

Noteworthy Families Report and Letters Regarding Corrections

Publication/Creation

1905

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BRITISH BOARD

REPORT

OF THE FRANCIS GALTON RESEARCH FELLOW
IN NATIONAL EUGENICS.



-----oO-----

February 1 - May 31, 1905.

Kindly bring this copy to the Meeting on
Tuesday, June 27th, at 5 p.m.

BRITISH BOARD



Gentlemen,

I beg to report that work has been done, or is in progress on the subjects mentioned below :-



INHERITANCE OF ABILITY.

Mr. Galton placed in my hands at the commencement of my tenure of the fellowship the returns which had been sent to him by fellows of the Royal Society, in response to his circular letter asking for an account of the noteworthy achievements of their near relatives. These have been carefully studied, & from them accounts which will be found in Appendix I. have been prepared of some 50 families, which have been selected as far as possible on the principle that they should contain at least three near relations up to the standard of noteworthiness, proposed on page IV of the preface of Mr. Galton's "Index to Achievements of near Kinsfolk of some of the Fellows of the Royal Society".

These accounts have been modelled on those contained in the pamphlet referred to above, & have in each case been sent for correction to the person who filled in the form on which they are based, & except in two or three cases they have been received back corrected, & permission to publish them has been given.

An endeavour has been made to collect records of other gifted families, & for this purpose a number of forms have been sent out to persons likely to supply the information required. A certain number have already returned them filled in, & others have promised to do so.

INHERITANCE OF DISEASE.

My chief efforts have been to obtain reliable material, from which the inheritance of disease might be studied in a



quantitative manner. With regard to Mental Weakness & Diseases I have had the benefit of the advice of the following distinguished specialists on the subject :-

Dr. Savage, consulting physician Guy's Hospital, & Earlswood Asylum.

Dr. Mott, F.R.S., physician to Charing Cross Hospital, & pathologist to the London County Asylums.

Dr. Shuttleworth, late of the Royal Albert Asylum,

Dr. R. Langdon Down.

It is the unanimous opinion of these gentlemen that the records of family history, obtained in public lunatic asylums, would be too unreliable to be of much use for statistical purposes, & Dr. Urquhart of Perth, who wrote to Mr. Galton on the subject, expressed the same view.

All information on this point seems to be obtained by relieving officers, who do not trouble themselves much about it, but put down any story that is told them by the relatives of the patient.

This being the case, I did not endeavour to obtain access to public asylum records.

Dr. R. Langdon Down very kindly placed at my disposal notes on over 2,000 cases of idiocy, which had been made by his father Dr. J. Langdon Down, as the result of careful enquiries. These have been made use of in the "Lettsonian Lectures" delivered by ^{in the first case} the latter in 1886, which were published ^{in the first case} in the British Medical Journal of that year, & subsequently in book form.

They appear to me to be capable of further analysis, & I am at present working at them.

Another source of material is "The National Association for Promoting the Welfare of the Feeble-Minded".

Feeble-mindedness is the least severe of the three grades of amentia recognized by specialists. It is stated to be the same in kind, & due to the same causes as the two severer grades, Imbecility & Idiocy. The National Association is applied to for assistance & advice by various philanthropic people, & also by Poor Law Guardians, who wish to help, or do not know what to do with, cases of this description. The Association, when it receives an application, sends down a form asking for particulars of the family history, etc., of the case, which has to be filled in before assistance can be given. The filling in is done often very carefully by persons who have some knowledge of the family, & the form is generally countersigned by a medical man. Nevertheless, in a certain proportion of the cases it is necessary to obtain fuller information, or to clear up ambiguities, & for this purpose a considerable quantity of correspondence is necessary. I have offered to pay a weekly visit to the office of the Society in order to attend to this, on condition that I can make what use I like of the material. It will, however, be some time before sufficient accumulates to give any very definite results.

More detailed & accurate information is hoped for from the "After Care" Circles, which the Association is starting. These are however not organized as yet, & it will be two or three years at least before anything can be expected from them.

While these things are going on I hope to obtain some control material, without which it would be impossible to make a complete correlation tables. Dr. Omerod, Public Health Officer at Oxford & Medical Officer of the Defective Schools there, suggests that it would be possible to obtain this by collecting the family histories of children at the Fever Hospital, & is going to endeavour to do so. As he has had considerable experience in visiting & obtaining information from poor people, he will probably be successful.

