

## **Returned "Ability in Families" Schedules**

### **Publication/Creation**

1904

### **Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/yppcq3n>

### **License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution, Non-commercial license.

Non-commercial use includes private study, academic research, teaching, and other activities that are not primarily intended for, or directed towards, commercial advantage or private monetary compensation. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



✓ account prepared & sent returned corrected  
X. Not yet returned.

61

LIST OF FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
WHO SENT RETURNS.

John Aitken  
T.Clifford Allbut  
John Attfield  
Lord Avebury ✓  
A.W.Baird  
J G.Baker  
Robert S Ball ✓  
H.Brereton Baker  
A.B.Basset  
H.C.Bastian  
W.Bateson  
W.M.Bayliss  
John Beddoe  
Lionel S Beale  
Lowthian Bell  
W.H.Besant  
Shelford Bidwell  
W.T.Blanford ✓  
T.G.Bonney  
Sir Charles Booth Index  
R.M.Bosanquet ✓  
G.T.Bottomley ✓  
Dietrich Brandis ✓  
G.S.Brady  
John Brown  
E.W.Brown



A.Crum Brown ✓

James Crighton Browne ✓

David Bruce

T.Lauder Brunton

G.H.Bryan

G.B.Buckton

S.H.Burbury

J.S.Burdon Sanderson Index

W.Burnside

J.T.Cash

C.Chree

Arthur H.Church ✓

C.B.Clarke

G.Sydenham Clarke

John Cleland

J.Norman Collie

J.H.Cotterill ✓

S.Monckton Copeman ✓

W.Crookes

D.D.Cunningham

D.J.Cunningham

G.H.Darwin } Index  
C.R. Darwin }  
Horace Darwin }

Lord Davey

W.Botd Dawkins

H.Debus

Edward Divers

A.M.W.Downing

3

Dupre

Dyson

William Ellis

Elliot

✓ W.Esson

John Evans ✓

J.D.Everett

J.B.Farmer ✓

Joseph Fayrer

H.J.H.Fenton

Lazarus Fletcher

E.R.Festing ✕

G.Carey Foster

Michael Forster

Edward Fry ✓

Sir Douglas Galton

JS Gamble

Archibald Garrod

W.H.Gaskell

James Geikie ✓

David Gill

H.H.Godwin-Austin

George Gore

Sir John Gorst

F.Gotch ✓

Sir William Gowers

Sir M.E.Grant-Duff ✓

Sir William Grove

A. Gunther

J.S.Haldane X

W.D.Halliburton

R.Harley

S.F.Harmer

W.N.Hartley

Henry Head

O.Heaviside

W.B.Hemsley

W.A.Herdman ✓

W.M.Hicks

S.J.Hickson ✓

W.P.Hiern

Leonard Hill ✓

G.J.Hinde

Sir Joseph Hooker Index

Sir Victor Horsley Index

S.S.Hough

Sir William Huggins

J.Hutchinson

F.W.Hutton

F.R.Japp

J.Joly ✓

J.W.Judd

Sir George King



5

Sir John Kirk

A.B.Kempe ✓

E.Ray Lankester ✓

J.Larmor

A.Sheridan Lea

Lord Lindley

Arthur Lister ✓

Lord Lister

G.D.Liveing

A.Liversidge

Sir Oliver Lodge ✓

A Macalister

Frank McClean

Sir Francis McClintock ✓

W.C.McIntosh

J.McKendrick

A.Mallock

Sir Clements Markham *Index*

John E. Marr

*M H N S Mac Kelyne ✓*

D.Orme Masson ✕

M.T.Masters

G.B.Mathews

Matthey

Sir Herbert Maxwell

H.B.Medlicott

R.Meldola ✓

Louis C. Miall ✓

H.A.Miers ✓

John Milne

Lloyd Morgan

F. W. Mott

Thomas Muir

Sir George Nares

F. H. Neville

Alfred Newton ✓

E. T. Newton

Lord Northbrook ✓

*R. N. Inglis Palgrave, Index*

Karl Pearson

Alexander Pedler

W. Flinders Petrie ✓

S. P. U. Pickering ✓

E. B. Poulton

W. H. Power

J. H. Poynting

Sir William Preece

T. Putdie

P. H. Pye-Smith

A. A. Rambault

Sir William Ramsay ✓

Arthur Ransome

Lord Rayleigh ✓

Clement Reid ✓

~~Professe~~ A. W. Rienold

J. Emerson Reynolds

7

Isaac Roberts

Samuel Roberts

Lord Justice Romer

Sir Henry Roscoe ✓ + Index.

R. Ross

Sydney Ringer

E. J. Routh ✓

Arthur Rucker

R. A. Sampson

W. Samuelson

Edward Saunders

E. A. Schafer

P. L. Sclater

D. H. Scott ✓

Robert H. Scott ✓

Adam Sedgwick

David Sharp

W. A. Shenstone

C. S. Sherrington

A. Smithells

H. C. Sorby

H. Sprengel

E. H. Starling

John E. Stead

T. R. R. Stebbing X

E. C. Stirling

E. B. Stoney

Sir Richard Strachey Index.

8

Aubrey Strahan ✓

T.P.Teale

J.J.H.Teall

J.H.Tennant

Sir W Thiselton-Dyer

Sir John I.Thorneycroft ✓

R.Threlfall

H.L.Thuillier

W.A.Tilden

C.S.Tomes ✓

J.W.H.Trail ✕

Roland Trimen

F.T.Trouton

H.H.Turner

E.B.Tylor

V.H.Veley

John Venn ✓

S.H.Vines

James Walker

A.R.Wallace

R.Warington ✓

Sir Charles Warren ✓

W.Watson

W.F.R.Weldon

W.C.D.Whetham

W.Whitaker

Arthur Willey



C.T.R.Wilson

B.C.A.Windle ✓

Henry Woodward } ✓

H.B.Woodward }

A.Smith Woodward

A.M.Worthington

G.F.Yeo

Sydney Young

LIST OF FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
WHO SENT RETURNS.

- John Aitken
- T.Clifford Allbut
- John Attfield
- Lord Avebury
- A.W.Baird
- J G.Baker
- Robert S Ball
- H.Brereton Baker
- A.B.Basset
- H.C.Bastian
- W.Bateson
- W.M.Bayliss
- John Beddoe
- Lionel S Beale
- Lowthian Bell
- W.H.Besant
- Shelford Bidwell
- W.T.Blanford
- T.G.Bonney
- Charles Booth
- R.M.Bosanquet
- G.T.Bottomley
- Dietrich Brandis
- G.S.Brady
- John Brown
- E.W.Brown



A.Crum Brown  
James Crighton Brown  
David Bruce  
T.Lauder Brunton  
G.H.Bryan  
G.B.Buckton  
S.H.Burbury  
J.S.Burdon Sanderson  
W.Burnside  
J.T.Cash  
C.Chree  
Arthur H.Church  
C.B.Clarke  
G.Sydenham Clarke  
John Cleland  
J.Norman Collie  
J.H.Cotterill  
S.Monckton Copeman  
W.Crookes  
D.D.Cunningham  
D.J.Cunningham  
G.H.Darwin  
Horace Darwin  
Lord Davey  
W.Botd Dawkins  
H.Debus  
Edward Divers  
A.M.W.Downing

3

Dupre

Dyson

William Ellis

Elliot

/ W.Esson

John Evans

J.D.Everett

J.B.Farmer/

Joseph Fayerer

H.J.H.Fenton

Lazarus Fletcher

E.R.Festing

G.Carey Foster

Michael Forster

Edward Fry

Sir Douglas Galton

JS Gamble

Archibald Garrod

W.H.Gaskell

James Geikie

David Gill

H.H.Godwin-Austin

George Gore

Sir John Gorst

F.Gotch

Sir William Gowers

Sir M.E.Grant-Duff



Sir William Grove  
A. Gunther  
J.S.Haldane  
W.D.Halliburton  
R.Harley  
S.F.Harmer  
W.N.Hartley  
Henry Head  
O.Heaviside  
W.B.Hemsley  
W.A.Herdman  
W.M.Hicks  
S.J.Hickson  
W.P.Hiern  
Leonard Hill  
G.J.Hinde  
Sir Joseph Hooker  
Sir Victor Horsley  
S.S.Hough  
Sir William Huggins  
J.Hutchinson  
F.W.Hutton  
F.R.Japp  
J.Joly  
J.W.Judd  
Sir George King

Sir John Kirk

A.B.Kempe

E.Ray Lankester

J.Larmor

A.Sheridan Lea

Lord Lindley

Arthur Lister

Lord Lister

G.D.Living

A.Liversidge

Sir Oliver Lodge

A Macalister

Frank McClean

Sir Francis McClintock

W.C.McIntosh

J.McKendrick

A.Mallock

Sir Clements Markham

John E. Marr

D.Orme Masson

M.T.Masters

G.B.Mathews

Matthey

Sir Herbert Maxwe'll

H.B.Medlicott

R.Meldeo

Louis C. Miall

H.A.Miers

6

- John Milne
- Lloyd Morgan
- F. W. Mott
- Thomas Muir
- Sir George Nares
- F. H. Neville
- Alfred Newton
- E. T. Newton
- Lord Northbrook
- Karl Pearson
- Alexander Pedler
- W. Flinders Petrie
- S. P. U. Pickering
- E. B. Poulton
- W. H. Power
- J. H. Poynting
- Sir William Prece
- T. Purdie
- P. H. Pye-Smith
- A. A. Rambault
- Sir William Ramsay
- Arthur Ransome
- Lord Rayleigh
- Clement Reid
- Professe A. W. Rienold
- J. Emerson Reynolds

Isaac Roberts  
Samuel Roberts  
Lord Justice Romer  
Sir Henry Roscoe  
R. Ross  
Sydney Ringer  
E. J. Routh  
Arthur Rucker  
R. A. Sampson  
W. Samuelson  
Edward Saunders  
E. A. Schafer  
P. L. Selater  
D. H. Scott  
Robert H. Scott  
Adam Sedgwick  
David Sharp  
W. A. Shenstone  
C. S. Sherrington  
A. Mithells  
H. C. Sorby  
H. Sprengel  
E. H. Starling  
John E. Stead  
T. R. R. Stebbing  
E. C. Stirling  
B. B. Stoney  
Sir Richard Strachey



8

Aubrey Strahan

T.P.Teale

J.J.H.Teall

J.H.Tennant

Sir W.Thiselton-Dyer

Sir John I.Thorneycroft

R.Threlfall

H.L.Thuillier

W.A.Tilen

C. S.Tomes

J.W.H.Trail

R.Trimen

F. T.Trouton

H.H.Turner

E.B.Tylor

V.H.Veley

John Venn

S.H.Vines

James Walker

A.R.Wallace

R.Warington

Sir Charles Warren

W.Watson

W.F.R.Weldon

W.C.D.Whetham

W.Whitaker

A.Willey

Arthur Willey

W. Whitaker

W.C.D. Whetham

W.F.R. Weldon

W. Watson

Sir Charles Warren

R. Warington

A. R. Wallace

James Walker

S. H. Vines

John Venn

V. H. Veley

E. B. Tylor

R. Trimen

F. T. Trouton

H. H. Turner

H. L. Thuillier

C. S. Tomes

W. A. Tilen

H. J. Threlfall

A. R. Wallace

Sir John I. Thorneycroft

Sir W. Thiselton-Dyer

J. H. Tennant

J. J. H. Teall

T. P. Teale

Aubrey Strahan

C.T.R.Wilson

B.C.A.Windle

Henry Woodward

H.B.Woodward

A.Smith Woodward

A.M.Worthington

G.F.Yeo

Sydney Young

LIST OF FELLOWS OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY  
WHO SENT RETURNS.

---

John Aitken  
T.Clifford Allbut  
John Attfield  
Lord Avebury  
A.W.Baird  
J G.Baker  
Robert S Ball  
H.Brereton Baker  
A.B.Basset  
H.C.Bastian  
W.Bateson  
W.M.Bayliss  
John Beddoe  
Lionel S Beale  
Lowthian Bell  
W.H.Besant  
Shelford Bidwell  
W.T.Blanford  
T.G.Bonney  
Charles Booth  
R.M.Bosanquet  
G.T.Bottomley  
Dietrich Brandis  
G.S.Brady  
John Brown  
E.W.Brown



2

A.Crum Brown  
James Crichton Brown  
David Bruce  
T.Lauder Brunton  
G.H.Bryan  
G.B.Buckton  
S.H.Burbury  
J.S.Burdon Sanderson  
W.Burnside  
J.T.Cash  
C.Chree  
Arthur H.Church  
C.B.Clarke  
G.Sydenham Clarke  
John Cleland  
J.Norman Collie  
J.H.Cotterill  
S.Monckton Copeman  
W.Crookes  
D.D.Cunningham  
D.J.Cunningham  
G.H.Darwin  
Horace Darwin  
Lord Davey  
W.Botd Dawkins  
H.Debus  
Edward Divers  
A.M.W.Downing



3  
Dupre

Dyson

William Ellis

Elliot

W. Esson

John Evans

J.D. Everett

J.B. Farmer

Joseph Fayer

H.J.H. Fenton

Lazarus Fletcher

E.R. Festing

G. Carey Foster

Michael Forster

Edward Fry

Sir Douglas Galton  
JS Gamble

Archibald Garrod

W.H. Gaskell

James Geikie

David Gill

H.H. Godwin-Austin

George Gore

Sir John Gorst

F. Gotch

Sir William Gowers

Sir M.E. Grant-Duff

Sir William Grove

A. Gunther

J.S.Haldane

W.D.Halliburton

R.Harley

S.F.Harmer

W.N.Hartley

Henry Head

O.Heaviside

W.B.Hemsley

W.A.Herdman

W.M.Hicks

S.J.Hickson

W.P.Hiern

Leonard Hill

G.J.Hinde

Sir Joseph Hooker

Sir Victor Horsley

S.S.Hough

Sir William Huggins

J.Hutchinson

F.W.Hutton

F.R.Japp

J.Joly

J.W.Judd

Sir George King

5

Sir John Kirk

A.B.Kempe

E.Ray Lankester

J.Larmor

A.Sheridan Lea

Lord Lindley

Arthur Lister

Lord Lister

G.D.Liveing

A.Liversidge

Sir Oliver Lodge

A Macalister

Frank McClean

Sir Francis McClintock

W.C.McIntosh

J.McKendrick

A.Mallock

Sir Clements Markham

John E. Marr

D.Orme Masson

M.T.Masters

G.B.Mathews

Matthey

Sir Herbert Maxwell

H.B.Medlicott

R.Meldoia

Louis C. Miall

H.A.Miers

6

John Milne  
Lloyd Morgan  
F. W. Mott  
Thomas Muir  
Sir George Nares  
F. H. Neville  
Alfred Newton  
E. T. Newton  
Lord Northbrook  
Karl Pearson  
Alexander Pedler  
W. Flinders Petrie  
S. P. U. Pickering  
E. B. Poulton  
W. H. Power  
J. H. Poynting  
Sir William Preece  
T. Puddle  
P. H. Pye-Smith  
A. A. Rambault  
Sir William Ramsay  
Arthur Ransome  
Lord Rayleigh  
Clement Reid  
Professee A. W. Rienold  
J. Emerson Reynolds



Isaac Roberts  
 Samuel Roberts  
 Lord Justice Romer  
 Sir Henry Roscoe  
 R. Ross  
 Sydney Ringer  
 E. J. Routh  
 Arthur Rucker  
 R. A. Sampson  
 W. Samuelson  
 Edward Saunders  
 E. A. Schafer  
 P. L. Selater  
 D. H. Scott  
 Robert H. Scott  
 Adam Sedgwick  
 David Sharp  
 W. A. Shenstone  
 C. S. Sherrington  
 A. Smithells  
 H. C. Sorby  
 H. Sprengel  
 E. H. Starling  
 John E. Stead  
 T. R. R. Stebbing  
 E. C. Stirling  
 B. B. Stoney  
 Sir Richard Strachey

8

Aubrey Strahan

T.P.Teale

J.J.H.Teall

J.H.Tennant

Sir W.Thiselton-Dyer

Sir John I.Thorneycroft

R.Threlfall

H.L.Thuillier

W.A.Tilen

C. S.Tomes

J.W.H.Trail

R.Trimen

F.T.Trouton

H.H.Turner

E.B.Tylor

V.H.Veley

John Venn

S.H.Vines

James Walker

A.R.Wallace

R.Warington

Sir Charles Warren

W.Watson

W.F.R.Weldon

W.C.D.Whetham

W.Whitaker

A.Willey

C.T.R. Wilson

B.C.A. Windle

Henry Woodward

H.B. Woodward

A. Smith Woodward

A.M. Worthington

G.F. Yeo

Sydney Young

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *John Aitken, Esq., FRS*

*does not*  
 ("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)  
*(Kindly send further particulars)*

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>J. R</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	<i>James Russel</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2	<i>J. W. A.</i>	9	<i>me bro</i>	2		7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>James Walker Aitken</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	0		10	<i>me si</i>	4				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	5		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	1				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	3				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	4				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	0		28	<i>me si da</i>	10				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>		<i>Not married</i>		<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *John Aitken Ardulia Falkirk*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

John Aitken

Arbuckle

Falkirk

*Self  
not in Who's Who?*

John Aitken is the 4<sup>th</sup> son of the late Henry Aitken, Darroch, Falkirk. Educated at the Falkirk Grammar School and the Glasgow University. Served his apprenticeship as Marine Engineer in R. Napier & Sons Works, Glasgow. His health failed on the completion of his apprenticeship and he afterwards devoted himself to the study of physical science. He has communicated to different societies papers on mechanical subjects, colour, dew, dust, &c and invented a number of instruments used for investigating these subjects. He has received the Keith Medal and the Gunning Victoria Jubilee Prize from the Royal Society Edinburgh, and other medals. He was elected Fellow of the Royal Society London in 1889 and made LL.D. of Glasgow University in 1902. Amusements, Salmon and Trout fishing, mechanical arts, Gardening

As you refer to "Who's Who" in your Circular the above the above is written after its style, but for your use

J. A.



Reg: Title  
3 me fa James Russel

James Russel started and successfully  
Carried on large collieries and Iron  
Smelting works

Reg: Title  
7 fa bro James Walker Aitken

James W Aitken was a successful  
Student in the Science department in  
the Glasgow University where he obtained  
prizes. He died early



Reg: Title  
fa me bro James Walker

James Walker was a successful  
Engineer. London. He was engineer to  
the Thames Conservators, The River  
Tyne Commission, The Clyde Trustees,  
Trinity House, The Admiralty. He  
designed Dover Harbour, Alderney, and  
Granton. Finished Plymouth Harbour,  
and the Caledonian Canal. He was  
for 11 years President of the Inst of  
Civil Engineers &c &c

Ref: Little  
for me uncle Ralph Walker

Ralph Walker published in 1795 "The  
Variations of the Compass" the standard  
work on the subject at the time, He  
designed and carried out the construction  
of the East and West India Docks, London.  
He was consulting engineer to the Trinity  
House, for Dover and other harbours. He  
also invented a number of things, amongst  
others Crushing Mills for Sugar Cane, Swing  
Bridges &c





Albatt, Prof. Clifford MD, F.R.S.  
Apr. 27. 04



St. Radegund's,  
Cambridge.

Dear Mr. Gallon

I cannot claim dis-  
tinction for any of my  
forbearers; but it is of some  
interest to me that, although  
we were never armigerous,  
the four generations preceding  
me were in the British line  
all (& in collateral ancestry)

Except that my grandfather being P. 54  
a newspaper proprietor & editor  
was also a printer

---

in professions - not one  
since - <sup>all</sup> of a literary bent.  
That it is remarkable too  
that counting both sides,  
few of my uncles were in  
any one profession of need-  
some. I don't know that I

"initiated" them in choos-  
ing any profession for myself  
it seemed to come naturally but  
my father was first

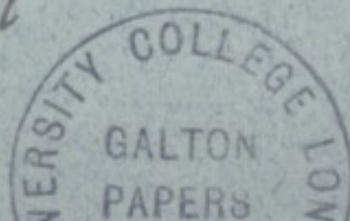


a tour & then a rural school  
 but answered no more than  
 local instruction. The  
 last were schoolmasters & the  
 — two were active as jour-  
 nalists. I am glad to think

that my great grandfather  
 (who was a friend of Priestley &c)  
 was among the first in the field

(he was a schoolmaster)

as an advocate of teaching



science in ~~the~~ schools. He  
 wrote a sort of science cate-  
 chism which went through  
 15 or 20 editions. I regret  
 to add that it methodised  
 no practical work. being  
 wholly catechetical.

I regret I am unable to  
 fill up your paper with  
 anything of value & am  
 with kind regards

Yours very truly  
 Alfred Russel  
 Wallace



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor J. Clifford Allbutt, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender





## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

\*The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D<sup>r</sup> John Attfield, M.A.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																																				
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																									
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<i>fa fa bro son. 12 such survived childhood. Initials of one of the 12 who was noteworthy = W.A. = William Attfield. Born April 10th, 1790 &amp; died Oct. 6, 1861. M.A. Oxon. Oxford University English Prize Essayist for 1811.</i>																																																																				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																																								
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—																																																																								
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—																																																																								
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>																																																																									
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>																																																																									
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—																																																																								
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—																																																																								
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																																									
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																																									
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					<i>29 son. D.H.A. = Donald Harvey Attfield, M.A., M.B., D.B.H. Cantab. Born June 9, 1866, Director and Principal Medical Officer of the Egyptian Government Quarantine Service at Suoz. Decorated fourth class Imperial Order of the Osmanieh by His Imperial Highness the Khedive.</i>																																																																				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																																									
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>																																																																									
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>																																																																									
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>																																																																									
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>																																																																									
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td>1</td> <td><i>D.H.A.</i></td> <td rowspan="2"><i>Martha nee Harvey</i></td> <td rowspan="2">1865</td> <td><i>so Wi bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td><i>so Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so(2) Wi bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so(2) Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da(2) Hu bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da(2) Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1	<i>D.H.A.</i>	<i>Martha nee Harvey</i>	1865	<i>so Wi bro</i>		Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2		<i>so Wi si</i>		2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>		Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>										<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>										<i>da(2) Hu si</i>		
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																								
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																																							
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1	<i>D.H.A.</i>	<i>Martha nee Harvey</i>	1865	<i>so Wi bro</i>																																																																							
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2				<i>so Wi si</i>																																																																							
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>																																																																							
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>																																																																							
								<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>																																																																							
								<i>da(2) Hu si</i>																																																																							
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>John Attfield, Watford, Herts. 7th May, 1904.</i>																																																																															



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

15, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.

1 June 1904

My dear Galton

I now forward the  
enclosed, which I hope is  
made out as you wish.

I am

Yours sincerely  
Aveling





Lord Albury

f. 10

Grandfather - Sir John Lubbock

A leading Banker

Gov. of the Royal Exchange Ass. Co.

Father - Sir John William Lubbock

Mathematician & Astronomer

Vice Pres. & Treas. Royal Soc.

One of the 4 Treas. of the Great Exhib. of 1851.

Royal Society Medallist

Deputy Governor of the Royal Exchange.

Brothers - Seven. Three in Eton cricket eleven

Two " " boating eight & one in

both 6 & 11 - I believe - unique case

Sir Neville Governor of Royal Exchange Ass. Co.

K.C.M.G.

Chairman of West Indian C<sup>o</sup>

Alfred - author of "Memories of Eton & Etonians"

Edgar - ~~Gold Medallist~~ Law Scholar at University  
of London, passed first & got the Clifford's Inn Prize in Law

Nephews - Basil - Author of "Round the Horn before the West."

Guy - Capt Royal Engineers

Percy - Several articles in Mag.

H. R. author of several novels.

Daughters C.M.B. "Side lights on Bible History"

G.L. "Some Poor-Laws Questions."



(b. 1834) Cr. Baron Avebury 1910

For Sec. R.A.  
Pres. Soc. Ant.  
Surrey Order  
Com. in 1<sup>st</sup> Hand

Rt. Hon. Sir John Lubbock, 1<sup>st</sup> Baron Avebury, (b. 1834) P.C.,

D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., Banker, head of Robarts, Lubbock & Co.,

well known for the part he has taken in public affairs,

& as a scientist; has been a member of many Royal Commissions

& president of many learned- learned societies, author of over

100 memoirs in the Transactions of the Royal Society, & of

numerous other scientific & popular scientific works;

(Who's Who & *Encyc. Britt*)

fa fa Sir John Lubbock, a leading banker & governor of the

Royal Exchange Assurance company.

fa Sir John William Lubbock, (1803-1865) F.R.S.; astronomer &

mathematician; treasurer & vice-president of the Royal

Soc.; first vice-chancellor of the London University; deputy

governor of Royal Exchange *Ass. Corp*. (Dict. N. Biog.)

bro Sir Neville Lubbock, K.C.M.G., chairman West India Committee

Governor of the "Royal Exchange Ass. Corp."; chairman of New

Colonial Co.; etc. (Who's Who)

bro Edgar Lubbock, LL.B., director of the Bank of England;

law scholar at University of London; passed first & got

Clifford's Inn prize in Law Soc. exam. (Who's Who)

*literary*

*See Elia's Works in Critic*

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*The Rt. Hon. Lord Avebury, Oct. 1900*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>J. L.</i>	3	me fa	—				<i>Sir John Lubbock</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>J. W. L.</i>	—	—	—	—			<i>Sir John William Lubbock.</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	<i>None</i>		9	me bro	<i>None</i>				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	<i>None</i>		10	me si	<i>None</i>				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	<i>7</i>	<i>N. L. A. L. E. H.</i>	—	—	—	—			<i>Sir Neville Lubbock KCMG.</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	<i>3</i>		—	—	—	—			<i>M<sup>r</sup> Alfred "</i> <i>M<sup>r</sup> Edgar "</i>
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	<i>None</i>		15	me son	<i>None</i>				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	<i>None</i>		16	me da	<i>None</i>				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	<i>?</i>	<i>B. L. G. L. R. R.</i>	19	si son	<i>?</i>				<i>M<sup>r</sup> Basil Lubbock</i>
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	<i>0</i>		20	si da	<i>?</i>				<i>Capt Lubbock</i> <i>M<sup>r</sup> Percy Lubbock</i> <i>M<sup>r</sup> Stanley Rodney</i>
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	<i>0</i>		23	me bro son	<i>0</i>				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	<i>0</i>		24	me si son	<i>0</i>				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	<i>0</i>		27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	<i>0</i>		28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	<i>3</i>			<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	da	<i>3</i>	<i>C. M. B.</i> <i>G. L.</i>		<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	<i>3</i>			<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	<i>2</i>				

*M<sup>r</sup> Sydney Baxton*  
*Hon. Gertrude Lubbock*

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



1. Fa. Fa. Fa

Charles Baird

The first person to introduce Machinery into the Woollen Manufactures in the North of Scotland: about the year 1789 he brought from England at considerable expense two Carding Engines, & four Spinning Jennies &c. &c. ...  
See Kennedy's Annals of Aberdeen Vol II page 202

Charles Baird was also a Captain in the Royal Aberdeen Light Infantry in 1801. The Corp. was raised when the French invasion was feared.

2 Fa. Mc. Si. So.

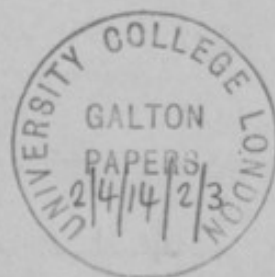
Sir John Hay K.C. M.G.

Banker. Sydney. Australia  
Was Prime Minister of New South Wales, & several times Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, & a distinguished Australian Statesman. died about 15 years ago.

29. So

Captain Percy Thomas Charles Baird, of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders.

Passed out of the Military College Sandhurst with Honours Being Senior Lieutenant of the 2nd Batt<sup>n</sup> of the Regt. when the first Colours were presented to it by H.M. Queen Victoria at Balmoral in 1898, he received the Queen's Colours from Her Majesty.



29. So.

f. IV

Lieutenant Harry Beauchamp Douglas Baird  
of the 12<sup>th</sup> Bengal Cavalry

Exhibitioner at Clifton College. Passed high on the list  
at the Competition Examination for entrance to the Military  
College Sandhurst, & so got into the Indian Staff Corps  
Was on active service in the Tirah Campaign 1897 & in  
many engagements in the hard fighting in the Bara  
Valley - Medal + 2 clasps

31. Wi Bro

Professor Alexander Dyce Davidson. M.D., F.R.S.E.; &c.  
Was for several years Professor of Materia Medica in the  
University of Aberdeen, & at the time of his appointment  
was & when the youngest Regius Professor in Scotland  
He was very distinguished as a medical student, & got his  
Degree of M.A. I think when he was 16, & he passed for his  
M.B. & C. his degrees with the Highest Honours at 20 & had  
to wait till he was of age to be "capped". He was celebrated  
as an Oculist Surgeon & wrote articles on the subject to Foreign  
medical Journals. He reorganized the Materia Medica Dept of  
the University & died suddenly while lecturing some 16 years ago.  
The Town of Aberdeen gave a Public funeral.

32. Wi. Bro.

Major George Davidson R.E. Passed high on the list out  
of the Royal Military Academy Woolwich & got into the Royal Engineers  
Carried out various Public Works in India & Military Works at Lucknow  
Was on active Service in Afghanistan - Medal. Was at Madras at Bombay for several  
years.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Colonel A. W. Baird, C.S.I., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather <i>fa</i>	1	<i>fa fa fa</i>	—	<i>C. B.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—		1	<i>fa fa fa</i>	<i>Charles Baird</i>
Grandmother <i>me</i>	2	<i>fa me so so</i>	—	<i>J. H.</i>	4	<i>me me</i>	—		2	<i>fa me si so</i>	<i>Sir John Hay K.C.M.G.</i>
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	9		9	<i>me bro</i>	9				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . . . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . . . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					
<div>1st marriage.<div>Regr. Title. No. who survived child-hood. Initials of the noteworthy. Maiden name of their mother, your wife. Year of her marriage. Wife's brothers and sisters.<div>Titles. Initials of the noteworthy.</div></div></div>											
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2	<i>P. J. C. B. H. B. D. B.</i>	<i>Margaret Elizabeth Davidson</i>	1872	<i>da Wi bro S A. D. D. G. D. da Hu bro da Hu si</i>	29	<i>so</i>	<i>Percy Thomas Charles Baird</i>
	Daughters . . . . .	30	<i>da</i>						29	<i>so</i>	<i>Harry Beauchamp Douglas Baird</i>
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro Hu(2) Hu si</i>	31	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>Alexander Dyer Davidson</i>
	Daughters . . . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						32	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>George Davidson</i>
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>Col. A. W. Baird C.S.I., F.R.S.</i> <i>Palmers' Cross, Elgin, N.B.</i>											



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



F3

Robert Baker, M.D (Edinb)  
for 17 years Superintendent  
of the Friends Rehe<sup>Retreat</sup> at  
York, the lunatic asylum  
where the humane system  
of treatment was first tried  
in England.

Edmund Gilbert Baker  
Pereira Medallist, Pharma-  
ceutical Society. Won by  
competitive examination  
place as assistant in the  
Natural History Museum,  
South Kensington (Depar-  
tment of Botany)

J G Baker

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *J. G. Baker, Esq., &rs*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	4		9	me bro					
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	7		10	me si					
Brothers . . .	11	bro	3	A.B.	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers	13	fa son	2		15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	2		16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	8		19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	9		20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	7		23	me bro son					
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	7		24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	5		27	me bro da					
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	5		28	me si da					

*Robert Baker*

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	EGB	1866	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	1	Unthorn		so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	

*Edmund Gilbert Baker*

Signature and Address of the Sender

*John Gilbert Baker*  
*Glumtunland Road, Kew*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

No titles

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *H. Brereton Baker, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	0				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	C. J. B.	—	—	—	—	11	bro	→ Baker Charles John
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	0				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	0				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0				



Self Unmarried  
bro  
& si

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*H. Brereton Baker Christ Church. Oxford.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Sir Robert S. Ball, 4th*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa	Robert Ball
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		8	fa si	Anne E Ball
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	RB	—	—	—	—		"	Mary Ball
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	11	bro	Valentine Ball
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	2			"	Charles Bent Ball
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2	AB MB	10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	VB CBB	—	—	—	—	23	me bro son	Ames Hellicar
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	5		19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	7		20	si da	1				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	3	AH			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	4				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	4	Frances Elizabeth Steele	1868	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	



Signature and Address of the Sender

*Robert S Ball*  
Oxford Cambridge  
27 April 1904

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

- 5 fa Robert Ball. A distinguished Naturalist  
see Dictionary of National Biography. d 1857
- 7 fa Si Anne E Ball. a botanist and an  
authority on Algae. W. Henry Harvey in his  
Phycologia Britannica makes her due  
acknowledgments
- 7 fa Si. Mary Ball. An entomologist. Long an  
invalid but confined to her sofa in a  
drawingroom captured in the course of years  
200 different species of insects in a drawing  
room window. 20 Eccles St - Dublin
- 11 ho Valentine Ball F.R.S. d 1895. See the  
Obituary notice in P.R.S. that year
- 11 ho Sir Charles Bent Ball. Hon F.R.C.S. Distinguished  
Irish Surgeon Regius Professor in the University  
of Dublin see current "Who's Who"
- 23 me ho Son Amos Hellicar is the successful manager of  
the leading bank in Sydney. NSW.



*Robert Ball*



*(member of  
the Council  
of the Senate)*

Sir Robert Stawell Ball, (b. 1840) LL.D., F.R.S., Lowndean prof. of Astronomy & Geometry, Cambridge; *Fellow of King's College, Cambridge* director of the Cambridge observatory since 1892; Royal Astronomer of Ireland, 1874-92; ex-president of Royal Astronomical Soc., Mathematical Ass., & of Royal Zoological Soc. of Ireland; author of many works on astronomical, mathematical, & physical subjects. [Who's Who]

fa Robert Ball, (1802-1857) distinguished naturalist; *Secretary of Royal Zoological Society of Ireland* president of Geological Soc. of Ireland, director of Trinity Coll. Museum, 1844; hon. LL.D. Trinity Coll. [Dict. N. Biog.]

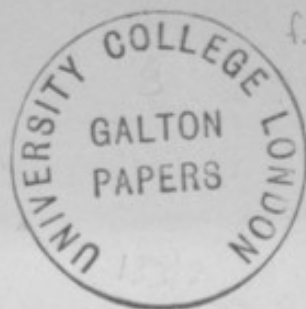
bro Valentine Ball, (1843-1895) LL.D., C.B., F.R.S., Director & organizer of National Museum Dublin, 1882-1895; on staff of Geological Survey of India, 1864-1880; prof. of Geology & Mineralogy *in the University of* Dublin, 1880-2; author of "Jungle Life in India" of an elaborate treatise on the economic Geology of India, & of "Diamonds & Gold of India" [Obit. Notice, P.R.S., 1895]

bro Sir Charles Bent Ball, Regius professor of Surgery, Univ. of Dublin; M.D., M.Ch., F.R.C.S.I., Hon. F.R.C.S., England; surgeon to Sir Patrick Dun's Hospital & hon. Surgeon to the King in Ireland; author of various surgical works. [Who's Who]

me bro son Ames Hellicar, the successful manager of the leading bank in Sydney, N.S.W.

title left  
25 } #7

CARRIGOONA,  
BRAY,  
Co. WICKLOW.



Sept 24/14

My dear Sir;

The enclosed has been  
too long delayed. It was  
put aside when I was busy  
& overworked. I am very  
doubtful of the standard  
of 'interesting'. Both my  
brothers are entirely in

their own ~~own~~ religious  
 denomination, one as President  
 of Congregational Union, & the  
 other as President of the International  
 Association of Christian Endeavour  
 & the author of one or two useful  
 books. However I can only  
 submit the name of my elder  
 brother upon <sup>any</sup> ~~the~~ Hon. Degree  
 has been conferred by H. Andrews

My younger sister is also 'active'  
 in philanthropic circles for the  
 founder of a very large  
 - Charitable Institution & the author  
 of numerous statistical papers  
 on Child Life & Health.

Very sincerely,  
 Yours with all kin

Wm Smith Jolly

W. F. Barrett

Dr. F. Gallie F.R.S.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Prof. W. F. Barrett Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	4				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	4		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	G. S. B.	—	—	—		11	bro.	George S. Barrett
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1		15	me son	1				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da	1				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	11		20	si da	4				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	7				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	5		24	me si son	4				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	0				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	4		28	me si da	5				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so		unmarried		Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da				Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Wi si	



Signature and Address of the Sender

*W. F. Barrett 6 De Vesey Terrace Kingston  
Co Dublin*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *me*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Regr

P. 12

11. George S. Barrett D.D. B.A. &  
Ex-Chairman of the Congregational Union,  
author of numerous theological works  
e.g. "The Intermediate States", "The Word on the Cross"  
&c. Compiler of the Congregational  
Hymnal. Hon. title of D.D. conferred  
by St. Andrews Univ?.

---

It is difficult to say what is the  
standard of "noteworthy".

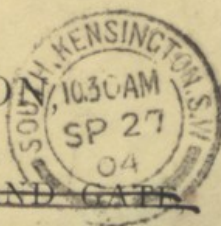
No. 5 fa. W. G. Barrett was well  
known in his day as the author of  
one of the earliest popular works on  
Scripture: - of several religious works.

No. 12 si. Rosa M. Barrett has  
also published some statistical &  
other books & papers, & has received  
the award of the medal of the Royal  
Statistical Socy of London.

f.13-

*Barrett*

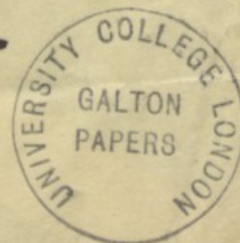
FRANCIS GALTON



*Claverdon Leys*  
*Warwick*

~~42 RUTLAND GATE~~

~~LONDON, S.W.~~



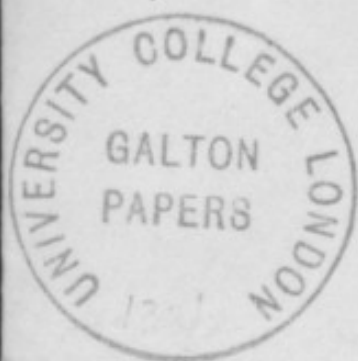
**S**



F.13v



f. 14 r



FLEDBOROUGH HALL,  
HOLYPORT,  
BERKS.

28<sup>th</sup> Apr. 1904

Dear Sir

In reply to our circular,  
I send you an abridgement  
of my pedigree during the  
last 200 years; & also  
a short account of  
the Branch of the Basset's  
& their History. I have  
mentioned to you  
that I know of no

FLEDBOROUGH HALL

HOLYPORT

BARRKS

has distinguished himself  
in any way.

Respectfully

A. D. Darn

Francis Patton Esq C. R. S.

With regard to paragraph I of your circular, I wish to call  
 your attention to the fact that at the present day a  
 female family is not exclusive evidence of want of  
 fecundity in the past of either parent; since precautionary  
 measures for the purpose of preventing conception taking  
 place have been very largely in use amongst the  
 upper classes during the last 50 years. Thus very  
 few bachelors of the same class lead celibate  
 lives, & this is probably one of the causes why more  
 marry later in life than formerly.

The persons marked with a + suffered from  
 Head disease; whilst those marked with a C suffered  
 from cancer.





My ancestor William Basset acquired the manor of Sapote Co. Leicestershire by marrying an heiress temp. Henry II. His descendant Ralph Basset was created Lord Basset of Sapote by writ of summons temp. Edward III. He died 2 Richard II, without male issue, when the barony of Basset of Sapote fell into abeyance between his daughters & no remains.

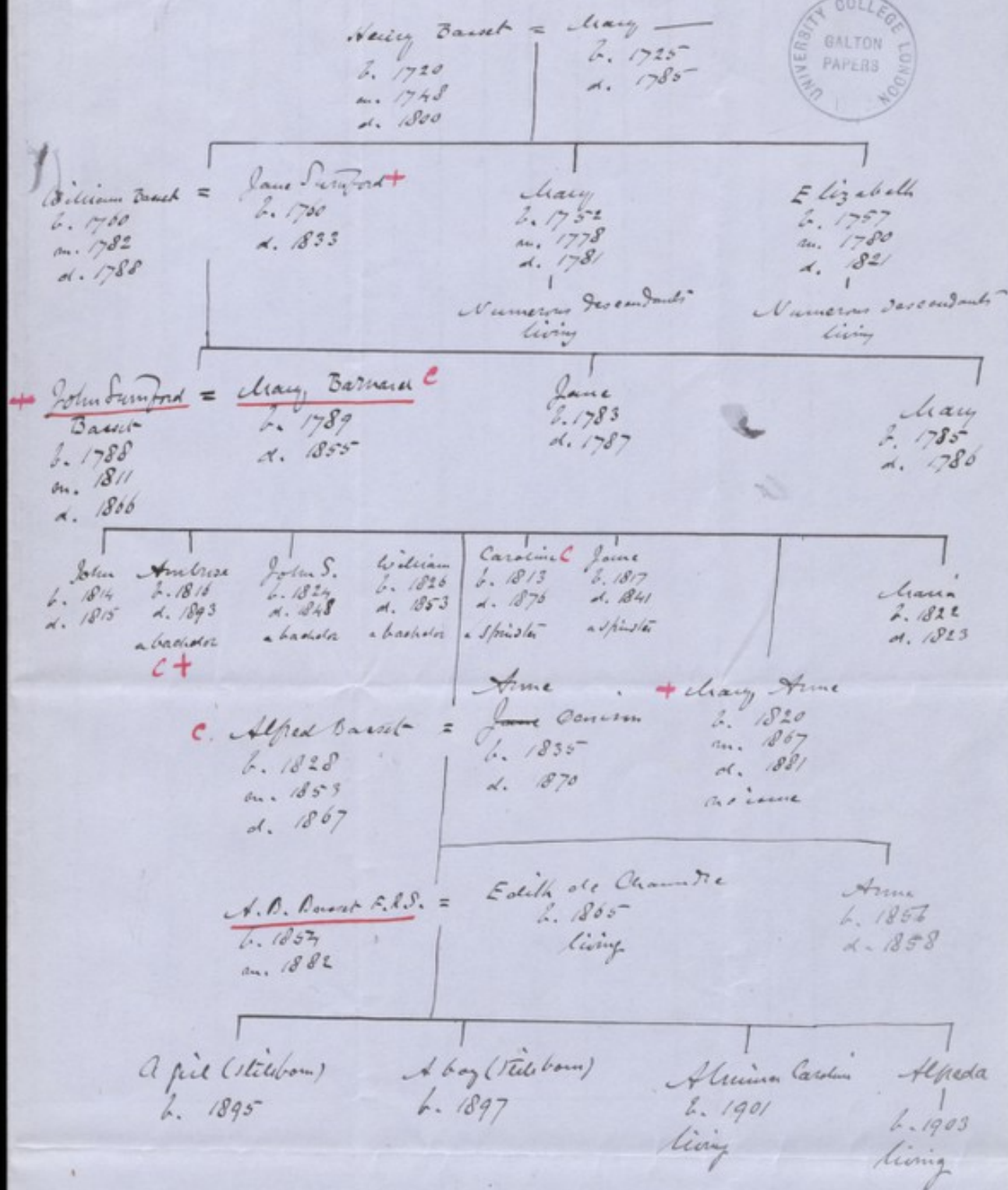
Another ancestor William Basset, who was Lord Basset of Sapote, male, formed the family of Basset of Heddon Co. Notts. by marriage with an heiress temp. Edward III. His descendant Sir Richard Basset of Heddon was knighted by Henry VIII; & his estate remained in my family until 1645, when they were confiscated by the Long Parliament in consequence of my ancestor Richard Basset having adhered to the Royalist cause. After the restoration of Charles II, Richard married the daughter of a London merchant, whereby he presented himself & his descendants sinking down into the mass of the populace.

My grandfather J.S. Basset b. 1788 started in life as a London merchant about 1810 with a small capital of about £5000; & at his death in 1866, he had amassed a fortune amounting to £120000 personally and real estate probably at least twice as much another £50000. My grandfather showed great ability in finance; one of his hobbies was to teach <sup>which</sup> arithmetical puzzles which he himself could solve by arithmetic, but if solved in the ordinary manner would involve quadratic & other algebraical equations. His wife was a first granddaughter of Sir John Barnard Lord Mayor of London about 1738 and also an M.P.

An examination of my pedigree shows a distinct tendency to the failure of the male line during the last 200 years. There is no doubt that I am the only male descendant now living of my great-great-grandfather Henry Basset; as far as I have been able to discover, I have no blood relations of my own name except my two daughters.

p.b.c.

## Abstract of the Pedigree of A. B. Baerle Esq. F.R.S.



+ Suffered from heart disease

Cancer.

C

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*A. B. Basset, Esq., M.P.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3		9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	3		10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	0		28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



8<sup>A</sup>. Manchester Square.

III.

29 Son (Oct. 30)

Charles Drue Bastian

Invention of an

1. Electrolytic Meter  
(Bastian Meter Co.)

2. A Mercury Vapor Lamp  
(for the sale of which  
a Co. is now being formed)

H. C. Bastian

Apr. 28, 1904



far

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. H. C. Bastian, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	4				
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	2				
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0				
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0				
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	4				
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	2				
First cousins .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	12				
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	2				
First cousins .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	10				
Female . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	2		28	<i>me si da</i>	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	3	<i>C.O.B</i>	<i>Julia Augusta Orme</i>	1866	<i>so Wi bro</i>	1
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2				<i>so Wi si</i>	3
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	0				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	0				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
								<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
								<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender



29 Son *Charles Orme Bastian*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

1. fa fa. Rich<sup>d</sup> B. cotton broker Liverpool. Good business qualities  
(His father similar, I believe.) not noteworthy.
2. fa me not noteworthy.
3. me fa James Aikkin. Shipowner, Liverpool. (his father, brother  
to an Signet) of London Scottish family, which has <sup>had</sup> several  
noteworthy collateral members spelling the name variously:  
left orphan minor money & education, made considerable  
fortune - for those days - took active part in public life  
of Liverpool: personally remarkable.
4. me me Harrison (maiden name). not noteworthy, but members of  
family well known in Southern States (U.S.A.), with  
at least two noteworthy collateral members, one having  
served as President U.S.
5. fa. Will<sup>m</sup> Henry  
W. H. B. Master of St. John's Coll: Cambridge; took a leading  
part in University affairs (Dict. Nat. Biog.)
6. me. Anna  
A. B. mental activity unusual, ~~distinct gift~~ distinct  
for intense concentration; literary gift distinct.
7. fa. bro. none noteworthy
8. fa. si none noteworthy.
9. me. bro Edward  
E. Aikkin. Fellow of Jesus Coll: Camb. good parts, but  
not noteworthy. ~~nothing~~; [often 6 me bro not noteworthy]
10. me si not noteworthy.





11. bro. <sup>Admiral</sup> E. B., Scholar of King's Coll: Camb. / now Attorney <sup>Barister-at-law</sup>  
- General in St. Lucia. West Indies. F. 21 (2)

12. Si Margt. B. Journalist: for many years on the staff of  
the "Queen" newspaper.

Anna B. Market Gardener: has established a business, small  
but successful. energy remarkable: considerable  
literary ~~power~~ faculty, & might have done well in  
literature: <sup>formerly demonstrator in Botany, Newnham Coll:</sup> joint author of two botanical papers.

May B. Fellow of Newnham Coll: Camb. Lecturer in History,  
author of various papers and books dealing with  
historical subjects.

Edith B. artist: has exhibited and sold both painting  
and sculpture.

21. fr. bro. son Richd. B. died young. ~~was a very fine~~ some  
artistic talent, appearing spontaneously and  
in unfavourable conditions. [often & not note-  
worthy]

23. 24. 25. 27. 28

not noteworthy.



22.VI.04

p.22r

(S)



TELEGRAMS: TRUMPINGTON.

MERTON HOUSE,

GRANTCHESTER,

CAMBRIDGE.

Dear Mr. Galton.

Herewith I send the schedule partly filled in. It is obvious that no higher & thing should have been difficult to do. Feeling doubtful as to the standard of noteworthiness I have put <sup>down</sup> ~~of~~ all my relatives (for separate papers) who can by any stretch be thought to show qualities on the plus side of mediocrity for their class of life, leaving it for you to enter any that seem suitable on the active schedule.

As we do not ask for information not "wholly honourable", the return is a one-sided picture.

