no doubt I shall
easily fill up a dozen" of
Francis's aggravations of
papers! - I am as vague
& inexact as you are
the contrary (always
excepting in my accounts
& expenses) and ~~with~~

The awful precision of
Jo's questions shortens my
life ten minutes every
time I read them —
Johnny tries to give me a
leg up but between us we
can only name a few cases
& those quite inaccurately —
The Madfords are the most
remarkable old people I have
ever known as a family, or
7 or 8 years ago there was a
short paragraph about them
in the "Times" Now here is a
difficultly I start with. I
scarcely know John Madford
widow, & I can't ask her about
her husband's age & proofs of
his vitality can I? I know
that he was much older than
she, and that they had 10
or 12 children who all died
but 3 - These 3 oddly
enough

were the 3 youngest! - The
Youngest of all Mrs James
Heent being born when her
Father was ^{about} 80 - He died about
8 years ago & she is about 20,
at most - Married a year
ago & has a child - Her
brother, about 26, married
the same day & has a
child. Her sister Mrs Brown
about 30, has several children
- This proves Marvellous
wisdom in a very old Father.
~~That~~ Arthur Radford is
a stupid young fellow &
could not take his degree
at Cambridge, but if I
sent him a paper & a civil
note he might fill it up -
Arthur Radford Esq
Etwall Lodge
Dorset

I suppose Brautz has long

since thought of the ¹²²⁴
last Lord Leicester who 2nd
at ~~40~~⁶⁸ married a wife of
~~24~~¹⁹ and had a large family
all of which I do well - I shall
will all be in the Peerage
of course

Some of Jacks had but one
child a daughter - 2 ^{the days} ~~has~~ ^{husb} ~~husb~~
took the name of Some -
They had a large family

I saw Mrs Some the day
or just before the day she was
100 & she cheerfully told my
Wilmot that she had come
into Derby (we were at "Beland")
Dorset new dresses & meants
& have good big buttons as
she did not see quite as well
as she used to do. - My son
is now Mr Oldenshaw is
30 years older than Billy
& is now ~~40~~ so he must be
72 or 3 They have 3 strong

P. 23r

Girls the youngest about
8. & he looks like her & Father

Women have great influence
Mr Swift by his 1st marriage
& a young wife had 5 girls
all more or less sickly &
scrofulous, & one boy a dis-
tinct Epileptic fit from
time at 15 & he had from infancy, &
was quite wrecked his mind.
He married Georgia when
she was over 40, & she had 2
strong, stout, & rather clever
boys — my children
are far bigger, stronger and
cleverer than my step-
children, & even more bigger
stronger & than any of their
Cousins, so that they are quite
unlike the Wilkots —

the 3 eldest or rather amongst
the eldest of ourselves have
not been prolific Mary J.
had 3 children - all girls &
2 of them imbecile, but then

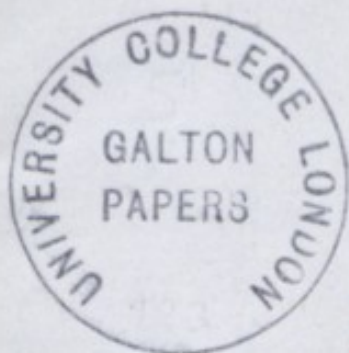
F. 23v

The Worsleys were a ~~few~~
2 women-out race - They
had 1 child - Edward none -

You did not marry young
2 have 2 very fine children
and with that compliment

I leave the subject -
I thank you about Darius
He has been fortunate & we
are very happy for him - He
is hard at work, but Emma
will tell you about him -

I do not think I have
much Denleyshire news -
Mr J Davis & Silwells' Wid-
ow is engaged to a cousin
a Parker Jones - Emma
Crompton of Sutton & a
son of Ed Arthur Mervy
Mrs Morewoods' brother
Edmund of those Sutton girls
have 23000 a year as
they come of age -



3, BERTIN TERRACE,
LEAMINGTON.

f.245
29 Feb 1896

My dear Francis,

Will you send me
the names & addresses of two or
three of the best aurists (ear
doctors) in London for a friend
of ours who wants to consult one
for his deafness? I send you
another paper filled up & hope
to get you some more. Old
Cleaver lived all his life
in Leam? Hastings I was known
to the Whelms of several generations
so he is a good case of living to
a hundred. I am off to the



Cookery. I am very glad
Louise has got a Cook to
suit. Excuse haste. Our
best love to Affectionate Sister
J. A. Miller



Inquiry into the Relation between Vigour in the Offspring and Age in the Parents.

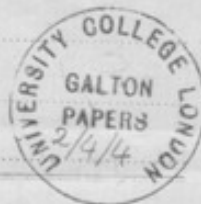
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The information that is sent will be used statistically, and in no other way.

Please address replies to F. GALTON, 42 Rutland Gate, London.

Name John Cleaver
 Year of his (or her) birth 1792
 State if alive and well yes
 If deceased, state year of death



AGE at time of his Father 30
 of his birth ... of his Mother 19

How many } older than himself 1
 brothers and sisters }
 had he } younger than himself 3

Is he the last survivor of them No 3 brothers living. 81. 79. 77

If so, when did the last die

Are there many instances of exceptional longevity:—

On his Father's side Father died aged 101
at least by By Register as he walked to his
Baptism
 On his Mother's side Mother died aged 60

Give a few facts to illustrate the degree of his bodily vigour and activity when in an advanced age:—

Date 22 Sept
 Signature Leamington Hastings
 and Address Phyby
 of Sender. Feb 25. 1876