I have endeavoured to master the literature of the subject, (Inheritance of Nervous Diseases); & am preparing a paper on it for possible publication.

DEAF-MUTISM.

Through the kindness of Dr. Eichholz I have been enabled to visit the Jewish Deaf & Dumb Home on Wandsworth Common, & the records which have been kept there of the families of the inmates have been placed at my disposal. The following particulars have been kept there & are considered to be quite accurate, namely :-

- (1) The number of brothers & sisters of each of the inmates.
- (2) How many of the brothers & sisters are in each case deaf & dumb. As the proportion of deaf & dumb to general population is known, there is material here to work out the fraternal correlation of Deaf-Mutism. This I intend to do as soon as I have time, & I shall endeavour to gain access to other deaf & dumb homes, where possibly material of the same kind could be obtained.
- (3) Records of consanguinity of the parents are also kept, but the superintendent, Mr. Kutner, tells me that although he has no doubt that where the parents are entered as first cousins, etc., they are truthfully so entered, yet he is not at all sure that all the cases of consanguinity among the parents are entered.



ERTHISIS.

This disease is closely associated with mental defectiveness, & the utmost uncertainty seems to prevail concerning the extent to which it is inherited, indeed it is asserted by some that it is not inherited at all. I have not yet made any special enquiry about the means of studying this, but intend to do so at the earliest



opportunity. I have received from Dr. Eichholz introductions to the authorities of the Jewish Sanatorium for Consumptives at Woburn Sands, & he has kindly obtained permission for me to make use of any records which may be kept there. He is not certain that any, bearing on this point, are actually kept, but suggests that it may be possible to arrange that they may ^{be} in the future. I intend to visit the Sanatorium to make enquiries as soon as possible.

INSURANCE OFFICES AS A SOURCE OF MATERIAL FOR THE STUDY OF INHERITANCE OF DISEASE.

It was suggested by Mr. Palin Elderton that valuable material might be obtainable from this source, & that it would be possible to approach the "Institute of Actuaries", & the "Life Assurance Medical Examiners Association" with a view to obtaining their interest with the Insurance Companies. Mr. Galton put himself in communication with the former, & I interviewed the secretary of the latter, but both of these bodies refused to have anything to do with the matter.

The secretary of the Medical Examiners Association, Dr. Parkes Weber, procured for me some samples of the information that could be obtained at the office with which he himself is connected, the North British Mercantile, but these appeared so incomplete that I did not proceed further with the matter.

-----oOo-----

With the view of widening the circle of people interested in Eugenics, I have agreed to take part in a discussion on the inheritance of disease, to be held by the Pathological Section of the British Medical Association in Leicester in July, also to join the General Organizing Committee of the Congress of the International Institute of Sociology, & both the Oxford & the London After Care Committees of the Feeble-Minded.

-----oOo-----

In conclusion I must point out that although no results can be expected for two or three years, for my work in connection with the National Association for the Feeble-Minded, yet this work will take up a considerable amount of time during that period, if it is to be successful in the end. So much so that I will not be able to undertake more than one considerable piece of work at a time in addition to it. I am, however, sensible that I shall only be working in a very small corner of the whole field of Eugenics, & I submit for the consideration of the Committee the proposal that they should elect another Research fellow in addition to myself who would undertake some other branch of the work, to whom I would be willing to resign the greater part of the emoluments.

-----oOo-----



Letters addressed to

S. Schuster

about Carechins in the accounts
of the families contained in his
report of June 1905.

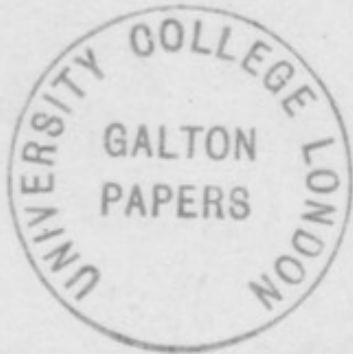
N. B. Dr John Venn

wishes to see his family
again when it is in proof.



Lord Aubrey

f. 2r



6, St James' Square,
S.W.

28 Feb 1905

Si

Return the enclosed
with one or two suggestions.

I do not know what you
generally include.

I have suggested the addition of
'Literary', because some
of my books (Pleasures of
Life, Use of Life &c)

hardly come under
the other categories.