The limitation to "facts that have already appeared in print" introduces difficulties in assessing families, but for this doubtless you are prepared.

STATIONER & PRINTER  
WESTON HOUSE  
GRANINGSTON  
CAMBRIDGE

As I understand the questions my wife's  
relatives do not come in the inquiry.

Yours truly

W. Paterson

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

W. Bateson, Esq. 481

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																													
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																		
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	J.A.	3	J.A.	James Arthur, father without money, a made fortune & was active in public life in Liverpool. Personality remarkable.																																													
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																	
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	W. H. B.	—	—	—	—																																																
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—																																																
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro	7		5	W.H.B.	W.H. Bateson, Member of V. House, Cambridge. Bro. N. Bateson.																																													
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	1																																																	
Brothers . . .	11	bro	1	2. B.	—	—	—	—	11	W.B.	Wm. Bateson, Secy to 1st Duke of Devonshire.																																													
Sisters . . . .	12	si	4	M. B.	—	—	—	—																																																
Half-brothers	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0		12	M.B.	Mary Bateson, Fellow of Newnham Coll. Cambridge. Lecturer in history.																																													
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0																																																	
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0																																																	
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0																																																	
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	5		23	me bro son	1																																																	
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	3																																																	
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	4		27	me bro da	3																																																	
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	2																																																	
<table><thead><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Regr.</th><th rowspan="2">Title.</th><th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th><th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th></tr><tr><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td>3 male children</td><td>Durham</td><td>1896</td><td>so Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td>—</td><td></td><td></td><td>so Wi si</td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>da Hu bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>da(2) Hu si</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3 male children	Durham	1896	so Wi bro		Daughters .	30	da	—			so Wi si		2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Hu si	
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3 male children	Durham	1896	so Wi bro																																																	
	Daughters .	30	da	—			so Wi si																																																	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro																																																	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Hu si																																																	
Signature and Address of the Sender W. Bateson, Grantchester, Cambridge																																																								

22 June, 1904





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D<sup>r</sup> W. M. Bayliss, FRS*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																																																												
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																																																	
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—																																																																																																
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																																																																
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>M.B.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Moses Bayliss</i>																																																																																												
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																																																															
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	4		9	<i>me bro</i>	1																																																																																																
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>	3																																																																																																
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—	—																																																																																															
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—	—																																																																																															
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0																																																																																																
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0																																																																																																
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	0																																																																																																
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	0																																																																																																
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	?	<i>W.B.</i>	23	<i>me bro son</i>	0		21	<i>fa bro son</i>	<i>William Bayliss</i>																																																																																												
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	?		24	<i>me si son</i>	4																																																																																																
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	?		27	<i>me bro da</i>	5																																																																																																
Female . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	?		28	<i>me si da</i>	5																																																																																																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td>3</td> <td></td> <td><i>Gertrude</i></td> <td>1893</td> <td><i>Wi bro</i></td> <td><i>E.H.S.</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td><i>E. Starling</i></td> <td></td> <td><i>Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Wi bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.									Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	3		<i>Gertrude</i>	1893	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>E.H.S.</i>	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	1		<i>E. Starling</i>		<i>Wi si</i>									<i>da</i>		2nd marriage.									Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>Wi bro</i>		Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>Wi si</i>									<i>da</i>									<i>da</i>	
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																																																
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																																																															
1st marriage.																																																																																																							
Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	3		<i>Gertrude</i>	1893	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>E.H.S.</i>																																																																																															
Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	1		<i>E. Starling</i>		<i>Wi si</i>																																																																																																
							<i>da</i>																																																																																																
2nd marriage.																																																																																																							
Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>Wi bro</i>																																																																																																
Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>Wi si</i>																																																																																																
							<i>da</i>																																																																																																
							<i>da</i>																																																																																																
<p><i>Wi bro Ernest Henry Starling.</i></p>																																																																																																							
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>W.M. Bayliss, St. Cathartes, Hampstead Heath, N.W.</i></p>																																																																																																							



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first-degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

ST. CUTHBERT'S,  
WEST HEATH ROAD,  
HAMPSTEAD, N.W.

5. fa.

Moses Baylis. In conjunction with his brother (who retired after a time) he established & carried on the large manufacturing business of Baylis, Jones & Baylis at Wolverhampton. Patented several inventions related to ~~the~~ machinery for making railway fastenings (bolts, nuts etc).

21. fa bro son

William Baylis. Son of the above mentioned brother of my father. Has carried on the general management of the business of Baylis, Jones & Baylis, which has considerably increased in prosperity during that time.

Wi. bro.

Ernest Henry Starling. *John Prof. Physiology Univ. Coll. London* As he is F.R.S. all particular will be known to Dr. Fulton.



Any further particulars or explanation if  
desired will gladly be given.



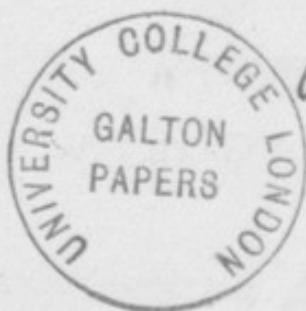
6 Kentwell St W  
26.6.04

Dear Sir

I regret that my father  
is not well enough to fill  
this form up, but there  
is nobody very noteworthy  
in his family - My mother's  
father (Dr. Blackiston F.R.S.)  
was noteworthy in many  
ways -

Yr. truly

Ryton F.B. Seale



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

(Inquiry by FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.)

---

A circular to the above effect was posted a few weeks ago to each Fellow of the Royal Society.

About one hundred replies have been received, and Mr. Galton returns sincere thanks to the writers of them. They possess considerable statistical value.

It would be a convenience if Fellows who have not yet replied would do so before the summer recess.

---

Two fresh copies of the circular are enclosed, of which *only one* need be returned.

*June, 1904.*

42 RUTLAND GATE, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*D. Lionel Smith Beale, Esq.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<p>(5) L.B. = Lionel Beale was a doctor in Long Acre &amp; first Med. Officer of Health for St. Martin's in the Fields - I believe the first in London.</p> <p>(12) S.B. = Sophia Beale an artist.</p> <p>(19) Henry Beale Collins is Med. Off. of Health for Kingston on Thames - formerly in Navy</p> <p>(29) Peyton P.B. Beale (see Medical Directory)</p>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	L.B.	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si		S.B.	—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	4	H.B.C.			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	3				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	P.T.B.	1859	Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da		Blakinton		Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

(Her father was T. Peyton Blakinton F.R.S.)





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



The Chantry  
Bradford on Avon  
May 6, 1904

Dear Mr Galton

I duly received your  
circular letter about  
Ability in Families, but  
I don't see that I can  
do anything to help you

No ~~kinsman~~ near kinsman  
of mine has ever accom-  
plished anything of suffi-  
cient moment for your pur-  
pose, I think. The late  
Robert Etheridge was my  
cousin, but a rather

distant one - My father,  
 mother, brothers (2) &  
 sisters (4) & my son, were  
 all, I should say, a  
 little above the average  
 either mentally or physically,  
 & in most instances both  
 mentally & physically;  
 & I might put my daughter  
 into the same category;  
 but none of all these  
 attained any remarkable  
 distinction, nothing  
 beyond being heads of  
 schools, & looked up to

by their fellows in after  
 life.. My wife's family, (the  
 Christisms) of course include  
 some distinguished men —

As to marriage, I should  
 say that in no case was  
 there much if any resemblance  
 between the husband & wife,  
 in person or in character!  
 rather they married their  
 opposites, which accords  
 with what I have gene-  
 rally observed — Only  
<sup>my ancestors</sup>  
~~they~~ were all blue or  
 grey-eyed.

Yours sincerely  
 John Beddoe



f.29v

*Beddoe*



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Li Lothian Bell, Bart., &c.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		29		<i>Hugh Bell - distinguished man of business (Bell Brothers) and politician</i>
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro			30 <sup>2</sup>		<i>Gertrude Bell, linguist and author</i>
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—	—			<i>Phoebe Johnson R. Academy student - won scholarship there - among the grandest men an fine &amp; rather exceptional ability - all an useful citizens.</i>
Sisters . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	7		19	si son	4				
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	7		20	si da	7				
First cousins .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so	2	H B	1840	Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	5	Margaret-Patterson who Talbot was H. Patterson see "Men of our time"		Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	10			da H. Patterson	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	11	G. A. P. F. R. J.		da H. Patterson	

*Grand children*

Signature and Address of the Sender *Phoebe Johnson (daughter) Rumbin George. Northallerton*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S) LONDON, S.W.



Spring Lawn,  
4, Harbey Road,  
Cambridge.

11, Bro,

Sir Walter Besant

As has written & Published,  
Books on French Literature,  
on Histories and Surveys of  
Parts of London & other  
biographies, and many  
novels.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*D. W. H. Besant, Mrs.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro					
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	5	H. B.	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	11		19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	8		20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . .	29	so	2				so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da	1				so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

*Sir Walter Besant.*



Signature and Address of the Sender

*W. H. Besant - 4 Tavoy Road, Cambridge*

*[Signature]*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. W. J. Blanford, C.I.E., I.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	W B	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	William Blanford
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	0		9	<i>me bro</i>	5	T.S. - A.S.	9	<i>me bro</i>	Thomas Bridge Simpson
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	0		10	<i>me si</i>	4				Alfred Simpson
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3	H.F.B.	—	—	—	—	11	<i>bro</i>	Henry Francis Blanford
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	7		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	8		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	5	W.S. - A.S.	23	<i>me bro son</i>	Walter Simpson
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	2				Alfred Muller Simpson
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	5				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	0		28	<i>me si da</i>	7				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2	H.R.B.	1883	1st <i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	1			2nd <i>Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				3rd <i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				4th <i>Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *D. W. J. Blanford 72 Bedford Gardens, London W.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Noteworthy kinsfolk of Dr W. J. Blanford

5 - fa - William Blanford

Established a small manufacturing business in London, and was one of the founders and for many years (between 20 and 30) Chairman of the Directors of a large manufacturing business at Blackwall - the Thames Plate Glass Company.

9 - me bro - Thomas Bridge Simpson

For many years Chairman of the South Metropolitan Gas Co.

9 - me bro - Alfred Simpson

Established a large and successful manufacturing business - now a joint stock company - in Adelaide, South Australia

11 - bro - Henry Francis Blanford, F.R.S. for many years at the head of the Indian meteorological department, which he originally organised.

23 - me bro son - Walter Simpson

member of legislative assembly, N.S. Wales.

23 - me bro son Alfred Muller Simpson

member of house of assembly, South Australia

29 - so - Harry Richard Blanford

First in competitive examination for appointments in Indian Forest department 1902.



JW3

26/6/1904

William Thomas Blanford, (b.1832) C.I.E., LL.D., F.R.S.,  
on staff of Geological Survey of India 1855-82; accompanied  
Abyssinian Expedition & Persian Boundary Commission; sometime  
president of Geological Soc. & of Asiatic Soc. of Bengal also  
of Geological section British Ass.; author of works  
dealing with the geology & zoology of Abyssinia, Persia, &  
India. [Who's Who]

fa William Blanford, established a manufacturing  
business in London, & was one of the founders of the Thames  
Plate Glass Co. & for many years chairman of the directors  
of that firm.

me bro Alfred Simpson, established a large & successful  
manufacturing business in Adelaide, S. Australia.

bro Henry Francis Blanford, F.R.S., for many years at the  
head of the Indian Meteorological department, which he origi-  
-ally organized.



Bonney

f.35r



July 27. 1904  
23, Denning Road,  
Hampstead, N.W.

Dear Dr Galton

I have been very slow  
in replying to your enquiry  
about noteworthy kinsfolk for  
two reasons - the minor that for  
some time past I have had my  
mind occupied with a pressing  
piece of work, which has taken  
up most of the time which is at  
my own disposal: the major that  
like the "needy knife grinder"  
"story... I have none to tell you".

In fact I thought it was no  
 good answering your application  
 when <sup>he</sup> first one came - But as a  
 second arrived with a stamped  
 envelope I have put down the  
very little I have to say - The  
 fact is I come from an understimulated  
 race. I should say of my relations  
 that, while the majority have had  
 rather more than the average  
 share of brains, no one has had  
 an exceptional share. They are  
 the people who, as a rule, have



4.365

done their work in life well - been  
Trusted in their generation (I am  
speaking of my father's side of what  
I know now, but have not been  
quite first rate - Also some have  
been handicapped by not robust  
health and more, I think, by a  
certain want of 'push' and sense  
of self-advancement.

On the mother's side I come from  
the "small country gentleman", her  
forebears farming their own land,  
but her father, a younger son, went  
into business in Manchester, and

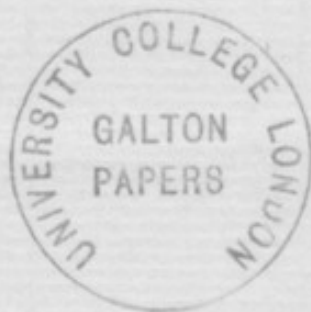
f.3v

made enough money to live, not  
luxuriously but easily - None of them  
were intellectual, but my mother  
was admirable in her parental relations  
and the embodiment of good sense.

I send the paper, but as you  
see there is nothing really worth  
reading

Yours very truly

TG Bonney



Memorandum FROM T. G. BONNEY, D.Sc., F.R.S., 23, Denning Road, London, N.W.

Reg<sup>d</sup> 1. George Bonney was a Fellow of Jesus College Cambridge; he was one of a family of nine, three of whom died in infancy one of his brothers, John Augustus was a little noted for his opposition to the King's party, temp: George III, and attained the distinction of being sent to the Tower, of which, however, nothing came. Two nephews of my grandfather (the two sons out of a family of five, one of whom died in infancy) were Archdeacons and one had been a Fellow of Clare College, Cambridge. He was a Sen<sup>r</sup> Opt, but a sound classical scholar as well - My father had good abilities, but was handicapped by bad health: he was one of seven, the youngest of whom to die was, I think, about twenty. <sup>neither</sup> ~~neither~~ left issue, no daughter descendants, but no special distinction -

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor T. G. Bonney F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family; when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	G.B.	3	me fa	—				<i>George Bonney</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	96	S.S.	9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				29 Wi bro 30 Wi si 31 Hu bro 32 Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				29(2) Wi bro 30(2) Wi si 31(2) Hu bro 32(2) Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender *Thomas George Bonney 23 Deanning House London Mo*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief-titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

1. fa. fa. Thomas Booth - made his fortune as a successful merchant and ship-owner at Liverpool.
7. fa. bro. Henry Booth - Co-operated with Stephenson in the application of steam to locomotion. The tubular shape of boiler is said to have been his suggestion. He became Secretary successively of the Liverpool & Manchester, The Grand Junction & the Lancashire & North Western Railways.
7. fa. bro. James Booth C.B. Parliamentary Draughtsman. Employed upon Irish Incumbered Estates Act, and upon Standing Orders for Railway bills. Became Permanent Secretary to the Board of Trade.
11. bro. Thomas Booth. Scholar of Trin. Coll. Camb. & Wrangler died when 26.
17. bro. sm. Alfred Allen Booth. wrangler
- 24 me. si. sm. Charles Crompton 4<sup>th</sup> wrangler Q.C. & for some years M.P. for the Leek division of Staffordshire
- 24 me. si. sm. Henry Crompton. A leader in the Positivist Community Authority on Trades Union Law & author of a standard work entitled "Industrial Conciliation"
- 24 me. si. sm. Henry Infeld Roscoe K<sup>t</sup>. FRS F<sup>r</sup> F<sup>r</sup>  
Distinguished Chemist (whose career I need not detail).

24 May 1904



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Charles Booth, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J.B.	3	me fa	—		1	fa fa	Thomas Booth
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	7	fa bro.	Henry Booth
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4	H.B. + J.B.	9	me bro	4		7	fa bro.	James Booth
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	4		11	bro	Thomas Booth
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	2	J.B.	—	—	—	—	17	bro son	Alfred Allen Booth
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0		24	me si son	Charles Crompton
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	2	A.A.B.	19	si son	4		24	me si son	Henry Crompton
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	4		20	si da	4		24	me si son	Henry Infila Rouse
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son	5				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	2		24	me si son	5	C.C., H.C. H.E.R.			
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	4				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3	Macaulay	1871	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	3			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Charles Booth 24 Great Cumberland Place  
London W*

24 May 1904



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



7 March 1908

F.41

CASTILLO ZAMORA,  
REALEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE.



E. Schuster Esq

Dear Sir.

It has occurred to me that the entry I have queried might be misleading. I have no doubt that such notability as may be due to the existence of Dundas & Wilson is due to the Dundas family, and not to any association with the Macdonells.

I appended short note on this branch of the Dundas family, so far as I can get the facts out here. I think it would be right either to omit the entry, or append some such note.

Ralph Dundas' father, John Dundas, worked up the business. I don't think Ralph himself, or his cousin William Dundas, (son of G. Dundas, Lord Mearns,) have done more than keep it up.

Yours truly, R. H. M. Bosanquet

F.42

family of Dundases of Manor, with  
reference to Ralph Dundas, in the list  
of R. H. M. Brasquet.

Ralph Dundas; in list.

fa. John Dundas. Worked up the business  
of Dundas & Wilson into its present  
position.

fa. fa. son. Sir David Dundas; solicitor -  
general. (?) (I think this was the office.)

fa. fa. son. George Dundas. Judge in Scotch  
courts under title of Lord Manor.

fa. fa. son. son. David Dundas, youngest  
son of George Dundas Lord Manor. <sup>Balliol Clk. Oxford.</sup> ~~Has~~  
just been made a judge in the  
Scotch courts, under the title of Lord Dundas.

[fa. fa. son. son. William Dundas; son  
of George Dundas, Lord Manor. In firm  
of Dundas & Wilson. Perhaps better  
omitted.]

George Dundas Lord Manor had 5  
sons & 4 daughters. <sup>of the sons</sup> 3 ~~sons~~ <sup>only</sup> grew up  
to manhood.

Sir David, John, & G. Dundas Lord Manor,  
were elderly men in the middle of last century.  
David must have been at Balliol about 1870 or later.

Papers herewith.

F43

Schedule

Descriptions of the noteworthy

Note on the Bosanquet family

Private note accompanying particulars  
sent by request.

Further particulars, by request.

Printed list of Publications by R. H. M. Bosanquet,  
with m. s. completion, as far as  
copies can be found.

R. H. M. Bosanquet.



(F. P. = family pedigree.)  
(See note on the Bosanquet family herewith.)



CASTILLO ZAMORA,  
Descriptions of REALEJO ALTO, the noteworthy.  
TENERIFE.

fa. fa. fa. fa. bro. Benjamin Bosanquet M. D. F. R. S.

b. 25 Sep. 1708 d. Unm. 22 Dec 1755. F. P.

fa. fa. bro. Rt. Hon. Sir J. Bernard Bosanquet.

Justice of Court of Common Pleas. Sometime  
Lord Commissioner of the Great Seal. Privy  
Councillor. b. 2 May, 1773. d. 25 Sep. 1847.  
F. P.

13. fa. son. Charles Bertie Pullen Bosanquet.

b. 27 Dec 1834 Eton. Balliol Oxford. Barrister  
Lincoln's Inn. on going to London took up the  
question of the poor. Was one of the founders  
of the Charity Organization Society, and was its  
first secretary for several years. The Society  
was for long chiefly what he made it.

11. bro. Bernard Bosanquet.

mar. E. Carr. 2 sons. 6 da.

b. 14 June 1848. Harrow. Balliol Oxford.  
1<sup>st</sup> class Lit. Hum. 16 Dec 1870. Fellow of  
University Coll. Oxford. For 10 years tutor of  
Univ. Colls preparing men for Lit. Hum. school.  
Resigned Fellowship & went to London for C. O. S  
work & writing philosophical books. e.g. large  
treatise on Logic. Knowledge & Reality. Philosophy  
of the State. works on aesthetics. His philosophy  
much appreciated in Scotland. LL.D of University  
of Glasgow, and of Durham. Professor of Moral  
Philosophy, St Andrews. (Please verify title of Prof. ship.)  
mar. Helen Bandy engaged in similar work. s.p. [over]  
Poor law. Pol. Economy.



CASTILLO ZAMORA.  
REALLEJO ALTO.  
TENERIFE.

V.44

24.

me. si. son.

Ralph Dundas. Head of the large and influential firm of Dundas & Wilson, Writers to the Signet Edinburgh; who have in their hands the <sup>business</sup> management of a large proportion of Scotch estates.

me. fa. bro. Hay Macdonnell. Commander in chief of Madras Presidency. d. 1806

me. fa. bro. David Macdonnell. Took part in many naval actions. Lost his hand in Rodney's action.

17  $\frac{1}{2}$  bro. son. Robert Carr Bosanquet.  
(son of Charles Bertie Pullen Bosanquet.)

b. 7 June 1871. ~~Harvard Trinity~~

Eton. Foundation scholar. Trinity  
Cambridge. Scholarship. 1<sup>st</sup> class Classical

Tripes. (Details not available.) Archaeology.  
Greek Vases. Director of British  
School of Archaeology at Athens. ~~Directed~~  
(mar. da. of Dr. Hodgkin. Historian of Italy.) ~~chiefly on the~~  
~~Roman wall in South Western London,~~  
~~under Peabody in 1875.~~

18  $\frac{1}{2}$  bro. da. Amy Bosanquet  
(da. of Charles Bertie Pullen Bosanquet.)

b. 25 Sep. 1864. After course of linguistic study,  
including Anglo-Saxon, which she learned with her  
father, went out as missionary to Japan under  
C. M. S. Has <sup>attained</sup> great proficiency in ~~study~~  
~~of~~ Japanese. Now been out there many years.

18  $\frac{1}{2}$  bro. da. Rose Bosanquet.

(da. of Charles Bertie Pullen Bosanquet.)

date of birth not available. (1875?)

obtained scholarship at Lady Margaret Hall  
Oxford, and got a 1<sup>st</sup> class in the final  
schools for history. Is now acting as a  
Charity organization Society secretary in London.

11. bro. Bay Hook Bosanquet. Admiral R. N.

Has held important commands. Last command in chief  
of India station. Conducted enquiries for admiralty. Re-  
organisation on basis of reports. Now on Commission  
on Food Supply in time of War.

(mar. M. Bull. (1 son, 2 da.))

f. 46r  
Note on the Bosanquet family.

CASTILLO ZAMORA,  
REALEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE.



The Bosanquet family all descend from David Bosanquet of Amel in France. b. 31. oct 1661. Came to London at the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. His descendants continued to hold the Huguenot opinions, and were strenuously Evangelical, and very earnest, both in matters of religion + commerce, until quite recent times.

- 1 my fa. fa. Charles Bosanquet  
b. 23 July 1769 d. 20 June 1850  
was a prominent man in the City of London in French war, and was colonel of the City of London Light Horse Volunteers. But I do not know enough about him to enter him in the list.

Then there was the Bosanquet

CASTILLO ZAMORA  
REALLEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE

\* one other case of deafness in family; -  
fa. fa. bro. da. Georgiana ~~Ogilby~~ Bosanquet  
mar. Thomas Ogilby 16 Apr. 1846  
she was my father's first cousin; about his age;  
and was deaf in later life in a minor  
degree. When I knew her, she could  
always hear with a trumpet,  
No other case of deafness in family.



Bank, now merged in Lloyd's.  
I could find out about the  
origin. But the later times are not  
noteworthy.

In my own branch of the family,  
while the religious characteristic  
earnestness has not disappeared,  
it has largely passed over, particularly  
in the ~~present generation~~ <sup>last half century</sup>, into a  
great and useful activity in social  
science & charity organisation.

(My own position is quite distinct from  
all this. I send some particulars as  
requested; with a private note, which I  
beg may be considered.)

R. H. M. Bosanquet.

note on Deafness in a family.

- |   |         |                          |                 |
|---|---------|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 5 | my fa   | Robert William Bosanquet | } who all lived |
| 7 | fa bro. | George Henry Bosanquet   |                 |
| 8 | fa si.  | Mary Ann Feilde          |                 |

to an advanced age, were all 3 what would be  
called stone deaf throughout their lives. They could hear  
with trumpets up to a certain age. But my fa., who  
lived to 81, was stone deaf latterly. ~~another deafness in family.~~



R. H. M. Boscawen

p. 43

CASTILLO ZAMORA,  
REALEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE.

(Private note accompanying particulars sent by request.)

at the foot of p 2 of my <sup>a</sup>particulars<sup>n</sup> herewith, I mention that my position as an exponent of research at Oxford became untenable.

The reason of this was; - I had been persuaded by the mistaken kindness of friends to allow my name to be put up as a candidate for the Royal Society. Years passed and I was not elected. The cause was frequently brought to my notice by friends, and consisted in an intrigue by an influential person at Oxford. Finally the late Prof. Pritchard, with whom I was always on the best terms, told

f. 49

me distinctly that my name  
had been withdrawn as a candidate.  
I ought, I know, to have gone to  
my proposer; but the whole  
thing was so disagreeable to me  
that I determined to get out of  
it all. The excuse was amply  
sufficient that non election to the  
Royal Society disqualified me from  
presenting myself as an exponent of  
research. I may not have said so in so  
many words, but that was what I  
meant.

Under these circumstances I desired  
to withdraw from scientific connexions  
altogether, & carried out my desire. I  
also, from causes partly mentioned in  
the "particulars", have taken a firm  
resolution never in future to prepare  
anything for publication. I hope that the  
information which accompanies this will be  
regarded as private. R. H. M. Bosanquet.

R. H. M. Bosanquet F. R. S.  
F. C. S., F. R. A. S.

f. 50r

Further particulars, by request.

(See private CASTILLO ZAMORA, note herewith,  
which I beg REALEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE. may be considered.)

Robert Holford Macdowall Bosanquet  
son of Robert William Bosanquet, clerk in  
Holy orders, and possessor of the estate  
of Rock, Alnwick; - and Caroline, (formerly)  
Macdowall, his second wife.

b 30 July 1841. Eton, Balliol Oxford. 1<sup>st</sup>  
classes in natural Science (Chemistry) and  
Mathematics. Read Law and called to  
the Bar (Lincoln's Inn.) Health failing in  
London, returned to Oxford as mathematical  
Lecturer at Ch. Ch. in 1868 at the request  
of Prof Bartholomew Price. 1870 Fellowship  
at S. John's College.

Mathematical Lecturer at S. John's College  
for some years. At suggestion of H. J. S. Smith,  
who had been my teacher at Balliol, laid out  
scheme of research in acoustics, for which I  
was fitted by my musical knowledge. S<sup>t</sup>  
John's College assisted me with the use of a  
building and otherwise; The Royal Society



CASTLE NAHORA

DUBLIN

IRELAND



\* as my results agreed in every case with the work of Helmholtz, and the attack on those positions took the form of an attack on Helmholtz, I might well have continued the controversy. But the worry incidental to controversy caused insomnia and affected my health, ~~as~~ as ~~the~~ did the worries further alluded to. And I was obliged to abandon the discussion.

gave me several grants at different times, and the building was fitted up with engines; shafting, a lathe, and a good deal of apparatus of a special character, & work was carried on there for some years, and a large number of papers were published.

The chief investigation, on beats of consonances of the form  $n:1$ , I have always considered my most important work. It is the only existing investigation in which the nature of the sounds heard is examined in a practical way, and with apparatus far more suitable than any other that has been employed. Unfortunately however, <sup>influentially</sup> ~~by~~ ~~persons~~ were committed to somewhat different views, and the importance of my work failed to obtain recognition.\*

Before proceeding further a quantity of electromagnetic work was required; and the later work in the laboratory was chiefly devoted to this.

Ultimately however, from causes alluded to in the private note, my



CASTILLO ZAMORA,  
REALEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE.

position as an exponent of research became untenable. Also my position with respect to various science questions had become extremely disagreeable to me; and, as an opportunity offered, for handing over my preparations and arrangements to an institution where they would be effectively used for educational purposes, I determined to leave Oxford, and sever my connexion with practical science.

This I carried out <sup>in 1888.</sup> My election to the Royal Society came on me some two years later as a surprise. But, even if I had wished to do it, it was no longer possible for me to retrace my steps. In fact however the

pursuit of practical science,  
with its personalities and intrigues  
had become distasteful to me.

Since then I have kept up  
a certain amount of interest,  
chiefly in astronomy. But I  
have not been successful in  
obtaining <sup>recognition</sup> ~~recognition~~ for my views.

e. g. After an enormous amount  
of work spent on a determination of  
precession based on more than 1000  
stars, the R. A. S. declined to print  
my paper & returned it to me; -  
though I now have the poor satisfaction  
of finding conclusions in all respects  
in close accordance with mine  
actually officially adopted in  
the Nautical Almanac under the  
authority of Prof. Newcomb.





f.54 5

CASTILLO ZAMORA,

REALEJO ALTO,

TENERIFE.

I need hardly say that I have now made a decided resolution never again to send any matter whatever for publication, under any pretext whatever. And part of my difficulty in writing this short autobiography is the doubt whether such contributions are intended for publication.

To publication of this matter I can in no wise consent, though I am willing to give private information.

It is for this reason that I have declined all information to "Who's Who", and similar publications. I desire to keep my name from publicity, chiefly because my health will not bear it. Mr. Bosanquet.

with m. s. completion as far as  
copies can be found.

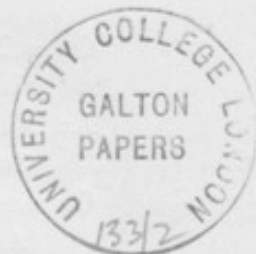
f.55r

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS

BY

R. H. M. BOSANQUET, M.A.,

*Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford.*



- On the Resolution of Lambert's Theorem by Trial in the Method of  
Olbers for the Calculations of Parabolic Orbits. *Astr. Nachr.*  
LXXVIII. 1872. 123-126.
- Ibid.* *Month. Not. Astr. Soc.* XXXVIII. 353-360.
- On an Experimental Determination of the Relation between the  
Energy and apparent Intensity of Sounds of different pitch.  
*Phil. Mag.* 4 SER., XLIV. 1872. 381-387.
- Correction to the above Paper. *Phil. Mag.* 4 SER., XLV. 1873.  
173-175.
- On Just Intonation in Music; with a Description of a New Instru-  
ment for the easy control of all Systems of Tuning other than  
the Ordinary Equal Temperament. *Roy. Soc. Proc.* XXI. 1873.  
131-132.
- Note on the Measure of Intensity on the Theories of Light and Sound.  
*Phil. Mag.* 4 SER., XLV. 1873. 215-218.
- Temperament, or the Division of the Octave. *Proc. Mus. Assoc.* I.  
4-17, 112-158.
- Ibid.* *Abstract of.* *Phil. Mag.* 4 SER., XLVIII. 1874. 507-511. L.  
1875. 164-178.
- On the Mathematical Theory of Mr. Baillie Hamilton's String Organ.  
*Phil. Mag.* 4 SER., XLIX. 1875. 98-104.
- The Theory of the Division of the Octave and the Practical Treat-  
ment of the Musical Systems thus obtained. A Revised Version  
of a Paper entitled 'On Just Intonation in Music.' *Roy. Soc.*  
*Proc.* XXIII. 390-408.
- On the Polarization of the Light of the Sky. *Phil. Mag.* 4 SER.,  
L. 1875. 497-520.

- On a New Form of Polariscopes and its Application to the Observation of the Sky. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., II. 1876. 20-28.
- An Elementary Treatise on Musical Intervals and Temperament. 8vo. London, 1876.
- On some points in the Harmony of Perfect Consonances. *Proc. Mus. Assoc.* III. 145-153.
- Note on the Theory of Sound. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., III. 1877. 271-278, 343-349, 418-424. IV. 1877. 25-39, 125-136, 216-222.
- On the Hindoo Division of the Octave, with some Additions to the Theory of Systems of the Higher Orders. *Roy. Soc. Proc.* XXV. 1877. 540-541. XXVI. 1877. 372-384.
- On the Relation between the Notes of Open and Stopped Pipes. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., VI. 1878. 63-66.
- On Certain Considerations connected with the Orbits of Comets. *Jnl. of Proc. Ashmolean Soc.* I. 1879.
- On Time, including some Questions connected with the Calendar. *Jnl. of Proc. Ashmolean Soc.* II. 1879.
- On the Present State of Experimental Acoustics. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., VIII. 1879. 290-305.
- On a Mode of Producing Continuous Notes from Resonators. *Proc. Mus. Assoc.* VI. 15-21.
- Some Experiments with a Revolving Stop-cock. *Proc. Mus. Assoc.* VI. 21-30.
- Note on the Measure of the Intensity of Sound. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., IX. 1880. 174-177.
- Note on the Laboratory at St. John's Coll., Oxford. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., X. 1880. 217-226. XII. 1881. 178-184.
- On the Beats of Consonances of the Form  $h : 1$ . *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XI. 1881. 420-436, 492-506.
- On the History of the Theory of the Beats of Mistuned Consonances. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XII. 1881. 270-282, 434-436. XIII. 1882. 131.
- Volts, Webers, Kilogrammetres, and Horse Power. *Electrician*, Oct. 8, 1881. 327.
- On the arrangement of the Stops, Pedals, and Swell in the Organ. *Proc. Mus. Assoc.* VIII. 1-11.
- On the Beats of Mistuned Harmonic Consonances. *Proc. Mus. Assoc.* VIII. 13-27.
- Notes on Practical Electricity. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XIV. 1882. 241-258.



f.56

R. H. M. Bosanquet, M.A.

3

- Note on charging Secondary Batteries and on a Dynamo of constant E. M. F. *Electrician*, Dec. 9, 1882. 86-87.
- Electro-Magnets. *Electrician*, XIV. 291.
- On a Uniform Rotation Machine, and on the Theory of Electro-magnetic Tuning Forks. *Roy. Soc. Proc.* XXXIV. 445-447.
- On Magnetomotive Force. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XV. 1883. 205-217.
- On an Arrangement for dividing Inch- and Metre-scales. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XV. 217-218.
- On Permanent Magnetism. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XV. 257-259, 309-316.
- On Self-regulating Dynamo-electric Machines. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XV. 275-296.
- On a Standard Tension Galvanometer. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XVII. 1884. 27-30.
- On a Determination of the Horizontal Component of the Earth's Magnetism at Oxford. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XVII. 1884. 438-447.
- On Electro-Magnets. (i) *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XVII. 531-536.
- (ii) On the Magnetic Permeability of Iron and Steel, with a new Theory of Magnetism. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XIX. 1885. 73-94.
- (iii) Iron and Steel. New Theory of Magnetism. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XIX. 1885. 333-340.
- (iv) Cast Iron, Charcoal Iron, and Malleable Cast Iron. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XX. 1885. 318-323.
- Permanent Magnets. (i) *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XVIII. 1884. 142-153.
- (ii) On Magnetic Decay. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XIX. 1885. 57-59.
- On the supposed Repulsion between Magnetic Lines of Force. *Phil. Mag.* 5 SER., XVIII. 494-495.
- Letter to *Electrician*. Feb. 28, 1885. 331. March 7, 1885. 351.

R. H. M. BOSANQUET, AND PROF. A. H., SAYCE, M.A.,  
Queen's College.

Preliminary Paper on the Babylonian Astronomy:—

- (i) The Calendar. *Month. Not. Astr. Soc.* XXXIX. 454-461.
- (ii) ————— *Month. Not. Astr. Soc.* XL. 105-123.
- (iii) The Venus Tablet. *Month. Not. Astr. Soc.* XL. 565-578.

*I have found copies of a few subsequent papers, from which I have compiled the accompanying M.S. completion of this list. But a good many are missing.*

*R. H. M. B.*



CASTILLO ZAMORA,  
REALEJO ALTO,  
TENERIFE.



f.57

Completion of printed list of papers by  
R. H. M. Bosanquet F.R.S  
so far as copies can be found. Several are  
missing.

Phil. Mag. April 1887. Electromagnets VII.

The law of the <sup>Electro-</sup>magnet and the  
Law of the Dynamo.

Phil. Mag. May 1887. On the determination  
of Coefficients of Mutual Induction  
by means of the Ballistic Galvanometer  
and Earth Inductor. (Phys. Soc.)

Phil. Mag. July 1887. Note on Magnetization.  
On sequences of Reversals.  
(Phys. Soc.)

Phil. Mag. Oct 1892. Part II contd - from p. 130.  
on the calculation of the Illuminating  
power of Hydrocarbons and their  
mixtures.

Phil. Mag. Jan. 1893. Mountain Sickness,  
and Power and Endurance.

Monthly Notices R.A.S. LV, no 8. p 480. (1) on a fixed system  
of Star coordinates. (2) on the Relation between  
Precession and Proper Motion.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *R. H. M. Bosanquet, Esq. J.P.*

*does not*  
 ("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)  
*(Kindly send further particulars)*

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				fa/fa/fa/bro Benjamin Bosanquet
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				H. D. F. R. S.
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				fa/fa/bro. Rt. Hon Sir J. Bernard Bosanquet.
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				13 fa. son. Charles Bertie Pullen Bosanquet.
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4		9	me bro	6				11 bro. Bernard Bosanquet.
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	3				17 1/2 bro. son Robert Carr Bosanquet.
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3	B. B.	—	—	—				18 1/2 bro. da. Amy Bosanquet.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0	D. H. B.	—	—	—				18 1/2 bro. da. Rose Bosanquet.
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1	C. B. P. B.	15	me son					11 bro. Day Hort Bosanquet.
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					24 me. si. son Ralph Dundas
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	3	R. C. B. (1/2 bro. son)	19	si son	0				me/fa/bro. Hay Macdowall
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	8	A. B. (1/2 bro. da.) R. B.	20	si da	0				me/fa/bro. David Macdowall
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	3	R. D.			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	7				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender *R. H. M. Bosanquet, Castillo Laurus.*

*23 May 1904*

*Realejo Alto  
 Tenerife  
 Canary Islands.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Robert Holford Macdowall Bosanquet, (b. 1841) physicist & author of numerous scientific papers dealing with various branches of physics. F.R.S., etc.

✓  
r/ fa af bro Rt. Hon. Sir John Bernard Bosanquet, (1773-1847) king's segeant, 1827; judge of common pleas, 1830; lord commissioner of great seal, 1835-6. (Dict. N. Biog.)

bro Bernard Bosanquet, (b. 1848) prof. of moral philosophy, St. Andrews university since 1903; formerly fellow of Univ. Coll. Oxford; has done much work in connect<sup>on</sup> with Charity Organization Soc.; author of many books on philosophical subjects. (Who's Who)

bro Vice-admiral Day Hort Bosanquet, (b. 1843) Commander-in-chief West Indian Station since 1904; <sup>has been</sup> Commander-in-chief East Indies. (Who's Who)

fa son Charles Bertie Puelleine Bosanquet, (b. 1834) one of the founders of the Charity Organization Soc. of which he was the first secretary ~~for many years~~.

me fa bro Hay Macdowall, (d. 1806) Commander-in-chief of Madras Presidency.

? This entry. [ me si son Ralph Dundas, head of large & influential firm of Dundas & Wilson, Writers to the Signet, Edinburgh.

fa son son Robert Carr Bosanquet, (b. 1871) archaeologist; director of British school of archaeology at Athens.

note placed with fresh records

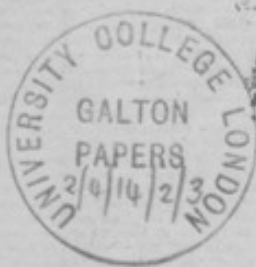




HÔTEL DE RUSSIE  
BAD KISSINGEN

Bottomley

C. 601



F. Haas.

Bad Kissingen,  
Germany Aug 3<sup>d</sup>. 1904  
St. Francis Galton F.R.S.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed I have  
pleasure in sending you my  
return on "Noteworthy Kinsfolk".  
and I regret that it was  
not sent sooner.

May I ask for a post  
card acknowledging  
receipt of the papers.

f.61

I hope what I have written  
is suitable for your purpose.  
If not I shall be obliged  
if you will let me know  
what, further, you desire.  
I am ashamed to say that  
I cannot get the matter  
typed abroad here -  
but trust that this will  
not be too great an  
inconvenience.



I am dear Sir  
Yours faithfully  
J. J. B. Homley

A. 3. me fa, James Thomson. James Thomson, my maternal grandfather, was a mathematician of high order, and possessed very remarkable ability in many directions. He was son of a small farmer in Co. Down, in the North of Ireland, but was of Scotch descent. As a boy, he commenced the study of mathematics entirely on his own initiative, having become possessed with a desire to understand the principles of sun-dialling; and for this purpose he bought mathematical books with the few spare pennies which were given to him from time to time. For a time he continued to prosecute his mathematical studies without assistance or encouragement,

f. 62, 2

but after a time his friends became convinced that he possessed unusual talent and enabled him to ~~go~~ continue his education at the University of Glasgow. After taking his degree there he became (1) Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Belfast Academical Institution, and, later, (2) Professor of Mathematics at the University of Glasgow. Prof. James Thomson was also an accomplished Classical Scholar. When at Glasgow University he was able, on occasion, to do duty for the Professor of Latin; and he lectured also for his colleague the Professor of Astronomy. He was the author of excellent





books on Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Differential and Integral Calculus, and a Geography with an appendix on Astronomy. These books were for many years the authorized text books of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland.

B. 9<sup>th</sup> me bro. James Mansan. was eldest son of the above mentioned James Mansan. He was (1) Professor of Civil Engineering in Queen's College Belfast, and (2) Prof. of Civil Engineering and Mechanics in the University of Glasgow. He

was a well known inventor, and was a Fellow of the Royal Society. His obituary notice, written by myself, in the Royal Society, gives all the necessary particulars regarding him.

C. 9th me bro John Thomson, was

a son of the first named James Thomson. Unfortunately he died young, having contracted hospital fever just as he was completing his course of medical study in the University of Glasgow. Before his death, however, he had proved himself of remarkable ability and was believed by



his friends to be not less gifted than his brothers James and William.

2. 9c me bro William Thomson, Lord Kelvin, son of the first named James Thomson, Mathematician and Inventor. Has been Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Glasgow. Is a Fellow of the Royal Society, and has been President.

3. 24 me si son George King. is an Actuary of acknowledged ability, and an excellent mathematician. Author of many important original papers, and of a work, which is recognized as authoritative, on actuarial subjects.

*hon. LL.D. (Glasgow)*

James Thomson Bottomley, D.Sc., F.R.S., electrical engineer; Arnott & Thomson demonstrator in the University of Glasgow, 1870-1899. (Who's Who)

me fa James Thomson, (1786-1849). Son of a small farmer in Co. Down, commenced the study of mathematics on his own initiative; became professor of mathematics first at the Academical Institution, Belfast 1815; then at Glasgow, 1832.

also a good classical scholar & astronomer; Wrote text-books

~~on mathematics & subjects connected with the natural history of~~  
Ireland, on mathematical subjects, which were for some many

*years* the authorized text-books of the Commissioners of National Education in Ireland. (Dict. N. Biog.)

me bro James Thomson (1822-1892) professor of civil engineering first at Queen's Coll. Belfast, 1857-73, then at Glasgow 1873-89, invented the "vortex water wheel" 1850. F.R.S.

hon. LL.D., Glasgow & Dublin. (Dict. N. Biog.)

me bro John Thomson died young, having contracted hospital fever when completing his course of medical study at Glasgow; considered as able as his brothers.

me bro William Thomson, 1st baron Kelvin; well known physicist P.C., O.M., G.C.V.O., LL.D., D.C.L., D.Sc., M.D., F.R.S., F.R.S.E.,

Inventor of mirror galvanometer, & of siphon recorder in connection with submarine telegraphy; acted as electrical engineer for many submarine cables; has been president of British Ass. 1871, of Royal Soc. 1890-95; & four times of Royal soc. Edinburgh (Who's Who)

*Author of numerous mathematical & physical memoirs*



MS S. 50. 5. George King Actuary of great ability, & an excellent mathematician; author of many important original papers and of a work which is recognized as authoritative on actuarial subjects.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*D<sup>r</sup> J. J. Bottomley, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	<i>J. J.</i>	3	me fa	<i>James Thomson</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro	4	<i>J. J.</i>	9a	me bro	<i>James Thomson</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	1	<i>J. J.</i> <i>W. J.</i>	9b 9c	me bro me bro	<i>John Thomson</i> <i>William Thomson</i>
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0	—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0	—			
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	4		19	si son	—	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	5		20	si da	—	—			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3		23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	2		24	me si son	2	<i>G. K.</i>	24	me si son	<i>George King</i>
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6		27	me bro da	—				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2		28	me si da	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	2		<i>Annie Elizabeth</i>		so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da	—		<i>Heath</i>	1872	so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—		<i>Eliza Janet</i>	1888	so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	—		<i>Blondy</i>		da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*J. J. Bottomley 13 University Gardens Glasgow*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



15 May 1904

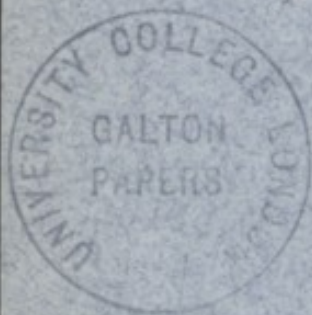
Dear Mr. Galton,

I am a "sport".

None of my kinsfolk,  
except my son, have  
ever taken any interest  
in science.

I myself received  
no scientific education.

I am truly  
Yours  
Stanford Redwell







RIVERSTONE LODGE,  
WIMBLEDON PARK ROAD,  
SOUTHFIELDS.S.W.

3. me fa, also fa fa bro.

Rev. George Bidwell.

Fellow of Clare Coll. Cambridge.

= 7. Fa bro.

Alfred Clarke Bidwell.

Judge in the H. E. I. C. S.

Calcutta.

= 29. So.

Leonard Shelford Bidwell

Prizeman of Trin. Coll. Camb.

= 22. Fa ri son.

Sir Henry Collett, R. C. B.

Colonel, Indian Army.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*D. Shelford Bidwell, M.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	<i>G. B.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	<i>Rev. George Bidwell</i>
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—			<i>alro</i>	
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	7	<i>fa bro Alfred Clarke</i>	<i>Bidwell</i>
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	3	<i>A.C.B.</i>	9	me bro	2				<i>Bidwell</i>
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	5		10	me si	5				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—	22	<i>fa si son Sir Henry</i>	<i>Collett.</i>
Sisters . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				<i>Leonard Shelford Bidwell.</i>
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0		29	<i>so</i>	
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	2		20	si da	2				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1	<i>H.C.</i>	23	me bro son	6				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	2		24	me si son	1				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	2		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	3		28	me si da	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	<i>L.S.B.</i>	<i>Firmstone</i>	1874	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	da	2				<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					<i>da Hu bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					<i>da Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Shelford Bidwell*  
*Riverstone Lodge*  
*Southfields, Wandsworth, S.W.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Reverend G. S. Brady, D.D.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	3	A. B. B.	—	—	—				Henry Brannan Brady.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				30 Wi bro	
	Daughters . . .	30	da				31 Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				32 Hu bro	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)				33 Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *G. S. Brady* *Mowbray Villa, Sunderland*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Henry Bowman Brady - F.R.S. was successful in business and established the well known firm of Brady & Martin - Pharmaceutical Chemists in Newcastle upon Tyne. He received the honorary degree of LL.D from the University of St Andrews. Published many works on the Natural History of the Foraminifera. Was President of the Pharmaceutical Society and Pharmaceutical Conference and was a member of the Council of the "Durham College of Science", Newcastle upon Tyne.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. Dietrich Brandis, K.C.I.E., F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>J. D. B.</i>	3	me fa	—	—	1.	<i>Deba</i>	<i>Joachim Dietrich</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—	5.	<i>fa.</i>	<i>Brandis, Christian August Brandis</i>
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>C. A. B.</i>	—	—	—	—	9.	<i>me bro</i>	<i>Friedrich Hausmann</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	11.	<i>bro</i>	<i>Bernhard Brandis</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	—	—	9	me bro	—	—	11.	<i>bro</i>	<i>Johannes Brandis</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	—	—	10	me si	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4	<i>B. B.</i>	—	—	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—	<i>J. B.</i>	—	—	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—	—	15	me son	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—	—	16	me da	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—	—	19	si son	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—	—	20	si da	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	—	—	23	me bro son	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—	—	24	me si son	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	—	—	27	me bro da	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—	—	28	me si da	—	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>Julius von Hartmann</i>

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	4				<i>de Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30	da	1				<i>de Wi si</i>	
							<i>de Hu bro</i>	
							<i>de Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	4		<i>Katharina Hase</i>	1867	<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	1				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>de(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>de(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Dietrich Brandis*  
*Capit Hanu*  
*Kew*  
*permanent address Bauer 2/Ah, Germany*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



P. 74

, Superintendent of Forests, British Burma  
1856-1864.

Sir Dietrich Brandis, (b. 1824) K.C.I.E., F.R.S., Inspector  
General of Forests to the ~~Indian~~ Government, 1864-1883.

(Who's Who)

of India

fa fa Joachim Dietrich Brandis, born at Hildesheim, where  
his ancestors had governed the town as Burgermeister for  
centuries; practised medicine at Brunswick Driburg &  
Pyrmont; professor of pathology at Kiel; died at Copenhagen  
as physician to the Queen of Denmark.

the Prussian

fa Christian August Brandis, secretary of legation in  
Rome 1818; afterwards professor of philosophy in Bonn;

1837-1839

went to Athens ~~in 1837~~ as confidential adviser to King Otto  
partly with regard to the organization of schools & colleges  
in Greece. author of a work on the History of Greek  
philosophy.

me bro Friedrich Hausmann, professor of mineralogy & geology  
at Gottingen; author of a handbook of mineralogy.

bro Johannes Brandis for many years Kabinetsrath of H.M.  
Empress Augusta queen of Prussia.

*a*

me si son Julius von Hartmann commanded the cavalry division  
in the Franco-German war; after the war was governor of  
Strasbourg.



1. *fa. Joachim Dietrich Brandis Med. Dr.*  
Born at Hildesheim, where his Ancestor had  
governed the town as Bürgermeister during  
several centuries. Practised at Braunschweig  
Sülzburg and Pyramont— Professor of Pathology  
at Kiel, died at Copenhagen as Conferen-  
zarth and Physician to the Queen of Denmark.
3. *fa. Christian August Brandis. Phil. Dr.* Appointed  
at Niebuhr's request Secretary of Legation at Rome  
when Niebuhr went there as Ambassador in 1818.  
Was succeeded <sup>(a few years later)</sup> by Bunsen, when he went ~~a few~~  
~~years later~~ to Paris and England, in order to  
study Manuscripts relating to the Philosophy of  
Aristoteles. Professor of Philology at Bonn,  
author of the history of Greek Philosophy.  
Went to Athens in 1837 in a confidential  
position to King Otho, partly connected with  
the organization of Schools and Colleges in Greece.  
Returned to Bonn after 2 1/2 years work in Greece.
9. *me. bro. Friedrich Hausmann, Phil. Dr.* Pro-  
fessor of Mineralogy and Geology at Göttingen  
Author of a Handbook of Mineralogy.
11. *bro. Bernhard Brandis, Med. Dr.* Many  
years Physician at Aix-la-Chapelle. Now retired.
11. *bro. Johannes Brandis, Phil. Dr.* for many years  
Kabinettsrath of Her Majesty, Empress Augusta Queen  
of Prussia, died 1873. (the German)
24. *me. si. son. Julius von Hartmann.* Son of Sir  
Julius von Hartmann <sup>K.C.D.</sup> who commanded the  
Artillery of the German Legion in the Peninsular  
campaign and at Waterloo, and after <sup>(at Hannover)</sup> ~~ward~~ <sup>ward</sup> commanded  
the Hanoverian Artillery. His Son commanded a  
Cavalry Division in the Franco German War and after  
the war was Governor of Strasbourg.

July 3<sup>d</sup> 1904

D. Brandis

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor A. Crum Brown, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	JB	—	—	—	—	5	Rev. Prof. John Brown	
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro	4	W.C.	9		Walter Crum
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si			13		John Brown
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—	—	22	Rev. Prof. Robert Johnston	
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—	19		Charles Stewart Wilson
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	2	J.B.	15	me son			23		Alexander Crum
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son		C.S.W.			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son	?	A.C.			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	3*	R.J.	24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				Wi bro	
	Daughters . . .	30	da				Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Alex Crum Brown* 8 Melgrave crescent, Edinburgh



\* 3 sons of my aunt M<sup>rs</sup> Johnston - My father had another full sister, who married and went to America, I know she had sons, but we have lost trace of the family.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

**Nomenclature of Kinship.**—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

**Noteworthiness.**—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

**Youth.**—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

**Manhood.**—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

**Authorship** of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

**Awards** of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

**Biographical Notices** in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



*Crum Brown*

f22

5. Rev. Professor John Brown D.D. Minister of the Secession (afterwards the United Presbyterian) Church, professor of Exegetical Theology in the Divinity Hall of that Church. Author of many exegetical commentaries.

9. Walter Crum F.R.S. Manufacturer at Thornliebank, near Glasgow. A good man of business, and a very able Chemist.

13. John Brown M.D. Author of "Horae Subsecivae" containing "Rab and his Friends", "Locke and Sydenham" &c.

22. Rev. Professor Robert Johnstone. Professor of New Testament Exegesis, in the United Free Church College, Aberdeen.

19. Charles Stewart Wilson, Postmaster-General, Punjab.

23. Alexander Crum, son of No. 9. An able man of business, managing Director of "The Thornliebank Co. lim." For some time Member of Parliament for Renfrew-shire.



Alexander Crum Brown, (b. 1838) M.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S.,  
professor of chemistry, Edinburgh University since 1869;  
president of the Chemical Soc. London, 1892-3. [Who's Who]

fa fa fa John Brown, (1722-1787) of Haddington; biblical  
commentator; as a herd boy taught himself latin greek, &  
*with the aid of a teacher*  
hebrew; at one time a pedlar; served as a soldier in the  
Edinburgh garrison 1745; minister to the Burgher congregation  
at Haddington, 1750-1787; acted as professor of divinity to  
Burgher students after 1768. [Dict. N. Biog.]

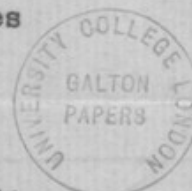
fa fa John Brown, (1754-1832) Scottish divine; minister of  
Burgher church at Whitburn, 1776-1832; wrote memoirs of James  
Hervey, 1806, & many religious treatises. [Dict. N. Biog.]

fa John Brown, (1784-1858) minister of Burgher church at  
Biggar, 1806, of relief church at Edinburgh, 1822; D.D. 1830;  
professor of exegetics ~~Relief~~ Coll. 1834, & in United  
Presbyterian Col. 1847; authr of many exegetical commentaries  
(Dict. N. Biog.)

me bro Walter Crum, F.R.S., manufacturer at Thornlie-  
bank, near Glasgow; a good man of business & a very able  
chemist.

fa son John Brown, (1810-1882) M.D., practised in Edinburgh with  
success till his death; author of "Horae Subsecivae", "Rab  
& his Friends"

[Dict. N. Biog.]



fa si son Robert Johnstone, (b.1832) D.D., LL.B., professor  
of New Testament Literature & Exegesis in the United Free  
Church Coll., Aberdeen; has published works on the New  
Testament. [Who's Who]

si son Charles Stewart-Wilson, Postmaster-general,  
Punjab, *since 1899.* [India List]

me bro son Alexander Grum, managing director of the  
"Thornliebank Co" For some time M.P. for  
Renfrewshire.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *John Brown, Esq., JRS.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	WK	3	me fa	Williams Kertland
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—	—			
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	JSB	—	—	—	—	5	fa	John Brown
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	EFB	—	—	—	—		me	Ellen F Brown
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	6	—			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	4	—			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0	—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0	—			
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2		19	si son	0	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3		20	si da	0	—			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	?		23	me bro son	6	—			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	6	WR McM	24	me si son	2	—	22	fa si so	W R W Murray
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	?		27	me bro da	8	—			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	6		28	me si da	4	—			

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	2	WMB	Kertland	1880	so Wi bro	—
Daughters . . .	30	da	—	—	—	—	so Wi si	—
							da Hu bro	—
							da Hu si	—
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	Davies	1899	so(2) Wi bro	—
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—	—	so(2) Wi si	—
							da(2) Hu bro	—
							da(2) Hu si	—

Signature and Address of the Sender *John Brown, Loughurst, Drumilly, Belfast*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Noteworthy Kinefolk of John Brown, F.R.S.

3 me fa William Kertland,-- of considerable literary ability; a good Shaksperian scholar; wrote and published Odes, Songs, Ballads and Plays, some of which were produced on the Dublin stage.

5 fa John S. Brown,-- a remarkably excellent and extraordinarily successful business organizer, had much originality and enterprise, introduced a great advance and improvement in the quality and taste in designs in demask table-linen in the manufacture of which he made a considerable fortune.

6 m Ellen F. Brown(nee Kertland)-of exceptional powers of mind in literary and scientific subjects.

22 fa si so W.R. M<sup>c</sup>Murray,-- an excellent organizer and most successful buisness manager..

29 so William Mark Brown,-- died at 16 but had given much promise of literary and artistic ability.



*over*

Kinsfolk in more distant degrees.

me me bro Dr John Greham, - of considerable literary ability and business capacity, under his management as principal, Portora Royal School became eminently successful.

Mother's great grandmother was a sister of John Roberts, architect of important buildings in Waterford and great grandfather of Earl Roberts.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor E.W. Brown, J.R.D.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				No blood relation of any degree as far as I am aware. Mainly successful merchants (Fa side) and farmers (me side).
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	4		10	me si	10				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	4				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	2		24	me si son	10				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	4				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	8		28	me si da	8				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so		Unmarried		so Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

Ernest W. Brown, Haverford College, Haverford, Pa., U. S. A.





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Li James Brichton Browne, 1784*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCRETE WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.



bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																																																																					
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																																																										
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	AB	3	me fa	Andrew Balfour.																																																																																																					
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																																																																									
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	WAFB.	—	—	—	—	5	fa	William Alexander James Browne.																																																																																																					
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—																																																																																																								
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	11		9	me bro	5	J.H.B.	9	me bro	John Hutton Balfour.																																																																																																					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	10		10	me si	3																																																																																																									
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	J.H.B.B.	—	—	—	—	11	bro	John Hutton Balfour Browne.																																																																																																					
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—																																																																																																								
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1		15	me son	1																																																																																																									
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da	1																																																																																																									
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	1		19	si son																																																																																																										
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da																																																																																																										
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1		23	me bro son	IBB		23	me bro son	Isaac Balfour Balfour.																																																																																																					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	1																																																																																																									
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	1																																																																																																									
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	1																																																																																																									
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td>1</td> <td>HWAFB</td> <td>Emily Halliday</td> <td></td> <td>Wi bro</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Wi si</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>da Hu bro</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>da Hu si</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td></td> <td>Wi bro</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td></td> <td>Wi si</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>da Hu bro</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>da Hu si</td> <td>—</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.									Sons . . . . .	29	so	1	HWAFB	Emily Halliday		Wi bro	—	Daughters . .	30	da	1				Wi si	—								da Hu bro	—								da Hu si	—	2nd marriage.									Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—		Wi bro	—	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—		Wi si	—								da Hu bro	—								da Hu si	—
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																																																									
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																																																																								
1st marriage.																																																																																																																
Sons . . . . .	29	so	1	HWAFB	Emily Halliday		Wi bro	—																																																																																																								
Daughters . .	30	da	1				Wi si	—																																																																																																								
							da Hu bro	—																																																																																																								
							da Hu si	—																																																																																																								
2nd marriage.																																																																																																																
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—		Wi bro	—																																																																																																								
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—		Wi si	—																																																																																																								
							da Hu bro	—																																																																																																								
							da Hu si	—																																																																																																								
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>James Brichton Browne Trinidad. Amfries &amp; B.</i></p>																																																																																																																

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# Noteworthy Kinsfolk.



## 3. Mr Fa.

Andrew Balfour, a successful Printer in Edinburgh in the beginning of the last Century. Collaborated with Sir David Brewster in production of the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, the forerunner of the Encyclopedia Britannica. One of the leaders of the Free Church Disruption.

## 5. Dr.

William Alexander Francis Browne Physician, largely instrumental in introducing the humane-treatment of the insane into Scotland. Was appointed first Commissioner in Lunacy for that Country. F.R.S.E. Author of works on Mental Disease.

## 9. Mr Bro

John Hutton Balfour, F.R.S. a distinguished Botanist Professor of Botany in the University of Edinburgh. Author of numerous works on Botany.



11 Bro

John Hutton Balfour Browne K.C.D.L.  
Leader of the Parliamentary Bar  
Author of numerous works on  
Law and in general literature.

23. Mr. Bro. Sen.

Isaac Bayley Balfour F.R.S.  
distinguished Botanist Professor of  
Botany in the University of Edinburgh  
Author of numerous works on Botany.

29. So.

Harold William Alexander Grichton  
- Browne Major King's Own  
Scottish Borderers. accompanied  
the late Mr. Joseph Thomson on  
his Expedition to Morocco. 1884  
and lectured on Atlas Mountains  
on his Return to Royal Institution  
of Great Britain & Royal Geographical  
Society. Penetrated alone into  
Atlatelaland 1888 and was  
entertained by Sobengula Sewed  
in Bechnanaland Beche. Police  
and was in Command at  
Krofffontein during South African  
War. Two medals and clasps  
Presented with Freedom of  
Dunfermline



Note.

The Standard of creditworthiness adopted - distinction not inferior to that which Fellowship of the Royal Society confers, amongst men of Science, seems to me too narrow and exclusive to afford a just estimate of family ability. Immediately below that Standard there are I believe in families producing members who reach to it, a large number of persons, who in the public service, in the Army, Navy, Civil Service and in India, in Commerce, manufactures, municipal affairs, professional pursuits and others have displayed intelligence and moral qualities so far above the common level, as to be justly described as ability.

James Crichton-Browne.



Sir James Crichton Browne, (b. 1840) M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., Lord Chancellor's Visitor in Lunacy since 1875; Vice-president & treasurer Royal Institution since 1889; author of various works on mental & nervous diseases. [Who's Who]

me fa Andrew Balfour, successful printer in Edinburgh; collaborated with Sir David Brewster in production of the Edinburgh Encyclopedia, the forerunner of the edia Encyclop Britannia; one of the leaders of the Free Church disruption. fa William Alexander Francis Browne, F.R.S., physician largely instrumental in introducing humane methods for the treatment of the insane into Scotland. was appointed first commissioner in lunacy for that country. author of works on mental diseases.

me bro John Hutton Balfour, (1808-1884) M.D., LL.D., F.R.S., & F.R.S.E., professor of botany at Glasgow 1841, & at Edinburgh 1845; wrote botanical text books. [Dict. N. Biog.]

John H bro John Hutton Balfour-Browne, (b. 1845) K.C., D.C. Leader of the parliamentary bar; Registrar & secretary to Railway Comm., 1874; author of numerous works on law. [Who's Who]

me broo son Isaac Bayley Balfour, (b. 1853), M.D., D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S., King's Botanist in Scotland; Regius Keeper of Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh; professor of botany Edinburgh since 1888; formerly professor of botany at Glasgow & at Oxford; [Who's Who]



no letter

P. 98r

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Colonel David Bruce, R.A.M.C. 489.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

I cannot discover that I have any noteworthy Kinsfolk  
D. Bruce



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

David Bruce.  
Colonel. R.A.M.C.  
68 Victoria St. S.W.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

REGISTERED TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS:  
LADDER BRUNTON, LONDON.

TELEPHONE  
1407 PARADISE.



10, STRATFORD PLACE,  
CAVENDISH SQUARE.

1.39

August 10th, 1904

Dictated.

Dear Mr Galton,

I fear that none of my immediate relatives have distinguished themselves with the exception of an uncle whose name I have included. It may be interesting to you to know however that far away members of my family have <sup>been</sup> distinguished both in chemistry and medicine the two subjects at which I have worked. Dr John Stenhouse FRS was related to me on my Mother's side. His grandfather and my mother's grandfather being brothers. My gr<sup>eat</sup> grandmother by the Father's side was Helen Clerk who belonged to the Pennycuik family. John Clerk, Lord Eldon was one of this family and Dr John Clerk was one of the first physicians in Scotland for many years. I believe that Clerk Maxwell of Cambridge is also related to the same family. The late George Romanes and I were very distantly related my GGG Grandmother being a ~~Roman~~ Romanes. It may perhaps interest you to know that the two last generations in my family have been very long lived my Grandfather having been born in 1717.

Believe me,

Sincerely yours,

*Ladder Brunton*

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Li. Y. Lauder Brunton, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.	
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.						
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—					
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—					
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3	J.B	9	me bro	3				<i>The Brunton invented chain cables accidentally, killed 1832</i>	
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	2					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	1		15	me son	0					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da	0					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	4		19	si son	2					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	3					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	0 (settled abroad)					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	0					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	0 (settled abroad)					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	1					
		Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.				
								Titles.		Initials of the noteworthy.		
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro				
	Daughters . . .	30	da					si Wi si				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					da Hu bro				
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					da Hu si				

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Prof. G. H. Bryan*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—	(D <sup>o</sup> of medicine)	3	me fa	—	(D <sup>o</sup> of medicine)			R. P. B. (Robt. Purdie Bryan) 1st class classic Cambridge, died at age of 25.
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—			
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	R. P. B.	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—	(living)	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	none ever	—	9	me bro	none ever	—			
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	None ever	—	10	me si	None ever	—			
Brothers . . .	11	bro	{ None ever	—	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	{ None ever	—	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	fa son	{ <del>(child)</del>	—	15	me son	None.	—			
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	None	—	16	me da	None.	—			
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	None	—	19	si son	None.	—			
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	None	—	20	si da	None.	—			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	None	—	23	me bro son	None	—			
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	None	—	24	me si son	None	—			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	None	—	27	me bro da	None.	—			
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	None	—	28	me si da	None.	—			

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	None	None		Wi bro Wi si da <del>Hyndes</del> da <del>Hyndes</del>	
	Daughters .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	None	None		Wi(2) bro Wi(2) si da(2) <del>Hyndes</del> da(2) <del>Hyndes</del>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender *George Hartley Bryan.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Weycombe Haslemere  
 April 30<sup>th</sup> 1904

Dear Mr Galton

I congratulate you  
 on your continued success  
 in a difficult line of  
 research. I send you back  
 your queries, but I fear  
 that my record is poor,  
 as regards exceptional  
 intelligence. — It may  
 be my clumsiness, but I  
 don't see the significance  
 of <sup>the</sup> last column — I have

addnd (my) Wi bro  
 instnd of So. Wi. bro. who  
 I have not yet seen.

Very truly yours

Griffin et al.

Francis Gallon Esq  
 F.R.S. &c



Noteworthy kinsfolk of S. B. Buckton. - 29th F.R.S.

193

Reg<sup>r</sup>. Title.

Full names -

5

fa

George Buckton. Ecclesiastical Lawyer  
& Master of the Merchant Taylors' Company.



11

bro

Woodger Merricks Buckton: Fellow of  
the Linnean and Zoological Societies.

3

me fa

Richard Merricks: <sup>a</sup>Deputy Lieutenant  
of Sussex.

29

so

William Woodger Buckton B.A. a rising elec-  
trical engineer, with a capacity for sympathetically  
managing a large business concern.

30

da

Alice Mary Buckton, Vice Principal of Sesame  
House, St John's Wood - Lecturer on Education etc. with  
fine art tastes, and author of several poetical  
works, and other printed papers.

30

da

Evelyn Buckton. twice prize winner at  
the Slade School of Art, London -  
3 other daughters with fine art and naturalistic  
tendencies.

NB fa bro da married Serge Day F.R.S. Her daughters, Elsie  
and Summa Day, are respectively the Head  
of Grey Coat School, Westminster; and  
Deaconess & Head of St. Andrew's Home  
Southsea.  
we bro. William Odling F.R.S. etc: etc: Professor.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *G. B. Buckton, Esq. F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>R.m.</i>	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>George Buckton.</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>GB</i>	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—		11	<i>bro</i>	<i>Woodger Merricks Buckton</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	?		9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>		<i>Wm B.</i>	—	—	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	<i>Richard Merricks</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>			29	<i>so</i>	<i>William Woodger Buckton</i>
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>			30	<i>da</i>	<i>Alice Mary Buckton</i>
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>			30	<i>da</i>	<i>Eveleen Buckton</i>
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	?		23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	?		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	<i>W.W.B.</i>	<i>Odling</i>	1865	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	<i>W.O.</i>
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	<i>A.M.B.</i> <i>E.B.</i>				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *G.B. Buckton*  
*Weymouth Haslemere Surrey*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



f.95r

May 10 1904

My dear Galton

I am afraid I have kept you waiting for the enclosed a very long time.

You will see I can only name one of my relations among the "noteworthy" class. And you, with whose discretion I trust, may not consider that he ought to be included. He was 4<sup>th</sup> in the Class



1843. Seeing that he had  
had no School advantages  
at all it was a considerable  
performance. If he had been  
taught by Dr Kennedy as  
Gifford and Bruce were  
who headed that list he  
might have been a formidable  
rival. He died in 1865.

My sons are what you  
would call capable men  
but I cannot say they have

does  
anything noteworthy as yet.

Is not there a slight  
error in your table. You  
say at bottom of the right  
hand column "wifes brother  
and sisters" - Now if for  
instance any of my children  
were in the noteworthy  
class their relationship to  
my wifes brothers &c, or  
to her father & mother uncle  
and aunt would be for your

purpose equally important  
 with the corresponding  
 relationships on my side.  
 But the details of that column  
 are "sons wives brother" & c  
 not "wives brother" - how if  
 one of my sons had married  
 Juliet or Shakespeare's sister  
 what has that to do with  
 me the Propositus? It might  
 affect some of my grandchildren  
 doubtless - but your table  
 does not of course go as  
 far as grandchildren -  
 yours sincerely  
 S. H. Burbury



May 12 1904

My dear Galton



If you require sons wives  
brother &c for the purpose  
you mention - namely the  
investigation whether or not  
scientific families tend to  
intermarry - you will  
also require sons' wife or  
daughters husbands -

If so it will not be



superfluous if I mention  
that one of my daughters  
is the wife of Captain  
Jackson R. N. and he  
being now F. R. S is  
within your class of  
noteworthy people.

very sincerely yours

S. H. Burbury

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*S. H. Burbury, Esq., 401*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	5		9	me bro	0				
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	2				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	6	W. B.	23	me bro son	0 9 9				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	0 9 9		24	me si son	0 1 9				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6		27	me bro da	0 9 9				
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0 9 9				



*William Burbury*

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	4	<i>Alice Anne Taylor</i>	1860	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*S. H. Burbury*

*17 Upper Phillimore Gardens  
Kensington*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



f99

64, BANBURY ROAD,  
OXFORD.

Sept. 19. 1904

With kind regards & many  
apologies for delay

J. B. S.



f.100r

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Li J. S. Burdon Sanderson, Bart., Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>T.B.</i>	3	me fa	—	<i>J.S.</i>	<del>1</del>	fa fa	<i>Sir Thomas Burdon</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	<i>J.B.</i>	4	me me	—	—	2	fa me	<i>Jane Burdon nee Scott</i>
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>R.B.S.</i>	—	—	—	—	3	me fa	<i>Sir James Sanderson Bart.</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	fa	<i>Richard Burdon Sanderson</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	—	9	me bro	0	<i>me only child</i>	—	—	—
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	<i>2 one</i>	—	10	me si	0	—	—	—	—
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	<i>R.B.S.</i>	—	—	—	—	11	bro	<i>Richard Burdon Sanderson</i> <sup>1/2</sup>
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0	—	15	me son	0	—	—	—	—
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0	—	16	me da	0	—	—	—	—
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2	—	19	si son	3	—	19	si son	<i>Richard Burdon Haldane</i>
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2	—	20	si da	1	—	"	"	<i>John Scott Haldane</i>
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0	—	23	me bro son	0	—	"	"	<i>William Stoddart Haldane</i>
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0	—	24	me si son	0	—	20	si da	<i>Eliza Sanderson Haldane</i>
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0	—	27	me bro da	0	—	—	—	—
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0	—	28	me si da	0	—	—	—	—

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	—	—	<i>Herschell</i>	<i>1853</i>	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>F.H.</i>
Daughters . . .	30	da	—	—	—	—	<i>Wi si</i>	—
							<i>da</i>	—
							<i>Wi bro</i>	—
2nd marriage.							<i>Wi si</i>	—
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—	—	<i>da</i>	—
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—	—	<i>Wi bro</i>	—
							<i>Wi si</i>	—
							<i>da</i>	—

Signature and Address of the Sender

*John Burdon-Sanderson, Oxford*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Noteworthy facts relating to the persons named below.

- 1 fa fa — Sir Thomas Burdon R.E. — Knighted in consideration of his services in quelling a riot which occurred among the Kechmen on the river Tyne. He was several times Mayor of Newcastle.
- 2 fa me Lady Burdon, nee Jane Scott, sister of Lord Chancellor Eldon & Lord Stowell.
- 3 me fa. Sir James Sanderson Bart. M.P., Lord Mayor of London. A successful Merchant.
- 5 fa. Richard Burdon Sanderson. Graduated first class at Oriel College, Oxford, of which he was afterwards a Fellow. Obtained the headship Prize & the English Essay prize. Was Secretary to Lord Chancellor Eldon.
- 11 bro. Richard Burdon Sanderson — An active Magistrate. The first promoter of the "Conciliation Board" of Coal Owners & Colliers at Newcastle on Tyne, and of the first Reformatory in Northumberland.
- 19 Si son. Right Hon. Richard Burdon Haldane P.C. H.C. M.P. Author of the life of Adam Smith. Papers on the Education, "The pathway to Reality" &c.

19. Si. Son. John Scott Haldane M.D. F.R.S.

(See his own return).

19. " " William Stowell Haldane - Writer to the  
Signet. A Successful Edinburgh Lawyer.

20. Si. da. Elizabeth Sanderson Haldane.

Author of the Life of Professor Ferriar.  
Translator of Selections from Hegel &c.  
An active promoter of Educational  
projects, of improved Poor Law Administration  
and similar objects in Scotland.

Wi. br. Farren, First Baron Herschell.



(“WHO’S WHO” contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*.\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.		Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regtr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
		Regtr.	Title.			Regtr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	—	—	3	me fa	—	—			My maternal uncle Robert Knight is the only relation I have had who could in any way be called noteworthy. Though he received no public recognition he was undoubtedly a man of very exceptional ability. He founded the "Statesman" and the "Friend of India" as well as a third Indian paper of which I forget the name.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	—	4	me me	—	—			
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	—	—	9	me bro	4	R.K.			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1	—	—	10	me si	3	—			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	none at all.	—	—	15	me son	none at all.	—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da		16	me da	—						
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—	—	—	19	si son	—	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—	—	—	20	si da	—	—			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	—	—	—	23	me bro son	10	—			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—	—	—	24	me si son	3	—			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	—	—	—	27	me bro da	11	—			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—	—	—	28	me si da	5	—			

	Regtr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	None known.			so Wi bro	None known.
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

W. Burnside, The Croft, Bromley Road.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*no letter*  
*Professor J. J. Cash, M.A.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	5	J. M.			3 James Thidpley - Developed large cotton spinning industry & was one of pioneers in railway foundation and of transport.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	2	2	100 years	M. S. Bright	1887	Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	2	2	10 years			Wi si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	20(2)					(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	20(2)					(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*J. Thos. Cash*  
*Marischal College*  
*Aberdeen -*  
*N.B.*



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.





25 Mount Ararat Road

Richmond Surrey

June 13 1904

Dear Mr Galton

I have filled in  
your examination paper to the  
best of my knowledge & belief &  
return it with explanatory details  
of the 4 relatives particularised.

My more immediate relatives have  
been much the most intellectually  
distinguished amongst those within  
the degree of propinquity in your  
list. Several of my father's  
brothers were conspicuous locally

for bodily strength & success in  
highland sports; but they lived  
before athletics were taken so  
seriously as they now are &  
whether they had or had not the  
natural gifts of a University "blue"  
I do not know.

As to whether the relations specified  
were (or are) of F.R.S. standing I cannot  
say, because there seem to me  
many grades of ability amongst F.R.S.,  
& I do not know what value you  
may attach to extreme capability in  
one narrow line, which is the most  
that can I think be claimed for  
some F.R.S.s, as compared to general  
capacity & power in a number of  
directions. My father & brothers

p. 3

were, like myself, not naturally specialists, but capable of distinguishing themselves in a number of different lines.

I should perhaps explain that at Aberdeen in my brother's time every Arts student had to take Classics, Mathematics & Physics, Philosophy, English & Natural History; & occasionally an individual managed to take prizes in all or nearly all of the subjects.

If any points require further explanation you will doubtless inform me.

Yrs very truly  
C. Chace



Particulars

8.4

5. fa. Hon. D.D. of Aberdeen University. For many years Clerk to Presbytery of Meikle, & Convener of Committee for examining Divinity Students in St Andrews University. Had considerable reputation in Church of Scotland for general Scholarship & especially for knowledge of Hebrew.
- 11 W.C. Elder brother after graduating with 1st Class mathematical Honours in Aberdeen University obtained a Fullerton mathl. scholarship (only one annually). In addition to prizes in mathematics & Physics at Aberdeen had also prizes in Latin, Natural History & Moral Philosophy. Had exceptionally brilliant course in Law in Edinburgh University, being either first or second prizeman in Scots Law, Conveyancing, Civil Law, Public Law & Constitutional History. Practised as advocate at Scotch bar.
- 11 A.B.C. died young, but graduated at Aberdeen University with first class Honours in mathematics obtaining besides prizes in mathematics & Physics, prizes in Latin, Moral Philosophy & Natural History.
- 12 Si. As a girl obtained two prizes & honours in at least four subjects in the Edinburgh University Local Examinations. (French, Logic, Latin, Physics).





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. C. Chree, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	<i>CC</i>	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Charles Chree</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	6		9	<i>me bro</i>	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	4				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2		—	—	—	<i>WC</i>	11	<i>bro</i>	<i>William Chree</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—	<i>WBC</i>			
								<i>J.S.C.</i>	12	<i>si</i>	<i>Alexander Bain Chree</i> <i>Jessie Scott Chree</i>
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	6		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	14		23	<i>me bro son</i>	3				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	5		24	<i>me si son</i>	0				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	15		27	<i>me bro da</i>	1				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	5		28	<i>me si da</i>	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Charles Chree*  
*25 Mount Ararat Road, Richmond Surrey*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



f.6

**SHELSLEY,  
KEW GARDENS.**

29. VI. 1904

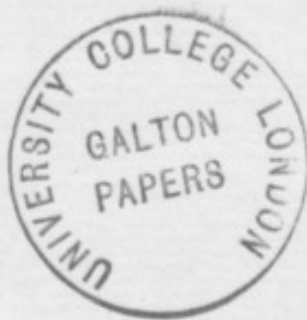
Dear Mr. Galton

Pardon my having put  
on one side your first circular.  
I had not forgotten it, but I  
felt and still feel the great  
difficulty of appraising the  
intellects of relations! I think  
that the positions & reputations  
actually achieved are generally  
limited by conditions which it is  
impossible to estimate. In the  
legal profession, for instance, no  
solicitor can attain an official  
position equal to that open  
to barristers. And then there is  
the important influence of the

necessity of making a living. <sup>ft</sup> ||

Yours sincerely

A H Church





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Arthur Herbert Church*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	—		9	me bro	—				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	—		10	me si	—				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	4	H.F.C.; A.J.C.	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da					
1st removed First cousins Male . . .	21	fa bro son	4	fa si da son	23	me bro son					
Female . . . . .	22	fa si son	7	J.R.S.	24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					



† (11) Henry Francis Church  
eldest bro.  
Solicitor: chief clerk in  
Chancery, & Master of  
the High Court of Jud.  
(11) Alfred John Church  
3<sup>rd</sup> son.  
See Who's Who.

† (21) John Robert Sealey, K.C.M.G.  
See Dict. Nat. Biog.  
3<sup>rd</sup> son  
↑ I consider that the 1<sup>st</sup> son  
Leonard Benton Sealey,  
and the 2<sup>nd</sup> son, Richard  
Sealey, would have been  
equally noteworthy had  
circumstances been  
favourable.

† deceased

1st removed  
fa si da son

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30	da					so Wi si	
2nd marriage.							da Hu bro	
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					da(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					da(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *A.H. Church, Shelsley, New Gardens.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa brò*, *fa me bro*, *ma fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Arthur Herbert Church, (1834) M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S., F.S.A.,  
 Professor of chemistry Royal academy of Arts since 1879;  
 discoverer of turacin, <sup>also of</sup> churchite & other new minerals;  
 president of the ~~royal~~ Mineralogical Society, 1898-1901;  
 author of various works on english pottery & porcelain, <sup>story</sup> on precious  
 on food, & on the chemistry of paints & painting (Who's Who)



bro Henry Francis Church, (1824-1899) solicitor, chief clerk in  
 chancery ; & Master of the High Court of Judicature.

bro Alfred John Church, (rev.) (b.1829), sometime head-master  
 of Henley & of Retford grammar schools; professor of latin  
 at Univ.Coll.London, 1880-1888; prize poem on sacred subject  
 Oxford 1883, author of various works dealing with classical  
 subjects. [Who's Who]

fa silda son Sir John Robert Seeley, (1834-1895), K.C.M.G.,  
 professor first of latin at Univ.Coll. London & afterwards  
 of modern history at Cambridge; published in 1865 "Ecce Homo"  
 a work which attracted immediate attention & provoked a  
 storm of controversy, also works on history & political  
 science. [Dict.N.Biog.]

13 Kew Gardens' Road, Kew, Surrey  
2 May 1904 f.10r

Dear Sir

I enclose herewith the "Noteworthy Kinsfolk" form duly filled up. I should be glad to assist your investigation in any way I can, and to answer any question you put me. Certainly none of my Kinsfolk have been noteworthy in such a way as to justify my making any entry on your form. At the same time, I think few families illustrate the principle of inheritance more strongly than we do.

In my judgment, my "me fa" was a very unusual man; he was an obscure man who lived all his life in a humble manner in a small remote village. His education had been very narrow; but he had a clear grasp of the principles of political economy and his own views of political history. Whenever he appeared at any considerable gathering - as a hunt or a cricket-match - he was received with a respect and admiration that impressed me (as a child of 7 or 8 years of age) with awe.

I may mention (though not bearing exactly on the point you are now on) that myself and brothers (two now dead) are all exactly alike. We are the same height within an  $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch. We all can do the same things, and go on in the same way. We (omitting the one who died young) can all play chess so as to be able to face a professor (though we give hardly any time to it); we can all play whist like the men who play at



the first battle of a play club (though we hardly ever play) = we can all easily grasp mathematics (up to a point); we fail at languages and mental philosophy; we have very little originality (in any thing) and no enterprise -

Yours with esteem

C. B. Clarke

To

Francis Galton F.R.S



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *C. B. Clarke, Esq., M.P.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>see letter</i>			
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	4		9	<i>me bro</i>	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	3		10	<i>me si</i>	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	4		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	2		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	2		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	2		20	<i>si da</i>	1				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	0				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	0				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	0		28	<i>me si da</i>	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender  
*Charles Baron Clarke*[13 New Garden's Road, Kew, Surrey]  
1 May 1904

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

I cannot name any 'noteworthy' relations within the limits of relationships dealt with in the Table. Several members of my family have very good abilities; but have hardly come up to the standard laid down.

If I have any special ability I should say that it is derived ~~through~~ my paternal grandmother whose family, the Sydneys, produced several noteworthy people, & from my maternal (1) grandfather & (2) grandmother.

(1) was a Mayor & his mother's two sons John Mayor & Joseph Mayor, who are both living, perhaps deserve to be classed as 'noteworthy'. The



former is probably the greatest  
 classic in this country, &  
 the latter is not far behind  
 him.\*

(2) My grandmother was  
 a very capable woman & her  
 mother was a cooper.  
 The cooper family has produced  
 some people of note  
 including the poet.

G. A. Charles.

\* The mother of these two  
 was a Bickersetts, from  
 whom their undoubted  
 talents may have been  
 mainly derived


# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *St George Sydenham Clarke, R.C., K.C.M.G. F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																											
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—																																																															
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																															
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																														
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																														
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>																																																																
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>																																																																
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—																																																														
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—																																																														
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																																
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																																
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>																																																																
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																																
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>																																																																
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>																																																																
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>																																																																
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>																																																																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Regr.</th> <th>Title.</th> <th>No. who survived childhood.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th>Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>		Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>					<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>		2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>		Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>		
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																														
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																													
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>																																																														
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>					<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>																																																														
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>																																																														
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>																																																														
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>G. S. Clarke.</i> <i>49. Portico Square, Linc.</i></p>																																																																						

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

(Cleland)

F.14

2 THE UNIVERSITY  
GLASGOW

27<sup>th</sup> June  
1904

Dear Sir

I am very glad you have taken the  
trouble of sending me a second issue of  
your Schedules of Noteworthy Land.

Out of respect for the worthiness of your  
motives I should have liked to have  
pleased you, but I cannot agree with your  
tests of Noteworthiness, & I feel that to  
try to write down estimates of the  
characters of my relations would be both  
petite & improper.

I assure you that I regret being obliged  
to disappoint one whom I hold in  
great respect.

Yours very sincerely

Francis Galton G. F. R. S. *Wm Cleland*



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor J. Norman Collic, F.R.S.*

*do not*  
("WHO'S WHO" *containing* all that is wanted concerning yourself.)  
*Kindly send further particulars.*

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN INK WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<i>12. Susan Margaret Collic.</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3		9	<i>me bro</i>	3				<i>4. Susanna Winkworth.</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	3		10	<i>me si</i>	4	<i>SW and CW</i>			
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1	<i>SMC</i>	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	7		20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	3		23	<i>me bro son</i>	1				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	1		24	<i>me si son</i>	3				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	1		27	<i>me bro da</i>	1				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	3		28	<i>me si da</i>	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender  
*John Norman Collic,*  
*16 Campden Grove Kensington London W.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

John Norman Conie.  
(further particulars about)

Was born 1859.

Educated at Charltonhouse and Clifton College.

Obtained Science scholarship at Bristol University College.

For Three years assistant to Prof Letts, Queens College Belfast.

Studied chemistry for one year at Würzburg Bavaria, taking  
the degree of PhD in Chemistry.

Lecturer on chemistry for four years at the Ladies College Cheltenham

Assistant for nine years to Prof Sir W Ramsay University College Lond.

Prof of Chemistry at the Pharmaceutical of Great Britain London.  
for six years.

Since then Prof of Organic Chemistry at University College London.

Fellow of the Royal Society.

Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society (member of Council.)

Fellow of the Chemical Society (Have twice been on Council.)

Fellow of the Institute of Chemistry.

Fellow of the German Chemical Society.

Member of the Alpine Club (have been on the Council.)

Hon Member of the American Alpine Club.

Corresponding Member of the Appalachian Mountain Club.

Member of the Caucasus (mountaineering) Club.

Member of the Scottish Mountaineering Club.

Author of - "Climbing on the Himalaya and other Mountain Ranges".

Joint author of - "Climbing and Exploration in the Canadian Rockies".

Have contributed many papers to most of the above mentioned  
societies and Clubs - the subjects being chemical,  
or on mountaineering, or on exploration.



12. (Sister) Susan Margaret Collie.

BA London University.

Head Mistress of Bedford High School for girls.

4. (Mother's Sister) Susanna Winkworth.

Was one of the first to start model lodging  
houses for the poor in Bristol & elsewhere.  
Helped Baron Bunsen in translating his  
works into English.

4. (Mother's Sister) Catherine Winkworth.

Author of *Leyra Germanica* - etc.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. L. Monckton Copeman F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

*first-*

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1a	fa fa fa	—	<i>P.C.</i>	3	me fa	—				<i>Peter Copeman</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>A.C.C.</i>	—	—	—				<i>Arthur Charles Copeman</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	—	<i>E.C.</i>	9	me bro	—				<i>Edward Copeman</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	—		10	me si	—				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	—		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	—				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	—		23	me bro son	—				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—		24	me si son	—				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	—				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—		28	me si da	—				



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so		<i>Miss Margaret Borch</i>	<i>1899</i>	so Wi bro	
	Daughters . . .	30	da				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Copeman

f. 19

Local Government Board,

Whitehall, S. W.

1a. fafa.

Peter Copman

Founder of Copman's Bank at  
Aylsham Norfolk. (now incorporated with  
Barclays.) Successful Merchant.

5. fa

Arthur Charles Copman M.B. Lond.:

Gold medallist in Anatomy & Physiology.  
University of London. <sup>He was elected twice</sup>  
<sup>as a member of the Senate of the University.</sup>  
Subsequently entered the Church & became  
Hon. Canon of Norwich Cathedral.

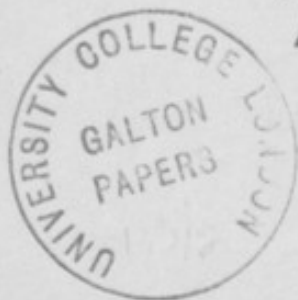
For many years Chairman of Governors of  
Norfolk & Norwich Hospital, & Chairman of  
Norwich School Board & Board of Guardians.

7. fa bro

Edward Copman M.D. Aberdeen.

President of the British Medical Assoc<sup>n</sup>.

Physician & later, Consultant Physician to  
Norfolk & Norwich Hospital. Author & In-  
ventor of gynaecological instruments.



Shuf.  
July 12 1904.

*MA: (Camb.)*  
Sydney Monckton Copeman, F.R.S., M.D., F.R.C.P., medical  
 inspector H.M. Local Government Board; member of council  
 epidemiological soc.; research scholar & special commissioner  
 Brit. med. Ass.; <sup>recipient</sup> ~~winner~~ of many gold medals & prizes of  
 importance. (Who's Who)

fa fa fa Peter Copeman, <sup>with his brother Robert,</sup>  
 founder of Copeman's bank,  
 Aylsham, Norfolk, (now incorporated with Barclay's); successful  
 merchant.

fa. Arthur Charles Copeman, M.B., London; Gold medallist  
 in anatomy & physiology university of London. entered  
 Army med. serv. on nomination of chancellor of the university  
 subsequently entered church & became hon. Canon of Norwich  
 Cathedral. For many years chairman of governors of Norfolk  
 & Norwich Hospital, & of Norwich school-board & board of  
 guardians.

*F.R.C.P.*  
 fa bro Edward Copeman, M.D., Aberdeen, President of Brit.  
 med. Ass.; physician, & later, consulting physician to Norfolk  
 & Norwich Hospital. author, & inventor of gynaecological  
 instruments <sup>of special</sup> ~~methods~~ of operation.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor J. H. Cotterill, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa	Joseph Cotterill
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		6	me	Anne Robina Cotterill
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J.C.	—	—	—	—	11	bro	Joseph Northland Cotterill
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	A.R.C.	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	?	T.C.	9	me bro			13	fa son	Henry Cotterill
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si		0	10	me si					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	1	J.M.C.	—	—	—	—	17	bro son	Joseph M. Cotterill
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	2	H.C.	15	me son			17	bro son	Arthur Cotterill
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	3		16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	4	J.N.C. A.R.C. H.B.C.	19	si son			17	bro son	Henry B. Cotterill
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	2	T.C.	23	me bro son			7	fa bro	Thomas Cotterill
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					
1st marriage.									21	fa bro son	Thomas Cotterill
Sons . . . . .	29	so									
Daughters . . .	30	da									
2nd marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)									
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)									

Signature and Address of the Sender

*James H. Cotterill May 24<sup>th</sup> 1904*  
*Braetide*  
*Speldhurst Kent*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Noteworthy Kintfolk

4.22

5. fa. Joseph Cotterill  
3<sup>rd</sup> wrangler. Fellow of St. Johns  
College Cambridge.

6. me. Grand daughter of  
Professor James Simson of Glasgow

11. bro. Joseph Northland  
Cotterill  
D.D. (honoris causa). St Andrews  
University

13. fa. son Henry Cotterill  
Senior Wrangler. 2<sup>nd</sup> Classic  
fellow of St Johns Cambridge after-  
wards Bishop of Edinburgh

17. bro. son Joseph M. Cotterill  
Eminent Surgeon at Edinburgh  
noted cricketer as a game-man.

17. bro son Arthur Cotterill  
Head of Permanent Way Department  
Egyptian Railway Administration,

17. bro. son. 1<sup>st</sup> in the 2<sup>nd</sup> class  
Classical Tripos Cambridge  
Author & Editor of various literary  
works.

7. fa. bro Thomas Cotterill  
Eminent Clergyman at  
Sheffield

21. fa. bro. to. Thomas Cotterill  
Third wrangler fellow of  
St. Johns Cambridge. One of  
the earliest members of the  
London Mathematical Society  
to which he contributed  
many papers of importance.



(Signed) James L Cotterill  
Braeside  
Speldhurst  
Kent

James Henry Gotterill, (b.1836) F.R.S., lecturer & subsequently vice-principal of the former Royal School of Naval Architecture S.Kensington; Prof. of Applied Mechanics at the Royal Naval Coll. Greenwich, 1873-1897. (Who's Who)

fa Joseph Gotterill, 8<sup>th</sup> wrangler, 1808; ; fellow of St John's Coll. Cambridge. [Graduat. Cantabrigienses]

fa bro Thomas Gotterill, eminent clergyman at Sheffield; A.B., Cambridge, 1801. [Grad. Cant.]

bro Joseph Morthland Gotterill, D.D. (hon.causa) St. Andrews university.

fa son Henry Gotterill, Senior Wrangler, 1835; 2nd Classic fellow of St John's Coll. Cambridge; bishop of Edinburgh. [Grad. Cant.]

bro son Joseph M. Gotterill, (b.1851) surgeon to Edinburgh Royal Infirmary, lecturer at Edinburgh school of medicine. [Who's Who]

bro son Arthur Gotterill, head of permanent way dep. in Egyptian Railway administration

fa bro son Thomas Gotterill, 3<sup>rd</sup> Wrangler, 1852; fellow of St John's Coll. Cambridge. one of the earliest members of the London Mathematical Soc., to which he contributed many papers of importance. [Grad. Cant.]





TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "CROOKES, LONDON."

TELEPHONE NO 555, PADDINGTON.

f.24

FROM  
**SIR WILLIAM CROOKES, FRS.**  
7, KENSINGTON PARK GARDENS,  
LONDON, W.



F. Galton Esq.,  
42 Rutland Gate, S.W.

July 8th, 1904.

My dear Mr. Galton,

I have received <sup>the</sup> circular respecting "Noteworthy Kinsfolk" and after studying it for some time, I do not see that I can make a single entry in it that will be of use to you. But rather than appear to disregard your wishes I will tell you how I am situated.

I can find no trace of such eminence in any of my ancestors as would bring them up to the standard you fix--a standard which is a perfectly reasonable one. With the exception of a younger brother who died when he was 21, and who was a clever mathematician and physicist, and who would certainly have made an eminent name had he lived,--with this exception I am what botanists would call a "sport". From my earliest recollections I was always trying experiments and reading any book of science I could find. A little older and I fitted up a cupboard as a sort of laboratory and caused much annoyance and trouble in the house by generating smells and destroying furniture. I don't suppose any of my family even knew the meaning of the word "science", and I was always regarded as a bit of a fool who would never get on. It is a great satisfaction to me to think that my parents lived long enough to change their opinion, and to feel proud of the reputation I was making.

My father had 5 children by his first wife, and 16 by his second wife, my mother. I am the eldest and only survivor. I have seven

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS, "CROOKES, LONDON."

TELEPHONE N° 555, PADDINGTON.

f.25

FROM  
**SIR WILLIAM CROOKES, F.R.S.**  
7, KENSINGTON PARK GARDENS,  
LONDON, W.

children who survived childhood. One has since died. Of those who are left I consider one is quite up to the R.S. standard. He is a civil engineer.

Pray excuse this long letter, which doubtless contains much that is irrevelant. If you still think it is worth while filling up the form with ciphers and blanks I will do so.

With kind regards, believe me to remain,  
very sincerely yours,

*William Crookes.*





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Lt. Colonel D.D. Cunningham, C.I.E., JES.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>D. D.</i>	3.	<i>me fa.</i>	<i>David Douglas.</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2.	<i>R. D. C.</i>	—	—	—		11.	<i>bro.</i>	<i>Robert Oliver Cunningham</i> <i>hum.</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *David Douglas Cunningham, Invermont, Torquay.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



## I.

3. m. fa. David Douglas.

Judge (Lord Preston of the Scottish Court of Session).  
 Adopted son and heir of his father's first cousin  
 Adam Smith whose mother was Margaret Douglas.

## II.

11. bro. Robert Oliver Cunningham.