Unfaithful
Abey
Schuster by

W T Blanford



72. Bedford Gardens,
Campden Hill, W.

6th February 1905

My dear Sir,

The enclosed should have
been returned before. I did not
understand that the list would
be published, but in any case
I have no objection whatever

Yours truly

W. T. Blanford

Edgar S. Johnston Esq

J. S. Bottemley

f. 6

13 UNIVERSITY GARDENS
GLASGOW

Apr. 6th 1905

Dear Sir, I much regret
the delay which has occurred
in the return of the enclosed.
It has been mainly due
to illness.

I think the account
is correct.

Yours
Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

J. S. Bottemley

Edgar Schuster Esq

Chree

F. 8



25 Mount Ararat Road

Richmond Surrey

May 22, 1905

Dear Sir

I am in receipt of
your letter of date May 21 enclosing
the biographical outlines. Before
returning the sheet I wish to
consult the other persons directly
concerned. I am afraid you will
already have reached the conclusion
that modesty is not the most
characteristic feature of "Gifted Families".

Yours truly

Charles Chree

Edgar H. J. Schuster Esq

Chree



25 Mount Ararat Road
Richmond Surrey
June 7, 1905

Dear Sir

Having consulted my
brother & sister I return the sheet
enclosed in your letter of May 21,
with a few amendments

Yours truly

C. Chree

J. H. Cotterill

F. 121

April 3rd
1905

Braceville
Speldhurst
Tunbridge Wells

Dear Sir

I am sorry that your
letter of Feb. 23rd has remain-
-ed so long unanswered
in consequence of my absence
abroad. I now return the
proof you sent me with a
single correction and remain
yrs faithfully
James H. Cotterill

Edgar Schuster Esq.

Sir T. Creighton Browne

THE ATHENÆUM,

PALL MALL, S.W.



25. Feb. 1905

Dear Mr. Schuster

I have gone over
the enclosed fragment
of family history and
made one small
correction

If I recollect

THE ATHENEUM

FRIDAY, JAN. 1849

script etc. fallen

did not wish to

go back, beyond

2 generations?

Believe me

Yours faithfully

James Crichton Brewer

A. Cunningham Brown

f. 15r

3 SELERAVE CRESCENT

EDINBURGH

March 1. 1905

Dear Li

I return post with
some notes..

1. My great grandfather

(fa fa fa) may be said to

have taught himself Latin

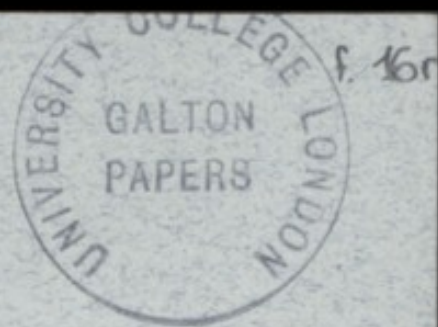
as he had only one month

of Latin at school. He



had no teacher of Greek
and quite literally taught
himself, using a borrowed
Greek Testament in a way
fully described by him self.

He had a teacher for
Hebrew. In the account
of my father, for 'belief'



read 'lectionem'.

As to my brother (the son)

De M. Brown. The 'Horae

Intersecivae' were published

in 3 volumes - 'Tab and his

friends' was published also

separately (as were also a

good many of the essays con-

tained in 'Horae Intersecivae')

There were no other 3

Colours -

I am

Yours truly

Alexander Dennis

Edgar Schuster Esq. M.A.

Sir Edward Fry

Hotel Bristol Paris

26 Feb. 1905



Dear Sir

I return the enclosed papers with one clerical correction in the last line.

I have not as yet had the means of verifying the dates as of on the paper - but so far as I know they are right. I presume that they are taken from some authentic source.

I have not attempted in the account of myself to give a

memory account of the officers I
 had a hard time (I do not
 mention the fact that I am
 here as legal advisor to the
 Commission of enquiry on the Irish
 tea incident). If you wish
 further detail I can give them -
 I return home on Monday

Yours faithfully

Edw. J. Ly

Cojar Schestir Esq

Reidie

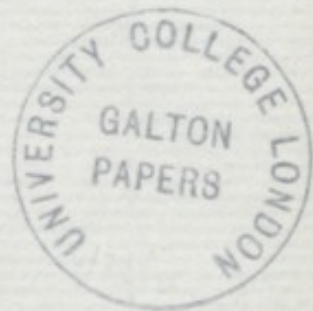
f. 19

**KILMORIE
COLINTON ROAD
EDINBURGH**

22^d March 1905

With Mr. Reidie's compliments

W. Far Schuster Esq. M.A.
University College
Lower St.
London



Grant-Duff

13 March 1905

11, CHELSEA EMBANKMENT,

S. W.

Dear Sir,

In returning the enclosed, I ought perhaps to mention that by the phrase Staff Captain at Head Quarters is meant a member of the Intelligence Department, which is, as you know, a very

picked service, but the term
Intelligence Department has,
since the new organization
came into force, become
obsolete.