Naturalist on H.M.S. "Rassau" during the Survey of  
 the Straits of Magellan 1866-9.  
 Professor of Natural History in Belfast for over  
 30 years. F.L.S., F.G.S., C.M.Z.S.





D. Cunningham  
University, Edinburgh

Both sides of the family very  
common place in the way of ability  
except in two notable exceptions viz  
Father & Father's Cousin.

1. Father - John Cunningham, D.D.

D. L. D.; a leader in the Scottish  
Church, a brilliant debater &  
a distinguished Theologian &  
literary man. Principal of  
St. Mary's College, St. Andrews  
University.

2. Father's mother's brother's son. John Cunningham

(N.B. Father's mother & Father's father were  
both Cunninghams but not related)  
a merchant in Seville in Spain.  
Took a very leading position &

was a man of much influence.  
acted as Consul for U.S.A., amassed  
a large fortune & was knighted  
by Queen Isabella.



3. Father's Mother - Jane Funningham  
was a woman of much force of  
character but not remarkable  
for any special ability.
4. Mother's Mother - Susan Porteous.  
A quick, clever, querulous &  
dominating person: the only  
member on that side of my  
family that I know of as having  
been noteworthy for ability.
5. Son - John Funningham - seems  
to possess considerable ability.  
Has had distinguished under-  
graduate career in Trinity College  
Dublin.



The Orchard,  
Huntingdon Road,  
Cambridge.

Aug 7. 04

Dear Gatten,

I return the  
paper. I'm sorry I've  
been so long but it got  
put in one side and  
forgotten. I have not filled  
up the first part as it  
will be just the same as  
George's & he will have  
done it much better than  
I shall do it.



I have made one or  
two suggestions, but  
don't suppose they are  
any good.

Yours sincerely  
Herbert Darwin

F. Galton Esq F.R.S.

42 Rutland Gate  
S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Horace Darwin, Esq. &c.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.		
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.							
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	See G.H. Darwin's paper	3	<i>me fa</i>	—	See G.H. Darwin's paper	29	30	Erasmus Darwin		
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—					The late Lord Farrer	
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—						Lord Farrer (T.C. Farrer)
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—						
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	—		9	<i>me bro</i>	—						
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	—		10	<i>me si</i>	—						
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	—		—	—	—						
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	—		—	—	—						
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—						
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—						
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—	19	<i>si son</i>	—							
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—	20	<i>si da</i>	—							
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	—	23	<i>me bro son</i>	—							
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	—							
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	—	27	<i>me bro da</i>	—							
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	—	28	<i>me si da</i>	—							

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1	E.D.	E.C. Farrer 1860	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	2			<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Horace Darwin The Orchard*  
*Cambridge*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Regr. Title (mathematics)  
 24 So Erasmus Darwin Exhibitor, Trinity college  
 Cambridge. Second class (Senior Optime) in  
 his second year; now going on with a  
 second Tripos.  
 Wi fa the late Lord Farmer, for many years Permanent  
 Secretary at the Board of Trade  
 Wi bro Lord Farmer (T. E. Farrer) Director of the  
 Midland Railway & several other <sup>(Railway Companies)</sup> Joint  
 ventures with E. Foxwell of "Express Transit  
 English & Foreign".

Harace Darwin





## Notes

44

- (a) Would not this be answered by getting particulars of Wifa Wi bro. ?
- (b) "third column" seems hardly clear.
- (c) This applies only to column ~~XX~~ O.
- (d) "last column", column L.
- (e) "Wife's brothers and Sisters" coming just above so Wi bro is a little confusing.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Horace Darwin, Esq., F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
	<i>M</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>O</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>Q</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>S</i>	<i>T</i>
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>						
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						

(e) see note

Signature and Address of the Sender





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor G. H. Darwin, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*. \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa		RWD	3	me fa		JW	1	fa fa	Dr. Robt. Waring Darwin F.R.S. author of <i>Professor Phil. Trans.</i> distinguished physician
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me			4	me me			3	me fa	Josiah Wedgwood, M.P. & Staffs (Believe); friend of family parties
Father . . . . .	5	fa		CRD					5	fa	Charles Robert Darwin F.R.S.
Mother . . . . .	6	me							9	me bro	Hensleyk Wedgwood, 7th brasserie, Fellow Christ's Coll Camb.; author <i>Chymological Dictionary</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	1	H.W			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro		{F.D. L.D.					11	bro	Francis Darwin F.R.S. Horace Darwin F.R.S. Leonard Darwin, scientific writer.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si									
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son			17	bro son	Bernard Richard Darwin D. Kings scholar, then, with disting. at university.
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son		{B.R.M.D. E.D.	19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son			27	me bro da	Julia Wedgwood, writer
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son			29	so	Charles Galton Darwin scholar of Marlbrod College (now aged 16)
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da		J.W			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	CGD	Darwin	1884	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

(I doubt the sufficiency of 17 & 29 for entry here)

Signature and Address of the Sender *G. H. Darwin*  
*Newnham Grange*  
*Cambridge*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Boyd Dawkins

f.7

FALLOWFIELD HOUSE,  
FALLOWFIELD, MANCHESTER.

4. VII. 1904



Ability in Families

My dear Galton,

Unfortunately none of my  
forebears within your limits  
have done anything worthy  
of record. I can however trace  
what little ability I have  
to my mother in the first,  
and my father in the second place.

as is the case with most  
people,

I am

My dear Galton

Yours truly

W. Boyd Dawkins

Francis Galton F.R.S.



Lord Darcy

f.9

THE ATHENÆUM,

PALL MALL. S.W.

July 7 1904

Dear Mr Galton

I am sorry to say  
that I belong to too a family  
which counts too distinguished  
members - I am unable therefore  
to add any contribution towards  
your Statistical Collection.

Yours very truly  
Darcy






# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. H. Debus, Jnes.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	→ 0 95				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	3		10	<i>me si</i>	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	2		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	6		19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	1		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	4		24	<i>me si son</i>	3				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	1		27	<i>me bro da</i>	0 5 5				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	9		28	<i>me si da</i>	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>fa Wi bro</i> <i>fa Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>fa(2) Wi bro</i> <i>fa(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *H. Debus.*

*My ancestors were plain people of great rectitude and respectability but, as far as I know, not distinguished in any particular way M.D.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*no letter*  
D. A. W. Downing, Esq.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.



bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				7 fa. bro. Samuel Downing see Obituary Notice - Minutes of Proceedings Inst. Civil Engineers vol. LXII Session 1882-83 part II.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			11 bro Samuel Forbes Downing see Obituary Notice - Minutes of Proceedings Inst. Civil Engineers vol. CIX Session 1891-92 part III.
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	S. D.	9	me bro	3				21 fa bro son Henry John Downing Major Royal Irish Ry. & D.S.O. see Who's Who
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	4		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	1	S. F. D.	—	—	—	—			23 fa bro son Matthew Richard Weld Indian Civil Service (retired) late District Judge Madras Presidency
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	1		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	2				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	3	H. J. D.	23	me bro son	5	M. R. W.			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	2				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	6				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	—				so Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30	da	1		Miller	1877	so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *AMW Downing - 3 Grosvenor Park S.E.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



D<sup>r</sup> A. DUPRÉ, F.R.S.  
ANALYTICAL & CONSULTING CHEMIST.

TELEPHONE N<sup>o</sup> 1870 VICTORIA.  
TELEGRAMS, "DUPRESIS, LONDON."

F.12

*Dupré*  
2. Edinburgh Mansions,  
Howick Place,  
Westminster, S.W.  
London. May 5.04.

Dear Sir

I greatly regret that I am unable to  
give you the particulars you asked for, in your  
circular.

Yours faithfully

*A. Dupré*



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor Edward Divero, M.D., MRS*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Edward Divero, 3 Cunningham, Palace Gate W.*



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *F. W. Dyson, Esq. F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																									
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																														
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	/	3	me fa	—	/			<i>I did not return the circular earlier as I experienced some difficulty in filling it in. - None of my relatives are, with the possible exception of my youngest brother, noteworthy in your sense. I am inclined to think that absence of opportunity has had as much to do with this as lack of ability, however.</i> <i>A. S. Dyson</i> <i>F. W. Dyson</i>																																																									
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	/	4	me me	—	/																																																												
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	/	—	—	—	—																																																												
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	/	—	—	—	—																																																												
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	/	9	me bro	3	/																																																												
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3	/	10	me si	4	/																																																												
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3	<i>W. S.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																												
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3	/	—	—	—	—																																																												
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0	/	15	me son	1	/																																																												
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0	/	16	me da	1	/																																																												
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	1	/	19	si son	1	/																																																												
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1	/	20	si da	1	/																																																												
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3	/	23	me bro son	2	/																																																												
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	7	/	24	me si son	2	/																																																												
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	3	/	27	me bro da	5	/																																																												
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2	/	28	me si da	2	/																																																												
<table><thead><tr><th colspan="2"></th><th>Regr.</th><th>Title.</th><th>No. who survived childhood.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th>Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th></tr><tr><th colspan="2"></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td></td><td></td><td rowspan="2"><i>Caroline Bisset Beat</i></td><td rowspan="2">1874</td><td>Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters . .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td></td><td></td><td>Wi si</td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters . .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Wi si</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so			<i>Caroline Bisset Beat</i>	1874	Wi bro		Daughters . .	30	da			Wi si		2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					Wi bro		Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					Wi si		
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																												
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																											
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so			<i>Caroline Bisset Beat</i>	1874	Wi bro																																																												
	Daughters . .	30	da					Wi si																																																												
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					Wi bro																																																												
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					Wi si																																																												
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>F. W. Dyson</i>																																																																				





## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. Francis Elgar, Esq.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>None</i>		9	<i>me bro</i>	<i>1</i>				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	<i>None</i>		10	<i>me si</i>	<i>2</i>				
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	<i>5</i>		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	<i>3</i>		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	<i>None</i>		15	<i>me son</i>	<i>None</i>				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	<i>None</i>		16	<i>me da</i>	<i>None</i>				
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	<i>3</i>		19	<i>si son</i>	<i>None</i>				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	<i>3</i>		20	<i>si da</i>	<i>None</i>				
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	<i>None</i>		23	<i>me bro son</i>	<i>None</i>				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	<i>None</i>		24	<i>me si son</i>	<i>1</i>				
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	<i>None</i>		27	<i>me bro da</i>	<i>None</i>				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	<i>None</i>		28	<i>me si da</i>	<i>3</i>				



	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	<i>None</i>		<i>Elizabeth Annie</i>	<i>1887</i>	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>	<i>None</i>		<i>Winifred Colles</i>		<i>so Wi si</i>	
							<i>da Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Frank Elgar 18 Gornwall Terrace Regent Park*

N-W

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

(Miss)

p.2

Profess Pelote can only use this envelope  
to say that no information of the kind desired  
is in his case available.

4 Bardwell Rd Oxford

June 27 '04





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*William Ellis, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	—	3	me fa	—	—			
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—			
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0	—	9	me bro	—	—			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1	—	10	me si	—	—			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	—	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2	—	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1	—	15	me son	2	—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1	—	16	me da	—	—			
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0	—	19	si son	1	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0	—	20	si da	2	—			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0	—	23	me bro son	1	—			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1	—	24	me si son	0	—			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0	—	27	me bro da	1	—			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1	—	28	me si da	0	—			



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	0	—	1869 <i>Sarah Elizabeth Compton</i> (born 1817, Aug 25)	so Wi bro	—
	Daughters .	30	da	0	—		so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	— — —
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	/			so(2) Wi bro	/
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*William Ellis (born 1818. February 29)*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals; honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

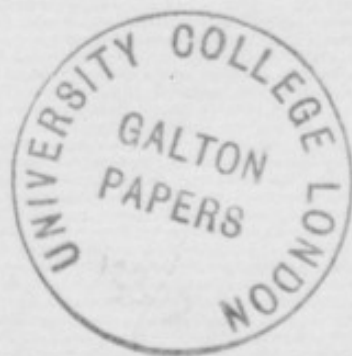
LONDON, S.W.

13. Bradmore Road  
Oxford.

17/7/4

My father, W. Esson, rose from  
a humble position by sheer  
ability. Inventor. Successful  
manager of a large gas  
Company. President of the  
Association of Gas Engineers.  
Contributed many papers  
to the gas journal &  
proceedings of the association.

W. Esson







# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Sir 7 Soams

(1)

f.6r



NASH MILLS,  
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,  
HERTS.

15<sup>th</sup> July 1904

My dear Galton

I am sorry that I was not able to send you the enclosed at an earlier date, but I have had my time so much occupied that I have not been able to attend to your enquiry. Now that I have attempted to fill your Paper I am not sure that I have done so in the manner that you require - I can however furnish you with such further

particulars as you desire  
 I think that you will  
 find notices of my grand  
 father <sup>Leveson</sup> father and father  
 in law in the Dictionary <sup>Arthur Benson</sup>  
 of National Biography as  
 well as of my great-uncle  
 Arthur Benoni Evans, head-  
 master of the Gloucester  
 Cathedral School. Note-  
 worthiness is a quality  
 difficult to define, but I  
 think that my sister is  
 noteworthy as a frequent  
 correspondent in "Nature"  
 & moreover as a first-rate  
 artist. A remote ancestor

see 2<sup>nd</sup> letter

of my first wife was Dionysius  
 Ehret the Botanist, so that  
 my son Arthur is F.R.S.

of the fifth generation  
 With kind regards from  
 Lady Evans, believe me

Yours sincerely  
 John Evans

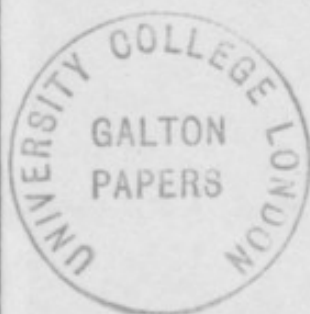
I have received the Allier  
 de Hauteroche Medal of the  
 Académie des Inscriptions,  
 the Lyell Medal of the  
 Geological Society and the  
 medal of the Numismatique  
 Society in gold-

Acknowledged by  
 Post card B



Sir 9 Evans (2)

f.8r



NASH MILLS,  
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,  
HERTS.

Aug 11. 1904

My dear Galton

I was afraid that  
I had not made a good  
Return but I will try  
to remove your difficulties.  
My first wife was as you  
say my first cousin  
"Ma bro-da". Her mother  
was a Grover and her  
mother again a grand  
-daughter of Dionysius  
Ehret F.R.S. - Her  
father was George Philip  
Ehret a son of Dionysius  
I believe -  
My elder sister Anne Evans

was the poet and musical  
composer of the Dut W. B.  
I cannot imagine how  
I forgot to enter her  
name.

I hope that this will  
make matters clear.  
Trusting that you had  
a pleasant holiday  
abroad - I remain with  
our very kind regards  
yours sincerely

John Evans

Sir John Evans

Dict. N. Bids

f. 9

Gr father Lewis Evans <sup>FRS</sup> 1755-1827 Dict. N. Bids xviii 70

{ father Arthur Benson Evans 1781-1854 . . . . . xviii 54

{ aunt (father's sister) Anne Evans 1820-1870 ——— xviii 55

Self ——— FRS ——— hereafter, my leave Thos  
father & wife John Dickinson <sup>FRS</sup> 1815-1876 ——— xv. 35

Son Arthur Evans FRS ——— hereafter . . . .

? kinship → Georg Dionysius Ehret 1710-1770 botanist xvij 167  
Wi me me for  
see letter

(and was Treasurer & Vice President of the Royal Society for a period of 20 years)

Sir John Evans, (b. 1823) K.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D., Sc.D., F.R.S., President of the Royal Numismatic Soc. since 1874; has been president of many learned societies; has published works on the coins of the ancient Britons, & on ancient stone & bronze implements. (Who's Who)

fa fa Lewis Evans, (1755-1827) F.R.S., F.A.S., mathematician; first mathematical master of R.M.A. Woolwich. (Dict. N. Biog.)  
fa Arthur Benoni Evans, (1781-1854) D.D., miscellaneous writer professor of classics & history at R.M.C., 1805-22; headmaster of Market Bosworth Grammar School, 1829-54. (Dict. N. Biog.)

si Anne Evans (1820-1870) poet & musical composer. (Dict. N. B me bro, & wi fa John Dickinson, (1815-1876) F.R.S., writer on India & founder of India Reform Soc., (1853) (Dict. N. Biog.) LL.D., artist

bro Sebastian Evans, poet & author. D. Litt, Oxon;  
son Arthur John Evans, (b. 1851) Hon. D. Litt., Dublin; Hon. LL.D. Edinburgh; F.R.S., F.S.A., Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford since 1884; in 1893 started investigations in Crete which resulted in the discovery of the pre-Phoenician script; in 1900-2 excavated the prehistoric palace of Knossos. (Who's Who)

(1782-1869) Inventor of Paper Machine  
John Dickinson fr. wi. bro 1 (1815-1876)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Mr John Evans, K.C.B., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	<i>L.E.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<i>Rev. Lewis Evans F.R.S.</i> <i>Rev. Arthur Benoni Evans D.D. Classical Scholar</i> <i>John Dickinson F.R.S.</i> <i>Sebastian Evans Poet &amp; Author</i> <i>Emma Hubbard Naturalist</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>A.B.E.</i>	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>		<i>J.D.</i>			
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>		<i>L.E.</i>	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>		<i>E.H.</i>	—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	3	<i>A.J.E.</i>	<i>Harriet Ann Dickinson 1850</i>	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>	2			<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *John Evans, Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead*



*her father is  
her mother my father's daughter's brother's son*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Fuller Particulars of the Kinsfolk of J.D. Everett  
in order as named in List.

8.12

13/12

me me bro. Rev. Joseph Percy, a well known Congregationalist  
Minister at Warwick.

me me bro son. Dr John Percy F.R.S., the Metallurgist.  
Prof<sup>r</sup> in Royal School of Mines.

9. me bro. Rev. John Garwood M.A. (Oxon). One of the  
founders of the London City Mission, and Secretary  
to it for the greater part of a long life.

11. bro. Robert Lacey Everett, J.P. has risen, purely by  
his personal qualities, to be one of the most influential  
men in Ipswich & in the county. Twice M.P. for  
Woodbridge Division. Alderman of the County Council  
of Suffolk. Ready speaker & writer.

12. si. Mary Everett. A leader in philanthropic works  
in Ipswich. The only lady member of the  
Board of Guardians.

17. bro son. Percy Winn Everett (son of R.L.E.)  
was head boy of Ipswich School both in Classics  
and Mathematics, and was awarded the School  
Exhibition in <sup>also got a Scholarship in Trin. Coll. by competition.</sup> Trinity Coll. Cambridge. Took a good  
place among the Wranglers, and has ever since  
been engaged in responsible editorial work  
on Pearson's publications.

18. bro da Maud Varley Everett (da of R.L.E.) has  
just completed her medical studies by taking M.B.  
at Glasgow.

Wi bro. Rev. John Gardiner Fraser, M.A., D.D. (Glasg.)  
was a brilliant student in Glasgow University.  
A very able speaker. Is head of a Theological  
College at Sydney, N.S.W.

29 so. Wilfred Herman Everett is B.A. and B.E. (with honours)  
of Royal Univ. of Ireland. Taught Engineering  
successfully for several years in Univ. Coll. Nottingham.

and is now Professor of Electrical & Mechanical Engineering in Sibpur Coll. Calcutta. Has published papers dealing with electrical calculations.

29 so. Alexander Fraser Everett gained an Exhibition by competition in New College Oxford, and took B.A. with honours in History School.

30 da. Alice Everett was a brilliant all-round prize winner at school. Gained first-class Exhibitions in Junior, Middle, and Senior Intermediate Exam<sup>n</sup> Ireland; an entrance Scholarship in Queen's College Belfast; a first-class Exhibition and one of the two Mathematical Scholarships in Royal University of Ireland; B.A. with 1<sup>st</sup> honours and M.A. (R.U.I.); one of the two open Scholarships at Girtton. Was Vice-President of the Girtton Debating Society. Worked for several years at Greenwich Observatory and Potsdam Astrophysical Observatory. Was Secretary to the British Astronomical Association. Is a ready speaker and writer.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. J. D. Everett, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		<del>—</del>		3	J. P.		me me bro	Joseph Percy
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		<del>—</del>		4	J. P.		me me bro son	John Percy
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—		—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—		—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	2	J. G.	9	me bro	John Garwood
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	0		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . .	11	bro	3	R. L. E.	—	—	—	—	11	bro	Robert Lacey Everett
Sisters . . . .	12	si	4	M. E.	—	—	—	—	12	si	Mary Everett
Half-brothers .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0				
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	7	P. W. E.	19	si son	1		17	bro son	Percy Winn Everett
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	8	M. V. E.	20	si da	1		18	bro da	Maud Varley Everett
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	0				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	5				
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0				

		Regr.	Thle.	No. who sur- vived child- hood.	Initials of the note- worthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Wi's bro John Gardiner Fraser
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3	W H E A F E	Fraser	1863	30 Wi bro 30 Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si		29 so Wilfred Herman Everett 29 so Alexander Fraser Everett 30 da Alice Everett
	Daughters .	30	da	3	A E					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					30(2) Wi bro 30(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si		
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)							

Signature and Address of the Sender

*J. D. Everett* 11 Leopold Road, Ealing. W.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.


# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. J. B. Farmer, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	0		9	<i>me bro</i>	3	<i>J. C. B.</i>			<i>Josiah Corbett Brethland</i>  
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	0				
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	2				
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	2				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	5		24	<i>me si son</i>	0				
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	5				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	8		28	<i>me si da</i>	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	0	<i>E. M. G. P.</i>	1892	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>C. P.</i>
	Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>	1			<i>Wi si</i>	<i>L. M.</i>
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—			<i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—			<i>Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Bullough Farmer Claremont House Wembley*

*Edith Mary Gertrude Pritchard  
 Sir Charles Pritchard K.C.S.I.  
 Lilian Mitchell*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

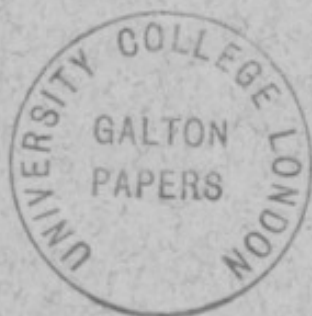
(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Faguet

fidr



16, Devonshire Street,  
Portland Place, W.

4 July 1904

Dear Mr Galton

I have filled  
up your inquiry  
papers as far as  
I can.  
I have not  
many more

relation and  
some of them  
have been & several  
distinguished  
They have been  
sighting as  
Viral of the  
Clergymen as  
I have noted

my father-in-law  
has been abroad  
connected with  
the Occident Steam  
Navigation Co.  
I hope you are  
well  
myself

J. Fayrer

5. fa. Robert John Fayer.

Commander R. R. distinguished  
in early  
life in war services under Lord  
Dundonald and others. Afterwards  
became one of the recognised pioneers  
of ocean steam navigation. (commanded)  
the "President" and other large  
ocean going steamers. He was  
an inventive genius, and devised  
a steering apparatus of which a  
model is now in Greenwich Hospital.

My father had two brothers,  
one a clergyman, Vicar of St. Leath,  
Cornwall, the other a midshipman



on H.M.S. Defiance, lost in  
a gale of wind in the Baltic

I am not aware that  
other members of my family  
distinguished themselves in  
any particular way; they were  
naval or military men, professional  
men or clergymen.

This comprises all the in-  
formation that I can give  
in response to your questions.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Sir Joseph Fayer*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>R. J. F.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Robert John Fayer</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2		9	<i>me bro</i>	—				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>	—				
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	5		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>	3				
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	4		23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	<i>Maurice</i>		24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	2		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	<i>Muriel</i>		28	<i>me si da</i>					
<div>1st marriage.<div><div>Regr.</div><div>Title.</div><div>No. who survived childhood.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div><div>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</div><div>Year of her marriage.</div><div>Wife's brothers and sisters.<div><div>Titles.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div></div></div><div>Sons . . . . .29<i>so</i>5<i>Bettina Mary Spens</i>1855<div><div><i>Wi bro</i></div><div><i>Wi si</i></div><div><i>da bro</i></div><div><i>da si</i></div></div></div><div>Daughters . . . . .30<i>da</i>2<div><div><i>Wi bro</i></div><div><i>Wi si</i></div><div><i>da bro</i></div><div><i>da si</i></div></div></div></div><div>2nd marriage.<div><div>Regr.</div><div>Title.</div><div>No. who survived childhood.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div><div>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</div><div>Year of her marriage.</div><div>Wife's brothers and sisters.<div><div>Titles.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div></div></div><div>Sons . . . . .29(2)<i>so(2)</i><div><div><i>Wi bro</i></div><div><i>Wi si</i></div><div><i>da bro</i></div><div><i>da si</i></div></div></div><div>Daughters . . . . .30(2)<i>da(2)</i><div><div><i>Wi bro</i></div><div><i>Wi si</i></div><div><i>da bro</i></div><div><i>da si</i></div></div></div></div></div></div> <div><p>Signature and Address of the Sender</p></div> <div><p><i>Joseph Fayer</i> <i>16 Deodarline St W</i></p></div> <div></div>											

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

I much regret that I can remember only a very few of the details required. I have been so long separated from the few surviving members of my family that it is not possible to obtain any very accurate information.

I think probably the most noteworthy member was my grandfather on mother's side.

Willshire John Emmett.

educated at Westminster School & Trinity College Cambridge and afterwards obtained a fellowship at some college at Oxford.

hardly  
noteworthy

afterwards Chaplain to Lord George Cavendish & later Rector of Latimers

He died in 1860 and was nearly 100 years old.

He was related (second cousin I believe) to the 'patrist' Robert Emmett.

H J H Fenton



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

H. J. H. Fenton, Esq., F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	0		1892	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	0			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender  
H. J. H. Fenton  
19 Brookside  
Cambridge



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

30 Queen's Gate Terrace  
S.W.29<sup>th</sup> June 1904

Dear Galton

I am sorry not to have seen  
this before, as you seem to want  
it.

I have said all I can for  
my children as you will see

Yours very sincerely

Edmund Festing



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Major-General E.R. Festing, R.E., C.B., &c.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family; when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—		11		<i>John Wogan Festing</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				<i>(late) Bishop of Exeter</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	7		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	<i>J.W.F.</i>	—	—	—		21		<i>Sir Francis Wogan Festing</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—				<i>Richard C.B. Festing</i>
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	8	<i>J.W.F.</i>	23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	none		24	me si son	none				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	none		28	me si da	none				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	so	2	<i>R.E.F.</i> <i>J.E.F.</i>	<i>Legg</i>	1871	<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
Daughters .	30	da	1	<i>G.E.F.</i>				
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)						

Signature and Address of the Sender *Robert Festing* *30 Queen's Gate Terrace S.W.*



*Richard Arthur Grindall Festing - Schoolwork*  
*Queen's Coll. Oxon.*  
*Captn. Civil Service*  
*John Edward Grindall Festing*  
*Regimental Surgeon*

*30* *Robert Festing - Author*  
*of J. Wogan Festing's story*  
*and other works.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Lazarus Fletcher Esq. Esd.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					
Wife's brothers and sisters.											
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Titles.		Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so					Wi bro			
	Daughters . . .	30	da					Wi si			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					da Husband			
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					Wi			

Signature and Address of the Sender *Lazarus Fletcher*  
*33 Woodville gardens*  
*Salway W.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

29<sup>th</sup> August, 1904.



F.11  
LADYWALK,  
RICKMANSWORTH,  
HERTS.

Dear Mr. Galton,

After long delay I return your circular re  
"Ability in Families". I hope I have filled up the  
form in the manner intended. I append a  
few facts as to my Father, and an opinion as  
to my Mother. Believe me, Very sincerely yours,  
G. Carey Foster.



Regr.	Title	Full name
5	fa	<u>George Foster</u> , - born of poor parents, and with no education beyond that of a village grammar-school (Whalley, Lancashire), acquired a very fair degree of literary and general culture, had considerable success in business (as a calico- printer), and attained a position of influence in his own neighbourhood (J.P. for North Lancashire and for West Riding of Yorkshire). Was closely associated with M <sup>r</sup> . Cobden in the early part of his career (see references to G.F. and letters addressed to him in Morley's <u>Life of Cobden</u> , vol. i.)

Though I can quote nothing "noteworthy", I consider my mother to have been a woman of much more than average ability. The same may be said of her two sisters who survived to my knowledge. A brother, whom I never saw, was generally recognised as having very good abilities, but he achieved no distinction.

G. Carey Foster.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. G. Carey Foster, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa	<i>George Foster</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>G. F.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	5		9	me bro	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	—	0 5 9	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	2		16	me da	2				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	4				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	8		23	me bro son	0 5 9				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	0				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	12		27	me bro da	0				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2		28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	4	<i>Mary Anne</i> <i>Frances Muir</i>	1868	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	4			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—			so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *G. Carey Foster, Rickmansworth, Herts.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

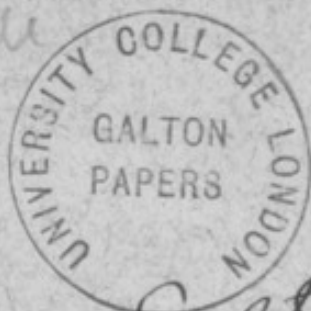
(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Keep with  
Schedule

(Mr. Foster)

F. 14.



15. 7. 4

NINE WELLS,  
GREAT SHELFORD,  
CAMBRIDGE.

My dear Galton

I have delayed filling  
up and returning your  
heredity census papers for  
various reasons; among others  
that I have a difficulty  
in valuing "nervous"  
The rank of F.R.S. seems to  
me, as an old Sec. R. S., of  
uncertain value, and in any  
case a difficult standard.  
Let me put my difficulties  
before you.

My Father was a "general  
practitioner" of medicine.



in a Country Town, Huntingdon.  
 He was successful, that is he  
 secured a large practice  
 - his reputation as a skilful  
 practitioner was recognized  
 by his London and other brethren  
 who consulted him - but he  
 made no notable contribution  
 to medical literature. So  
 far you could hardly call him  
 "noteworthy" - but when he  
 was a <sup>medical</sup> student at Univ. Coll  
 he ran neck and neck with  
 Baily, who afterwards was F.R.S  
 and Physician to the Queen.  
 Considering their relative advantages  
 I have no hesitation in thinking  
 that, their College careers, show  
 that my Father was potentially  
 a more able man than Baily

and that had pecuniary  
 circumstances allowed my  
 Father to stay up in London  
 he would probably have  
 surpassed Baile.

Again my Father's Father was an  
 Tenant farmer in Beds - at  
 Holywell - nothing else worthy  
 in that. But in cultivating  
 his farm he happened to  
 turn up some Roman remains.  
 This led not only to his forming  
 a collection of antiquities  
 somewhat remarkable in  
 its kind, but also to his  
 acquiring very considerable  
 archaeological knowledge  
 though I am not aware that  
 he published anything.  
 But for a tenant-farmer, at  
 the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> & beginning

of 19<sup>th</sup> to be active in archaeology  
is a "note worthy fact", even if  
the man himself is not.

"Again my first wife's Father's Father  
was a non-conformist minister  
of high rank & of great esteem  
among his brethren. - I suppose  
he would come within the  
first dozen of these, at his time.  
His son, my first wife's Father was  
a man of very great ability  
- but being "unstable as water"  
did not 'succeed'.

"Am I to register any of these  
as 'note worthy' - and of so  
which -

"It seems to me that, in your  
plan, you are registering  
not "ability" not potential  
ability, but success, or at





(2)

f.16

NINE WELLS,  
GREAT SHELFORD,  
CAMBRIDGE.

at most, "ability to succeed".

But is not, in this question of heredity, potential ability the essential thing - and is it not especially what one may call subliminal ability - the ability which just falls short of making itself felt by the world - which has to be taken account of?

Don't let this lead you into a long answer - but it will be enough if you tell me how I proceed in filling



up your paper.

Yours  
M. Foster

F. Galton Esq.



my fa fa

John Foster was a tenant farmer at Holywell Bed. note worthy in that he though a mere ordinary tenant farmer, made a valuable collection of antiquities & acquired very considerable archaeological knowledge though I am not aware that he ever published

my fa

Michael Foster of Huntingdon had a brilliant career during his brief (two years) medical studies at New. Coll. Lond. & acquired a high reputation afterwards as a general practitioner of medicine

my<sup>1st</sup> for fa fa

Thomas C. Edmonds was note worthy as a distinguished non conformist. (Baptist) minister, first at Laxmoor and at Leicester



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Sir Michael Foster, K.C.B., M.P.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	<i>J. F.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<i>John Foster</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>M. F.</i>	—	—	—	—			<i>Michael Foster</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3		9	<i>me bro</i>	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—		19	<i>si son</i>	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—		20	<i>si da</i>	—				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	5		23	<i>me bro son</i>	4				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	5		24	<i>me si son</i>	6				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	6		27	<i>me bro da</i>	2				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	2		28	<i>me si da</i>	3				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1		<i>Georgina Gregory Edmonds</i>	1863	<i>Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	1				<i>Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—		<i>Margaret Sarah Rust</i>	1872	(2) <i>Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—				(2) <i>Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *M. Foster Minworth Great Shelford Cambs.*



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rt. Hon. Sir Edward Fry, Kt.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J.S.F.	3	me fa	—	—	1	fa fa	J.S.F. = Joseph Storey Fry
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—			—	
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	—	—	—	—	11	bro		J.S.F. Jr = Joseph Storey Fry Junior
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—			—	11	
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	F.F.	9	me bro	0	—			29
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	4		10	me si	2		—	30	
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	4	{ J.S.F. Jr L.F.	—	—	—	—			—
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—		—	—	
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	0	15	me son	0	—	—			—
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0	16	me da	0			—	—	
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	4	19	si son	11	—	—			—
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	6	20	si da	0			—	—	
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	0	23	me bro son	0	—	—			—
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0	24	me si son	2			—	—	
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	3	27	me bro da	0	—	—			—
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0	28	me si da	3			—	—	

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	2	E.P.F.	Martha Hodgekin (1859)	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	6	J.M.F.		so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	

Additional Kinship  
Wife's Brother  
fa fa fa Joseph Fry  
fa fa bro Edmund Fry  
wi bro Thomas Hodgekin



Signature and Address of the Sender

*Edw. Fry* Fairland House Fairland  
29 Apr. 1904  
W. Bristol

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also, such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

F.B.A.,

Rt.Hon.Sir Edward Fry, (b.1827) D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., etc.  
 Judge of High Court Chancery Division, 1877-1883; Lord  
 Justice of Appeal, 1883-1892; presided over the Royal Comm.  
 on the Irish Land Acts, 1897-8; Chairman of the Court of  
 Arbitration under the Metropolitan Water Act, 1902; author  
 of a "Treatise on the Specific Performance of Contracts"  
 of "British Mosses" & "The Mycetozoa". (Who's Who)

fa bro Francis Fry, (1803-1886), member of the firm of  
 J.S.Fry & Co. of Bristol; great authority on bibliography.  
 (Dict.N.Biog.)

bro Rt.Hon.Lewis Fry, (b.1832) M.P. (L.U.) for Bristol  
 1878-85, N.Bristol 1885-92, & 1895-1900. (Who's Who)

bro Joseph Storrs Fry, has maintained & extended a large  
 manufacturing business, *taken an active part in philanthropic work.*

fa fa fa Joseph Fry, (1728-1787) practised medicine in  
 Bristol, afterwards manufactured cocoa & chocolate, started  
 type-founding business with William Pine 1764. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa bro Edmund Fry, (1754-1835) M.D. of Edinburgh;  
 devoted his life to the type founding business, & the philolog-  
 -ical studies connected with it. (Dict.N.Biog.)

wife <sup>a</sup> Mariabella, nee Hodgkin, vide Hodgkin



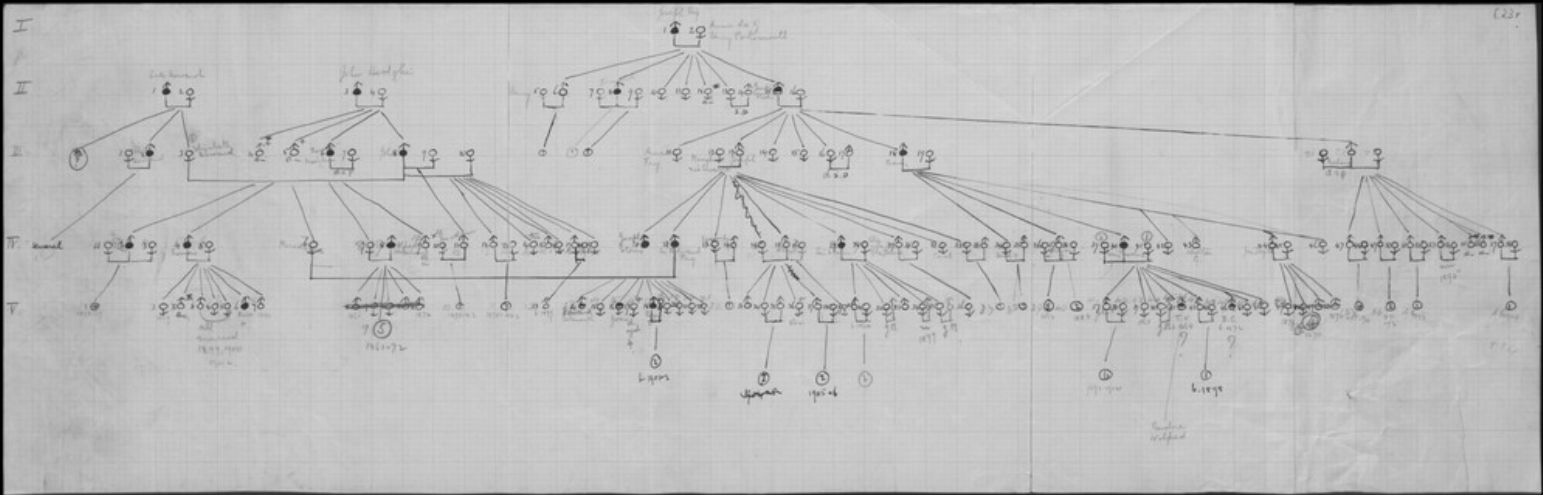
Fry & Woolfson

- I. Joseph Fry  
d. aged 59. successful manufacturer; started a type foundry business.  
Dict. N. Biog.
- II. 1. W. Howard  
d. aged 92. F.R.S., pioneer in meteorology. Dict. N. Biog.
- II. 3. John Woolfson  
d. aged 79. calligraphist & author. Dict. N. Biog.
- II. 8. Edmund Fry  
d. aged 81. M.D., devoted his life to type-founding business & to philological studies connected with it.  
Dict. N. Biog.
- II. 15. Joseph Stone Fry  
Interested in locomotion. Received a medal from some Government dept. for an essay on the employment of the poor in Ireland.  
G. E. Howard
- III. 2. d. aged 76. F.R.S.; wrote on the Clinchomidae  
Dict. N. Biog.
- III. 6. Thomas Woolfson  
d. aged 88. physician and author of medical works.  
Dict. N. Biog.
- III. 8. J. Woolfson  
d. aged 75. barrister & leading member of the Society of Friends. Strong advocate of land registration.  
Dict. N. Biog.
- III. 18. Francis Fry  
d. aged 83. a great authority on bibliography.  
Dict. N. Biog.
- IV. 2. J. E. Fry  
d. aged 79. engineer; collector of literary curiosities of which he has written a description.  
Dict. N. Biog.
- IV. 4. Thomas Woolfson  
d. aged 77. D.C.L., Litt.D., banker & historical writer.  
Who's Who.
- IV. 20. J. Joseph Stone Fry  
d. aged 82. has maintained and extended a large manufacturing business & taken an active part in philanthropic work.
- IV. 22. Sir Ed. Fry  
d. aged 81. D.C.L., Litt.D., F.R.S. long member of the Permanent Court of International Arbitration at the Hague. Formerly Lord Justice of Appeal. President of Royal Commission on the Land Act 1909.  
[Who's Who]

- IV. 28. Sir Lewis Fry  
d. aged 76. F.R.S., M.P., [Who's Who]
- IV. 40. Theodora Fry  
d. aged 72. F.S.A., M.P. Created Bt. [Who's Who]
- V. 6. Robert H. Woolfson  
d. aged 31. Fellow & Lecturer in Modern History, Queen's Coll. Ox. [Oxf. Reg.]
- V. 13. Ed. Portmanville Fry  
d. aged 48. A barrister at law. distinguished University career subsequent ill health has shut him out from active life.
- V. 15. Joan Fry  
d. aged 46. an active guardian of the poor, and other benevolent & social matters.
- V. 17. Roger E. Fry  
d. aged 42. artist, writer on art [Who's Who]
- V. 50. Theodora W. Fry  
d. aged 42. F.S.A., barrister at law. distinguished University career.
- V. 53. B.C. [see letter]  
d. aged 36. distinguished university career.







Fry, Hockley



1<sup>st</sup> fa Joseph Fry

a man much interested in locomotion both on roads & rails & the formation of roads: wrote a book on wheeled carriages & received a medal for an essay on the employment of the poor in Ireland from some Government department; I believe the then Board of Trade.

7<sup>th</sup> bro Francis Fry

distinguished by his knowledge of some branches of bibliography. He died Nat. Prop. 1842.

11<sup>th</sup> bro. Joseph Storrs Fry

shown ability in the <sup>maintenance</sup> ~~maintenance~~ & destruction of a large manufacturing business.



11<sup>th</sup> bro Lewis Fry

for many years M.P. for a division of the city of Bristol & made a Privy Councillor on retirement. The Belfour & Fry families are I believe the only

ones containing two brothers who are  
Privy Councillors. See Who's Who. S. H.

29 So. Edward Portsmouth Dy.

obtained first class in Moderations in and in  
Greek at the Final examination at Oxford. Subsequent  
ill health has shut him out from active  
life.

30 de Jean Mary Dy

a very active guardian of the poor in the  
Long Ashton Union: & active in other benevolent  
& social matters.





Additional Nisnman Joseph Fry

fa. fa. fa.

Joseph Fry my paternal great grandfather  
was I believe a man of considerable ability:  
originally a medical man who came to and  
practised in Bristol he renounced practice because  
he disapproved of the manner in which apothecaries  
were then paid & showed ability in establishing or  
taking part in the establishment of free consultation  
business.

See Dicty Hall. Proj. & n.

also Rees's History of Old English Letter  
Foundries. London 1807 vide the Index

& n.



Additional Kinsman Edmund Fry  
 fa fa. br.

A son of Joseph Fry, a M.D. of Edinburgh  
 devoted his life to the founding & philological  
 studies connected with it "probably" says Reed  
 "the most learned letter founder of his day".

See Dechy Hall Biog. S. N.

also Reed's History of Letter founders - before  
 vol. v. India S. N.



My Brother  
Thomas Hodykin my wife's Brother has

shown ability especially as an Historian. See  
 who's who - s. n.

In this connection I may refer to  
 my wife's Grandfather John Hodykin

his father

John Hodykin

his uncle

Thomas Hodykin

for all of whom see the Dict. Nat. Biography  
 under their names.





## Observations

As some notions have occurred to me whilst preparing the accompanying replies, and as suggestions are promised a warm welcome, I offer the following observations - without apology - but with much diffidence.

The true object of inquiry appears to me to be the ability of families: the object of inquiry in the accompanying paper is the ability of families as indicated by success by facts which have found their way into print. The difference between these two inquiries seems to me very likely to affect the value of the results obtained.

I see of course the reason why the Inquiry is confined in the way in which it is, viz. because it is thought that the evidence of patent facts is of more value than the opinion of persons.



partial relatives: but notwithstanding  
 this reason I suggest that an effort should be made  
 to get over the chasm between real ability & ability  
 recognized by the world.

This is especially so in the case  
 of women, <sup>and more</sup> especially of mothers, who are one of the  
 most important objects of inquiry. For the very  
 fact of motherhood increases the improbability that  
 a woman's ability will be recognized by the outer  
 world. I could illustrate this by my own experience  
 my mother was, in the opinion I should think of  
 all who knew her, a woman of more than the  
 average intellectual ability and of a strong character:  
 but as the mother of a numerous  
 progeny and as a member of a large family circle  
 her abilities found ample scope for their exercise  
 in the discharge of her domestic & social duties &

it would be impossible to attribute to her  
high success as witnessed by any facts which have  
appeared in print or by any of the indices mentioned  
in the enclosed Instructions.

On the other hand paternity in the  
case of many men a special exertion & their increase  
the probability that latent ability will become patent  
& fall within the cognizance of the world.

In the important question of the relative  
contributions of the two parents towards the ability of  
their children, there is thus a double bias against the  
mother & in favour of the father.



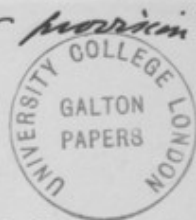
it would be impossible <sup>attributed to her high</sup> ~~to speak of her~~  
 success ~~in her own~~ witnessed by any facts which  
 have appeared in print or by any of the indicia  
 mentioned in the ~~Indroed~~ <sup>Palimony</sup> Instructions.

My suggestion therefore is that  
 especially in the case of women in the direct  
 ascending or descending line, the son-in-law should be  
 invited to testify to noteworthy ability on his  
 sole judgment, giving such corroborative facts as  
 may be at his disposal.



Assuming that my ability ~~is well expressed~~  
 or supposed ability is the root of the sugery I  
 recognize that enquiries are made as to the  
 ability of my descendants as throwing light on  
 the ancestors ability. But to ascertain how far  
 the ability of a son or daughter is to be attributed

on the doctrine of heredity to the father or the mother, the ~~whole~~ ability of the mother and the ability of ~~all~~ her ancestors should be enquired into precisely in the same way as that of the father: & in the paper I find no adequate provision made for such an enquiry



If grandchildren be included as suggested, a similar investigation would be required as to their mother & her family.

=

Too true  
I had thought

I do not doubt that I am stupid in the matter but I do not understand the columns are all the heading "wife's brothers & sisters" - for my sons' wife's brother has nothing to do with my wife's brother & sister & seems an immaterial person unless you are investigating the ability of my grandchildren - for I think the table makes no provision



One other suggestion I wish venture to make  
viz that all the indications of ability on which the  
order is to rely should be presented in a tabulated  
form. At present they have to be gathered from  
a perusal of the whole enclosed memorandum.

Edw. J.

Fairland 29 Apr 1904



about Sir Douglas Galton

June 26<sup>th</sup>  
1904

MILFORD HOUSE,  
DERBY.

My dear Marianne

I am much obliged  
for yours of the 24<sup>th</sup>  
which I received yesterday  
I can assure you I feel  
quite flattered at being  
asked by you to put down  
anything in a small way  
about Douglas's family and  
possible "noteworthy kinsfolk"  
that can be of any use to  
Mr Francis Galton

I have put down all I  
can think of and hope that

I have not been too trivial  
in my remarks.

I have been obliged to  
put these remarks on other  
paper as they almost all  
apply as Douglas had no  
first cousins ~~with~~ on his mother  
side to older generations

If you are writing to Mr  
Francis Galton he might  
perhaps be interested in  
learning or knowing that  
one of <sup>the R. C. House</sup> Joseph Chamberlain's

F.21

great grandfather was  
a brother of your husband's  
great grandfather ~~the~~ with  
Isidiah Sturt

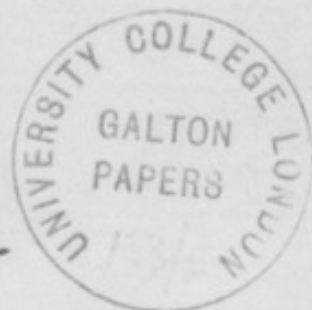
I did not like to put  
this down on paper because  
I feared that it might  
be thought it was going  
back too far.

I can of course send him  
Mr F Galton particulars  
of this if he comes to have  
the information

Believe me

Yours affly etc

Frederick Sturt





TELEGRAMS,  
CAUDET, LONDON.

f.3r

12, CHESTER STREET,  
GROSVENOR PLACE, S.W.

27. June 1904

My dear Francis

I return your

Paper with  
Frederick Sturt's  
Comments - (He is

the second son of  
the late Lord Belper -  
& he has <sup>now</sup> written <sup>or</sup> printed  
a most exhaustive  
History of the Sturt  
Family - I enclose

CROSVENOR PLACE, S.W.  
12, CHESTER STREET

and his letter  
to me, as it  
may interest you  
to see. His  
allusion to the  
relationship of  
Joseph Chamberlain  
to the Sturges

With kind love  
Ever yours  
Wm Douglas Galton



I have not enclosed  
anything about my own  
brothers, because you  
said, that their  
few attainments would  
not come under the  
rest of 'noteworthy'

Sir Douglas Galton M.C.B. F.R.S.

4

Mr. Mr. Isabella Douglas.

Mr. Mr. si married Francis Fox  
Doctor in Derby.

Mr. Mr. si son Sir Charles Fox  
Engineer &  
B. 1810 & 1874 Builder of the Exhibition  
1851





Sir Douglas Galton M. & B. F.R.S.

me fa fa. ———— Jedediah Strutt b. 1726 d. 1797  
 Woollen Manufacturer & Cotton Spinner  
 Inventor of Machine for making ribbed stockings  
 Partner of Sir Richard Arkwright

see Dir's Nat. Biog. 4

3.

me fa ———— Joseph Strutt b. 1765 d. 1844  
 The first Mayor of Derby 1835  
 Donor of stables to Derby.  
 Great friends of poor Thomas Moore (see Moore's life & letters)

me fa bro ———— William Strutt F.R.S.  
 b. 1756, d. 1830  
 Ingenious Mechanician & Inventor  
 Friend of Erasmus Darwin R. L. Edgeworth  
 Robert Owen Joseph Lancaster Samuel Bentham  
 Dalton & L.  
 Re-Organizer & Designer of the  
 first Derby Infirmary.



me fa bro son ———— Edward Strutt M.P. F.R.S. 1st  
 b. 1801 d. 1880 Baron Belper  
 me fa bro son ———— Anthony Strutt ———— Ingenious Mechanician  
 b. 1791 d. 1875.  
 me fa si son ———— William Evans M.P. for Leicester & Derbyshire

(1822 - 1900)

F.7

Sir Douglas Galton. KCB cr. 1887, D.C.L.  
LL.D., F.R.S., R.M.A Woolwich, (highest exam.  
in record took 2<sup>nd</sup> prize in every subject.)  
~~R.F.~~ Commissioner in R.E., 1840; ~~secretary of~~  
Inspector of Railways & Secretary of Railway  
department, Board of Trade, 1856; Assistant  
Inspector General of Indifications 1860. designed  
& constructed the Hubert Hospital at Woolwich;  
Assistant under Secretary of State for War  
1862-70; Director of Public Works & Building  
in H. M. Works. Gen Sec. British Ass, 1870-95;  
President 1895-96. Authority on hospital  
Construction & sanitation, ventilation etc of  
Public Buildings.



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *the late Sir Douglas Galton K.C.B., F.R.S.*

*Biographical notices*  
("WHO'S WHO" containing all that is wanted concerning *himself*.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>JH</i>			<i>Joseph H. H. H.</i> <i>Isabella Douglas</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—	<i>JD.</i>			
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>	0				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>	0				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>	0				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	<del>29(2)</del>	<del>so(2)</del>				<del>da Hu bro</del>	
	Daughters . .	<del>30(2)</del>	<del>da(2)</del>				<del>da(2) Wi si</del>	



Signature and Address of the Sender

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.





Gamble

f. 9r

HIGHFIELD,  
EAST LISS,  
HANTS.

Noteworthy facts.

John George Gamble, born January  
22<sup>nd</sup> 1842. Demig of Magdalen Coll.

Oxford 1859 1<sup>st</sup> Cl. Math. Mod<sup>us</sup>  
and Final Schools. 2<sup>nd</sup> Cl. Class.

Final Schools. Junior Math<sup>l</sup> Uni-  
-ersity Scholarship. Johnson

Prize man. Employed as Engi-  
-neering works at Hull, Eng.

-ster, in Brazil etc under

Sir John Hawkshaw. Hydraulic

Engineer Cape Colony. Hyp-

Public Engineer to Govt of  
Ireland - died Nov. 1889.

---

Edward Harpur Gamble  
born September 6 1849. Royal  
Navy - C.13. - now Rear  
Admiral - for service see  
Navy List.

---

f. 10

John Addington Symonds - for

information see Dict. of

National Biography LV.

272.

---



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *J. S. Gamble, Esq. C.I.E., M.P.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	0 2 4		9	<i>me bro</i>	0 1 5				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2	J.G.G. E.H.G.	—	—	—				John George Gamble
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—				Edward Harper Gamble
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>	2				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0 2 4		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0 1 5				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>	1	J.A.S.			John Addington Symonds
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>	3				

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *J. Sykes. Gamble Highfield East Leis Hunt*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



10, HARLEY STREET, W.

9 Chandos Street,  
Lancashire Square W.July 24<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Sir

I am writing with reference to your request to my father, Sir Alfred Garrod, for the filling up of your form relating to "Noteworthy Kinsfolk", to explain that owing to his age (85 years) and increasing infirmities my father is quite unable to comply with your request, as I am sure that he would gladly have done in former days.

Regretting that this is so,

I am  
yours faithfullyArchibald E. Garrod

82 Garrod

f.13v

Written on his behalf - no form returned



THE UPLANDS,  
GREAT SHELFORD,  
CAMBRIDGE.

Holbrook Gaskell

Successful in Commerce

Gaskell & Deacon Alkali

Manufacturers, now merged  
in the United Alkali Co.

Catharine Julia Gaskell

First Class in Archaeological Section  
of Part II Classical Tripos 1904  
Was Senior in that section.

Captain of the Midland Ladies  
hockey team.



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

J. W. H. Gaskell F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																																																																					
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																																																										
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—																																																																																																									
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																																																																									
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—																																																																																																									
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																																																																																									
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro		H. G	9	me bro	Holbrook Gaskell																																																																																																					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																																																																										
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—																																																																																																									
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—																																																																																																									
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son																																																																																																										
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																																																																										
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son																																																																																																										
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da																																																																																																										
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son																																																																																																										
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son																																																																																																										
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da																																																																																																										
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																																																																										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Catharine Shange</td> <td></td> <td>30 Wi bro</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . . .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td></td> <td>C. F. G</td> <td>Parker</td> <td></td> <td>30 Wi si</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>da Hu bro</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>fa Hu si</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>30(2) Wi bro</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . . .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>30(2) Wi si</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>30(2) Hu bro</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>30(2) Hu si</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.									Sons . . . . .	29	so			Catharine Shange		30 Wi bro		Daughters . . .	30	da		C. F. G	Parker		30 Wi si									da Hu bro									fa Hu si		2nd marriage.									Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					30(2) Wi bro		Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					30(2) Wi si									30(2) Hu bro									30(2) Hu si	
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																																																									
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																																																																								
1st marriage.																																																																																																																
Sons . . . . .	29	so			Catharine Shange		30 Wi bro																																																																																																									
Daughters . . .	30	da		C. F. G	Parker		30 Wi si																																																																																																									
							da Hu bro																																																																																																									
							fa Hu si																																																																																																									
2nd marriage.																																																																																																																
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					30(2) Wi bro																																																																																																									
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					30(2) Wi si																																																																																																									
							30(2) Hu bro																																																																																																									
							30(2) Hu si																																																																																																									
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="6">Signature and Address of the Sender</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="6">W. H. Gaskell The Uplands St. Shelford Cambs.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>												Signature and Address of the Sender						W. H. Gaskell The Uplands St. Shelford Cambs.																																																																																														
Signature and Address of the Sender																																																																																																																
W. H. Gaskell The Uplands St. Shelford Cambs.																																																																																																																



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. James Geikie F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.	
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.						
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5.	fa	James Stewart Geikie	
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		7.	fa bro	Walter Geikie	
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. S. G.	—	—	—	—	9.	me bro	William Thoms	
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	11.	bro	Archibald Geikie	
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro		W. G.	9	me bro		W. T	17.	bro son	R. I. M. G.	
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si			21	fa bro son	A. C. G.	
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		A. G.	—	—	—	—		22	bro	C. G.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—		23	bro	W. B. G.
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son						
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da						
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son		R. I. M. G.	19	si son						
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da						
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		A. C. G.	23	me bro son						
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son		C. G.	24	me si son						
				W. B. G.								
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da						
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da						

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	J. S. G.	Mary Simson Johnston	1875	30	Wi bro
	Daughters .	30	da				31	Wi si
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				32(2)	Wi bro
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				33(2)	Wi si

Signature and Address of the Sender *James Geikie, Kilmore, Colinton Road, Edinburgh*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*; and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

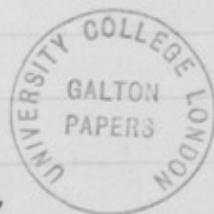
42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



5. 7a James Stewart Geihie  
 Musician & musical critic; author of much psalmody  
 (i.e. hymn tunes, etc.) and of several well-known Scottish  
 melodies, such as "My Heather Hills."
7. fa bro Walter Geihie  
 Artist. Landscape and figure painter; published  
 many etchings illustrative of Scottish life and  
 character. Was Royal Scottish Academician.
9. me bro William Thomas  
 Master Mariner; subsequently teacher of navigation  
 in New York. Published there an elaborate  
 treatise on navigation.
11. bro Archibald Geihie  
 See who's who
17. bro son Roderick Impey Murchison Geihie  
 Gained Fellowship (Cambridge)
21. fa bro son. Archibald ~~Geihie~~ Constable Geihie  
 Clergyman. Was Moderator of Presbyterian  
 Church, N.S. Wales.
21. fa bro son Cunningham Geihie  
 Clergyman. (Church of England). Has published much  
 See who's who.
21. fa bro son Walter Bayne Geihie  
 Medical Man. Professor of Anatomy and Dean



of the Faculty of Medicine (Toronto)

29. 80.

James Stewart Gillic

Medical Man. Passed his final examinations "with  
Distinction."

I don't know if it is worth mentioning that all the  
Gillics named in the preceding list have been noted for  
their sense of humor and well-known in their own circles  
as raconteurs. They also are all more or less artistic -  
but with the exception of <sup>Mr. (70. 200)</sup> J. - none so far as I know  
ever exhibited any of their productions.

James Gillic

James Geikie, (b.1839) LL.D., D.C.L., F.R.S., London & Edinburgh: professor of geology & mineralogy since 1882 & Dean of the Faculty of Science, Edinburgh: author of many works on geology, & of "Songs & Lyrics by Heinrich Heine" (~~Who's Who~~ *EB*, [Who's Who & Encyc. Brit])

(1811-1893)

James Stuart Geikie, musician & musical critic: author of much psalmody & of several wellknown Scottish melodies, such as "My Heather Hills".

bro Walter Geikie (1795-1837), R.S.A., painter & draughtsman: author of "Etchings Illustrative of Scottish Character & Scenery". [Dict.N.Biog.]

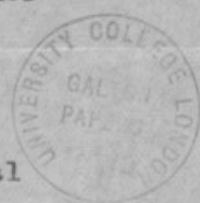
bro William Thoms, master mariner; subsequently teacher of navigation in New York: published there an elaborate treatise on navigation.

Some time

bro Sir Archibald Geikie, (b.1835) F.R.S., Director -General Geological Survey of United Kingdom, & Director Museum Practical Geology in Jermyn Street, 1882-1901: winner of many medals of Royal & other societies: <sup>author</sup> ~~member~~ of numerous works on geology, & some biographical memoirs. [Who's Who] *Encyc. Brit*

bro son Cunningham Geikie, (b.1824) LL.D., D.D., a clergyman author of many works of a religious character. (Who's Who)

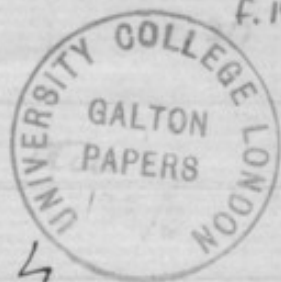
bro son Walter Bayne Geikie, Professor of Anatomy, & Dean of Medical Faculty, Trinity Coll., Toronto.



Hotel Bristol

Carlisle

1904 June 4



The enclosed form has reached me here.

So far as I know none of my <sup>brothers or sisters</sup> ancestors ~~are~~ "noteworthy" in the sense that you define the term.

My Father was a very capable and energetic man and successful in business - remarkably healthy - an only son - he died at the age of 89. Had great power of sustained work and very strong character.

My Mother was a remarkably able woman - the only <sup>very</sup> able member of a considerable family - with keen perceptions and sound judgement.



My Grandfather died at the  
age of 93 -.

My Mother died at about 55 years  
of age - ~~Barbadian~~ from  
a neglected cold - but she  
came of a long lived race -

I believe that Gregory (of  
the Gregorian telescope) was  
a remote ancestor of mine -  
but I have not the means  
here of tracing precisely what  
was the relationship or  
connection -

If this is of interest I will have  
the matter looked into.

I send these notes to show  
that I have attended to  
the circular - ~~at~~ but I  
do not further see how I  
can file up useful matter.

David Hill

Letters addressed to the Astronomer will find me

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Mr David Gill, K.C.S. &c.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																											
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<i>None "noteworthy" in the sense as defined in the opposite page</i>																																																											
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																															
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—																																																															
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																																															
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro																																																																
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																																
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—																																																															
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—																																																															
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son																																																																
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																																
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son																																																																
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da																																																																
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son																																																																
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son																																																																
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da																																																																
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																																
<table><thead><tr><th colspan="2"></th><th>Regr.</th><th>Title.</th><th>No. who survived childhood.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th>Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th></tr><tr><th colspan="2"></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th></th><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>Wi bro Wi si <del>fa Hu bro</del> <del>da Hu si</del></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters . . .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>(2) Wi bro (2) Wi si <del>da Hu bro</del> <del>da Hu si</del></td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters . . .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so					Wi bro Wi si <del>fa Hu bro</del> <del>da Hu si</del>		Daughters . . .	30	da							2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					(2) Wi bro (2) Wi si <del>da Hu bro</del> <del>da Hu si</del>		Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)							
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																														
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																													
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so					Wi bro Wi si <del>fa Hu bro</del> <del>da Hu si</del>																																																														
	Daughters . . .	30	da																																																																			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					(2) Wi bro (2) Wi si <del>da Hu bro</del> <del>da Hu si</del>																																																														
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)																																																																			
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>David Gill, R<sup>o</sup> Observatory, Cape of Good Hope</i>																																																																						
<i>Addressee Oct 5 - Athlone Club</i>																																																																						



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



No 1. fa fa. R.A. Robert Austen. of Shalford.

was an archaeologist & numismatologist. he formed a fine collection of Roman & English Coins, which were purchased on his death by the authorities at the Mint. he collected much interesting information regarding the history of the Guildford neighbourhood. For his time he understood the value of maps, & was a good surveyor. I have a <sup>large</sup> map of the Boundary of Bramley Parish executed by him.

No 2. fa, fa. H. E. A. Sir Henry Edmund Austen Kt.

of considerable ability, interested in forestry & planned largely on the estate, much of which is still standing, & adding to its beauty, especially the Scotch Fir. he also like his father knew the value of maps of a property, & had excellent success made under his superintendence. he formed a good collection of oil paintings.

No 3. fa

R. A. C. G. A. Robert Alfred Floyne Edwin Austen.

F. R. S. F. G. S. &c. F. R. S.

Eng. N.B.  
[1800-1884]

Educated at Oriel College, Oxford - & there he saw the study of Geology under Buckland, he was elected a fellow of The Geol. Society in 1830. & his first field-labours were in Devonshire associated with Sedgwick & De la Beche, & he formed a splendid collection of fossils in the neighbourhood of Newton Bushell wh he presented to the Jennings Museum. He wrote on the Geology of the S. E. of Devon 1836-40. & his map was one of the most detailed then published. He noted the human remains with flint-arrow heads as in Kent & elsewhere at this time - He wrote numerous papers on the Geology of Surrey & the Valley of the English Channel, but perhaps his most



original ~~Paper~~ work was in 1866. on the possible extension of the Coal Measures beneath the South Eastern part of England. Since confirmed by the finding of coal at Dover & towards Canterbury. Some 40 papers on Geology were written by him. one of his greatest friends was Prof. Gd. Forbes who died in 1854, naming the words of Murchison. Mr Godwin-Austen was "preeminently the physical Geographer of bygone periods". He left like many men a large amount of un-completed work, he met with a strain at the Norwich Meeting of the British Association which produced an abscess near the Stomach, it told upon his constitution & he was never the same man for work either of mind or body afterwards.

No. 4. me fa.

[B.M. 4.4]  
[1874-1893]

T.H.G. Thomas Henry Godwin. General. K.C.B. Had a distinguished record of service. In the Peninsula, where in the 9th Foot. was in several actions. wounded at Barrosta. In the 1<sup>st</sup> Burmese War of 1824 - with the 41<sup>st</sup> Foot which he commanded - he led the storming party at the Capture of Martaban. In 1857. He was Brigadier Genl. Commanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Div<sup>n</sup> Bengal Presidency. & on war breaking out with Burmah he was appointed to command the Army ~~which~~ <sup>operated</sup> the operations leading to the Capture of Rangoon & other towns, & the annexation of the Province of Pegu to the Indian Empire. In 1853 - he died at Simla on return from this service.

No. 10. Bro.

H.G.A. Harold Godwin Austen. Indian Civil Service (unconnected) - Was appointed an Asst. Commis<sup>r</sup> in the Andaman Islands in 1877. & served 13 years there.

Employed at first as a Civil Engineer in charge of the  
Convict work shops, the making of roads & Reconnaissance  
work in the island - after <sup>Bahruks</sup> ~~the~~ a Magisterial  
Capacity. he was selected by Key Elias to accom-  
pany him on a mission to Yarkand & Kashgar  
& he is at present a Dy Commisr in Beera  
South India - he assisted me by collecting  
objects of natl history when in the Andamans  
M.E.G.A. Maria Elizabeth Gadwin-Austen.  
An accomplished musician, and very good  
at drawings in pen & pencil & took an interest  
in natural history. & was certainly above the  
average of women of her time - she attained  
the age of 91.

No 4  
me

No 11.  
Si. Son.

B. H. M. H. Bertram Henry Majordie Hewett.  
Studious & clever - very early took an interest in  
Geology &c - Passed well for the R. S. of Science  
South Kensington as a Civil Engineer - was appoin-  
ted as asst on the construction of the Tube R.  
Line - the Clapham punct. extension - laid out  
the Salisbury extension - and is now in charge  
of the main shaft of the Tunnel under the River  
at New York, a great work - In the summer of  
1903. he joined Mr & Mrs Bullack workman  
in an expedition to the Great Glaciers of the  
Muztakh Range, Kashmir, & made an ex-  
cellent survey of several Glaciers on a large  
scale than the Indian survey, & brought back  
a very beautiful series of photographs of this in-  
teresting bit of country.

by the late James  
Gresham  
E.G.

No 12 Si. Son

T. A. L. Philip Austen Lushington.  
Is clever like so many of his family - Has been working  
at a school, & choice being fond of teaching, and  
has lately been ordained.

H.C. bro. R.A.G.-A. Robt Alfred Godwin-Austen?  
 was perhaps of all my father's sons the cleverest,  
 & took very much after him - did very well at  
 school & passed well for the Civil Service, which  
 he was just about to join - in the East, when  
 he was accidentally shot with rabbit shooting  
 & died of lock jaw - Frederick Godwin-Austen.

H.G. bro. F. G.-A. was bright & clever - studied for  
 the Indian Forestry Dept., but his short sighted  
 ness, prevented his being taken for that service.  
 he then went up & passed for the Army. ser-  
 ved in the West Indies & South Africa and  
 was eventually killed ~~at~~ with nearly the  
 whole of the Batt. of the 24<sup>th</sup> Regt<sup>in</sup> which he was  
 a Lieut. at Sandlawana - Zulu war.



no 6. fa. bro.

f.28r

5

Bengal

A.G.A.

Albert George Austen - General. Royal Artillery  
has a distinguished Artillery officer. <sup>(admiral)</sup> & his service  
in the Sikh Campaign - at the Battle of Ferozshero, Alwal  
Sobraon &c. Afterward in the Indian Mutiny. in the  
operations near Cawnpore &c. was a very clever  
water color draftsman -

no 7 fa bro

A.S.A.

Algernon Austen. Captain R. N.  
has a very good ability. Served in the China  
war. passed an examination in Steam Navi-  
gation & Steam Engines & was the inspecting Officer  
for some time at Southampton of H.M. Mail  
Steamers -



In conclusion I would add.

Si - My 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, & 3<sup>rd</sup>, & 4<sup>th</sup> sisters, have all a  
taste for drawing when young, & became pro-  
ficient at it, & made good use of it.

P.T.O.



Evidently inherited fr. their father & mother.  
I can include my eldest brother also. & my own  
son, in showing similar talent.

No. 13. Son. Robert Arthur G.A.  
Had excellent ability at school & Wellington, with a wonderful memory for learning rapidly - passed well into Wellington & Sandhurst, & entered the Army - ~~the~~  
As Mr. Irving told me, <sup>he</sup> had done well at Science, Chemistry &c. had he remained on his class at Wellington but as the course gave nothing worth having towards marks at the ~~Army~~ <sup>Army</sup> Exam. he gave it up for Classics which gave more. & in the Army he ~~did~~ <sup>did</sup> not take up anything beyond the usual Regt. work -

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Lieut. Colonel H. H. Godwin Austen, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	R.A.	3	me fa	—	T.H.G.	1	tata fa	R.A. = Robert Austen.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	H.E.A.	4	me me	—	—	2	fa fa	H.E.A. = Sir H. Edmund Austen
Father . . . . .	5	fa	15	R.A.C.G.A.	—	—	—	—	3	fa	R.A.C.G.A. = Rod: Alfred Cope Godwin Austen F.R.S.
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	M.E.G.A.	—	—	—	—	4	me	M.E.G.A. = Maria Elizabeth Godwin Austen
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	5	A.G.A.	9	me bro	0	—	5	me fa	T.H.G. = General Sir Thomas H. Godwin, K.C.B.
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1	—	10	me si	0	—	6	fa bro	A.G.A. = Genl. Albert Godwin Austen R.A.
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	6	H.G.A.	—	—	—	—	7	fa bro	A.S.A. = Capt. Algernon S. Austen R.N.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	9	R.A.G.A.	—	—	—	—	7	bro	R.A.G.A. = Rod: Alfred Godwin Austen
Half-brothers	13	fa son	0	F.G.A.	—	—	—	—	8	bro	F.G.A. = Fred Godwin Austen R.N.
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	0	—	—	—	—	—	9	bro	H.G.A. = Harold Godwin Austen
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	5	—	15	me son	0	—	10	bro	by Comm: 1/4
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3	—	16	me da	0	—	11	si son	B.H.M.H. = Bertram Henry Majendie Hewell C.E.
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3	—	19	si son	7	B.H.M.H.	19	si son	P.A.L. = Philip Austen Livingston
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1	—	20	si da	3	P.A.L.	29	son	R.A.G.A. = Robert Arthur Godwin Austen Major late Dorset Regt.
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6	—	27	me bro da	0	—	12	son	—
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	3	—	28	me si da	0	—	13	son	—

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	1		Pauline Georgina	1861	so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da	0		Elizabeth Plowden		so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	0		Jessie Robinson	1881	so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	0				so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



TELEGRAPH ADDRESS,  
LOWER BEEDING.

F.22  
3<sup>rd</sup> July 1904.

SOUTH LODGE,

HORSHAM.

My dear Gallon,

I am sorry you had  
to send me a reminder.  
but the compilation was very  
nearly done. I hoped I had  
not made it too full, but  
we are a numerous family.  
for I am the eldest of 18, 3  
being very young - I am here  
staying Sunday with Fred  
Godman & a week morning has  
allowed me to polish it off  
believe me. Yrs sincerely

W. Godman-Curten  
My address is  
Nore. Godalming



Nore. Sadalning, R. 23.  
6<sup>th</sup> July 1904.

In sending you form of noteworthy  
Ringsfolk - I think I put up ~~one~~ copy  
which I had intended to keep for  
myself - if so will you kindly send  
me worst back.

W. G. Adwin Austen.

(S)



POST CARD

THE ADDRESS TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE



F.23v

Francis Galton Esq  
42 Rutland Gate  
London. S.W.

(S)



no letter

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF D<sup>r</sup> George Gore, 420

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—	/	3	me fa	—	/			
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—	/	4	me me	—	/			
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	/	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—	/	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro		/	9	me bro		/			
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si		/	10	me si		/			
Brothers . . .	11	bro		/	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si		/	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers	13	fa son		/	15	me son		/			
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da		/	16	me da		/			
Nephews . . .	17	bro son		/	19	si son		/			
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da		/	20	si da		/			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		/	23	me bro son		/			
Male . . . .	22	fa si son		/	24	me si son		/			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da		/	27	me bro da		/			
Female . . . .	26	fa si da		/	28	me si da		/			

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	/	Hannah Owen	1848	so Wi bro	/
	Daughters .	30	da	A.A.G.			so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	/
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	/			so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	/
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	/				



Alice Augusta Gore.

Signature and Address of the Sender George Gore, 20 Easy, Row, Birmingham. April 30 - 04

(S)

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



CARLTON CLUB.

PALL MALL.S.W.

19 (sic) son W. G. Clay  
 Bell scholar (Camb:) 1885  
 Q<sup>y</sup>. wrangler 1887  
 member of Alpine Club

20 (sic) da H. E. Clay  
 B A Lond 1882

20<sup>y</sup> in Metric: Exam: 1879  
 Honours in Intermedic<sup>l</sup>  
 + B. A. Exams:

29 (so) Sir Eldon Gossl  
 see who's who

29(50) H. S. Gort

See Who's Who

11 (60) H. S. Gort

died at the age of  $14\frac{1}{2}$

was a very remarkable  
mathematician — more  
advanced for his age than  
I was.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rt. Hon. Sir John E. Gort, K.C.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so of son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	19	si son	Walter Gort Clay
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	20	si da	Henrietta Eliz <sup>th</sup> Clay
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	3		29	so	Sir Eldon Gort
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	4		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4	H.S.G.	—	—	—	—	"	so	Harold Edward Gort
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—	11	bro:	Henry Sanford Gort
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	2	W.G.C.			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	2	H.E.C.			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0	92	23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	8		24	me si son	2				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0	89	27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	5		28	me si da	2				



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	2	J.E.G. H.E.G.	1860	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	My wife has 2 brothers & no sister Both houses have large families in W. Scotland, but I do not know the particulars: none are distinguished
	Daughters .	30	da	5	Mary Elizabeth			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*John Gort*

*Queen Anne Mans*

*S.W*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



F. 28

Noteworthy Relations of Prof. F. Jotch

3. Me Fa. Ebenezer Foster. Founder of well-known banking firm Messrs Foster of Cambridge.
- 5 fa. Frederic William Jotch L.L.D., Late President of Baptist College Bristol. Hebrew Scholar - member of the Committee for the Revision of the Old Testament Authorized Version.
21. fa bro son. Thomas Cooper Jotch - well-known painter. see "Whos Who" -
- Wi bro. Sir Victor Horsley FRS. see Whos'Who.



Francis Gotch, (b.1853), D.Sc., F.R.S., Waynflete Professor of physiology at Oxford: formerly Holt Professor of Physiology at University Coll., Liverpool. author of many scientific papers. (Who's Who)

me fa Ebenezer Foster, Founder of well known banking firm of Messrs. Foster, Cambridge.

fa Frederick William Gotch, LL.D., late president of Baptist College, Bristol: hebrew scholar: member of committee for revising the Old Testament authorised version.

fa bro son Thomas Cooper Gotch, (b.1854), well known painter. (Who's Who)

wi bro Sir Victor Horsley, q.v.



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Peggy & Gotch, R.S., 1882*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	E.F.	3	me fa	Ebenezer Foster
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	F.W.G.	—	—	—	—	5	fa	Frederic William Gotch
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro	4				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1		15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	fa son son	5		19	si son	4				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro son da	1		20	si da	3				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4	T.C.G.	23	me bro son	8		21	fa bro son	Thomas Cooper Gotch
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	4		24	me si son	0 4 5				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	5		28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Rosa Maria Horsley	1887	Wi bro	V.A.H.H.
	Daughters .	30	da	3			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Francis Gotch* *St. Lawrence*  
*Baughway Road* *St. John*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men.

The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded list be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

When men can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers and sisters of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "business" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

In default of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy they are to be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper name and grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees may be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



No letter

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Sir William R. Gowers, M.D., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
	Daughters .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender

Not one of my ancestors or collaterals has been or is in any degree noteworthy. On both sides I come from the lower middle classes in which all other members of the family have constantly and wisely remained.

W. R. Gowers



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



f.32r

(1)

(5) ~~no~~ faII, CHELSEA EMBANKMENT,  
S.W.

James Grant Duff

(See Dictionary of National  
Biography)

While still a lieutenant, aged 28,  
in the Bombay Grenadiers, was  
sent by Mountstuart Elphinstone  
in charge of the Satara State in  
Western India a territory about  
as large as a third of Scotland. He  
reduced the country to order after the  
final overthrow of the Peshwa & restored  
it eventually, under the orders of Govern-  
ment, to the descendant of its ancient  
prince, whom he joined as Resident, till  
his health broke down, at the age of

(over)

33, and he returned to England  
in the beginning of 1823. There he  
finished his History of the Highlands  
but, after it was published, spent  
nearly all his time in the North  
of Scotland "improving" his prospects  
according to the ideas of the time &  
living much in the open air, shooting  
fishing &c. By this course he prolonged  
his life, though with shattered health,  
to a good old age but was never  
able to do serious work again.

M. P. Grant Duff





Grant Duff

F.33

M.A.

(1) me fa

See National Biography.

Sir Whitlaw Ainslie - M.D.

Author of the Materia Indica

Superintending Surgeon  
of the Southern Division  
of the Madras Army.

M. E. Grant Duff.



<sup>Grant Duff</sup>  
See Foreign Office List

F.34

Alg D - (29/50

11, CHELSEA EMBANKMENT,  
S.W.

Arthur Cuninghame Grant Duff

Succeeded in the competitive  
examination for the Diplo-  
matic Service - is now

Chargé d'affaires in

Mexico. age 43 (on May 28. 1904)

M. E. Grant Duff



L. M. G. D

Grant Duff

F. 35

See Foreign Office List

29. 50

Evelyn Mount Stuart Grant Duff  
Succeeded in the Competitive Exam-  
-ination for the Diplomatic Service  
is now First Secretary in Peru  
Age 40.

M. E. Grant Duff



Rt. Hon. Sir Mountstuart Elphinstone Grant Duff, (b.1829)  
G.C.S.I., P.C., F.R.S., sometime Under-Secretary of State  
for India, & for the Colonies, & governor of Madras: has  
been Lord Rector of Aberdeen University, & president of  
many learned societies; <sup>King's Trustee of British Museum since 1903</sup> author of political, literary,  
& biographical works. (Who's Who)

fa James Grant Duff, (1789-1858), while still a lieutenant,  
aged 28, was put by Mountstuart Elphinstone in charge  
of the Sattara State: he reduced the country to order  
after the overthrow of the Peishwa, & restored it to the  
descendant of its ancient princes, whom he guided as resident  
till his health broke down at the age of 33. He returned to  
his country, & there finished the "History of the Mahrattas"  
published 1826. (Dict.N.Biog.)

me fa Sir Whitelaw Ainslie, (1767-1837), surgeon in  
the East India Company's service, 1788-1815: published  
"Materia Medica of Hindoostan" & other works. (Dict.N.Biog.)

son Arthur Cuninghame Grant Duff, (b.1861) <sup>lastly First</sup> secretary to H.M.'s  
legation, Mexico, since 1902.

Son Evelyn Mountstuart Grant Duff (b.1863) First Secretary to  
H.M.'s Legation in Persia.

Son Adrian Grant Duff (b.1869) The Black Watch, Staff Captain  
Army Head Quarters.





see letters at back


# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rt. Hon Sir Th. E. Grant Duff, G.C.S.I., &c.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																											
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—																																															
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																															
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—																																															
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																															
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro																																																
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—																																															
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—																																															
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son																																																
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son																																																
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da																																																
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son																																																
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son																																																
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da																																																
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td>4</td> <td>ACGD E.A.F.D</td> <td>Anna Julia Wright</td> <td>1859</td> <td>so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td>4</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	4	ACGD E.A.F.D	Anna Julia Wright	1859	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	Daughters .	30	da	4				2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																															
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																														
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	4	ACGD E.A.F.D	Anna Julia Wright	1859	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si																																														
	Daughters .	30	da	4																																																		
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si																																															
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)																																																			
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>Mounts Park E. Grant Duff</i> <i>11. Chelsea Embankment</i></p>																																																						

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

F.381

Gregory  
will send about end  
of October

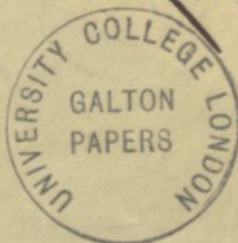
S

DR FRANCIS GALTON, F.R.S.

42 RUTLAND GATE,

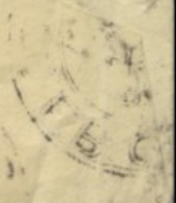
LONDON, S.W.

Claverdon Leys  
Warwick



1901

A.38v





The University,  
Melbourne. 11th. August..1904.

Dr. F. Dalton,  
42 Rutland Gate,  
London, S. W.

Dear Sir,

I must apologise for the delay in reply to your circular, but our family papers are in England, and I would rather consult my sisters before sending in a reply. They know the family history much better than I do. I shall be back in England at the end of October, and will let you know as soon after that as possible.

Yours sincerely,

*L. W. Gregory*



Additional paragraphs

F. 40 r

9. Rev. Charles Nagel

Obtained high competitive successes during his University career, and held a distinguished position in the Lutheran Church of Württemberg, but died at the age of 36.

23. Rev. Charles Nagel

Son of preceding; one of the heads of the Lutheran Church of Pennsylvania

29. Robert Theodore Günther

See Who's who. Latest achievement: geognostical researches in the Neapolitan region.

29(2) Frederick Albert Günther  
Obtained scholarship at St. Paul's School, and, at present, undergraduate at Christ Church, Oxford.

As to, wife's Brothers & Sisters

Over

Professor William Carmichael  
MacIntosh is a F. R. S.

Major Henry Dawkins Drake  
is a descendant of a brother of  
Sir Francis Drake, has passed  
through Sandhurst, has held  
several Staff-appointments,  
and is, at present, Professor  
of Fortifications at Greenwich  
College.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. A. C. L. G. Günther, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																																						
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																											
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—																																																																										
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																																										
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																																									
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																																									
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3		9	<i>me bro</i>	1	<i>C. N.</i>	9	<i>Rev.</i>	<i>Charles Nagel</i>																																																																						
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	3																																																																										
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1		—	—	—	—																																																																									
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—	—																																																																									
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																																											
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																																											
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>																																																																											
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																																											
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	4		23	<i>me bro son</i>	1	<i>C. N.</i>	23	<i>Rev.</i>	<i>Charles Nagel</i>																																																																						
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	6? 94		24	<i>me si son</i>	3																																																																										
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	3		27	<i>me bro da</i>	1																																																																										
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	?		28	<i>me si da</i>	?																																																																										
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Regr.</th> <th>Title.</th> <th>No. who survived childhood.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th>Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td>1</td> <td><i>N. F. G.</i></td> <td><i>McIntosh</i></td> <td>1868</td> <td><i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu</i> <i>da Hu</i></td> <td><i>W. C. M.</i></td> <td>29.</td> <td><i>F. L. S. Robert Theodore Günther</i> <i>F. R. S. William Carmichael McIntosh</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . . .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td>1</td> <td><i>F. A. G.</i></td> <td><i>Drake</i></td> <td>1879</td> <td><i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu</i> <i>da Hu</i></td> <td><i>H. D. D.</i></td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>Scholar Frederick Albert Günther</i> <i>Maj. M. A. Henry Derrick Drake</i></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . . .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.												Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.			1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1	<i>N. F. G.</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>	1868	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu</i> <i>da Hu</i>	<i>W. C. M.</i>	29.	<i>F. L. S. Robert Theodore Günther</i> <i>F. R. S. William Carmichael McIntosh</i>	Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>									2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	1	<i>F. A. G.</i>	<i>Drake</i>	1879	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu</i> <i>da Hu</i>	<i>H. D. D.</i>	29(2)	<i>Scholar Frederick Albert Günther</i> <i>Maj. M. A. Henry Derrick Drake</i>	Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	1							
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																									
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																																								
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1	<i>N. F. G.</i>	<i>McIntosh</i>	1868	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu</i> <i>da Hu</i>	<i>W. C. M.</i>	29.	<i>F. L. S. Robert Theodore Günther</i> <i>F. R. S. William Carmichael McIntosh</i>																																																																						
	Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>																																																																														
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	1	<i>F. A. G.</i>	<i>Drake</i>	1879	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu</i> <i>da Hu</i>	<i>H. D. D.</i>	29(2)	<i>Scholar Frederick Albert Günther</i> <i>Maj. M. A. Henry Derrick Drake</i>																																																																						
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	1																																																																													
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>A. Günther 2 Lichfield Rd New Parsons</i></p>																																																																																	





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## Noteworthy kinsfolk of John Scott Haldane

F.1

- 1, fa fa. James Alexander Haldane and fa fa. bro. Robert Haldane were noteworthy leaders of the evangelical movement in Scotland during the first half of last century, and authors of various theological books (see "Lives of Robert & James Haldane").
- 7, fa bro. Daniel Rutherford Haldane, M.D., a well-known physician and lecturer in the Edinburgh School of Medicine, and President of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh.
- 9, me bro. Sir John Burdon Sanderson Bart., M.D., F.R.S. &c. Prof of Physiology, & later Regius Prof of Medicine, Univ of Oxford. Well known as a physiologist.
- 11, bro. Rt Hon. Richard Burdon Haldane K.C., M.P., & L.D. A distinguished barrister and politician. Author of several philosophical books, including "The Pathway to Reality" (Gifford lectures).
- 12, si. Elizabeth Sanderson Haldane. authoress of "Life of Ferriar", translator of Hegel's "History of Philosophy", &c.
- 21 fa bro son. Alexander Chalmers Haldane. Bishop of Argyll & the Isles
- 21 fa bro son. Colonel James Aylmer Louthorpe Haldane O.S.O. An officer who has won rapid promotion. Author of "How we escaped from Pretoria".
- 22 so. John Burdon Sanderson Haldane. A boy of great promise. Has taken many prizes at school.

Among noteworthy kinsfolk further back than grandfather I may mention John Scott, Lord Chancellor Eldon, and Lord Stowell (also a great lawyer) who were uncles of my mother's father; and Admiral Duncan and General Sir Ralph Abercromby, who were <sup>my father's</sup> uncles of my father's father.



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *John Scott Haldane*

(“WHO’S WHO” contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.



*bro* = brother ; *da* = daughter ; *fa* = father ; *Hu* = husband ; *me* = mother ; *si* = sister ; *so* or *son* = son ; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																																																																					
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																																																										
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>J.A.H.</i>	3	me fa	—	—	1	fa fa	James Alexander Haldane																																																																																																					
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—	—	—	Robert Haldane																																																																																																					
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3	<i>J.R.H.</i>	9	me bro	2	<i>J.B.S.</i>	7	fa bro	Daniel Rutherford Haldane																																																																																																					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	5	—	10	me si	2	—	9	me bro	John Burdon Sanderson																																																																																																					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	2	<i>R.B.H.</i>	—	—	—	—	11	bro	Richard Burdon Haldane																																																																																																					
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1	<i>E.S.H.</i>	—	—	—	—	12	si	Elizabeth Sanderson Haldane																																																																																																					
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	2	—	15	me son	—	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	3	—	16	me da	—	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	3	—	19	si son	0	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—	—	20	si da	0	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	5	<i>J.A.H.</i>	23	me bro son	2	—	21	fa bro son	Alexander Chinnery Haldane																																																																																																					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	4	<i>J.A.H.</i>	24	me si son	0	—	21	fa bro son	James Arthur Lowthorpe Haldane																																																																																																					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	1	—	27	me bro da	2	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	5	—	28	me si da	0	—	—	—	—																																																																																																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td>1 (ap(1/2))</td> <td><i>J.B.S.H.</i></td> <td>Louisa Kathleen Trotter</td> <td>1891</td> <td>Wife bro</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td>1 (1/2)</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>Wife si</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Wife bro</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Wife si</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd marriage.</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>Wife bro</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>—</td> <td>Wife si</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Wife bro</td> <td>—</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>Wife si</td> <td>—</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.									Sons . . .	29	so	1 (ap(1/2))	<i>J.B.S.H.</i>	Louisa Kathleen Trotter	1891	Wife bro	0	Daughters .	30	da	1 (1/2)	—	—	—	Wife si	0								Wife bro	0								Wife si	0	2nd marriage.									Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—	—	Wife bro	—	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—	—	Wife si	—								Wife bro	—								Wife si	—
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																																																									
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																																																																								
1st marriage.																																																																																																																
Sons . . .	29	so	1 (ap(1/2))	<i>J.B.S.H.</i>	Louisa Kathleen Trotter	1891	Wife bro	0																																																																																																								
Daughters .	30	da	1 (1/2)	—	—	—	Wife si	0																																																																																																								
							Wife bro	0																																																																																																								
							Wife si	0																																																																																																								
2nd marriage.																																																																																																																
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—	—	Wife bro	—																																																																																																								
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—	—	Wife si	—																																																																																																								
							Wife bro	—																																																																																																								
							Wife si	—																																																																																																								

Signature and Address of the Sender *J. I. Haldane, 4 St. Maryan's Road, Oxford*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on fresh paper should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



+ 8<sup>th</sup> Margaret Rd, Oxford. <sup>K3</sup>

John Scott Haldane, (b.1860), F.R.S., University lecturer in physiology Oxford: joint editor & founder of "Journal of Hygiene": has served on several departmental committees, & carried out other special enquiries for government depts.: author of Blue Books on the causes of death in colliery explosions, 1895: Ankylostomiasis in Mines, 1902&3: etc.

(Who's Who)



*East India Company*  
*In the navy till 1797. Then gave up his life & means to itinerary work in Scotland.*  
fa fa James Alexander Haldane, (1768-1851), first congregational minister in Scotland, 1799: founded the Society for Propagating the Gospel at Home, 1797. (Dict.N.Biog.)

*Was in the Royal Navy till 1797*  
fa fa bro Robert Haldane, (1764-1842), spent largely in founding & endowing tabernacles & seminaries: co-operated with his brother in Edinburgh: He carried on evangelistic work in Geneva & southern France, 1816-1819. (Dict.N.Biog.)  
*Sold his estate in Shetland in order to devote the proceeds to missions in India which scheme was frustrated by the action of the Government.*  
*after which he cooperated with his brother by enduring places of worship & training young ministers.*

fa bro Daniel Rutherford Haldane, (1824-1887), M.D.: son of Alexander Haldane president, Edinburgh College of Physicians: LL.D., at tercentenary of Edinburgh University. (Dict.N.Biog.)

me bro Sir John Burdon Sanderson, Bart., M.D., F.R.S., etc.: (Q.V.)

bro Rt. Hon. Richard Burdon Haldane, K.C., M.P., LL.D., a distinguished barrister & politician: author of several philosophical books, including "The Pathway to Reality" (Gifford Lectures). (Who's Who)

si Elizabeth Sanderson Haldane, authoress of "Life of Ferrier", translator of "Hegel's History of Philosophy", etc.

fa bro son Alexander Chinnery Haldane, Bishop of Argyll & the Isles.



fa bro son Lt.-Col. James Aylmer Lowthorpe Haldane, (b.1862)  
 D.S.O., has served with distinction in Chitral, Tiral etc.,  
 & in S.Africa, & has won rapid promotion: author of "How  
 we escaped from Pretoria". (Who's Who)

me fa me bro John Scott, 1rst. Earl of Eldon (1751-1838),  
 famous Lord Chancellor of England. (Dict.N.Biog.)

me fa me bro William Scott, 1rst Baron Stowell (1745-1836),  
 judge of High Court of Admiralty. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa me bro <sup>Adams, Robert, Viscount</sup> ~~Christian name~~ Duncan, (1731-1804), admiral:

<sup>defeat</sup> Won the battle of Camperdown, 1797. (V. life by great grandson, The present Earl of Camperdown)

fa ~~me~~ me bro Sir Ralph Abercrombie, (1734-1801), general:

served with distinction in Flanders, 1795: commanded expedition  
 against French in West Indies, 1795-6: commanded troops in  
 Mediterranean 1800: proceeded to Egypt & defeated French  
 at Alexandria, where he died of his wounds. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa ~~me~~ me bro Sir <sup>y</sup> Robert Abercrombie, (1740-1827), general,  
 governor & commander-in-chief in Bombay, 1790: reduced Tippoo  
 Sultan, 1792: conducted the 2nd Rohilla War. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa ~~me~~ me bro son James Abercromby, 1rst Baron Dumferline,  
 (1776-1858), son of Sir Ralph Abercromby: judge-advocate-  
 -general, 1827: Speaker of the House of Commons, 1835-9:  
 (Dict.N.Biog.)

There might  
 perhaps be  
 omitted?  
 J.S.H.

fa ~~me~~ me bro son Alexander Abercromby, (1784-1853), son  
 of Sir Ralph Abercromby: colonel A.D.C. to Sir John Moore:  
 served in Peninsular & Waterloo campaigns. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa me bro son Sir John Abercromby, (1772-1817), general:  
 son of Sir Ralph Abercromby: distinguished himself under  
 Gen Hutchinson in Egypt: captured Mauritius 1809. (Dict.N.Biog.)

Halliburton 29. 6. 1894 <sup>F.Sr</sup>

CHURCH COTTAGE,  
17, MARYLEBONE ROAD, N.W.  
London.

Dear Sir,

I have not replied to  
your communication re  
noteworthy knifepole because  
only to chance of family  
words I really know but  
little of my relations.

Among those now living  
I certainly cannot point to  
anyone who is noteworthy  
in the sense of your letter.

My father who died  
last year never obtained



note except as a business  
man. He was possessed of  
exceptional ability in this  
direction, as is evidenced  
by the fact that he left  
£90,000, though he came  
to London with the  
provisional shilling in his  
pocket as a boy.

The Halliburtons were  
originally a border family  
and the name has  
undergone variations in  
spelling (Hali; Hally - etc.)



Sir Walter Scott's mother  
 or grandmother was one of  
 them.

Now there have been  
 certain Scottish divisions of  
 the name. One who  
 named the oblique of  
 Holy Halliburton named  
 considerable reports in his  
 writings. I saw a notice of  
 him in the Dictionary of  
 Nat. Biography.

Perhaps the most  
 noteworthy name of the  
 name is the one who  
 went to Nova Scotia, and  
 became Judge Halliburton  
 who wrote under the name of

F. 6v

Sam Slick. I was interested  
in finding a Canadian town  
named after him; and in  
Nova Scotia they have  
Halibut clubs, as we  
have Odden Clubs.

I think the present  
Sud Halibut, formerly  
at the War Office is his  
son.

But what relationship  
if any exists between them  
and myself I cannot say. It  
must be a distant one at  
all events

Sincerely yours  
W. D. Halibut



ROSSLYN,

WESTBOURNE ROAD,

FOREST HILL, S. E.

12 July 1904.

Dear Dr. Galton,

I am sending this Form filled in, but it is doubtful if you will find it of any use. I do not know of any ancestor who was particularly noteworthy except my father's mother's brother, Sir Wm. Mitchell, if he had not bequeathed his property to my father perhaps we should not have thought so much of his achievements! When I was a child of ten I was brought up to London & lifted over some palisades on to his tomb — a large square one.

where I read with a boy's pride  
what the Admiral did to  
the Dutch towards the close  
of the 18th century. The  
old church at Cumberland  
has long been disused, & is  
now covered over with  
trees, bushes, &c. & I have  
not been able to find the  
tomb again. My father  
got through his Uncle's  
money before I was born,  
& always said there was  
no blessing with it - it  
was the price of blood -



he himself was a Peace Society  
man.

My mother (nee Mary  
Stevenson) used to talk of  
her Uncle General Stevenson  
but I do not know how  
or where he distay worked  
himself. Her brothers were  
all sea captains. There  
have been many worthy  
men in the family but not  
many "noteworthy".

Yours sincerely

Robert Harley.

To

Francis Galton, Esq. D.C.L., F.R.S.