I am, dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

M. E. Grant Esq



J. S. Waldane

f. 23

4 ST. MARGARET'S ROAD

OXFORD

June 3 '05

Dear Mr Schuster,

I greatly regret that the enclosed has been so long delayed. It took me rather out-of-my depth, & I have been greatly pressed lately by other work.

I have slightly altered ^{on a separate sheet} the account of my grand father & grand uncle, who were men of great force of character, & in their time exerted great influence in ^{all parts of} Scotland.

I fear you must find this piece of work exceedingly troublesome, but the record will be very interesting when it is finished.

Yours sincerely

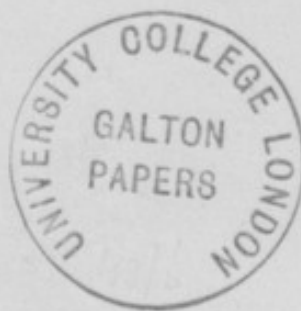
J. S. Waldane



4 ST MARGARETS ROAD
OXFORD

Fa, fa. James Alexander Haldane (1768-1853).
In the East India Company's naval service till
1847: then devoted himself to itinerary evangelisation
in Scotland. Author of several theological treatises.

Fa fa bro. Robert Haldane, (1764-1842). In the
Royal Navy till 1844-1797. Sold his estate in Stirling-
shire to devote the proceeds to missions in India,
but was prevented by the Government from carrying
out this scheme. Carried on evangelistic work in
Geneva & South of France, and cooperated in Scotland
with his brother by endowing places of worship &
training young ministers. Wrote several theological
treatises.



Andman March 15. 07

THE UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL.

Dear Mr. Schuster,

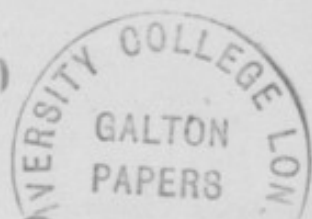
I return the particulars.

It is quite correct, &

I don't see any reason
why anyone should object
to its being made public.

Yours,

W. A. Andman



2 t's at end of Abbott.

Omit what I have inserted
if you are not publishing such.

J. Joly

20.3.05

SOMERSET,
TEMPLE ROAD,
DUBLIN.

Dear Mr Schuster

I return you abstract
corrected.

C. J. Joly is a relation.
We have a great grandfather
in common. I never heard
that this common ancestor
was in any way distinguished
- he was my fa, fa, fa.

Yours truly
J. Joly.



Kemp

19, PEMBRIDGE SQUARE,
W.March 15th
1905

Dear Sir

I return herewith
the draft of "The Index
etc" relating to my own
family. I have merely
altered one date & the
style of my brother J.A.V.
who has recently been
made Comptroller &
Auditor General.

Yours truly

A. D. Kemp

P. Schuster Esq



Ray Lankester

f. 32r

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON: S.W.



March 196

My dear Sir -

I am sorry that
I left Oxford as you
came - I have heard
of you from my friends
here & am very glad
you are taking up
Mr. Galton's scheme.
I have made some
inquiries & find that
Mr. Rushton the

f. 38v



considerable gift as a writer - &
was a woman of high price
of character & personal charm.

Sincerely yours

Mary Lamberton

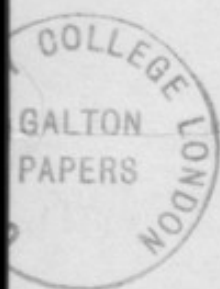
Slipendiary ^{was} is not
 related to my great
 -grandfather Rusleton
 who was a L'pool
 merchant & whose
 son was in the
 L'pool & Porto
 trade.

I have no prominent
 'forebears' - but I
 believe that the
 family of my mother's
 father (Popes of
 Exeter) were related
 to W. Kingston Clifford's
 family - through
 the Kingdons - But

that is not mapped
 out: my great grand
 -mother (S. Pope's mother)
 was a Kingdon and
 I believe a sister of
 W. R. Clifford's great
 -grandmother —

We used to claim
 consanguinity.

/ I have added a
 few notes about my
 brothers & sisters
 who are all certainly
 successful and
 prominent each in
 their line —
 my mother had a



A. Liston

f. 34

Hykecliff
Lyme Regis

Mar 13, 85

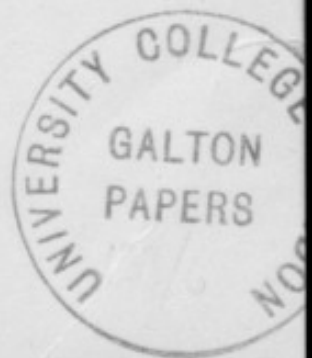
Dear Sir

I return the
notice received from
you this morning, with
a few slight corrections

Yours faithfully

A. Thurston

Edgar Schuster



Third Letter

f. 36



The University,
Birmingham.

13 March 1905.

Dear Sir,

I beg to return herewith the copy
you have been good enough to send me on
behalf of Mr. Francis Galton.

It is accurate so far as it goes,
with a slight emendation, but it

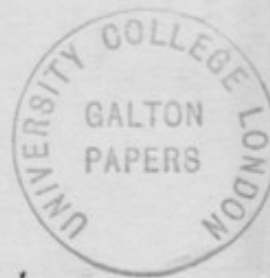
leaves out of account my mother's
family, who, as I mentioned in my

original draft, ^{on the part of the women at least} were characterised
 by exceptional ability, though none
 of them attained any degree of
 notoriety or fame. This omission
 is perhaps inevitable, but, like
 many other omissions of a
 similar character, it perhaps tends
 to detract from the full scientific
 value of the data if used at least
 for purposes of heredity.

Yours faithfully,

Oliver Lodge

Edgar Schuster, Esq., M.A.



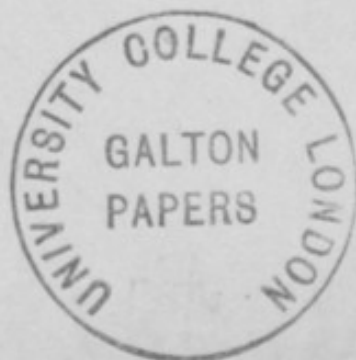
Leopold Mollathoch

f. 38

16. QUEENSBERRY PLACE,
S.W.

Sir Leopold Mollathoch begs
to return to Mr. Schuster the
enclosed Account of his
family ⁱⁿ which he has
made a few corrections
which appeared necessary

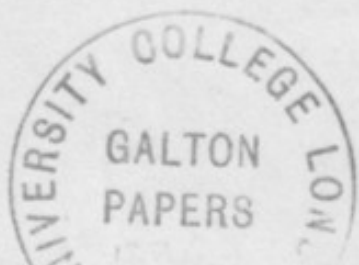
6 May 1905



Moskelyne f. 40r
March 13. 1905

Basset Down House,
Swindon.

Dear Sir



My Husband and I have
made some corrections
which we think make
the report more suitable
to the cases.

but my remarks about
Mr. Dillwyn may not meet
with Mr. Galton's wishes?
I have written a note not
for publication below to

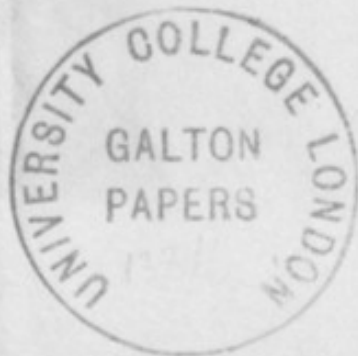
show why I should take
out the line about educating
public taste! — I know
he greatly encouraged the
painting of nat. hist. designs
and got the Nantgarw
designer to come to Swansea
but that is another
thing & hardly worth recording.

W. Fox Talbot's claims

to be being better known
are very important ones
and my Husband feels
strongly that they
have never been
properly recognised
so that if Mr. Galton
does not think his
note too long he
would like it substituted
for what you have
now. His note on


W. Fox Talbot (~~with~~ whom
he consulted as a friend
in the very earliest days of
Photography - as did my
Father) are in purple
pencil -

Yours sincerely
Theresa Story Markelyne



Rayleigh
Stations
Hatfield Peverel 2¼ M.
Witham 3½ M.

May 3/05


TERLING PLACE,
WITHAM, ESSEX.

Telegrams:- Terling.

Dear Sir
I return
the statement,
with omission
indicated
of part of
the - - -
and.

P. G. T. A.
Rayleigh



Clement Reid

F. 44

Gorran Haven,
St Austell.