L. L. L.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rev. R. Harley, Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<i>fa me ho W.M.</i> <i>Sir William Mitchell, Knt.,</i> <i>Vice Admiral of the Blue</i> <i>distinguished as Captain</i> <i>Mitchell at Battle</i> <i>of Camperdown, after</i> <i>wards knighted &amp;</i> <i>promoted.</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	0		10	<i>me si</i>	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	2		19	<i>si son</i>	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	5		20	<i>si da</i>	3				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	2		23	<i>me bro son</i>	2				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	0				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	?		27	<i>me bro da</i>	?				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	0		28	<i>me si da</i>	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2		<i>Sarah Stroyan</i>	1854	<i>Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	2				<i>Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>(2) Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Robert Harley, Roselyn, Westbourne Road, Forest Hill, S.E.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Kings College,  
Cambridge.

May 31, 1904

Dear Sir,

In sending you the enclosed information I wish to remark that none of my relations come strictly within your definition of "noteworthy". But my father is a candidate for election to the Royal Society, and I venture to hope that he will be successful before long. Although he received no scientific education, he did good Geological work when a young man. Then followed a



long period during which his whole attention was taken up by business and municipal matters. He again took up scientific work on practically retiring from business; and most of his best work has been done since then.

---

Although none of my father's sister's sons have achieved "noteworthy" success, they have all had a considerable measure of success which falls short of your definition. This appears

F. 11

to me worth indicating. I may,  
however, remark that I think it  
probable that much of their ability  
is derived from their father, who  
does not come into the enquiry.

— I cannot help wondering whether  
the last two blanks are correctly  
indicated : — that is to say, whether  
you did not mean to enquire  
as to one's own wife's brothers and  
sisters and not as to one's  
children's wife's or ~~husband's~~ husband's  
relations.

I remain

Yours very truly

S. F. Harner

Dr Francis Galton, F.R.S.



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. S. F. Harmer, M.D.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	F.W.H.	—	—	—	—			Frederic William Harmer
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	0		9	<i>me bro</i>	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	1		10	<i>me si</i>	4				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3	W.D.H.	—	—	—	—			William Douglas Harmer
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1	<del>W.D.H.</del>	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	[1 still a child]		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0				Alfred Jefferis Turner
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	5	A.J.T. - F.M.T. - L.H.T. - B.B.T. (E.P.T.)	24	<i>me si son</i>	3				Frederick Meadows "
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	4				Lawrence Herbert "
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	3		28	<i>me si da</i>	4				Benjamin Bernard "
											[Ernest Paul " ]

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	[1 still a child]		Laura Russell Howell	1891	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	[2 still children]				<i>so Wi si</i>	
							<i>da Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Sidney Frederic Harmer*  
*Kings College, Cambridge*  
*May 31, 1904*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



5. fa. Frederic William Harmer

Founder and head of a large manufacturing business.

Author of numerous papers on Geology. Murchison Medallist of the Geological Society (1902). Membre Associé Étranger Soc. Belge de Géologie. Formerly Mayor of Norwich.

Is a Candidate for election into the Royal Society.

22. fa si son. Alfred Jefferis Turner. M.D. London. Gold Medallist University College, London. Physician to the Children's Hospital, Brisbane. Is working at Australian Lepidoptera.

22. fa si son. Frederick Meadows Turner M.D., Cambridge. Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge. Medical Superintendent South Eastern Fever Hospital.

22. fa si son. Lawrence Herbert Turner. Indian Civil Service.

22. fa si son Benjamin Bernard Turner. B.Sc. London (First Class Honours). Ph.D., Göttingen. Lecturer on Chemistry Borough Polytechnic Institute. Assistant Lecturer, Cornell University, U.S.A.

[22. fa si son. X Ernest Paul Turner ~~Obtained~~ Obtained a Medical qualification; but died almost immediately afterwards].

11. bro. William Douglas Harmer. M.A., M.B., M.C., Cambridge. F.R.C.S. Assistant Surgeon & Warden of St Bartholomew's Hospital.

[from S.F. Harmer]



Hartley

F. 14

HOTELS AT THE FOLLOWING STATIONS  
ARE UNDER  
THE COMPANY'S MANAGEMENT.

EUSTON, LONDON.  
LIVERPOOL.  
BIRMINGHAM.  
PRESTON.  
CREWE.  
HOLYHEAD.  
GREENORE.  
NORTH WALL DUBLIN.  
BLETCHLEY.



EUSTON HOTEL.

LONDON.

August 16<sup>th</sup> 1904

Wi.

Mrs. Hartley (Mary Laffan,  
Writer on Education at 17  
years of age, in Bently's Magazine.  
Authoress of "Hogan M.P."  
"The Honourable Mrs. Ferrard"  
"Emma's Children", "Woods",  
"A Singer's Story", "Flowers, Fables,  
and the Councillor", &c.

*Hartley*


# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor W. N. Hartley, F.R.S. D.Sc.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																									
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																														
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—																																																													
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																													
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																												
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																												
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>																																																														
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>																																																														
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—																																																												
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—																																																												
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																														
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																														
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>																																																														
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																														
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>																																																														
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>																																																														
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>																																																														
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>																																																														
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Regr.</th> <th>Title.</th> <th>No. who survived childhood.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th>Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td rowspan="2"><i>Mary Laffan</i></td> <td rowspan="2">1862</td> <td><i>Wi bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2" style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Wi bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>Wi si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1		<i>Mary Laffan</i>	1862	<i>Wi bro</i>		Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>			<i>Wi si</i>		2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>Wi bro</i>		Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>Wi si</i>		
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																												
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																											
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1		<i>Mary Laffan</i>	1862	<i>Wi bro</i>																																																												
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>					<i>Wi si</i>																																																												
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>Wi bro</i>																																																												
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>Wi si</i>																																																												

Signature and Address of the Sender *W. N. Hartley*

*Mary Laffan*  
*Novelist.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,  
42 RUTLAND GATE,  
(S) LONDON, S.W.



F.16r



143, HARLEY STREET,  
W.

June 30.

Dear Sir,

Dr. Head is meaning  
to send you the desired  
returns. He cannot how-  
ever do so until he has  
found out certain family  
statistics from his father.  
He will let you have the  
form filled up before

143 HARLEY STREET


WV

the end of July.

Hoping this will still  
be in time for your needs

Yours sincerely

Paul Head



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*D. Henry Head, JR.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	6	J. H.	9	me bro	5				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	7		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	/		15	me son	/				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	/		16	me da	/				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	/		19	si son	/				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	/		20	si da	/				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		F. W. H.	23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	/		Priscilla Mayhew	1904	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters . . .	30	da	/					
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	/				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)	/					

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Details

7. fa. bro. Jeremiah Head President of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers. Was the first to try profit sharing in his Iron-Plate-Rolling Mills at Middlesboro' in the early Sixties. This attempt ruined him. Later he was unusually successful as a Consulting Engineer.

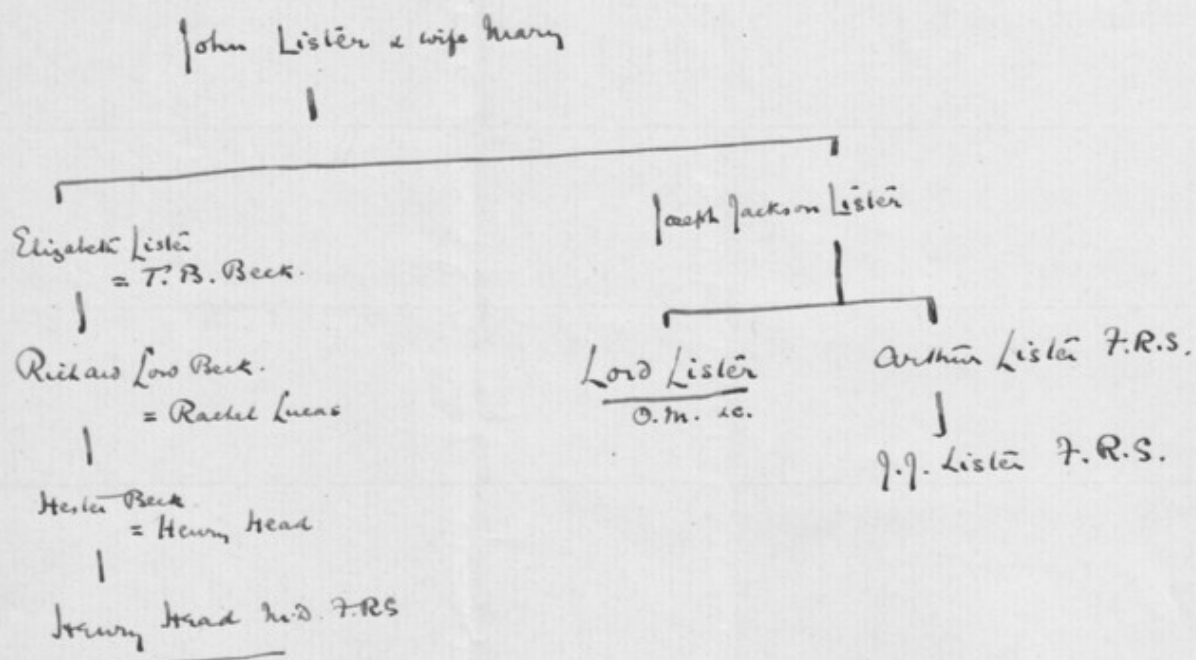
21. fa. ho. son. Hes. Waldgrave Head. Fellow & Organ of Emmanuel College Cambridge. Lecturer on Modern History in the University.



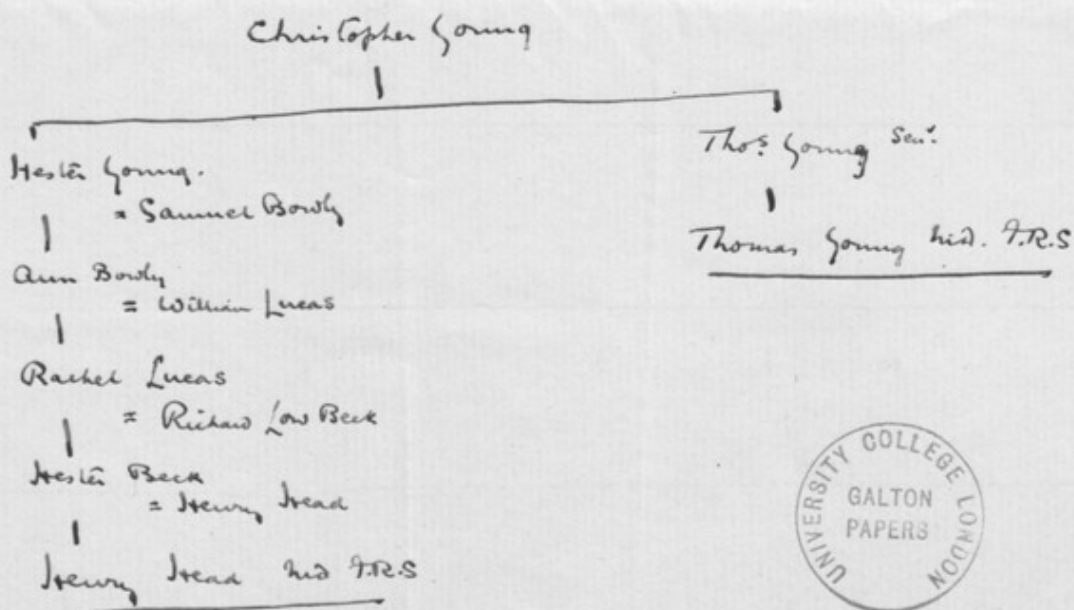
Whatever aptitude I may have been given to me for Natural Science apparently comes from my mother's side. By my mother I am connected with the Lister family according to the annexed Pedigree and with Thomas Young discoverer of the undulatory theory of light, decipherer of the Egyptian Hieroglyphs &c.

To show the connexion of Henry Head with the Lister Family

F.20



To show the connexion of Henry Head with Thomas Young F.R.S.



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Oliver Heaviside, Esq., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

Kindly send further particulars

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<p>Particulars of self.</p> <p>Don't know what is wanted.</p> <p>Born London, 1850. Un-married.</p> <p>Author of "Electrical Papers" 2 vols.</p> <p>"Electromagnetic Theory" 2 vols.</p> <p>and other work.</p> <p>F.R.S.</p> <p>Hon. Mem. Lit &amp; Phil Soc. Manchester</p> <p>Hon. Mem. American Academy.</p>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	6		9	me bro	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	6		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1		23	me bro son	8				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	3				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	6				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	3				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				30 Wi bro 30 Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
	Daughters .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				30(2) Wi bro 30(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender *Oliver Heaviside, Bradley View, Newton Abbot.*

*14 May '04.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



1, Hillside July 9 1904  
 Fowey  
 Cornwall

ROYAL GARDENS,  
 KEW, SURREY



Dear Sir

I do not  
 know of a single  
 member of my family  
 of the present or past  
 generations who has  
 distinguished himself  
 in science, art,  
 literature or music  
 so I cannot fill  
 up your schedule  
 I may mention

W. Bottling  
 Hensley  
 Neform selected

ROYAL GARDENS,  
Kew, Surrey

however

that most of

the members of my  
family, male and female  
on both sides, <sup>personally known to me,</sup> are,  
or were, persons of  
more than average  
intelligence and authority  
in their walk in life.

Want of education  
probably prevented some  
of them from becoming  
prominent citizens  
outside of their  
immediate surroundings

I know of no case  
of idiocy, imbecility,  
suicide, insanity or  
deformity in my  
family, present or  
past generations.

My father ~~had~~  
received very little  
teaching, and never  
studied, but he  
unconsciously learnt  
a great many things,  
for whatever he read  
he remembered, and  
whatever he did he  
thought out. Like  
myself he found as  
much beauty in <sup>common</sup> old  
flowers as in the greatest

parities. My mother  
possessed good taste and  
discernment and always  
deplored her ignorance  
in the higher branches  
of knowledge.

My only son has capacity  
but no great application  
and no unquenchable  
desire to know or  
investigate.

My only daughter has  
equal capacity and greater  
application and finds her  
pleasure in acquiring  
knowledge.

Perhaps, the foregoing  
facts may be useful  
to you indirectly.

Yours faithfully  
W. Botting Hensley







f.24r  
Sept 7. 04  
CROXTETH LODGE,  
ULLEY ROAD,  
LIVERPOOL.

Dear Dr Galton,

Please do not think it is because of any indifference or want of appreciation of the subject, that I have been so long in answering your circular. It is because when I first read it I felt that it did not seem to quite meet the case of my relations, and then absence from home & great pressure of work lately have prevented me till now from having the leisure to write & explain.

I now enclose the form duly filled up to the best of my ability. And I should like to add a few remarks, which you may very possibly find of no use. I fancy they cannot be taken into account under your scheme & yet I feel sure that they represent factors in the case.

In the paragraphs appended to the form I have given the kind of information which you indicate as desirable, but I think that my Uncle William (7, fa bro, W. H.) is not adequately treated; and my Mother (of whom more below) is not

R. 25r

included. Both of these (not related - [me + fa bro]) were characterized by a great love of nature and a scientific turn of mind which from want of opportunity - got little or no recognition.

When a boy I spent several vacations with my uncle in his country parish in Perthshire & all our time was spent in hunting for rare flowers and mosses, land molluscs and such like, & in looking them up in the books. My Uncle was a keen field-Naturalist, and especially botanist, and was I consider quite as good a Scientific man as some "Professors" I know now - who have many academic and professional distinctions.

My mother was a botanist, and also

F.23V

Collected shells and such things as  
Zophytes & Polyzoa at the Sea-side  
& was interested in watching insects.  
She always kept a Marine Aquarium  
and amongst my earliest recollections  
are many of being taken by my  
mother with nets and bottles to  
collect on the sea shore and to  
systematically search rock-pools.  
She was very observant and thorough  
and used to sketch (in water colours)  
the animals, and especially flowers,  
very neatly. I have her copy of the  
illustrated Bentham's British Flora (2 vols.)  
to which she has added coloured  
illustrations of all the species she found.

My mother was certainly my  
first teacher in Marine Biology  
and I also owe a good deal of  
my early instruction to my Uncle  
William. The characters of these two  
relations are quite real and noteworthy to  
me, but they led to little in the way of  
"Recorded Successes" which could appear under  
your scheme. Yours very truly,  
W.A. Herdman



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. W. A. Herdman, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—	<i>S.H.</i>	4	<i>me me</i>	—		2	<i>fa me</i>	<i>Sophia Herdman</i>
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>R.H.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Robert Herdman, F.R.S.A.</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3	<i>W.H.</i>	9	<i>me bro</i>	2	<i>R.A. (?)</i>	7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>Rev. William Herdman</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	0	<i>J.C.H.</i>	10	<i>me si</i>	2		7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>Rev. James Chalmers Herdman</i>
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3		—	—	—	—	9	<i>me bro</i>	<i>Dr. Richard Abbott (?)</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0				
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	<i>6</i>		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	<i>0</i>		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	6	<i>J.C.H.</i>	23	<i>me bro son</i>	2		21	<i>fa bro son</i>	<i>Rev. James Chalmers Herdman</i>
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	7				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	3	<i>M.S.H.</i>	27	<i>me bro da</i>	4		25	<i>fa bro da</i>	<i>Mary Sophia Herdman</i>
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	0		28	<i>me si da</i>	7				

1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	2		<i>Sarah Wyse Douglas</i>	1882	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	1		<i>Jane Brundrett Holt</i>	1893	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	1					

Signature and Address of the Sender *W. A. Herdman, University of Liverpool.*

## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

2. fame, Sophia Herdman, <sup>wife</sup> ~~widow~~ of Rev<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Herdman  
Presbyterian minister of Rathay, Perthshire, left a widow  
rather young with 4 sons, must have been a woman of  
marked ability and strength of character, brought up all her  
boys well, insisted on all having a University education (under  
considerable difficulties) & was an influence in the family.
5. fa, Robert Herdman, J.P., R.S.A., Artist in Edinburgh,  
was Portrait & historical painter well-known in Scotland, was for long  
a leading member of the Royal Scottish Academy and often on the  
Council - also a good Greek Scholar, an Antiquary and a  
~~student~~ <sup>student</sup> of Shakespearean literature - altogether a man of wider  
range in knowledge and sympathies than most artists.
7. fa bro, Rev<sup>d</sup> W<sup>m</sup> Herdman, M.A., Presbyterian minister of Rathay,  
where his ancestors had been ministers before him for some  
generations, was an Antiquary, a good botanist and Geologist  
& an original-minded man - did good Natural History work  
locally without much recognition.
7. fa bro, Rev<sup>d</sup> James Chalmers Herdman, M.A., D.D. (Hon.), Presbyterian  
minister of Melrose, N.B., was a popular preacher, Convener  
of "Foreign Missions" and had a good deal to do with Committees  
and "Schemes" of the Scottish Church.

9. me bro, Dr. Richard Abbott, Surgeon in the Indian army in the time of the East India Company. used to hear of him as a distinguished man, but cannot give particulars [only included with a (?)] -

21. fa bro son, Rev. James Chalmers Herdman, M.A., D.D. (Hon.Y.) [nephew of no. 7 with same name]. Occupies a leading position in the Scottish Church in Canada -

25. fa bro da, Mary Sophia Herdman (daughter of 7 Dr. J. C. H.) was a literary lady, much interested in the education of soldiers to whom she used to lecture and for whom she wrote educational and religious pamphlets & addresses.

See also remarks in my letter to Dr. Galton of Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> 1894.

W. A. Herdman.



William Abbott Herdman, (b. 1858), D.Sc., F.R.S., P.L.S., *General Secretary of British Association*, professor of natural history, University of Liverpool, since 1881; has worked particularly at marine biology; was one of the founders of the Port Erin biological station, & of the seafish hatchery at Piel; was sent to Ceylon 1901-2 to investigate the pearl oyster fishery for the government; *(results published by the Royal Society, 1903-5)* author of numerous zoological works. (Who's Who)

fa me Sophia Herdman, great ability & strength of character shown in the way she brought up her four sons, after having been left a widow early in life.

fa Robert Herdman, (1829-1888), J.P., R.S.A., well known in Scotland as a portrait & historical painter; also a good greek scholar, an antiquary & student of Shaksperian literature. (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa bro William Herdman, presbyterian minister at Rattray; an antiquary a good botanist & geologist.

fa bro James Chalmers Herdman, D.D., (hon.), presbyterian minister of Melrose N.B.; a popular preacher & convener of foreign missions.

fa bro son James Chalmers Herdman, D.D., (hon.), occupies a leading position in the Scottish church in Canada.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Wm. Hicks, 420.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3		9	<i>me bro</i>	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	—				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—		19	<i>si son</i>	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—		20	<i>si da</i>	—				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	1		23	<i>me bro son</i>	3				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	1		24	<i>me si son</i>	—				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	5		27	<i>me bro da</i>	4				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	1		28	<i>me si da</i>	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2 <i>ape</i> 12 & 13.		<i>Ellen Parrin</i>	1887	<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	—				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—				

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Wm. Hicks. Endecliffe Crescent. Sheffield.*



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



ELLESMERE HOUSE,  
WITHINGTON.

Manchester  
July 4 04

Dear Sir

Two difficulties occurred  
to me in filling in these  
lists

3 of the 13 me. bro. da. are the  
same individuals as the 3 fa. si. da.  
and 6 of the 11 me. bro. so. are the  
same as the 6 fa. si. da.

in consequence of the marriage of  
my father's sister with my mother's  
brother. Thus the sum total of  
relations of these degrees is 9 less  
than the sum total of the figures  
given in the columns.



2. It is not clear what is intended by the word childhood I have given all living children I may explain however that all recorded relations are adults except

1. Si. da 7 years
2. bro. da 13, 9, years
3. bio so 11, 7 5 years.

my own two children

da. 7

so. 4

7. fa. bro. William Edward Hickson  
Author. "Time & Faith" etc.  
Editor of the Westminster  
Vide. Dict. Nat. Biog.

9. me bro. Sir Sydney Hedley Waterlow  
Bart.  
Successful in business. Lord Mayor  
of London. Formerly M.P.  
Created Knight & Baronet.

23. me bro. so. Sir Ernest A Waterlow  
Artist RA. P.R.S.W.

26 fa. si. da } Mrs Ruth Norman  
27 me bro. da } Educationalist  
Member of Late London School Board  
Co-opt. member. Education  
Committee L.C.C.

Yours Truly  
Sydney J. Hickson

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. S. J. Hickson, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		7	fabro	William Edward Hickson
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		9	me bro	Sir. Sydney H Waterlow
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	23	me bro &c.	Sir Ernest Waterlow RA
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	26	fa si da	Mrs Ruth Homan
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3	W.E.H.	9	me bro	5	SHW	27	me bro da	
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2		19	si son	10	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2		20	si da	1				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	11		23	me bro son	11	SAW			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	6		24	me si son	4				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6		27	me bro da	13	RH			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	3	RH	28	me si da	6				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	12	Infants	A.M. Fletcher	1896	so Wi bro	2
Daughters . .	30	da	13				so Wi si	6
							da Wi bro	
							da Hu bro	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Wi bro	
							da(2) Hu bro	

Signature and Address of the Sender  
 Sydney J. Hickson, Ellermere House, Withington, Manchester



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Sydney John Hickson, (b.1859) F.R.S., D.Sc., M.A., etc.  
 professor of Zoology, Owen's Coll., Manchester, since 1894:  
 author of "A Naturalist in North Celebes", "The Fauna  
 of the Deep Sea", "The Story of Life in the Seas", & many  
 scientific memoirs. (Who's Who)

bro William Edward Hickson, (1803-1870) educational writer  
 author of "Time & Faith" etc.: editor of Westminster  
 Review, 1840-1852. (Dict.N.Biog.)

bro Sir Sydney Hedley Waterlow, (b.1822) 1st bart,  
 K.C.V.O.: Lord Mayor of London, 1872-3: M.P. for Maidstone,  
 Co.Dumfries, 1868-9, Maidstone, 1874-80, Gravesend, 1880-5:  
 very active in philanthropic work. (Who's Who)

bro son Sir Ernest Waterlow, (b.1850) R.A., president  
 Royal Soc. Painters in Water colours. (Who's Who)

si da & bro da Mrs Ruth Homan, educationalist:  
 member of the London School board: Co-opt. member Education  
 Committee L.C.C.



Задача 10. (10.10.20) 1. 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. 8. 9. 10.

<sup>a</sup> That is, for the study of agencies under social control that may improve or impair the racial qualities of future generations, either physically or mentally.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *W. P. Hiern, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *I have nothing to supply. W. P. Hiern. 8 July 1900.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

D. Leonard Hill, Esq.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	B. H.	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	L. H. G. H.	9	me bro	3	7-5			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	0				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	3		19	si son	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2		20	si da	3				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	0				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	2		27	me bro da	5				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da					

1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Daughters . . .	30	da					so Wi bro	
								so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					da Hu bro	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					da Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender	
Leonard Hill Osborne House, Loughton Essex.	



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

5. fa. Brinkbech Hill Editor of Clarendon Press edition of Boswell's Johnson, & author of several books on 18<sup>th</sup> Century writers. Known as an authority on the literature of that century.

7. fa. bro. Lewin Hill retired as one of the chief secretaries of the General Post office. Given a C.B.

7 fa. bro. Gray Hill a president of the Incorporated Law Society recently knighted

of me bro John Scott, judge in the High Court Bombay, appointed to administration of criminal reform in Egypt, given a K.C.B.

My father's <sup>was head master of Prince Consort School & an education reformer &</sup> grandfather belonged to the well known family of Hill brothers which included Sir Rowland Hill the Postal Reformer, <sup>inventor of postage & superintendent of Stamp Department</sup> Matthew Hill a Recorder of Birmingham, <sup>inventor of engineering</sup> and <sup>inventor of engineering</sup> ~~Matthew Hill~~ <sup>Matthew Hill</sup> ~~Matthew Hill~~

My brother Norman Hill is secretary to the Shipping Association, & a distinguished <sup>authority</sup> writer on Economics of Shipping

My brother Maurice Hill is a rising lawyer in the Admiralty Court both there will attain to greater distinction



Leonard Hill, (b.1866) Lecturer on physiology, London hospital: ~~winner of many prizes - medals scholarships & exhibitions for physiology~~: author of books & memoirs on physiology. M.B., F.R.S. (Who's Who)

fa fa Arthur Hill, ~~Headmaster of Bruce Castle school~~: reformer of education.

fa G. Birkbeck Hill Editor of Clarendon Press edition of Boswell's Johnson, & author of many books on 18th century literature.

fa bro Edward Bernard Lewin Hill, (b.1834) C.B., retired as senior Assistant-Secretary, General Post Office. (Who's Who)

fa bro Sir John Edward Gray Hill, (b.1839), president of the Incorporated Law Society, & of the international Law Ass., 1903-4, author of "with the Beduins", & papers on various subjects connected with maritime law, etc.

(Who's Who)

me bro Sir John Scott, K.C.B., <sup>d</sup>judge in the High Court, Bombay: appointed to reform administration of criminal law in Egypt.

bro Norman Hill, secretary to the Shipping Ass.: a distinguished Liverpool lawyer, & writer & authority on the Economics of shipping.

bro Maurice Hill, rising barrister in the Admiralty Court.





fa fa fa Thomas Wright Hill, (1763-1851), schoolmaster  
& stenographer. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa bro Sir Rowland Hill, (1795-1879), inv-entor of  
penny postage: as chairman of the Brighton Ry. introduced  
introduced express & excursion trains, 1843-6. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa bro Edwin Hill, (1793-1876) Inventor & author: supervisor  
of stamps at Somerset House: with Mr De la Rue invented  
machine for folding envelopes, exhibited 1851. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa bro MattheW Davenport Hill, (1792-1872) first  
recorder of Birmingham: reformer of criminal law & of the  
treatment of criminals. (Dict.N.Biog.)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. G. J. Hinde, Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*.\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	1		10	<i>me si</i>	0 1 1				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	2		15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	1		16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—		19	<i>si son</i>	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—		20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	2		23	<i>me bro son</i>	1				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0 1 1		24	<i>me si son</i>	0 1 1				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	2		27	<i>me bro da</i>	3				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	—		28	<i>me si da</i>					
<div>1st marriage.<div><div>Regr.</div><div>Title.</div><div>No. who survived childhood.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div><div>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</div><div>Year of her marriage.</div><div>Wife's brothers and sisters.<div><div>Titles.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div></div></div><div>Sons . . . . .29<i>so</i>2<div><i>Edith Ochwin Clark</i></div>1891<div><i>so wi bro</i> <i>so wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></div></div><div>Daughters . . . . .30<i>da</i>2<div><i>Edith Ochwin Clark</i></div><div><i>so wi bro</i> <i>so wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></div></div></div><div>2nd marriage.<div><div>Regr.</div><div>Title.</div><div>No. who survived childhood.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div><div>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</div><div>Year of her marriage.</div><div>Wife's brothers and sisters.<div><div>Titles.</div><div>Initials of the noteworthy.</div></div></div><div>Sons . . . . .29(2)<i>so(2)</i><div><i>Edith Ochwin Clark</i></div><div><i>so wi bro</i> <i>so wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></div></div><div>Daughters . . . . .30(2)<i>da(2)</i><div><i>Edith Ochwin Clark</i></div><div><i>so wi bro</i> <i>so wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></div></div></div></div></div> <div><p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>George Jennings Hinde.</i></p></div> <div><p><i>24, Avondale Road, Croydon.</i></p></div> <div></div>											

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

THE CAMP,  
SUNNINGDALE.

July 18 1904

To Sir W. J. Hooker.  
     Dawson Turner  
     Francis Palgrave  
     Gifford Palgrave } See  
                                         Edition of  
                                         National  
                                         Property.

R. Inglis Palgrave

Author of 2 Editions of Political Economy

of money work in Banking &c &c

Sir Reginald Palgrave K.C.B.

Author of 2 Editions of History of Commerce,

Author of Life of Cromwell &c.

W. Hooker.





## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Rev. Joseph Hooker, G.C.S.I., J.P.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	<b>D.I.</b>			3. <i>Danison Turner F.R.S.</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<b>W.S.H.</b>	—	—	—	—			5. <i>Sir William Jackson Hooker F.R.S.</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	2				24. <i>Francis Turner Palgrave</i> <i>William Gifford Palgrave</i> <i>Robert Harry Inglis Palgrave</i> <i>Algina Francis Douce Palgrave</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0 2 1		10	me si	5				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			24. <i>Francis Turner Palgrave</i> <i>William Gifford Palgrave</i> <i>Robert Harry Inglis Palgrave</i> <i>Algina Francis Douce Palgrave</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son	1				24. <i>Francis Turner Palgrave</i> <i>William Gifford Palgrave</i> <i>Robert Harry Inglis Palgrave</i> <i>Algina Francis Douce Palgrave</i>
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da	3				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	2				24. <i>Francis Turner Palgrave</i> <i>William Gifford Palgrave</i> <i>Robert Harry Inglis Palgrave</i> <i>Algina Francis Douce Palgrave</i>
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da	3				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0 4 1		23	me bro son	2				24. <i>Francis Turner Palgrave</i> <i>William Gifford Palgrave</i> <i>Robert Harry Inglis Palgrave</i> <i>Algina Francis Douce Palgrave</i>
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0 4 1		24	me si son	9	<b>W.S.H. F.R.S.</b>			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da	3				24. <i>Francis Turner Palgrave</i> <i>William Gifford Palgrave</i> <i>Robert Harry Inglis Palgrave</i> <i>Algina Francis Douce Palgrave</i>
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	5				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	4		<i>Frances Harriet Hindlow</i>	1851	so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da	2				so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	2		<i>Hyacinth Symonds</i>	1876	so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Joseph Dalton Hooker The Lamp, St. Sarningdale, Surrey*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

The object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Those well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *ma*, runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity; to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*S. S. Hough, Esq., M.A.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		21	fa bro son	Edwin Hough
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				Author of Publications relating to "Laws of Bankruptcy" &c.
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1	E. H.	23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—		24	me si son	3				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	so					so Wi bro	
Daughters .	30	da					so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

*unmarried*

Signature and Address of the Sender *S. S. Hough, Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# Noteworthy Relatives of Sir Victor Horsley

F.44r

- 1 fa fa William Horsley Mus Bacc Oxon Composer of  
Glees etc see Grove's Dict<sup>y</sup> of Music or Encyclopedia  
Britannica
- 3 me fa Charles Thomas Haden - was a ~~distinguished~~ rising  
London Doctor; initiated certain treatment for  
font wh. made a stir at the time. Died young  
~~about~~ 1823 -
- 5 fa John Callcott Horsley R.A. - Painter. See  
Who's Who - for 1903
- 7 fa bro Charles Edward Horsley - Musician & Composer  
of several oratorios. Best known in America  
see Grove's Dict<sup>y</sup> of Music -
- 9 me bro Sir F. Seymour Haden <sup>F.R.C.S.</sup> - Surgeon &  
Etcher - President of the Royal Society of  
Painter Etchers - see Who's Who -

- more distant degrees
- fa me fa . John Wall Callcott Mus Doc Oxon -  
Composer of glees etc. see Grove's Dict<sup>y</sup> of Music  
or Eng. Brit.
  - fa me fa bro. Sir Augustus Wall Callcott R.A.  
Landscape Painter -  
Englop<sup>y</sup> Brit.
  - me fa fa Thomas Haden - the principal doctor  
in Derby & a man of great influence in  
the town - was 3 times Mayor - P.T.O.

22 fa si son. Tramhard Brunel. Chancellor  
to the Diocese of Ely. Ecclesiastical  
Barister - see those who before 1903.



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

L. Victor Horsley, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; WI = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so WI bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	W. H.	3	me fa	—	C. T. H.	1	fa fa	William Horsley
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		3	me fa	Charles Thomas Haden
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. C. H.	—	—	—	—	5	fa	John Callcott Horsley
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	C. E. H.	9	me bro	2	F. S. H.	7	fa bro	Charles Edward Horsley
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	1		9	me bro	Francis Seymour Haden
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0 5 9	I. B.	23	me bro son	4				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	2		24	me si son	0 5 6		22	fa si son	Isambard Brunel
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da					

{ fa me fa John Wall Callcott  
 fa me fa bro Augustus Wall Callcott  
 me fa fa Thomas Haden

more distant  
degrees.

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	2	Eldred Brunell	1887	Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	1			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

Eldred Horsley 25 Camendish Lane



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Li William Huggins, K.C.B., O.M., P.R.I.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	



Signature and Address of the Sender *I regret that I am unable to trace among my forebears any persons distinguished in any of the ways mentioned.*

*William Huggins*  
90 Upper Zulze Hill, S.W.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

(Jonathan Hutchinson)

f.47r



15, Cavendish Square, W.

July 14 1904

Dear Mr Galton

I do not like to leave  
any application of yours  
unanswered yet I do not  
feel that I can fill up your  
schedule to any profit. There  
is very little in the history  
of my progenitors which  
can be ~~recorded~~ <sup>tabulated</sup>. They  
were Lincolnshire farmers  
& gentlemen some amongst  
the earliest to join the  
Society of Friends  
one of my mothers ancestors  
I believe translated Tully  
on Old Age but I cannot  
trace him. Have the books

Jonathan Hutchinson  
no return form

My mother's father was  
 a cultivated dilettante  
 who had a collection of  
 curios & a small library  
 & who attempted at considerable  
 expense to construct a  
 picturesque ~~place~~<sup>spot</sup> in the  
 flats near Spalding. He  
 constituted his farm  
 buildings, dug moats &  
 made islands and a  
 hermit's cave. Near it  
 is now known as "Manny's  
 folly" He never had any  
 occupation other than  
 nothing remarkable but he  
 was clearly a man of  
 taste & he tried to realize  
 his ideas.

My father's father was a



highly esteemed Quaker preacher  
 conscientious to the verge  
 of scrupulosity but beloved  
 by all who knew him. He  
 was a good letter writer  
 (religious) & his letters were  
 collected & published after  
 his death but excepting as  
 expressing deep spiritual truths  
 & sense of responsibility they  
 are not remarkable  
 My parents inherited the  
 qualities of their's will,  
 in my father, a good share  
 of business ability on his mother's  
 side. He was I think I  
 may say the leading man  
 in the town in which he  
 lived. Next to him he was the  
 one most respected  
 Thus you will see I have gained

F. 48 v

respectability & record but nothing  
more remarkable

We have I believe a tendency  
to dolichocephalism &  
average large heads. I could  
not fill my father's hat &  
I have often much difficulty  
in getting a cap by length  
to fit <sup>my</sup> ~~my~~ head. I suspect  
however that it is length  
rather than actual size  
of head which <sup>makes</sup> the difficulty  
We have no Roman noses  
amongst us nor any round  
Shakespearean foreheads

I fear I am sending you very  
unpleasant details but I am  
much interested in the study  
of heredity & of course a very  
firm believer in it  
With apologies for so long a letter  
& for not using your scheme  
Yours truly  
Prof. Huxley

Huxley

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Captain F. W. Hutton, M.D.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2		9	<i>me bro</i>	7				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	6		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	3		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	6		19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	6		20	<i>si da</i>	1				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	4		23	<i>me bro son</i>	2				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	6		24	<i>me si son</i>	4				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	3		27	<i>me bro da</i>	6				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	6		28	<i>me si da</i>	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	3	<i>Annie Gough Montgomery</i>	1863	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	3			<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *F. W. Hutton - Museum, Christchurch, New Zealand.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



F. 50

Houston

~~Ames~~

~~For~~

Colon Vasion

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor F. R. Japp, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2		9	<i>me bro</i>	7				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	5		23	<i>me bro son</i>	13				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	4		24	<i>me si son</i>	4				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	10		27	<i>me bro da</i>	11				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	2		28	<i>me si da</i>	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>		<i>Tegetmeyer</i>	1879	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2			<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*F. R. Japp The University, Aberdeen.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. J. Joly, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	H. E. J.	3	me fa	—	F. de L.	1.	fa fa	Henry Edmond Joly
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		3.	me fa	Federick Comte de Lusi.
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. P. J.	—	—	—	—	5.	fa.	John Plumet Joly
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	9.	me da	Federick Comte de Lusi
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	J. R. J.	9	me bro	1	F. de Lusi	7.	fa bro	Jean Robert Joly.
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1	M. J.	10	me si	4		8.	fa si	Mary Joly.
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0 1/2		24	me si son	0 1/2				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	5		27	me bro da	0				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	0				
1st marriage.											
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.				
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.			
Sons . . . . .	29	so					Wi bro				
Daughters . . .	30	da					Wi si				
2nd marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					Wi bro				
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					Wi si				

Signature and Address of the Sender: John Joly, 12 Northbrook Road, Dublin.





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Reg. Title

1. fa fa. Rev Henry Edmund Joly. Divine and Physician. is credited with some medical discoveries and scientific medical views in advance of his time.
3. me fa. Frederick Count de Tusi. Statesman & Linguist. Spoke most European languages - Resident Minister of the King of Prussia in Paris London, St. Petersburg, Greece etc.
5. fa. <sup>Rev John Plumet Joly</sup> Accomplished as a painter of ~~any~~ bird & insect life and botanical subjects: left a remarkable collection <sup>of pictures</sup> behind him: died early.
9. me br. <sup>Frederick Count de Tusi</sup> Soldier. Distinguished himself in the ~~German~~ <sup>German-Danish</sup> ~~Prussian~~ war of 1848. Decorated for valor in saving the life of General Falkenberg.
7. fa. br. <sup>Jasper Robert Joly</sup> Remarkable precocious as a boy. Distinguished College successes in Classics in his 13<sup>th</sup> year. Devoted his life to collections of Hogarth & Beards: upon whom <sup>he</sup> was an authority.
8. fa. si. <sup>Mary Joly</sup> Dried young; left a remarkable collection of mounted accurate paintings of birds & flowers: some of extraordinary fidelity and beauty.
- me fa fa. <sup>Spiridon Count de Tusi</sup> The "founder" of the de Tusi family. Ennobled by Frederick the great for statesmanship. See Percy Anecdotes.

F4

John Joly, (b.1858) D.Sc., F.R.S., professor of geology & mineralogy in the University of Dublin since 1897; has published many contributions to the Royal Soc. , Royal Dublin Soc. etc.

\* [who's who]

fa fa Henry Edward Joly, divine & physician; is credited with some medical discoveries & scientific medical views in advance of his time.

me fa Frederick. Comte de Lusi, <sup>author</sup> statesman, & linguist; resident minister of the king of Prussia in London, St. Petersburg. Greece, etc. made the first ascent of M<sup>t</sup> Blanc in 1816.

fa John Plunket Joly, (Rev.) accomplished as a painter of bird & insect life & botanical subjects; left a remarkable collection<sup>n</sup> of pictures behind him; died early.

me bro Frederick. Comte de Lusi, soldier distinguished himself in the German-Danish war of 1848; decorated for valour in saving the life of General Halkett.

fa bro Jasper Robert Joly, remarkable precocity as a boy; obtained distinguished college successes in classics in his 13th year at Trinity Coll., Dublin. Devoted his life to the collection of Hogarth & Bewick, upon whom he was an authority.

fa si Mary Joly, died young; left a remarkable collection of minutely accurate paintings of birds & flowers; some of extraordinarily fidelity & beauty.

me fa fa Spiridon, Comte de Lusi, the founder of the de Lusi family enobled by Frederick the Great for statesmanship. [Percy anecdotes]

17, PARSON'S GREEN, 13

F.51

June 29, 1904

FURZES,

LONDON, S.W.

Dear Dr. Galton

Regretting that I have nothing  
of interest to insert in the ~~Form~~ about Knisfold etc  
can be said today, I may mention  
the four surviving children of my  
first marriage have no special abilities  
resulting in 'high success' - probably because  
their mother came off <sup>a</sup> ~~off~~ <sup>of</sup> a rural  
poorly educated family. (Of myself  
you already know particulars.) The  
five children of my second marriage are far  
brighter as several without, but not yet  
achieved high success having means. Their



Grand Parents seem of better standing in  
abolition & religious life -

I trouble you with this note  
as it bears on heredity & a cousin

State -

Plumetion of old age <sup>interferes</sup> before  
with my bodily comfort & mental activity.

Therefore be pleased to excuse this  
rough and scurry - and believe me

Ever yours sincerely

J. R. Galton

To Dr Francis Galton, F.R.S. &c

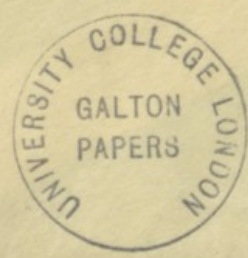


f.61

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

LONDON, S.W.



*(illegible)  
name*  
*nothing*

S

My daughter Hilda Mary Judd  
has, without any special attempt  
to direct her mind in that way,  
shown a taste and capacity for  
Scientific Study. While at  
School she earned the silver  
medal offered by the Royal  
Geographical Society; she has  
since joined the Royal College  
of Science, where she took  
the Murchison Medal & Prize  
in Geology & will shortly  
obtain the Associationship of  
the College & her degree at  
the London University.

Judd



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. J. W. Judd, C.B. 780.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	0				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	—				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	6		19	<i>si son</i>	6				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>	4				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	4		23	<i>me bro son</i>	—				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	1		24	<i>me si son</i>	—				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	2		27	<i>me bro da</i>	—				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	6		28	<i>me si da</i>	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1		<i>Jeannie</i>	1878	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	1	<i>H. M. J.</i>	<i>Frances</i>		<i>so Wi si</i>	
					<i>Jeyes.</i>		<i>da Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *John W. Judd 22, Cumberland Road New.*



*Hilda Mary Judd.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*A. B. Kempe, Esq., Treas. R.A.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	A. J. K.	3	me fa	—	—	1	fa-fa	Alfred John Kempe
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—			
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. E. K.	—	—	—	—	5	fa	John Edward Kempe
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	bro.	John Anna Kempe
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3	—	9	me bro	2	—	11	bro	Harry Robert Kempe
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	6	—	10	me si	2	—	17	bro son	Edward Kempe
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	3	J. A. K.; H. R. K.	—	—	—	—	18	bro da	Dorothy Kempe
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1	—	—	—	—	—	22	fa-si-sa.	Thomas Beuna.
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	—	—	15	me son	—	—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—	—	16	me da	—	—			
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	6	E. K.	19	si son	6	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	7	D. K.	20	si da	4	—			
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	6	—	23	me bro son	1	—			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	12	T. B.	24	me si son	—	—			
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	4	—	27	me bro da	3	—			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	17	—	28	me si da	—	—			



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	—	Mary Bownes	1877	Wi bro Wi si	—
	Daughters .	30	da	—			<del>Wi bro</del> <del>Wi si</del>	—
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	1 still a child	Jda Meadows White	1897	(2) Wi bro (2) Wi si	—
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	1 still a child			(2) Wi bro (2) Wi si	—

Signature and Address of the Sender *A. B. Kempe 10 Portchester Square Hyde Park, W.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

† 42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Alfred Bray Kempe, (b.1849) F.R.S., chancellor of the Dioceses of Newcastle, Southwell, & St. Albans; treasurer & vice president of the Royal Soc., 1899; has published works on mathematics. [Who's Who]

fa fa Alfred John Kempe, (1784-1846) distinguished antiquary; published works on Holwood Hill, Kent, & on St. Martin-le-Grand Church, London; [Dict.N Biog.]

fa John Edward Kempe, (b.1810) late rector of St. James's, Piccadilly; hon. chaplain to the King since 1901; [Who's Who]

bro John Arrow Kempe, (b.1846) C.B., Comptroller & Auditor-General. [Who's Who]

bro Harry Robert Kempe, (b.1852) Principal Technical Officer of the Postal Telegraph Dept; author of "Handbook of Electrical Testing", & other technical works which have gone through many editions; for many years editor of "Electrical Review". [Who's Who]

bro son Edward Kempe, Captain & Gold Medallist, Radley school; scholar of Lincoln Coll. Oxford; editor of "The Huia" New Zealand.

\* fa fa si Anna Eliza Bray, nee Kempe, (1790-1883) historical novelist; completed work on "Monumental Effigies of Great Britain" commenced by her first husband Charles Alfred Stothard [Dict.N.Biog.]

for further particulars vide "A History of the Kempe & Kemp Families"



Regr. Title  
1. fa. fa.

Alfred John Kempe F.S.A.

Distinguished Antiquary.

See Dictionary of National Biography



①

Regn. Title

1. fa

John Edward Kemp

Clergyman

Late Rector of St James's Piccadilly

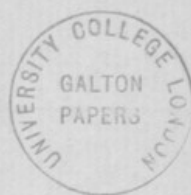
Elected Member of Canterbury Convocation.

Chaplain to the Queen.

See Who's Who 1904

Now alive aged 94 in full possession of  
all his faculties.

(2)



†

Regr. Tite  
11 bro.

John Arrow Kempe

Formerly Deputy Chairman of the Board of Customs  
Now Assistant Comptroller and Auditor.

C.B. See Who's Who 1904

(3)



Regr. Title  
11 bro.



Harry Robert Kempe

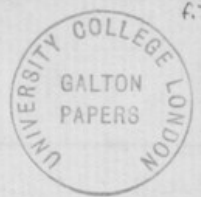
Electrical Engineer in the  
General Post-office.

Author of "Handbook of Electrical Testing"  
and other technical works which have  
gone through many editions. For  
many years Editor of the "Electrical Review".

See Who's Who 1894



Reg<sup>r</sup> Title  
17. bro. son.



Edward Kempe

son of John Arrow Kempe. [Reg. 17]

Captain of Radley School.  
and Gold Medallist.

Scholar of Lincoln College.

Now resident in New Zealand on account  
of ill health. Writes articles and is editor of  
a magazine "The Huia".

(5)

Ref. Title  
18. bro. da.

Dorothy Keight  
daughter of John Arno Keight [Ref 11]  
Anglo-Saxon scholar.



(6)

Repr. Title

22. fa. sis. son.

Thomas Benson

Indian Civil Servant.

Passed Third in the Competitive  
Examination for admission to the Service



(7)

The Kempe family numbers many distinguished members of earlier date than those included in the Table.

e.g. Cardinal Kempe. He was Archbishop of York, & (later) Bishop, and Chancellor temp. Henry VII. See Dictionary of National Biography

Anna Eliza Bray [Miss Kempe] ~~deux~~ (sister of Alfred John Kempe F.S.A.) who was a distinguished writer & novelist. See Anna Eliza Bray in the Dictionary of National Biography

(8)





f.11  
A bulky volume has recently appeared  
entitled "A History of the Keimpe and Keimp  
Families".



(9)



1/2 Nelson Gundry Esq  
54 Parliament St  
S.W.

F.R.

London 19 July  
1904

Sir, I must apologise for  
not having before now  
returned to you the schedule  
which I now enclose. It has  
been the cause of  
the delay.

My parents died  
when I was quite a  
child & I have no  
information of any  
value concerning their  
relatives. I have only

me living ~~just~~ who  
is in no way re-  
markable.

Believe me  
Yrs faithfully  
George King

James Fulton




# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Mr George King, K.C.I.E., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																														
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																			
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—																																																		
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																		
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—																																																		
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—																																																		
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>																																																			
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>																																																			
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—																																																		
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—																																																		
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																			
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																			
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>																																																			
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																			
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>																																																			
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>																																																			
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>																																																			
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>																																																			
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so Wi bro</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>da(2) Wi bro</i> <i>da(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>		Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>		2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Wi bro</i> <i>da(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>		Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																	
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>																																																		
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>																																																		
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Wi bro</i> <i>da(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>																																																		
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>																																																						

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Li John Kirk, G. C.M.G., K.C.B., F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	9		9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	10		10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2	A.C.K	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	2		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	1		28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1	J.W.C.K	Helen Cooke	1867	<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	4				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>si(2) Wi bro</i> <i>si(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

A.C.K  
Alexander C. Kirk Esq. Engineer  
invented the triple expansion engine



J.W.C.K  
Lieut. D.C.L.D. and  
K.A.R. author of  
Somali Grammar

Signature and Address of the Sender

*John Kirk Wainwright, Sevenoaks*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency, with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



f.1

BRITISH MUSEUM (NATURAL HISTORY),

CROMWELL ROAD,

LONDON: S.W.

July 13<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mr' Galton -

I have endeavoured  
to fill up the paper - but  
I don't know whether  
you want details -  
My father & mother  
& my mother's brother  
were all well known -  
Sam Pope was a very successful  
& much beloved leader of  
the Parliamentary Bar -  
none of my <sup>other</sup> uncles, or aunts  
or grandfathers or grandmothers



or any other relations...  
 were prominent. Except  
 my mother's aunt's son  
 William Spurgeon Caine  
 who was a well known  
 radical M.P. & a great  
 temperance man & leading  
 nonconformist.

Both my father's & mother's  
 families were nonconformist.

My brothers & sisters  
 are all much above  
 the average both in  
 ability and in activity.

But I have first cousins  
 only by one uncle - William  
 Pope - (not by Saffr. Pope).  
 and they <sup>are</sup> ~~were~~ not as  
 he was not - at all  
 noteworthy - My father's



Cousins are not noteworthy  
and he had no brothers or  
sisters.

Some of my mother's cousins  
children - Rushton by  
name the name of her  
mother - are noteworthy.  
My mother's grandfather  
Rushton was a noteworthy  
Liverpool merchant.

My father's cousins were  
some of them successful  
business men - one was  
Mayor of Southampton  
(Joseph Laukster) - but  
that is all I can think of.

I have no scientific or  
literary relatives whatever  
outside my father, mother  
& brothers & sisters.

Sincerely yours May Laukster

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. E. Ray Lankester, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																														
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																			
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<i>Edwin Lankester M.B.</i> <i>Phoebe Lankester</i> <i>Samuel Pope P.C.</i> <i>(Prof. Mrs. L. H. M. B. G. D. - successful barrister)</i> <i>E. Forbes Lankester</i> <i>S. Rowland Lankester</i> <i>H.M. Counsel, Baltimore</i> <i>Jay Lankester - Secretary</i> <i>National Health Council</i>																																														
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																		
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>E. L.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																	
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	<i>P. L.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																	
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro		<i>S.P.</i>	9	me bro		<i>S.P.</i>																																																	
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		<i>E. F. L. S.R.L.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																	
Sisters . . . . .	12	si		<i>F.L.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																	
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son																																																			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																			
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son																																																			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da																																																			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son																																																			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son																																																			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da																																																			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																			
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td> <i>Wi bro</i>  <i>Wi si</i>  <i>da</i>  <i>Hu</i> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td> <i>Wi bro</i>  <i>Wi si</i>  <i>da</i>  <i>Hu</i> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hu</i>		Daughters .	30	da						2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hu</i>		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)						
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hu</i>																																																		
	Daughters .	30	da																																																						
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hu</i>																																																		
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)																																																						
Signature and Address of the Sender																																																									



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Edwin Ray Lankester, (b.1847), LL.D., ~~FR~~ F.R.S., ;celebrated zoologist; director of Natural History Departments, British Museum since 1898; Fullerian professor of physiology & comparative anatomy, Royal Inst., 1898-1900; Linacre professor of Comparative anatomy, Oxford, 1891-1898; numerous other distinctions. (Who's Who)



fa Edwin Lankester (1814-1874), M.D., F.R.S., professor of natural history, New Coll. London, 1850; medical officer of health for parish of St. James's, Westminster; & coroner for central Middlesex. joint editor of Q.J.M.S., etc. (Dict.N.Biog)

me Phebe Lankester, (1825-1900) - authors of 'Wild Flowers with notice'; the popular portion of *Handbook's British Botany* & many other publications; also of a weekly newspaper letter for many years under me bro Samuel Pope, Q.C., successful leader of the Parliamentary bar.

bro E. Forbes Lankester, 1st Class in "Greats", Oxford; successful barrister.

*the signature 'Penelope'*

bro S. Rushton Lankester, H.M. Consul, Batavia.

si Fay Lankester, secretary of National Health Society.

bro. Owen Lankester M.R.C.S. - successful medical practitioner in London -

si. Marion Vatcher wife of Rev. Sydney Vatcher, vicar of St. Philips, Stepney - both known in connection with East London organization of help to the poor.

si. Mina Lankester - clerk in the Post Office, promoted to superior post. Superintendent of Female Clerks ~~Clarks~~ in the Money Order ~~Off~~ Department.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Professor J. Larmor, Secs.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	4	A, Fellow of a College	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	—				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	4		24	me si son	—				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	11		28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
	Daughters .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender

J. Larmor, St. John's College, Cambridge



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

SUNNYSIDE,  
SIDCUP,  
KENT.



June 1<sup>st</sup> 1904.

Dear Sir,

I am sorry to have to  
return the enclosed form  
with no entry in it. No  
members of my family, as  
far as I know or can  
ascertain, were "testworthy"  
in the sense in which you  
use the word. My grand-  
parents were ordinary




Country-folk. My father  
and mother went out into  
the world as public singers  
and subsequently ~~per~~ settled  
in Liverpool as teachers  
of singing. I am myself  
distinctly musical. My  
characteristic bent as a  
boy was for mathematics,  
and I started to read for

The Mathematical Tripos  
in 1872, changing to  
Natural Sciences in 1873.

I have sent you these details  
in case they may be of  
any interest to you. If they  
are not you will please  
pardon me for inflicting  
them on you.

Yours truly  
A. Sheldon Lea.

Francis Galton Esq F.R.S.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *P. A. Sheridan Lea, Mrs.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender  
*A. E. Lea*  
*Sunnyside, Sidcup, Kent.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rt. Hon. Lord Lindley, Knt.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*. \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	1		3	me fa	1				<i>John Lindley</i>
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	1		4	me me	1				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	1	<i>J. L.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	1		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	0				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	20		19	si son	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	3				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2 or 3		23	me bro son	1/4				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	0				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	2 or 3		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0				



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	4	<i>J. E. L. H. B. L. J. H. B. L. J. H. B. L.</i>	<i>1858</i>	Wi bro Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	1 1
	Daughters . .	30	da	4	<i>Sarah Katharine Feak</i>			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro Wi si Hu bro Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					

*John Edward Lindley  
1st. on the Staff  
Walter Barry Lindley  
County Court  
Judge  
Laurie Murray Lindley  
Physician to the  
Shah of Persia  
Francis Harold Lindley  
2nd Secretary to  
the Egyptian  
Service Cairo*

Signature and Address of the Sender *Lindley 19 Coacem Hill Gardens W*

\*. I cannot give these accurately. My father's brother emigrated in early life & has some sons & daughters & that is all I know.

*I do not know whether these are noteworthy but they may be so I have put them in*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Arthur Lister, Esq. F.R.S.

does not  
("WHO'S WHO" containing all that is wanted concerning yourself.)  
(Kindly send further particulars)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J.L.	—	—	—	—			Joseph Jackson Lister F.R.S. discoverer of antiseptics inventor of microscope 8th Nov 1827 - 1897
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		J.L.	—	—	—	—			Joseph (Lord) Lister F.R.S.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son		R.J.S.			Richardson John Godlee Surgeon
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	all	J.L. R.H. W.J.	Susanna Dindall	1855	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters . .	30	da	all	E.L.				
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)						

Joseph Jackson Lister F.R.S.  
Arthur Hugh Lister  
assistant physician Aberdeen Inf.  
obtained "F.R.S." at University of  
Edinburgh  
Wm J. Lister  
ophthalmic surgeon London Hosp.  
Gladstone Lister  
contributed papers to Listerian  
Journal & and, in connection  
with Arthur, to Annals of Otolaryngology

Signature and Address of the Sender

Arthur Lister, Highcliff, Lyme Regis Dorset  
Author of "Monograph of the Mycetozoa" - British Museum Catalogue

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



*High cliff. Lyme Regis Dorset.*

Arthur Lister, (b.1830) F.R.S., botanist; author of "Monograph of the Mycetozoa", British Museum Catalogue. (Who's Who)

fa Joseph Jackson Lister, (1786-1869) F.R.S., discoverer of optical principles, the knowledge of which led to the improvement of the microscope. (Dict.N.Biog.)

bro Joseph Lister, 1st Baron Lister, (b.1827), F.R.S., D.C.L., LL.D., D.Sc., O.M., P.C., F.R.C.S., famous for the discovery of antiseptic treatment in surgery; Sergeant-Surgeon in ordinary to His Majesty since 1901; P.R.S., 1896-1900. president of British Ass. 1896. etc. (Who's Who)

son Joseph Jackson Lister, biologist; fellow of St. John's Coll. Cambridge. F.R.S. (Who's Who)

son Arthur Hugh Lister, <sup>MP</sup> assistant physician Aberdeen; obtained "3 stars" at University exam., Aberdeen.

son William T. Lister, <sup>F.R.C.S.</sup> ophthalmic surgeon, London Hosp.



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

The Rt. Hon. the Lord Lister, om, M.P.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. L.	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		Arthur L. F. L.	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son		J. L. F. L.	15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da					so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

Lister, 12 Park Crescent, London W.

\* Discovered the principle on which the achromatic microscope is constructed (Paper in Phil. Trans.)  
made beautiful contributions to zoology. (Phil. Trans.)

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. G. D. Liveing, F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	G.D.	3	me fa	George Downing
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		11	bro	Edward Liveing
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	"	"	Robert Liveing
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	31	me fa me fa bro	Ephraim Chambers
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4		9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	E.L. & R.L.	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	7		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	4		19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	4		20	si da	1				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	4		24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender

G.D. Liveing  
Cambridge



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Kinfolk of Professor G.D. Living

F. 14

3. ~~me fa me fa~~ ~~bro~~: George Downing.  
see European Magazine vol 39 - p. 83 (Feb. 1801)  
also Historical Record of Light Horse Volunteers of London  
and Westminster pp. 128-9 (Wright. 60 Pall Mall 1843)
11. bro. Edward Living, Fellow and Registrar of  
the Royal College of Physicians, London.  
Fellow & member of the Council of Kings College  
London, and sometime assistant Physician to  
Kings College Hospital  
Author of "Megrim, a contribution to the pathology  
of Nerve Storms"
11. bro. Robert Living - see "Who's Who" 1904
31. ~~me fa me fa~~ ~~bro~~. Ephraim Chambers - author of the  
Cyclopaedia - see Dictionary of General Biography s. v.  
or Dict. Nat. Biog.

G.D. L.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Prof. A. Liversidge, F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2+7	J. G. L. + H. W. L.	19	si son			17.	bro. son	John George Liversidge.
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3+2		20	si da			17	bro. son	Howard Willmott Liversidge.
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da					so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

A. Liversidge.

Lovite Club, 107 Piccadilly

and after post: reph. The University, Sydney, Australia



\* John George Liversidge is eldest of a family of 7 sons & 2 daughters and Howard Willmott Liversidge is eldest of a family of 2 sons & 3 daughters who all survived childhood.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Regatta N<sup>o</sup>. 17. bro. son.

- Howard Willmott Liversidge M.A. Oxon.
- = Took first class honours in Modern History at Oxford in 1902.
  - = President of the Oxford Union Society 1903.
  - = A co-opted member of the London Education Board.



Register No. 17. bro. son. John George Liversidge,  
(Engineer R.N.) Passed out first of his final  
year at the Royal Naval College of Engineering  
Greenwich.

Author of a handbook "On Engine Room  
Practice".



F.18r

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Mr Oliver J Lodge, D.L., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—		7	<i>fabro</i>	Robert J. Lodge now dead 20. Old Broad St EC
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			for many years Secretary of the Marine Insurance Co I reckon a man I could do with a bit of the old
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>		R.J.I.	9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>		R.I. A.I.	—	—	—	—	11	<i>bro</i>	Richard Lodge MA oxa. Prof. of History in Univ of Edinburgh (see "Who's Who")
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>		E.C.I.	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>			11	<i>bro</i>	Alfred Lodge MA oxa. Prof. of Pure Mathematics at Corpus Hill
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>		G.E.I.	23	<i>me bro son</i>			12	<i>si</i>	Eleanor Cantuana Lodge a sub-head of Lady Margaret Hall Oxford
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					
1st marriage.											
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.				
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	21	<i>fabroson</i>	George E. Lodge Animal painter & Engraver. exhibited in Academy & illustrated Punch &c.
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>so Wi bro</i>				
Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>					<i>so Wi si</i>				
							<i>da Hu bro</i>				
							<i>da Hu si</i>				
2nd marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>				
Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>				
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>				
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>				

The following were exceptionally able women though not highly educated: —  
me, mesi, mame, fame.

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Oliver J Lodge, University Birmingham*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



6.19  
University Birmingham

Sir Oliver Lodge. (b.1851), M.Sc., F.R.S., D.Sc., London, Oxon, & Vict., LL.D., St.Andrews & Glasgow; Principal of the University of Birmingham since 1900; professor of physics University Coll. Liverpool, 1881-1900; author of various works on physics, & articles in the Hibbert Journal. (Who's Who)

*fa* Robert J. Lodge, for many years secretary of the Marine Insurance Co., & reckoned a man of considerable ability in the city.

bro Richard Lodge, (b.1855), professor of history, Edinburgh, since 1899; first professor of history Glasgow University; author of "Student's Modern Europe", "Richelieu" in foreign statesman series, & "The Close of the Middle Ages" (Who's Who)

bro Alfred Lodge, professor of pure mathematics at Cooper's Hill.

si Eleanor Constance Lodge, sub-head ~~of~~ <sup>and lecturer on history in</sup> Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

fa bro son George E. Lodge, well known animal painter & engraver



**TORRISDALE,  
CAMBRIDGE.**

Robert Alexander Stewart  
Macalister see Who's Who  
p 953

George Hugh Kidd Macalister  
Senior Scholar Charterhouse  
Leaving Scholarship Charterhouse  
Entrance Scholarship & St John's  
Major Scholarship } College  
Cambridge  
Still a student



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Prof. A. Macalister, Esq.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4		9	me bro	5				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	5		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	4		20	si da	—				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son	2				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	9				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	4		27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	5				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	2	RASM GHKM	Stewart	1866	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters . .	30	da	2					
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)						

Signature and Address of the Sender  
Al Macalister, 2012 Dale Cambridge



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Frank McClean Esq., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J.R.W.C.	—	—	—	—	5.	fa.	John Robinson W. Chan
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	5		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	1		19	si son	10				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da	11				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son	0				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	3		24	me si son	2	W. Mac.C.	24	me si son	Sir William MacLennan Bart.
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	1				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	9		28	me si da	3				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	3		Ellen Gray	1865	10 Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30	da	2				10 Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					10(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					10(2) Wi si	
							10(2) Hu bro	
							10(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender Frank W. Chan - Rutherford House - Cambridge Wells.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

5 - fa - John Robinson W Cleau

F.R.S. Civil Engineer.

M.P. for East Staffordshire

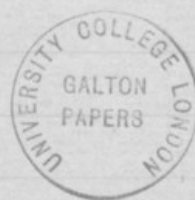
Memoir - Proceedings of Institution of Civil Engineers  
Vol. XXXVIII



p.5

24 - Me. si. son. Sir William Mac Cormac  
Bart. K.C.B. - K.C.V.O.  
President of the Royal College of Surgeons.

Biographical Notice - St Thomas Hospital Reports Vol XXX.  
"Who's Who" 1901.





30 - da - Anna M. Clean

Artist. Exhibited Royal Academy 1904.



(“WHO’S WHO” contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wt bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.		Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																												
		Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																																	
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	✓	✓	3	me fa	—	G. L. F.	2	fa me	Patience Foster (afterwards M <sup>c</sup> Clintock.)																																																												
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	✱ P. F.	✓	4	me me	—	✓																																																															
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	✓	✓	—	—	—	—																																																															
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	✓	✓	—	—	—	—																																																															
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4	✓	✓	9	me bro	?	C. M. F.	11	bro.	Alfred Henry M <sup>c</sup> Clintock M.D.																																																												
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	4	✓	✓	10	me si	✓	✓	21	fa bro son	John M <sup>c</sup> Clintock afterwards Baron Rathdonnell.																																																												
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	5	A. H. M <sup>c</sup> C.	✓	—	—	—	—																																																															
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	6	✓	✓	—	—	—	—																																																															
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	} none	✓	✓	15	me son	} None	✓	3	Me fa	Rev. <sup>d</sup> George Lewis Flury																																																												
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da				16	me da																																																																	
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	4	✓	✓	19	si son	✓	✓	9	Me bro	Rev. Charles Manley Flury																																																												
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	4	✓	✓	20	si da	✓	✓																																																															
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	?	J. M <sup>c</sup> C.	✓	23	me bro son	?	✓																																																															
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son		✓	✓	24	me si son	✓	✓																																																															
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da		✓	✓	27	me bro da	✓	✓																																																															
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da		✓	✓	28	me si da	✓	✓																																																															
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Regr.</th> <th>Title.</th> <th>No. who survived childhood.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th>Year of marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td>3</td> <td>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C. J. W. L. M<sup>c</sup>C. R. S. M<sup>c</sup>C.</td> <td>Dunlop (Name changed from Delap)</td> <td>1870</td> <td>Wi bro Wi si da <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del> da <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del></td> <td>H. F. S. D.</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td>2</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>✓</td> <td>✓</td> <td>Wi(2) bro Wi(2) si da(2) <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del> da(2) <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del></td> <td>✓</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>															Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3	H. F. M <sup>c</sup> C. J. W. L. M <sup>c</sup> C. R. S. M <sup>c</sup> C.	Dunlop (Name changed from Delap)	1870	Wi bro Wi si da <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del> da <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del>	H. F. S. D.		Daughters .	30	da	2						2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)			✓	✓	Wi(2) bro Wi(2) si da(2) <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del> da(2) <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del>	✓		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)						
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																																
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																															
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3	H. F. M <sup>c</sup> C. J. W. L. M <sup>c</sup> C. R. S. M <sup>c</sup> C.	Dunlop (Name changed from Delap)	1870	Wi bro Wi si da <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del> da <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del>	H. F. S. D.																																																															
	Daughters .	30	da	2																																																																				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)			✓	✓	Wi(2) bro Wi(2) si da(2) <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del> da(2) <del>H. F. M<sup>c</sup>C.</del>	✓																																																															
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)																																																																					
<p>29 so (1) John William L. H<sup>c</sup> Clintock (2) Robert Singleton H<sup>c</sup> Clintock</p> <p><i>Wm Clintock</i> <i>as witness</i> <i>30 July 1904</i></p>																																																																								

Signature and Address of the Sender

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on fresh paper should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Sir Francis Leopold McClintock, (b.1819), K.C.B., D.C.L., LL.D.,  
F.R.S., Admiral retired; Elder Brother of Trinity House;  
served in 4 arctic voyages; discovered fate of Franklin's  
expedition, 1859; author of "The Fate of Sir John Franklin",  
& "The voyage of the 'Fox'". (Who's Who)

fa me Patience McClintock, née Foster, came of a family which  
showed in most of its branches a high level of ability & had  
several distinguished members. Thus reckoning the relationship  
from her, we find.

fa John William Foster M.P.

fa bro Anthony Foster, (d. 1778), M.P., chief Baron of  
Exchequer, Ireland.

fa bro son John Foster, Baron Oriel, (1740-1828).

speaker of Irish House of Commons up to the time of the  
union. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa bro son William Foster, D.D., (d.1797), Bishop  
successively of Cork, Kilmore, & Clogher.

fa bro son sons John Leslie Foster, (d.1842), F.R.S., Irish  
judge; M.P. for Dublin University, etc. (Dict.N.Biog.)

Sir Augustus John Foster, (1780-1848), Bart., P.C., M.P.,  
minister to United States, Denmark, & Turin. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa bro son son son Vere Henry Lewis Foster, (1819-1900)  
philanthropist & educationalist. (Dict.N.Biog.)

bro Alfred Henry McClintock, M.D., President Royal Coll. of  
Physicians & Surgeons, Ireland. (d. 1881)





fa bro son John McClintock, M.P. for Co. Louth for many years: created baron Rathdonnell for long political services.  
me fa Ven. George Lewis Fleury, archdeacon of Waterford.

me bro Rev. Charles Marley Fleury, a celebrated preacher in Dublin in his day.

son Henry Foster McClintock, assistant private secretary to Lord Stanley, postmaster-general: served with Army Post Office Corps in S. Africa, & was mentioned in despatches.

son John William Leopold McClintock, commander R.N., passed 2nd into the Britannia.

son Robert Singleton McClintock, Brevet Major, R.E.: schol. at Charterhouse: served on Sir G. Willcocks' staff in the relief of Coomassie, 1900, & was mentioned in despatches.



fa bro son John McClintock, M.P. for Co.Louth for a number of years; created Baron Rathdonnell for long political services.  
 n.  
 me fa ~~Very~~ Rev. George Lewis Fleury, Archdeacon of Waterford.  
 Me bro Charles Marley Fleury, (Rev.), a celebrated preacher in Dublin in his day.

son John William Leopold McClintock, <sup>Commander</sup> ~~lieutenant~~ R.N., passed 2nd into Brit/annia.

son Robert Singleton McClintock, <sup>Brevet Major</sup> ~~R.E.~~, schol. at Charterhouse; served on Sir G. Willcocks' staff in the relief of Coomassie, ~~in~~ 1900; mentioned in despatches & recommended for brevet. ~~on~~ obtaining rank of captain.

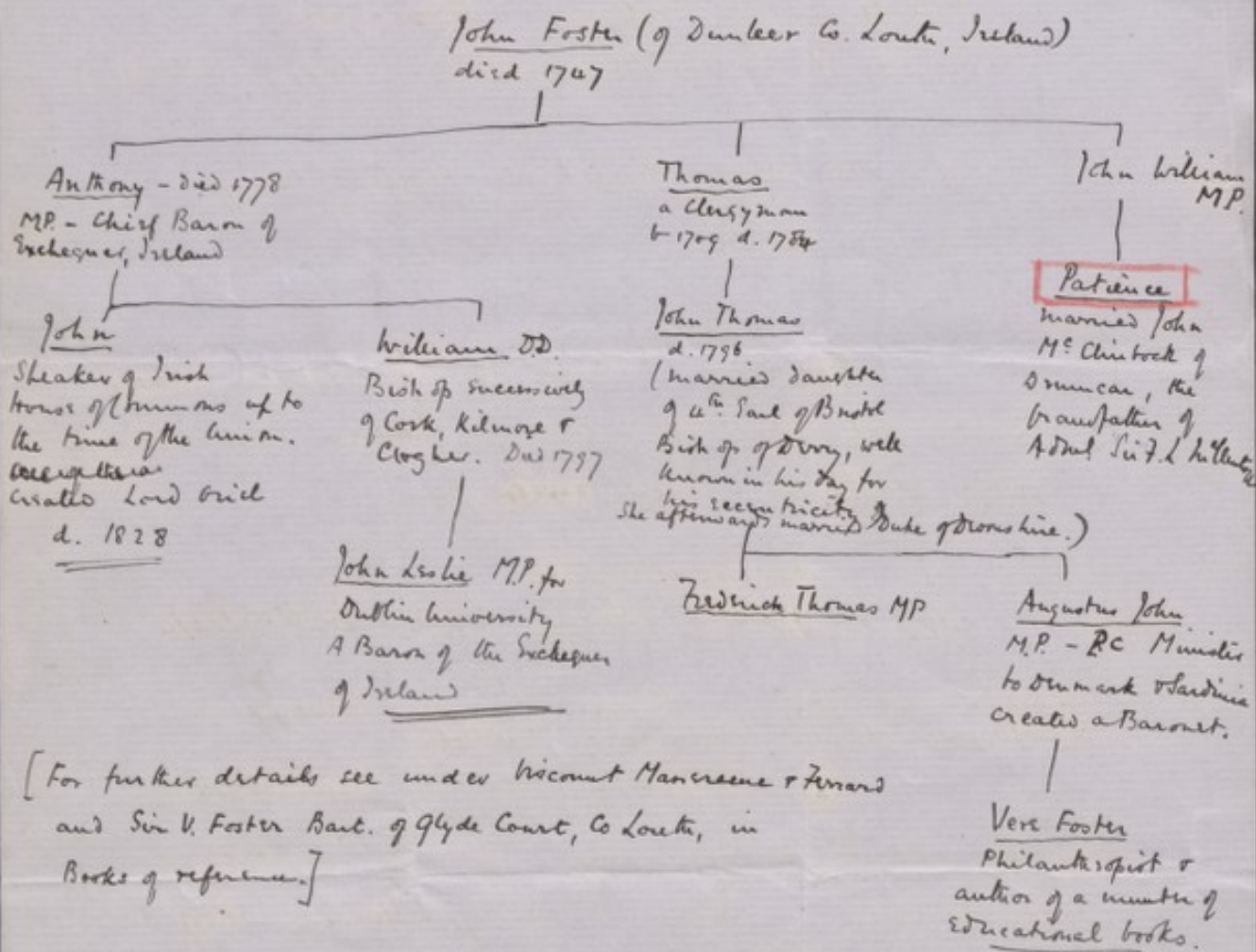
son Henry Foster McClintock, <sup>assistant</sup> private secretary to Lord Stanley, postmaster-general; served with Army Post-Office & Corps in S. Africa, & was mentioned in despatches.





2. Fa Mc- Patience Foster, afterwards M<sup>c</sup>Clintock.

The name of a family which showed in most of its branches a high level of practical ability & had several distinguished members. <sup>Some of</sup> the more successful of these & their relationships are shown in the following genealogy.



11. bro. Alfred Henry M<sup>c</sup>Clintock M.D.

President Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland.





21. Fa. Bro. Son. John M<sup>c</sup>Clintock.

Landowner - M.P. for Co. Louth for a number of years.

has created Baron Rathdownell in 1868.

(It is not claimed that he possessed exceptional abilities in any one direction, but he filled his part worthily & successfully. His Peerage was given for long political services.)

3. Me. Fa. My Rev<sup>d</sup> George Lewis Fleury

Archdeacon of Waterford. ~~was a good~~

(He was of French (Anglo-Norm) parentage on both sides.)

9. Me. bro. Rev. Charles Marley Fleury.

A celebrated preacher in Dublin in his day.

Wi. bro. William J. S. Dunlop (or Delap)

Lieutenant Royal Engineers. Passed high into & out of Woolwich. Died ~~quite~~ young.

(1) - See below (\*)

29. So. (2) John William Leopold M<sup>c</sup>Clintock

Lieutenant R.N. Passed 2<sup>nd</sup> into Britannia.  
Now Gunner and First Lieutenant on Battleship.

(3) Robert Singleton M<sup>c</sup>Clintock R.E.

Lieutenant Royal Engineers. Gained a Scholarship at Charterhouse. Served on Sir J. Wilecock's Staff in Relief of Cosmairie<sup>1900</sup> - mentioned in despatches & recommended for a brevet on attaining rank of Captain.

\* (1) Henry Foster M<sup>c</sup>Clintock.

Clark in Higher Division Civil Service (General Post Office). Served with Army Post Office Corps in South Africa & was mentioned in despatches. Is now Private Secretary to Lord Stanley, Postmaster General.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Wm. C. McIntosh, Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	R. M.			Robert Mitchell
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. M.	—	—	—	—			John McIntosh
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	E. M.	—	—	—	—			Elija Mitchell
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro	2	T. M.			Thomas Mitchell
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si	5				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si		R. M. (Mrs G.)	—	—	—	—			Robt McIntosh (Mrs Ginter)
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	4	R. W. G.			Robert William Ginter.
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	4				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	



Signature and Address of the Sender

*Wm. C. McIntosh*, 2, Abbotsford Crescent  
Navy Park, Weymouth, N.B.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Prof. W. E. McIntosh, Jr.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																													
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																		
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—																																																	
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																	
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—																																																
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—																																																
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro																																																		
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																		
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—																																																
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—																																																
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son																																																		
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																		
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son																																																		
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da		E. L.			Elija Lorimer.																																													
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son																																																		
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son																																																		
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da																																																		
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																		
<table><thead><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Regr.</th><th rowspan="2">Title.</th><th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th><th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th></tr><tr><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>fa Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>fa Wi si</td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>da Hu bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>da Hu si</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so				fa Wi bro		Daughters .	30	da				fa Wi si		2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so				fa Wi bro																																																	
	Daughters .	30	da				fa Wi si																																																	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro																																																	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si																																																	

Signature and Address of the Sender W. E. McIntosh, Jr., 2, 66th Street, Crescent  
+ Navy Park  
Maigle.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Rep.  
No.

for 5) John Mc Intosh, Bailie of the city, a man who, under great difficulties, raised himself by industry, preserved ability to a position of ease. Of great business capacity, punctuality & thoroughness, he gained the confidence of all who knew him. Retained mental & physical vigor till 6 months <sup>before death</sup> in the case of the latter & to the last in regard to the former) till the end of his 93<sup>d</sup> year.



R.  
No.  
me 6)

Eliza Mitchell, a model of everything good in a mother. Distinguished for her knowledge of the Marine Fauna of St Andrews; & made large collections, mounting the zoophytes beautifully & permanently, & discovering many new forms both from deep water (by aid of the fishing boats) & between tide-marks. Up to her 80<sup>th</sup> year she never knew what idleness was. It was her work which enabled her "Invertebrates & Fishes of St Andrews" (1875) to be so complete, & the colored other plates were her daughter's (R. M.).



Reg. No.  
7.

Thomas Mitchell, educated for the Church,  
& qualified, but took to law. Was an able  
& talented Solicitor in Montreal & editor  
of a Newspaper. Much esteemed in his day,  
but, unfortunately, he died early.

Rep.  
No.

12

Si

Robeta M<sup>rs</sup> Jutosh (wife of Albert Günther, M.A., Ph.D., F.R.S. &c). From her earliest days, under the inspiration of her mother, she excelled in drawing & painting (water-colours for the most part) marine animals. Her exquisitely stippled paintings of the Annelids are in course of publication by the Ray Society. Others appear in the "Illustrated Marine Fauna & Fishes of St. Andrews". Full of promise she died after the birth of her son (No. 19).

No.  
Si son

19. Robert William Günther, M.A. &c Fellow & Lecturer, Magdalen College, Oxford. A young man distinguished for his <sup>original</sup> researches on Medusae & other marine animals, for his paper on Earth Movements in the Bay of Naples. <sup>On the Ecology of St. Andrews</sup>. Captured. Exhibits his mother's skill in drawing from life & her original capacities.

Prof W. C. Mc Intosh FRS

f.16



Rep. W.  
me fa 3.

Robert Mitchell, an able manufacturer  
in his day in St Andrews, & great esteemed for  
his kindrep & generosity. The latter traits were  
sometimes used to take advantage of by his  
friends in the city. He was a man of great  
-aversion, tact & rectitude.





Supplement.  
(omission)

f. 17



THE UNIVERSITY,  
ST. ANDREWS. N. B.

Rep  
N<sup>o</sup>  
20

Eliza Farnier, (who  
died young) had  
a great talent for drawing  
She did the plates  
for the 'Challenge' work  
on Annulids - from  
Nature, & would have  
made a name for such  
work had she lived.

H. Bell



Mr Kendrick ✓

f.18r

Massachusetts,

Stonehaver. July 2. 1904.

N. B.

Dear Mr. Fulton,

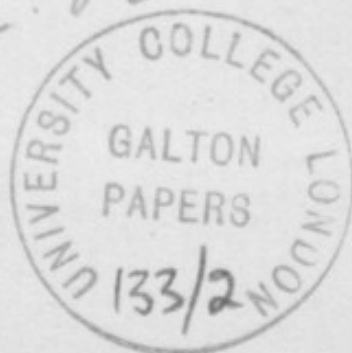
You will pardon me  
for troubling you with this  
letter but I am really at a  
loss how to fill up your  
schedule as I have few  
relations and none who have  
been distinguished in the  
way you indicate. My suc-  
cess in life I have had has  
been due to a love of scientific  
knowledge and a certain  
amount of earnestness in its  
acquisition and I cannot

trace in any way those qualities  
to my ancestry. I have two  
boys, both in the medical  
profession, and both promising,  
with scientific instincts and  
earnestness of purposes, but  
they have not yet had time  
to show what may be in  
them. I fear therefore you must  
regard me as rather a sporadic  
contribution not of much  
service in your most in-  
teresting enquiries. If,  
however, you still think I  
should fill up the schedule,  
I will try to do so.  
I remain, Madam, your one

still able for research work. f.19  
It is a good many years since  
we had the pleasure of meet-  
ing but when I think of you  
I remember with pleasure  
those meetings and I feel  
my indebtedness to you  
for your valuable contri-  
butions to science.

Yours very truly  
John G. L. G. L.

Francis Galton Esq  
D. C. L. &c.





Bernard Mallet

f. 19r



38 Rutland Gate

Nov 24/04.

Dear Sir

My uncle Mr. Henry  
Mallet has sent me your  
letter - and I should be  
very glad to tell you  
anything you may like to  
know about our family  
history - I am interested  
in such things - and am



Just now under at a  
 sale of biographical essay  
 on my father's opinions  
 on a portrait & certificate  
 I have also many papers  
 about my father's grandfather  
 & great grandfather. He called  
 du Pan.

I am generally in at  
 six o'clock or sooner or  
 I need call & see you

if it suited you better  
I shall not be back at  
Rutland Court however  
till Thursday.

I write this because  
of the question in the  
last sentence of your  
note to my uncle.

Yours truly  
Bernard Mallet

F. Salter Esq

B. Mellet

F. 21r

38, RUTLAND GATE,  
S.W.

Nov. 26/04

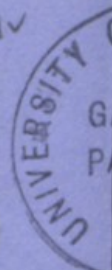
Dear W. Falton

I am afraid I have  
spoilt this & must ask for  
another form - Please return <sup>this</sup> <sup>with it</sup> -

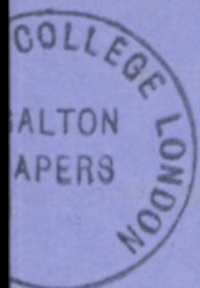
I suppose I should put in on  
the left hand page the initials  
of those persons of who are  
mentioned on the right hand  
page. Can you tell me



f.21v



whether the person described  
 suit your purpose. I am  
 doubtful 1) about y father's  
 father who though a man  
 of intellectual distinction wide  
 reading literary & cultivated tastes  
 never "did" anything in the  
 usual sense of that experience  
 and 2) about Eugène Cellard



f.225

a grandson of Mallet du Pan  
who inherited some of his  
characteristics & was a  
clever literary man, though  
unknown.

I can't think of any others  
among the kinships given  
who deserve description, tho'  
there are or two clever  
women among them - !



agree with you that it is best  
to start with my father's name  
for otherwise we could not get in  
Mallet du Pan or the 2  
Merivales. I am afraid have  
no such distinguished names to  
put in their place in our  
kinship.

Yours  
Bernard Mallet

38, RUTLAND GATE,  
S.W.

17.23r  
Dec 1/04.

Dear W. Salton.

I return the  
figures you ask for - I  
did not know all these  
should have been put in  
& probably omitted other  
figures also.

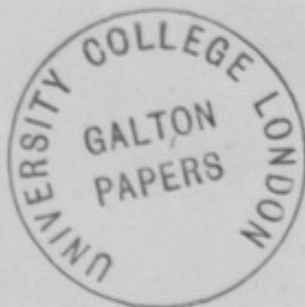
I am so glad you liked  
the autobiography. I  
have often wanted to



publish it but my  
uncle doubted the idea

from v. 10

Bernard Mallet





## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

D. J. W. Mallet, M.D.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	L		3	me fa	L				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	L		4	me me	L				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	L		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	L		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	7				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3		20	si da	3				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	4				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	3		24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2		28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	2			1857	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters . . .	30	da	1					
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			1888	so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)	—					

With full desire to aid in such an investigation I feel entirely unable to supply the information desired, partly because of the vagueness of estimate as to achievement, and partly because of imperfect knowledge on my own part as to facts.

On the whole I am inclined to set down the following kindfolk as probably belonging to the class called "noteworthy" as I understand its intended meaning.

My own father.

My father's sister, and of her children 2 sons and 1 daughter.

My mother's brother, and of his children 3 sons.

My own 2 brothers.

1 son of one of my sisters.



Signature and Address of the Sender

J. W. Mallet - University of Virginia - Charlottesville, Va.  
U. S. N. A.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



3 VICTORIA STREET

S.W.

5/4/04



Dear Sir

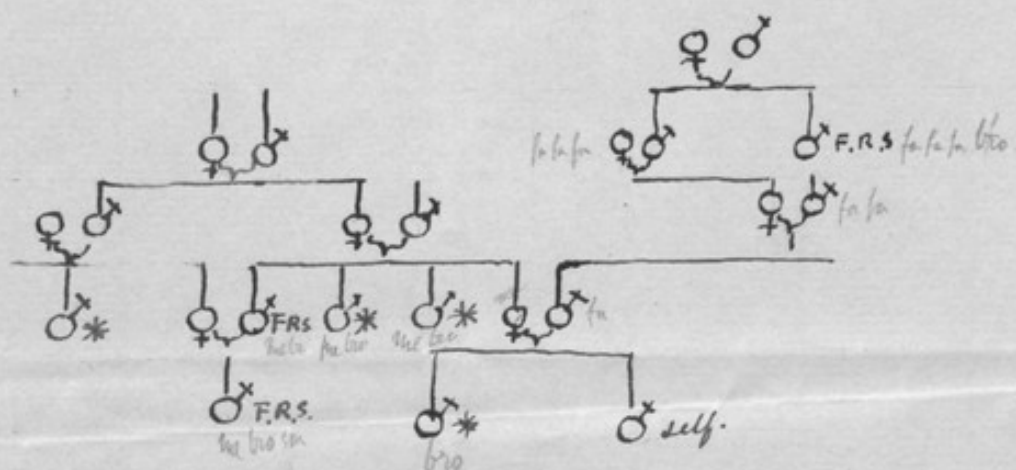
I think the subjoined part of my pedigree will give you the information you ask for.

I use the usual signs ♂ & ♀ for male and female. Names are not required. Such persons as were or are F.R.S. I so mark. Those who were specially distinguished in other ways I mark with an asterisk. Limited in this way I hardly think your enquiry will lead to much.

What would be interesting to trace would be the inheritance of Taste & faculties, but many people have little but want the opportunity and often the desire to make them known, and so would not appear in your list.

Yours faithfully,

A. Mallon.



Francis Galton Esq

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Mallock*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>FRS</i>			
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	0? <i>SS</i>		9	<i>me bro</i>	3 <i>SS</i>	<i>FRS</i>			
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1 <i>SS</i>		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0?		23	<i>me bro son</i>	1	<i>FRS</i>			
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>Wi si</i> <i>da Hu-bro</i> <i>da Hu-si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu-bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu-si</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



21 Eccleston Square  
S. W.

2 May 1954

My dear Galton

I am rather rickety with  
Lead ache and bronchitis. But I  
think I filled it up right.

However I send a separate share  
for distinguished great uncles  
and first cousins of Father and  
mother, as well as first cousins  
yours sincerely

Clement H. Markham




# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Si Clements R. Markham, M.P., &c.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																													
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																		
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>W. M.</i>	3	me fa	—				<i>William Markham, Soldier, Secretary to General Hastings</i>																																													
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																	
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—																																																	
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																																	
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro																																																		
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																		
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—																																																	
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—																																																	
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					<i>Si Edwin Markham M.C.D. Si Herbert Markham M.C.D. Hon Si Frederick J. Markham M.P. Hon Mrs Francis Fitzgerald Hon Si Edwin Egerton G.C.H.G. - M.C.D.</i>																																													
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																		
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son																																																		
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da																																																		
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		<i>E.M. A.H. H.</i>	23	me bro son		<i>F.S. H.</i>																																																
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son		<i>F.S. - F.S.</i>																																																
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da																																																		
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																		
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>so Wi bro</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da Hu bro da(2) Hu si</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro		Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si		2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da Hu bro da(2) Hu si		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro																																																	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si																																																	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da Hu bro da(2) Hu si																																																	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)																																																					
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>Clements R. Markham</i> 21 Beckett Square</p>																																																								

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be, hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Clemens H. Markham

- Fa fa — William Markham — Scholar, Secretary to Warren Hastings in India.
- Fa fa bro — Admiral John Markham. Distinguished naval officer, Lord of the Admiralty. Carried the "Commission of naval enquiry" through the House of Commons.  
BNA
- Fa fa bro — George Markham Dean of York. Scholar and numismatist.
- Fa bro son — <sup>WW</sup> General Sir Edwin Markham B.E. - K.C.B. Constructionist.
- Fa bro son — <sup>WW</sup> Admiral Sir Albert Markham K.C.B. Arctic explorer.
- Fa bro sons son — Frederick H. Markham (1838) Electrical engineer. Inventor of improved electrical switch gear, and double pole switch mechanism ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> starter, forming a successful firm with 2 other joint inventors.
- Fa fa bro son — <sup>WW</sup> Frederick Markham. General, C.B. Fought the battle of Suifu - head near Kanton. D. 1905 in China.
- Fa fa sis son — <sup>WW</sup> Sir Francis Doyle Bart. Poet.
- Fa bro son — <sup>WW</sup> Sir Frederick Milner Bart. Politician. King, Counselor.
- Fa sis son — <sup>WW</sup> Francis Egerton of Abertou. Politician. King, Counselor.
- Fa sis son — <sup>WW</sup> Sir Edwin Egerton G.C.M.G. - K.C.B. - P.C. Ambassador at Madrid.



(Marr)

f.31



104, HUNTINGDON ROAD,

CAMBRIDGE.

July 2 1892

Sir

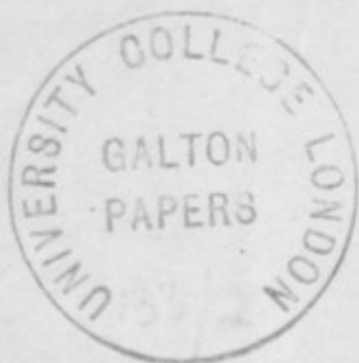
I have not returned your  
schedule filled in, as I  
can find no record of any  
noteworthy knowledge of crime.  
It will perhaps spare you  
trouble, however, if I  
notify this fact.

Yours faithfully

John E. Marr.

F. Galton Esq.





f. 32r

Basset Down House,  
Swindon.

Dear Mr. Galton

I do not know if the  
notes I added to your  
printed form on a separate  
paper about Collateral  
ancestors, were of any  
interest; - but if you do  
print them would you  
add "Hist.<sup>Com.</sup> Miss. Vol. I app 4  
to "Edward Proger" -  
In that Report are printed

King Charles letter to R. P.  
calling him by his families  
name of "Poge"! We have  
the letters here, also his  
Portrait.

Yours very sincerely  
Theresa Story Mackelvey

Jan? 25. 1905

## Wife's Kindred ascending &amp; Collateral

- Wi fa John Dillwyn Llewellyn F.R.S. - early experimenter in Photography  
 Wi fa fa Lewis Weston Dillwyn F.R.S. - a well known Botanist  
 established Swansea China Works. M.P. 1832-41.  
 High Sheriff Glamorganshire  
 He represented an ancient Quaker family who went to  
 America with Penn. See Dict Nat Bios =  
 and Bios = Catalogue London Friends'  
 Institute. 1888.
- Wi fa Si Son Thackeray Magridge author of "Flora of Meutone"  
 "Harvesting Ants & Trapdoor Spiders"
- Wi me bro Christopher Rice Mansel Talbot Esq Lieut - Glamorganshire  
 M.P. (Father of House of Commons)  
 a considerable mathematician  
 He represented the ancient family of Mansel of Margam Abbey.
- Wi me<sup>me</sup> fa fa was Stephen Fox 15<sup>th</sup> Earl of Ilchester
- Wi me me Si Son William Henry Fox Talbot F.R.S. 1800 - 1877. One of the Inventors  
 of Photography - Talbotype process & method of photographic  
 engraving. Twelfth Wrangler. Early interpreter in uniform Inscr.  
 M.P. Chippenham for one year. Nat: Dict: Bios?

Dillwyn descendants still show many Quaker instincts.  
 Several members had artistic gifts.

Story. Markelyne ancestors of a more remote degree

2 Fa me

Bridget Prower who was descended through her Mother from the ancient family of Merwyn of Pertwood. whose ancestor in the 16<sup>th</sup> Cent<sup>y</sup> included John Lewston. Governor of Portland Castle John Still Bishop of Bath Wells 1523-1607 one of the first writers of plays. Chamberlaine of Dartington Commander of the Fleet in the attack on La Rochelle. & Count Gabrielle Montgomery. in command of Scotch Guard. in the French service Great Hugonot.

me fa me

Elizabeth Booth - whose fa fa was George Booth Baronetary of Chestre 1635-1719. translator of Diodorus Siculus. Son of <sup>Sir</sup> John Booth 16<sup>th</sup> 1610-1678 and Dorothy <sup>Sr</sup> John. D of Sir Anthony <sup>Sr</sup> John.

me fa me me fa

Edward Proger - groom of the Privy Chamber to Charles II - whose fa - Philip Proger was groom of the Privy chamber in 1631.

me fa fa si da

Jane Kelsall married Sir Henry Strachey Bart Grandfather of Sir Richard Strachey (Q.V.)



Name and Address of person from whom the kinships are reckoned . . .		<i>Hervey Hubert Nevil Story Maskelyne</i>	
Full name of his father . . . . .		<i>Anthony Henry Reeve Story</i>	
Maiden name of his mother . . . . .		<i>Margaret Maskelyne</i>	

General kinships	Specific kinships	Number	Initials of the persons described	Specific kinships	Number	Initials of the persons described
Grandfather . .	1. fa fa			3. me fa		N M
Grandmother . .	2. fa me			4. me me		
Father . . . .	5. fa		B P			
Mother . . . .	6. me		AMRS			
Uncles . . . .	7. fa bro	0		9. me bro	0	
Aunts . . . .	8. fa si	0		10. me si	0	
Brothers . . . .	11. bro	1				
Sisters . . . .	12. si	4	A.K.A.S.			
Half-brothers . .	13. fa son	0		15. me son	0	
Half-sisters . .	14. fa da	0		16. me da	0	
Nephews . . . .	17. bro son	1		19. si son	4	J.S.M.
Nieces . . . .	18. bro da	1		20. si da	1	H.W.S.
First cousins . .	21. fa bro son	0		23. me bro son	0	
Male . . . .	22. fa si son	0		24. me si son	0	
First cousins . .	25. fa bro da	0		27. me bro da	0	
Female . . . .	26. fa si da	0		28. me si da	0	

29 me si 1 M.M.