5 May 1905.

Dear Sir,

I am not sure that
Harold Leslie Barnard should
be in the list returned. I
know very little about surgeons;
but perhaps you would refer
to the medical directory, which
is out of my reach

Yours faithfully

Clement Reid

I was this time
Fly



S J Routh

f. 46

Newnham Cottage,
Queens' Road,
Cambridge.

March 15 1905

Dear Sir

I return the paper
you sent with a slight
addition. I presume
you wish things to be
as short as possible.

Yours truly

E J Routh



f. 48r

POST  CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.



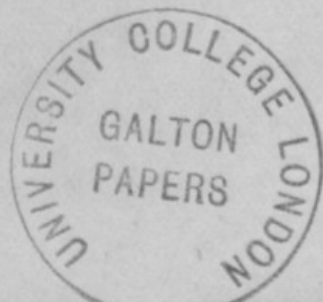
Francis Galton
The Rectory
Ockham
Surrey

Scholar
Newbold

The sixty six families have
arrived & look very nice in
print. I will send them back
in a day or two.

I don't think I have anything
that Miss Elderton could do
at present.

SH/S



May 5. 1905

f. 49

O H Scott

THE OLD PALACE,

RICHMOND.

Dear Sir,

I return the account
of my family, with one
or two corrections.

The Thomas Scott (1780
- 1835) referred, must
be my grandfather,
as the dates agree,

though I did not know
he was the author of
many religious works.

Yours faithfully,

D. H. Scott.



Stoney (Nottingham)

f. 51r

30, Ledbury Road,

Hayswater,

London, W.

NOTTING HILL GATE STATION.
TELEPHONE 1473 WESTERN.



July 25, 1905

Dear Mr Galton

I am sorry to have
to admit that it is I
who have been in fault.

There, was one of the
questions wh. you asked,
to which I did not
know the answer, ~~and~~
nor did I get sufficient
full information from

one of my relatives to whom I wrote about it; & I then let ~~the~~ time slip on without making the further inquiries I sh^d have made.

I will tomorrow send you as full answers as I at present can, & w^d have done so today but

that my time today
was pre-engaged.

And if you find
that the defect in
my answers is material
I will try & get the
missing ~~request~~ information.
But I rather suspect
it is not required
for your purpose.

Believe me

Very truly yours
G. B. Stone Stoney

J. I. Thorneycroft
1 letter

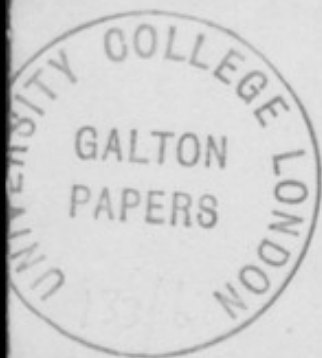
f. 53

STEYNE,
BEMBRIDGE,
NR RYDE,
ISLE OF WIGHT.

5 May 05

Dear Mr. Schuster

I do not find it
necessary to make
any alterations in
the particulars given
Yours very truly
John I. Thorneycroft.



James

f. 55c

9, PARK CRESCENT,
PORTLAND PLACE.



Dear Mr Schuster,

Herewith the copy with
a few slight alterations - my
uncle R. F. Thomas has since died
so I have added date of brother's
death, & the facts (? relevant
to your purpose) that the
collections were purchased by
the British Museum for about
£600. - the birds in have been kept
on record.

Yours very truly
Charles S. Thomas.

I have also added that my

THE BRITISH MUSEUM
LONDON

Sentence analysis has run through
 6 editions & been translated
 into German & French - I
 don't want to advertise myself
 or my book but thought for the
 special purpose its success
 might be relevant. - The same
 applies to the purchase of
 my uncle's collection. - So
 run your pen through these
 addenda if you think
 them not worth making

And as I have cleared the
practice I deleted "insulting
Kantae Singsen"



From DR. J. VENN,
VICARSBROOK,
CHAUCER ROAD,
CAMBRIDGE.

24/2/05

Dear Sir

I enclose your sheets, revised to the best of my power. If there is an opportunity of a revise, when they are printed in the final form, I should be glad, for the sake of extra security.

I have queried the reference to Mrs R. Gurney, as I do not know what was finally agreed upon as to women relations. I had some correspondence with Mr Galton on the subject of the suitable tests of "remarkableness" in their case, but I do not remember that the test was quite decided.

yours truly
J. Venn