See annexed page for wife's kinship  
also for Maskelyne ancestors of a more remote degree

30. Maiden name of first wife		Year of marriage		30b. Maiden name of 2nd wife		Year of mar.	
<i>Theresa Mary Dillwyn Llewellyn</i>		<i>1858</i>					
General kinships	Specific kinships	No.	Initials pers. descr.	Specific kinships	No.	Initials pers. descr.	
Her brothers . .	31. Wi bro	2	J.T.D.L.	31b. Wi (2) bro			
Her sisters . . .	32. Wi si	3		32b. Wi (2) si			
Her and your sons	33. son	0		33b. Wi (2) son			
" " " " " " " " " "	34. da	3	M.L.A.F. T.C.R.	34b. Wi (2) da			

Person from whom the kinships are reckoned, with descriptive notes	<i>Hervey Hubert Nevil Story Maskelyne F.R.S. Hon. D.Sc. Oxon. Hon. Fellow Naptharm Coll. J.P. B.L. M.P. Chichester 1880-1892. Prof. Mineralogy Oxon. Keeper Mineral Department British Museum 1887-80. Wolston Medal Gen. 1881. see W.H.M.</i>	
Specific kinships	Names of the persons initialled. Reasons for mentioning them. References to published notices.	
3. me. fa	<i>Nevil Maskelyne D.D. F.R.S. Copley Medalist. Astronomer Royal. who first weighed the earth; originator of the Nautical Almanac. See Nat. Diet. Biog. His name of Nevil came into the family with Nevill. Maskelyne b. 1611 M.P. for Cricklade 1660 me fa fa fa fa fa whose first one was Mary Nevill descended from John of Gaunt in his 19th year.</i>	
5. fa	<i>Anthony Henry Reeve Story F.R.S. double first at Oxon in his 19th year.</i>	
12. si	<i>Anna Maria Antonia Story Maskelyne married Sir Warrington Smyth F.R.S. son of Admiral Smyth see Nat Diet Biog. W.H.M.</i>	
19. si son	<i>John Story Masterson au. 1st Earl Great Britain Oxford Fellow Brasenose. Herbert Warrington Smyth - author of "Progress in Steam". obtained order of White Elephant from King of Siam. Major Nevill Maskelyne Smyth W.C. Ombudsman.</i>	
27. me fa si	<i>Margaret Maskelyne married Robert first Lord (Visc. see Nat Diet Biog.)</i>	
31. wi bro	<i>John Talbot Dillwyn Llewellyn Bacc. (1857) see W.H.M. 1858</i>	
34. da	<i>Margaret Mary Arnold Foster married R. Horne H.A. Arnold Foster author of "See State for War" Theresa (Caroline) Fisher married Sir Arthur Fisher F.R.S.</i>	
Dominant characteristics, if any, in the family: mental, moral, or physical.		
<i>Very fine constitutions leading to longevity - but small stature on the Maskelyne side. Mentally vigorous &amp; active. Story will.</i>		
Signature and Address of the Sender.	<i>Theresa Mary Story Maskelyne. Bassett Down. Swindon Wilts. M.H. Maskelyne</i>	

## EXPLANATION.

THIS CIRCULAR is worded on the supposition that the person from whom kinships are reckoned is a Male. If a Female, the following alterations should be made in ink. In the second and third compartments, write *her* for *his*. In the fifth compartment from bottom, write *name of husband* in place of *maiden name of wife*. In the lowest two compartments, write *his* for *her*, and *Hu* for *Wi*.

Specific terms of kinship are necessary to avoid the ambiguities of the general terms in common use. Thus, *first cousin* is equally applicable to any one of eight different kinds of kinsfolk, four male and four female, without taking double first cousins into separate account. The abbreviations used to express specific kinships are easily intelligible. The syllables, *fa, me, bra, si, son, da, Hu, Wi*, stand respectively for *father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter, Husband, and Wife*. Each such syllable is supposed to have the possessive 's added to it when it is followed by another syllable, or by the word *is* when it is not. Example—let the person from whom the kinships are reckoned be called for brevity, P, and let Q and R be two of P's kinsfolk, described respectively as *fa bra*, Q, and *me si son*, R. This means that P's father's brother is Q, and that P's mother's sister's son is R.

An entry of the total number of kinsfolk in each specific degree is asked for. The shaded compartments are not to be written on, but elsewhere some entry should always be made. Either the exact number of kinsfolk if it be known; the approximate number with a *quere* (?) if doubtful; a *quere* if unknown, or an *O* if there are certainly none. In no case should a *dash* (—) be used, because its meaning is ambiguous. Kinsfolk who died in childhood need not be taken into account.

It should be mentioned that each person has, on the average of many cases, *about* one kinsman and one kinswoman in each and every degree of specific kinship. I have discussed this problem in *Nature*, Oct. 27, 1904, and subsequently.

The "persons described" should be those who, in the judgment of the sender, deserve description, paying regard to the character of his returns, which may be either A, B, or C.

In A cognisance is taken only of notable achievements, such as would deserve record in a serious biographical memoir, and only to the best or most characteristic of these, and again only to such

of them as have already been noticed in some published form, to which reference is to be made. The publication may be only official or local. One exception may be made to this general rule, namely, when the sender writes to some such effect as this:—"In the judgment of the family, X, who achieved no conspicuous success, was not inferior in natural ability to his brother Y who did so." Such a statement is sufficiently definite, and is of value according to the circumstances of the case. A small pamphlet by myself entitled "Index to the achievements of the kinsfolk of some Fellows of the Royal Society" is sent with this circular. It will give a better idea than long explanations of what is deemed to constitute noteworthiness in the sense A.

In B a lower standard is taken. It chiefly deals with a high general level of family ability, not attended by conspicuous successes, but recognised by friends and others. The unsupported judgment of the sender is open to the suspicion of partiality; it is therefore important to illustrate whatever may be said by brief and appropriate anecdotes.

C applies to any specified characteristic, mental, aesthetic, moral, or physical.

The second page of the schedule affords, in the large majority of cases, as much space as is really needed for entering the information asked for. Otherwise a supplementary sheet of note-paper may be used, opening it out to form a quarto page.

Two copies of the circular are forwarded; one only need be returned. The back of the one should be consulted while entries are made on the face of the other.

Write at first in pencil, faintly, and in a clear small hand; correct at leisure after discussion with members of your family; finally, ink in.

Whatever may be sent will be treated as available for publication, either in whole, in part, or in abstract, according to the judgment of the editor, unless special directions be given to the contrary. In all cases of intended publication, a proof will be forwarded to the sender for corrections, at least a clear fortnight before going to press.

FRANCIS GALTON.

Please return the filled-up circular to the following address:



Mervyn Herbert Nevil Story Maskelyne, F.R.S., Hon.D.Sc., (Oxon)  
 (b.1823) distinguished mineralogist; formerly keeper of  
 Minerals in British Museum; professor of Mineralogy at  
 Oxford, 1856-95; M.P. for Cricklade, 1880-5; for N.Wilts, 1885-  
 -1892. (Who's Who)

me fa Nevil Maskelyne, (1732-1811) D.D., F.R.S., Astronomer  
 Royal; was the first man to weigh the earth; the originator  
 of the nautical almanac. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa Anthony Mervyn Reeve Story, F.R.S, gained a first class  
 both in "Greats" & in mathematics & ~~physics~~ at Oxford, 1810. *double*  
 (Oxf.Reg.) *at the age of 19 -*

Masterman  
 si son John Story Maskelyne, -- gained a first class in  
 "Greats", 1872; Fellow of Brasenose, Oxford. (Oxf.Reg.)

si son Herbert Warrington Smyth; secretary mining dept. Trans-  
 -vaal; secretary Siamese Legation, 1898-1901; order White  
 Elephant of Siam, 1897; author of "Five Years in Siam" etc.  
 (Who's Who)

*Neill* si son Major Nevil Maskelyne Smyth; ~~served with distinction~~  
~~in almost every recent british campaign~~; obtained V.C. at  
 battle of Khartoum. (Who's Who) ~~life~~ ~~nee Dillwyn-Llewellyn~~  
 wife nee Dillwyn Llewellyn.

*Dillwyn*



wi fa fa Lewis Weston Dillwyn, (1778-1855) F.R.S., well  
 known botanist; established Cambrian Pottery works at Swansea  
~~where educated public taste to natural history designs;~~  
 M.P. for Glamorganshire, 1832-41. (Dict. N. Biog.)

wi fa John Dillwyn Llewellyn, F.R.S., early experimenter in  
 photography.

wi fs si son Traherne Moggridge, <sup>4</sup>author of "Flora of Mentone"  
 "Harvesting Ants" & "Trapdoor Spiders".

wi mo bro Christopher Rice Mansel Talbot, Lord Lieutenant  
 of Glamorganshire; M.P., "Father of the House of Commons"

wi me me si son William Henry Fox Talbot, (1800-1877) F.R.S.,  
~~invented photographic drawing, which improved by the talbotype~~  
~~method was the foundation of modern photography; early~~  
~~interpreter of cuneiform inscriptions. M.P. for Chippenham,~~  
 1833-4. (Dict. N. Biog.)

*independent inventor of photography: his processes (wet & dry) processes being  
 those which have survived in various forms; he also discovered the  
 method of direct printing from photographs by the calotype process. A distinct  
 = Greek mathematician, he furthermore was among the earliest interpreters  
 of cuneiform writing.*

X The Nantgarw artist came to Swansea having  
 used "Nat Hist" designs there before this.  
 This certainly greatly encouraged by L W D  
 I do not think he introduced them -

? This line therefore is hardly necessary ?



5. fa. David Masson.

ZZ.S., Historiographer Royal,  
Emeritus Professor of English Literature  
in the University of Edinburgh,  
Author of "The Life of Milton" and  
numerous other works.

10. me si. Eliza Orme.

ZZ.B. London.

Social and political worker, organizer,  
and public speaker.

12. si. Rosaline Masson.

Author and novelist. See "Who's Who".



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. D. Orme Masson, FRS

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	D.M.	—	—	—		5	fa	David Masson
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	3				
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	5	E.O.	10	me si	Eliza Orme
Brothers . . .	11	bro	— 0		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	si	3	R.M.	—	—	—		12	si	Rosaline Masson
Half-brothers .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Mary Struthers	1886	Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender Orme Masson, The University of Melbourne.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF D<sup>r</sup> M. J. Masters, J.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	WJM	—	—	—	—			William Masters
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	KM	—	—	—	—			Kate Masters
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3	WJM	—	—	—	—			William A. Masters
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	5				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3		20	si da	2				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	so			Alex	1888	so Wi bro	
Daughters .	30	da	2	E.T.M.	F. 255	1888	so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender  
Maywell T. Masters.  
9 Mount Avenue  
Exeter N



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

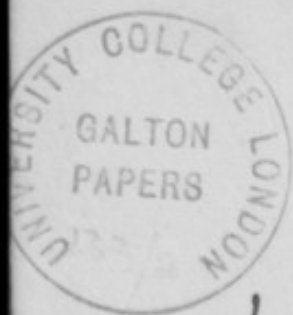
5 fa William Masters.  
above average ability in natural  
science and in appreciation of  
art and literature but lacked  
opportunity and training - founder  
of Museum Etc. - Excelled as a  
cultivator - hybridist (in 1825 about)  
Magistrate and alderman for  
many years Mayor of Canterbury in  
1841.

6 me Kate Masters  
above average ability and with  
superior powers of appreciation.

11 bro One brother William A Masters  
gave promise of superior ability  
as a naturalist - was curator  
of Museum of King's College London -  
but published little. - Died in  
1847.

3 The above named were in my  
judgment above average in ability  
but it is impossible to institute a  
comparison of their mental powers with  
those of an F.R.S. - One daughter E.T.M.  
an authoress. -





St. John's College  
Cambridge  
May 29. 1904

Dear Sir, Herewith I return  
the "Kinsfolk" form, filled up  
to the best of my ability.

I have added a few notes about  
my family on both sides, which I  
hope you will not think superfluous.  
The fact is that the Ballards generally  
have been very clever, but owing partly  
to circumstances, & partly to their own  
deficiencies, have not made a tangible  
record.

I am

Yours faithfully

E. B. Mathews

F. Galton Esq.

Kingsfolk.

G. B. Matthews

443  
(1)

1. George Bullard, my mother's father, was the youngest child of a Warwickshire Blacksmith. As a boy he showed unusual powers of calculation, being able to extract a cube root at the age of 12. He was always fond of mathematics: I do not think he carried his studies far; probably arithmetic, algebra, & geometry of the old-fashioned kind was all that he read. He entered the Civil Service in the Excise department, was transferred to the Inland Revenue, & eventually became Assistant Secretary. This position he gained by sheer ability without any interest, & in that capacity (as I have heard my uncle say) he was practically the working head of the department. He died at the age of 82 (in 1865); naturally my recollection of him is not very vivid.

It may be interesting to add the following notes.

All my mother's brothers appear to have been men of distinct ability, but all except ~~one~~ two died comparatively young. They did not inherit their father's perseverance. Of the two survivors only one has a good record: he was in the Inland Revenue, but retired early. I knew him very well: he was very able, but lazy. This laziness (or 'happy-go-lucky' disposition) combined with shyness is, I think, rather a feature of his family. — To my mother I owe my early lessons (I did not go to school till 11 years old): she was very well taught in her youth, & I owe to her more than I can say. Hers was an acquisitive mind of a very high order, I am sure. I have often thought, of late years, how little I realised the exceptional capacities of my nearest relations when I was young.



My father did not enjoy the same opportunities as my mother: but he taught himself very effectively, was fond of literature, and was an excellent reader. I remember his reading aloud to us Dickens, Shakespeare, Byron, Burns, Scott, & Thackeray — amongst other authors. Both he & my mother were excellent arithmeticians. — My father's brothers & sisters showed no special talent.

My brother has followed the example of our maternal uncles. I firmly believe his mental capacity is as good as my own, if not better: but he will never turn it to account. — My sister (a twin with my brother) has not taken diplomas, etc., but is distinctly 'waterworthy': she is a good linguist, & has considerable talent in painting & design.

G. B. M.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF G. B. Mathews, Esq., F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	G. B.	1		George Ballard.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro	6				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	— 0		15	me son	— 0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	— 0		16	me da	— 0				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	— 0		19	si son	— 0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	— 0		20	si da	— 0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	8		23	me bro son	5				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	— 0		24	me si son	— 0				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	5		27	me bro da	5				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	— 0		28	me si da	— 0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	— 0			so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	— 0			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—			da Hu si	



Signature and Address of the Sender G. B. Mathews St. John's College, Cambridge.

N.B. by dash (—) means 0 (none).

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution:—one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

No form returned

Matthey

f.46

Chelmsford

S. 10

July 30<sup>th</sup> 1904

Mr Matthey presents his Compliments  
to Mr Francis Galton and regrets  
that he has not been able to fill  
up his paper on "Ability in Families"  
He really has not had the time to  
do it -





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rt Hon Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<i>Jane Duchess of Gordon</i> (1749 - 1812) see D.N.B.  <i>Admiral of the Fleet</i> <i>Sir Houston Stewart GCB</i> (1791 - 1875) see D.N.B.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro		<i>fa fa fa si</i>	9	me bro		<i>H.S.</i>			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si		<i>J.G.</i>	10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.			
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.		
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so					<i>Wi bro</i>			
	Daughters . .	30	da					<i>Wi si</i>			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					<i>da Wi bro</i>			
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					<i>da Wi si</i>			
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>Herbert Maxwell, 49 Kennox Gardens SW</i>											



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *H. B. Medlicott, Esq., F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	



Signature and Address of the Sender *H. B. Medlicott, 43 St John's Road, Kipton, Bristol*

I never heard of a notable person on either side of the present: save that my father was a distinguished Christian. At the right sort. My three sons easily won fair places in competition for the Indian Civil Service, Royal Engineers, and at Long's Hill. *H.B.M.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

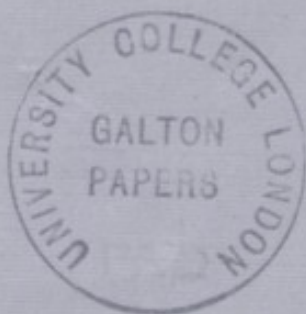
42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



6, BRUNSWICK SQUARE,  
W.C.



July 8/04

My dear Galton,

I find that I have very stupidly only credited myself with two uncles on my mother's side instead of three.

As my mother's eldest brother also achieved some sort of distinction I ought to have included him so I send another form with particulars & a cutting from an old Southampton paper justifying (or not, as the case may be) claim to inclusion.

You will shortly receive copy of correspondence with the

Dean of Westminster about the  
Spencer Memorial & I shall  
be very grateful for any  
suggestions from you,

Sincerely yours,  
R. Meldole.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. R. Meldola, Esq.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	<i>R. M.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—		1	<i>fa fa</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. Raphael Meldola</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3	<i>D. M.</i>	9	<i>me bro</i>	2	<i>J. A.</i>	7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>Rev. Dr. David Meldola.</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>	6		9	<i>me bro</i>	<i>Joseph Abraham Esq.</i>
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0 24		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0 4 5		23	<i>me bro son</i>	2	<i>H. A.</i>	22	<i>fa si son</i>	<i>Rev. Prof. Abram de Sola</i>
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	4	<i>A. de S.</i>	24	<i>me si son</i>	0 7 4		23	<i>me bro son</i>	<i>Harry Abraham Esq.</i>
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>Wi si</i> <i>Me bro</i> <i>Me si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>Me bro</i> <i>Me si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *Raphael Meldola, 6 Brunswick Square, W.C.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor R. Meldola, FRS* *Supplementary*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro	3	A. A.	9	me bro	Abraham Abraham
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					(Father of the Harry Abraham referred to under Regr. 23 of former schedule)
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
	Daughters .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Raphael Meldola,*  
*6 Brunswick Sq.*  
*W.C.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Facts relating to persons named in Schedule.

1. Rev. Dr. Raphael Meldola; born Leghorn 1754; invited to London on account of his fame as a theologian in 1805 to preside as High Rabbi (Ecclesiastical Chief) over the London congregation of British Jews belonging to the Spanish & Portuguese (Sephardic) community. Held the office with distinction till time of death in 1828. Author of several theological works of high merit in their time.
2. Rev. Dr. David Meldola, son of the preceding. Succeeded his father as chief of the Community although not given such high rank. Author of some theological works.
3. Joseph Abraham Esq. Achieved distinction as a merchant in Bristol. Founded a large & successful firm. Took a prominent part in Municipal affairs at a time when Jewish influence was but slight. Was the first Jewish Mayor of Bristol & (probably) of any other provincial town.
4. An extremely erudite Scholar & author of some theological works. Professor of Oriental Literature in the McGill College (now University) Montreal. Has been the only Jewish Divine ever invited to open Congress by the United States Government. Name: Rev. Dr. Abram de Sola.
5. Harry Abraham Esq. Achieved distinction as a man of business & as a Councillor of the town of Southampton. He also was Mayor at a time when Jewish influence was not allowed full sway & he was high in rank as a Freemason at a time when the Jews had hardly been recognized in this fraternity.

Raphael Meldola, (b. 1849), F.R.S., professor of chemistry in Finsbury Technical College; discoverer of many new products & processes in the manufacture of coal-tar dyes; also well known as a naturalist, has been president of the Entomological Soc., & of the Essex Field Club. [Who's Who]



fa fa Raphael Meldola, ((1754-1828) invited to London on account of his fame as a theologian in 1805, to preside as High Rabbi over the London congregation of British Jews belonging to the Spanish & Portuguese community; author of many theological works of high merit in their time.

[Dict. N. Biog.]

fa bro David Meldola, succeeded his father as chief of the community though not given such high rank; author of some theological works.

me bro Joseph Abraham, founded a large & successful firm in Bristol; took a prominent part in municipal affairs, & became the first Jewish mayor of Bristol.

fa si son Abram de Sola, erudite scholar, & author of some theological works; professor of Oriental literature in McGill Coll. Montreal; the only Jewish Divine ever invited to open congress by the U.S. government.

me bro son Harry Abraham, achieved distinction as a man of business, & as councillor & mayor of Southampton.



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Professor Louis C Miall F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				James Goodere Miall (Rev.) Edward Miall Charles Mackenzie Sir Morell Mackenzie Sir Stephen Mackenzie Dr Stephen Miall Lawrence Miall
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	J. G. M.	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	6	E. M.	9	me bro	5	C. M.			
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	7		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . .	11	bro	5		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	8		19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	6		20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	6		23	me bro son	14	M. M. S. Ma			
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	10		24	me si son	2				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	17		27	me bro da	8				
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	7		28	me si da	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	3* S. Mi.	Emily Pearce	1870	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	L. M.			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender L. C. Miall, 1, Richmond Mount, Reading, Leeds.

x one died at 23



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

1, RICHMOND MOUNT,

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.

- 5 fa James Goodeve Miall  
(Rev) Chairman of Congregational Union.
- 7 fa bro Edward Miall, a well-known  
Nonconformist editor & M.P. life publ'd
- 9 me bro Charles Mackenzie, a well-known  
Haymarket actor (stage-name  
Henry Compton). Life published.
- 23 me bro son Sir Morell Mackenzie, a well-  
known physician. Life published.
- 23 me bro son Sir Stephen Mackenzie, a well-  
known physician (living)
- 29 so Stephen Miall, first in Solicitors'  
examination, and Clement's Inn &  
"Daniel Reardon" prizeman, 1896.  
First-class honours in Common  
Law & Equity at Ll. B (Lond.); &  
LLD. Selected as candidate for  
parliament (Holborn division).
- 29 so Lawrence Miall, scholar of St John's  
Coll., Cambridge. Died at 23.



Richard Mount  
Hedge  
✓ 1 f.56

Louis C. Miall, (b. 1842) F.R.S., professor of biology,  
University, Leeds; Fullerian Professor of Physiology,  
Royal Inst.; pres. zool. sec. British. Ass., 1897; author  
of memoirs on Natural History, various  
& books. (Who's Who)



✓  
fa James Goode Miall, (Rev.) Chairman of Congregational  
Union.

fa bro Edward Miall, (1809-1881) independent minister at  
Leicester 1834; established & edited "The Nonconformist", 1841;  
M.P. Rochdale, 1852-7; Bradford, 1869-74; endeavoured to  
obtain disestablishment of church. (Dict.N.Biog.)

me bro Charles Mackenzie, a wellknown Haymarket actor;  
(stage name Henry Compton)

(1837-1892)

me bro son Sir Morell Mackenzie, the celebrated physician  
specialist on diseases of the throat. (Dict.N.Biog.)

me bro son Sir Stephen Mackenzie, (b. 1844) well known  
physician. senior physician London Hospital; consulting  
physician Poplar Hospital, etc. (Who's Who)

son Stephen Miall, first in solicitors examination;  
Clement's Inn & "Daniel Rearch" prizeman, 1896; 1st class  
honours LL.B. & LL.D., London. ~~selected as candidate for~~  
~~parliament, Holborn division.~~



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. H. A. Miers, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	E. J.	3	me fa	—	—	?	fame. fa. Francis Place.	
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	2. C.	—	—	—	—	5.	fa. Francis Charles Miers.	
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	9	me bro	3	—	—			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1	10	me si	1					—
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	E. J.	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—				—
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son		15	me son		—	—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da		16	me da						—
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	1	19	si son	1	—	—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2	20	si da	4					—
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		23	me bro son	4	—	—			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son		24	me si son	5					—
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	5	27	me bro da	5	—	—			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da		28	me si da						—

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da				Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Henry Alexander Miers.*  
*Magdalen College, Oxford.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Miers, H.A.

F.58

- ? fa.me. fa. Francis Place. Political Author. See Dictionary of National Biography, and "Life of Francis Place" by Graham Waller, 1898.
1. fa. fa. John Miers. Botanist. F.R.S. for 36 years. Author of "Travels in Chile and La Plata" See Dictionary of National Biography.
5. fa. Francis Charles Miers. Engineer and successful man of business.
11. bro. Edward John Miers. Geologist. Author of volume on Brachyura in Challenger Reports, &c.



*Fellow of Eton* Henry Alexander Miers, (b.1858) D.Sc., F.R.S., Waynflete  
Professor of Mineralogy, Oxford, since 1895; has published many  
scientific papers, ~~"The Soil in Relation to Health" (in  
conjunction with Dr. R. Cresskey)~~, "Mineralogy" etc.  
(Who's Who)

fa me fa Francis Place (1771-1854) radical reformer & writer;  
started life as leather-breeches-maker; succeeded in getting  
the laws against combinations of workmen repealed. (Dict.N.Biog.)

*author of many  
scientific papers* fa fa John Miers (1789-1879) F.R.S., engineer & botanist;  
accompanied Lord Cochrane to Chile, 1818; made collections of  
birds, insects, & plants. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa Francis Charles Miers, engineer & successful man of  
business.

bro Edward John Miers, zoologist; author of volume on Brachy-  
-ura in Challenger Reports, etc.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor John Milne, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	3		3	<i>me fa</i>	10				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	2		4	<i>me me</i>	2				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	12		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	0		9	<i>me bro</i>	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	8				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	6				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	0				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	3				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	4		24	<i>me si son</i>	8				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	0		27	<i>me bro da</i>	1				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	3		28	<i>me si da</i>	6				



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	0			<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	0			<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	0			<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	0			<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*J. Milne - Shide, I.W. England*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

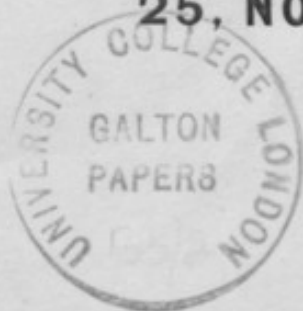
FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

25, NOTTINGHAM PLACE, W.

July 20<sup>th</sup>/04

Dear Sir,

I regret that owing to  
a serious illness I have been  
unable to forward you the  
enclosed before.

Yours very truly

Frederick W. Mott

---

Francis Galton Esq

acknowledged 83

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF D. F. W. Mott, Esq.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender Fredrick Walker Mott





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Addendum

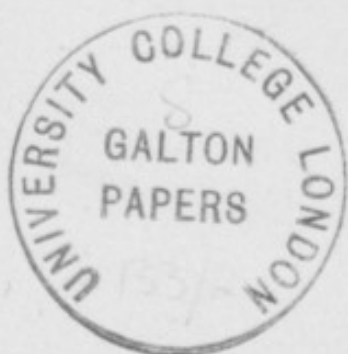
Although I am unable to trace any member of my family whom I consider sufficiently noteworthy to be included in your returns, yet I am of opinion that mentally & physically my father & his nine brothers had mental & physical powers above the average. My mother had more than the average natural ability & persistence of effort but no member of her family could be considered noteworthy.

I consider whatever success I have obtained in the scientific world to be due to ~~to this~~ persistent effort & a spirit of curiosity combined with a good constitution and a sufficiency of means to enable me to devote an adequate amount of time to my investigations.

I have four daughters all promising to show more than the average mental & physical development.

Fredrick Mallett Mott





Clayton House,  
Clifton Park,  
Bristol.

18<sup>th</sup> July 1904

Dear Mr. Galton,

I have been laid up and am still bed by the leg (sciatica) otherwise I should have written to you about your ability in families Circular.

I am afraid I can only write across the whole series "mediocrity".

To show you however that I do not say this without consideration I give one or two indications here of.

me. fa. Built up considerable hereditary business - & failed

going through the court.

bro (1) Solicitor to Middle  
Temple - good lawyer I am  
told. elected to howtounian  
Club a select body but not  
a public body

bro (2) Doctor in Liverpool.  
regarded as good amateur  
photographer medallist &  
soon

Si. Head of District Nursing  
home at Cardiff.

Mr. Si. husband failed. Buckled  
to and started large &  
successful private girls school  
woman of much force &  
character. but no public  
record & school I dare say  
no better than hundreds of



Other such

fa. bro. took over Brewery business  
in Norwich. Developed it well  
but nothing beyond <sup>sound</sup> mediocrity

bro. son. Senior ~~into~~ (6p of list)

Entrance Scholarship Wincchester

That's the sort of thing -

Certainly not in any judgment

the sort of stuff you want

filled in.

Forgive my bothering you with  
a letter. I want you to  
know that I do not return a  
letter because in that return  
I really have nothing to return

Yours very truly

C. Lloyd Morgan

Acknowledged by me. ER.

Lloyd Morgan

f.65v





No.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION,  
CAPE TOWN.

3 / 8 / 04 .

Dear Sir ,

I regret exceedingly to find your letter regarding "Ability in Families" so long neglected , because although my case is not likely to help you in any way, my sympathy is entirely with you in your efforts, and my respect for what you have already done is genuine.

The fatal difficulty with me as regards your schedule lies in the fact that I do not really possess the information concerning my people which would enable me to fill it up with anything approximating to accuracy . Possibly this may be evidence that they have all been inconspicuous folks, but it is certainly also in great part due to want of family cohesion, which is a well-known trait amongst us.

How chanceful it is this quality of "noteworthiness" ! My father was a man never heard of beyond a narrow circle , yet few noted men of my acquaintance have equalled him in ability . My eldest daughter had a quite unique school and college career , having stood first against all South Africa, male and female, in the following examinations,--

School "Higher ,

Matriculation ,

Intermediate ,

B. A. ,

-- not a bookworm, -- attended one of her final University examinations after having danced out the hours at <sup>a</sup> ~~the~~ ball the previous night . The measure of her then " noteworthiness " was the appearance of her portrait in the illustrated papers. Even that, however, did not persist, for fate , a quite happy

fate, intervened, and she fell back into the sweet obscurity of wifely duty.

I am, Dear Sir, with best wishes,

Yours very faithfully,

Thos. Muir

Francis Galton Esq  
J.C.H., F.R.S.

How wonderful is this quality of "nervelessness"! My father was a man never heard of beyond a narrow circle, yet few noted men of my acquaintance have equalled him in ability. My eldest daughter had a unique school and college career, having stood first against all South African male and female, in the following examinations:--

- School Higher,
- Matriculation,
- Intermediate,
- B.A.

-- not a bookworm, -- attended one of her final University examinations after having danced out the hours at the ball the previous night. The measure of her then "nervelessness" was the exposure of her portrait in the illustrated papers. Even that, however, did not perturb her face, a delicate happy



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Admiral Sir George S. Nares, K.C.B., &c.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family; when satisfied, ink in.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <del><i>me bro</i></del> <i>me si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da(2)</i> <del><i>me bro</i></del> <i>me si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Sir G. Nares regrets that he has not sufficient reliable knowledge to enable him to give the information asked for*

*3 July 1904*



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*F. H. Neville, Esq., M.P.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																														
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																			
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<p>I have been able to ascertain so far as persons bearing to me the relationship mentioned in the paper, have reached the standard specified</p>																																														
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																		
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—																																																		
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—																																																		
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>																																																			
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>																																																			
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—																																																		
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—																																																		
Half-brothers .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																			
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																			
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>																																																			
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																			
First cousins .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>																																																			
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>																																																			
First cousins .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>																																																			
Female . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>																																																			
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td> <i>Wi bro</i>  <i>da Wi si</i>  <i>da Husband</i>  <i>da Hu</i> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td> <i>so(2) Wi bro</i>  <i>so(2) Wi si</i>  <i>da(2) Hu</i>  <i>da(2) Hu</i> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>da Wi si</i> <i>da Husband</i> <i>da Hu</i>		Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>						2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu</i> <i>da(2) Hu</i>		Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>da Wi si</i> <i>da Husband</i> <i>da Hu</i>																																																		
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>																																																						
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu</i> <i>da(2) Hu</i>																																																		
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>																																																						

Signature and Address of the Sender

*F. H. Neville 15 Parkside Cambridge*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



15 May 1904

f.3

MAGDALENE COLLEGE,

CAMBRIDGE.

My dear Gulliver,

I have written many your schedules,  
filled up to the limit of my ability; but  
I strongly suspect you will not think some  
of the relations I have named to be  
"noteworthy". I have given them the benefit  
of the doubt, and it will be for you to  
be in judgment. I also enclose you an  
Hesperia paper, as you desire, the chief  
facts relating to each of them I have  
summed, and summed.

Yours very truly

Alfred Russel



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. Alfred Newton, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN INK WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	S.N.	3	me fa	—	R.S.M.	1		Samuel Newton
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		3		Richard Slater Milnes
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	W.N.	—	—	—	—	5		William Newton
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	9		Robert Pemberton Milnes
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	—		9	me bro	2	R.P.M.			William Samuel Newton
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	5				Rosie Milnes Newton
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	5	WS.N. / R.M.N. / H.P.N. / E.N.	—	—	—	—	11		Horace Parker Newton
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—	—			Edward Newton
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—	—			Arthur William Newton
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—	—			Francis James Newton
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	10	A.W.N. / F.J.N. / H.A.N.	19	si son	—	—	17		Henry Alfred Newton
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	6		20	si da	—	—			Richard Monckton Milnes
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	—		23	me bro son	1	R.M.M.	23		Pharmaceutical Works
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	5	M.W.	24		
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	1				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	7				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30	da					so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

Alfred Newton,  
Magdalene College, Cambridge

15 May 1906



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



- 1 Samuel Newton - successful West Indian planter.
- 3 Richard Slater Milnes - Took prominent part in County business.
- 5 William Newton - M.P. Ipswich.
- 9 Robert Pemberton Milnes - M.P. Pontefract - Took prominent part in County business.
- 11 William Samuel Newton - General in the Army.
- 11 Robert Milnes Newton - Recorder of Cambridge, Antiquarian Police Magistrate.
- 11 Horace Parker Newton - Passed into Royal Academy, Worcester head of his year. Lieut. - General in the Army.
- 11 Edmund Newton, K.C. M.G., Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, Lieut. Governor of Jamaica - joint author with A. H. of paper in Phil. Trans., author of several geological papers in scientific journals.
- 17 Arthur William Newton, Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, A.M. Inspector of Schools.
- 17 Francis James Newton, B.M.G., <sup>Esq.</sup> Administrator of British West Indian Land ~~Colonial~~ <sup>Colonial</sup> Secretary British Honduras & Barbados, Treasurer of Southern Rhodesia.
- 17 Henry Alfred Newton, Scholar of Magdalene College, Cambridge.
- 23 Richard Monckton Milnes, M.P. Pontefract, well known name of letters. Created Lord Houghton (his son Robert Offley Milnes, succeeded as 2<sup>d</sup> Lord Houghton, created Earl of Cromartie, Lieut. of Ireland)
- 24 Macmillan Wyllie, M.P. Richmond. Chess player (Amateur) of the 1<sup>st</sup> order -  
Magdalen College, Cambridge.

15 May 1906.

Alfred Newton





46

*Magdalene Coll. Cambridge*

Alfred Newton, (b.1829), F.R.S., Cambridge professor of zoology & comparative anatomy, Cambridge; has been very active in promoting the protection of wild birds; has been vice-president of the Royal & zoological societies; has been awarded gold medal of Linnean & one of the royal medals adjudged by the Royal Soc.; author of many works dealing principally with birds. (Who's Who)

me fa Richard Slater Milnes, <sup>Nes. M.P.</sup> for York; took a prominent part in county business.

fa William Newton, M.P. for Ipswich.

me bro Robert Pemberton Milnes, M.P. for Pontefract;

took a prominent part in county business.

bro General William Samuel Newton

*(Dict. N. Biog.) This is a  
misnomer that it is not  
a title.*

bro Robert Milnes Newton, recorder of Cambridge; metropolitan police magistrate.

bro Sir Edward Newton, K.C.M.G.; colonial secretary of Mauritius, lieut.-governor of Jamaica; joint author with prof. Alfred Newton of a paper in the Phil. Trans. & of several zoological papers in scientific journals.

bro Lieut.-general Horace Parker Newton, passed into R.M.A. Woolwich head of his year.

broson Arthur William Newton, scholar of Trinity Coll. Cambridge; H.M. inspector of schools.



bro son Francis James Newton, (b.1857), C.M.G.; treasurer  
of ~~British South Africa Chartered Company~~, 1902; sometime  
administrator of British Bechuanaland, & colonial secretary  
British Honduras & Barbadoes. (Who's Who)

*Southern  
Rhodesia*

bro son Henry Alfred Newton, scholar of Magdalen Coll.  
Cambridge.

*ne/*

me bro son Richard Monckton Milnes, 1st Baron Houghton,  
(1809-1885); ~~conservative~~ M.P. for Pontefract, 1837; did much  
to secure Copyright Act; assisted in the preparation of  
"The Tribune", 1836; established the "Philobiblon Soc."  
1853. (Dict.N.Biog.) *Life by Henry Reece, 2 vol.*

*Author of  
many poems  
to & for the  
poets & critics  
etc.*

me bro son son Robert Offley Ashburton Crewe-Milnes, 1st  
earl of Crewe, son of Lord Houghton; Lord Lieut. of  
Ireland, 1892-95. (Who's Who)

me si son Marmaduke Wyvill, M.P. for Richmond.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF E. T. Newton, Esq. F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	W.T.			
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	3	me fa	William Tully
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	13	fa son	Thos. W. Newton
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0		10	me si	—				
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	1	T.W.N.	15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	1		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da	0				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	—		23	me bro son	—				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—		24	me si son	2				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	—				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—		28	me si da	3				
1st marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29	so	1		Maiden name of their mother, your wife.		Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.			
Daughters . . .	30	da			Emma Snow		1868	Titles. Initials of the noteworthy.			
2nd marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)						Titles. Initials of the noteworthy.			
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)						Titles. Initials of the noteworthy.			



Signature and Address of the Sender

E. T. Newton, Zoological Museum  
Jermyn Street.  
July 5. 04

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



ma. fa. fa Charles Tully, Fellow of Royal Astronom.  
Soc from 1822 to about 1829. A well known  
Optician of Jokington and of repute as a  
maker of some of the earlier Achromatic  
object glasses for telescopes. See Report  
in Mem. Roy. Astron. Soc Vol. II. p 507.  
Obituary. Monthly Notes of Roy. Astron.  
Soc. Vol. II. 1833.

3. me. fa. W.T. William Tully. Fellow of Roy Astron.  
Society 1830-1835. Optician of repute.  
well known as the maker of some of the  
earlier achromatic microscopic  
object glasses.

13. fa. son. T.W.N. Thos. William Newton. Was for  
many years Librarian to the Geological  
Museum Jernyn Street and wrote  
a small book of travel, Catalogue of  
Library and a Catalogue of Old English Books.



fa. son. son. (son of brother T.W.N.) Held scientific  
post at British Museum and has published  
papers on palaeontological subjects.

fa. son. son. (son of brother T.W.N.) Did particularly  
well at school in science and then  
gained a scientific appointment in  
Patent Office by open competitive  
examination.

S.T. Newlin  
July 5. 04.

TELEGRAMS  
EAST STRATTON.

f10

STRATTON,  
MICHELDEVER STATION.

Dear Mr Galton—  
If I have  
misunderstood any  
of your instructions  
please return to ask  
for information  
Y<sup>rs</sup> truly  
Westbrook

May 6/04



ENC

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*The Earl of Northbrook, &c. &c. &c.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.



bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—	M. G	4	me me	Mary Grey.
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	FTB	—	—	—	—	5	fa	F. T. Baring
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3	FTB	9	me bro	2	GG	7	fa bro	Thomas Baring
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3	CB	10	me si	4		8	ba bro	Charles Baring
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—	—	9	me bro	George Grey.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	1		15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	4		24	me si son	6	E. J.			
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	9	3+3+3-9	28	me si da	a lot		24	me si son	Edward Jenkinson
Wife's brothers and sisters.											
Titles. Initials of the noteworthy.											
fa fa fa Francis Baring											
me bro son son - Edward Grey											

1st marriage.	Sons . . .	Daughters .	29	30	2x	1	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
									Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	Daughters .	29(2)	30(2)					so Wi bro	
									so Wi si	
									da Hu bro	
									da Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender	
(one died age 16)	
Northbrook	
Stratton	
Mickeldoon Station	

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



separate para.

f.12

4. me me - Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Lady Grey  
Mary & nie Whitbread.  
(married Capt. Hon.<sup>ble</sup> Sir George  
Grey. R.N. H.C.B.) a very  
clever woman.

5. fa - Francis Thornhill Baring -  
double first - Ch: Ch: Oxford.  
Chancellor of the Exchequer -  
First Lord of the Admiralty -  
created Baron Northbrook.

7. fa. bro - Thomas Baring -  
Head for many years of  
Baring Brothers & Co. M.P.  
high position - offered Cabinet  
& peerage.

7.21 - fa bro Charles Baring -  
double first Christ Church  
Oxford Bishop of Gloucester  
and apts of Durham

9. me bro. Sir George Grey. G.C.B. -  
long Parliamentary career  
Home Sec<sup>r</sup>. &c.

fa. fa. bro: Alexander Baring -  
Head for many years of  
Baring Brothers & Co. In Sir  
R Peel's Cabinet - 1835 -  
created Baron Ashburton.  
Ashburton Treaty with U.S.

fa. bro. son - Evelyn Baring. Earl of  
Cromer G.C.B. &c - passed  
first into Staff Col. - from  
Royal Artillery - services  
in Egypt, for which made  
Baron Viscount & Earl -



Separate para 2

fa. si. son - Henry Labouchere  
1<sup>st</sup> Clap. Lit. Han. Oxford -  
many years in Lord Melbourne's  
& Lord John Russell's Cabinets  
created Baron Trenton.

me. fa. bro - Earl Grey - Prime  
Minister -

me. si. son - Edward Jenkinson -  
K.C.B. - distinguished  
himself in Ireland as head  
of secret police & under  
Lord Spencer.

~~me. fa. bro~~  
me. bro. son. son - Edward Grey -  
R. Hon. M.P. - now one  
of the most distinguished  
of the Liberal Party.

fa. fa. fa. - Francis Baring -  
started Baring Brothers & Co.  
M.P. Chairman of E. I.  
Co. & created a Baronet.

I have not put down Lord Cromer's  
brother Lord Revelstoke.

In Francis Baring's descendants have  
been honoured by five peerages.  
Northbrook Cromer - Ashbarton  
Revelstoke - Talentore  
May 6/05 Northbrook

From Knabe & Co., Halla

Rope 4<sup>th</sup> Earl of (Lawrence Parsons) FRS. (b. 1840). Memoirs on heat  
of moon &c, from observation with <sup>his father's</sup> great reflecting telescope

La 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Rose. FRS, & Pres R.S. (1800-1867) Astronomer, famous  
for construction of <sup>of nebulae &c</sup> observations with his large reflecting telescope.

bro C.A. Parsons FRS. Engineer, developer of the turbine

Now L<sup>d</sup> Rope assured me that he had not received the circular  
I sent him & other but no result. Neither have I returns from C.A. Parsons  
F. Galton



f.2r

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. Karl Pearson, 4th*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	—	3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>T. 3</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	<i>Thomas Edward Smith</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—	—	4	<i>me me</i>	—	—	—	—	—
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>W. P.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>William Pearson</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3	—	9	<i>me bro</i>	2	—	—	—	—
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4	—	10	<i>me si</i>	4	—	—	—	—
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1	<i>A. B. P.</i>	—	—	—	—	11	<i>bro</i>	<i>Arthur Philip Pearson</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa, son</i>	—	—	15	<i>me son</i>	—	—	—	—	—
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—	—	16	<i>me da</i>	—	—	—	—	—
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—	—	19	<i>si son</i>	1	—	—	—	—
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—	—	20	<i>si da</i>	2	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	8	—	23	<i>me bro son</i>	—	—	—	—	—
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	3	—	24	<i>me si son</i>	8	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	4	—	27	<i>me bro da</i>	—	—	—	—	—
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	2	—	28	<i>me si da</i>	8	—	—	—	—

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	—	<i>Shepe</i>	1891	<i>so Wi bro</i>	—
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	—			<i>so Wi si</i>	—
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—	—	—	<i>da Hu bro</i>	—
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—			<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	—

Signature and Address of the Sender *Karl Pearson*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

- (3) me. fa. Thomas Smith. First in Navy, then in  
mercantile marine, & then small ship owner.  
Served as a youth under Nelson, having 13 men  
killed on his boat at the cutting out of the  
Boulogne flotilla. A brave & noteworthy man to  
judge by laconic entries in his diary as to saving  
life at sea & shipwreck & imprisonment.
- (5) fa. ~~Mr~~ William Pearson. LL.D. Edinburgh Gold medalist  
Queens Council.
- (11) Bro ~~Mr~~ Scholarships at Rugby & Cambridge. Author of  
several legal works, on Bills of Sale, etc.



On both the paternal & maternal sides the family  
belongs to the Yorkshire Yeomanry class & can be traced  
back to about 1500. <sup>my father's family</sup> ~~It~~ belonged to the Society of  
Friends & visited (and died in) York jail on this  
account. The present generation are in the brisk  
successful business men - bankers, solicitors and  
merchants, but I should call none of them "noteworthy",  
although several of them have raised themselves  
from very small to large incomes. My mother's  
family contains Wharton & Bethel blood & has had  
a strong tendency to wander about the world doing  
eccentric things, which are just wanting in genius.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Alexander Pedler, Esq., C.I.E., 409*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	5		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	1		19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da	1				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3		23	me bro son	5				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	7		24	me si son	6				6
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6		27	me bro da	4				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	5		28	me si da	8				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	0		Elizabeth Margaret Schmidt	1898	so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da	0			1896	so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Alexander Pedler*  
*Writers Buildings*  
*Calcutta*  
*India*

\* Figures about cousins are approximate only  
*Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1904.*  
*AP*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



8, WELL ROAD,

HAMPSTEAD.

M.W.

2 July 1904

My dear Sir,

I am sorry not to have  
returned your schedule  
earlier.

On your subject I may say  
that it is curious how all  
the Petrie's in the Dict. Nat.  
Bios. are of the same type,  
& exactly what I know of our  
family. Starting enterprises  
which they barely succeed in  
pushing through at chronic

pend with the Official done  
of their time. I do not  
know the relationships of  
those (except Martin P. my  
uncle) but the uniform  
type suggests one stock.

I hope that we may have  
the pleasure of seeing you  
Thos Biggs some day

in next week at our  
Exhibition at the College.  
We have the finest  
~~for the matter~~ known,  
which I think you will like.

Yours sincerely,

Wm. R. Galton.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Wm. Flinders Petrie, R.N.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—	W.P.	3	me fa	—	M.F.		fa fa fa	Martin Petrie 1739-1805
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	W.P.	—	—	—	—	1	fa fa	William Petrie 1784-1841
Mother . . . .	6	me	—	A.P.	—	—	—	—	3	me fa	Matthew Flinders 1774-1814
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro	○		5	fa	William Petrie 1821 - living 1904
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	○		6	me	Ann Flinders (Petrie) 1812-1892
Brothers . . .	11	bro	○		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	○		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	○		15	me son	○				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	○		16	me da	○				
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	○		19	si son	○				
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	○		20	si da	○				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1		23	me bro son	○				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	○		24	me si son	○				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	○				
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	○		28	me si da	○				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	○			Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	○			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	○			Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	○			Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender Wm. Flinders Petrie.  
8 Well Road Hampstead N.W.





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Wm. Flinders Petrie.

F.B

? fa fa fa Martin Petrie, Commissary General.  
Govt Administrator.

? 1' fa fa William Petrie, Commissary General.

3 me fa Matthew Flinders Post Captain R.N.

Discoverer & Surveyor of  
most of the Australian coast.  
First observer of magnetic storms on ships.  
+ inventor of a method for  
measuring magnetic variation. (Phil. Trans)

5 fa William Petrie

Civil Engineer  
First exhibitor of electric light  
on a large scale, 1848, &  
inventor of various apparatus  
for that & chemical industries.

? 6 me Ann Flinders (Petrie) Writer of some books, &  
articles popularizing microneology  
about 1840. Learned both  
Hebrew & Greek single-handed.



? uncertain if within the range noticed for this  
surgery.

William Matthew Flinders Petrie. (b.1853), D.C.L., Litt.D., LL.D.,  
 Ph.D., F.R.S., <sup>F.R.A.</sup> Edwards professor of egyptology, University Coll.  
 London, since 1892; principal discoveries: Greek settlements  
 at Naucratis & Daphnae, prehistoric egyptian at Koptos &  
 Naqada, inscription of Israelite war at Thebes; kings of the  
 earliest dynasties at Abydos; has published many works relating  
 to these subjects. (~~Who's Who~~) ~~EB~~ [Who's who + Encyc. Brit.]

fa fa fa Martin Petrie, Commissary-General, good administrator.

fa fa William Petrie, Commissary-General.

me fa Matthew Flinders, (1774-1813), naval captain; assisted  
 George Bass to survey the coast of New South Wales & Van  
 Diemens Land, 1795-1800; in command of the Investigator &  
 afterwards of the Porpoise & Cumberland made the first survey  
 of a large part of the Australian Coast, 1801-3; (Dict. N. Biog.)  
 fa William Petrie, civil engineer; first exhibitor of electric  
 light on a large scale, 1848; inventor of various apparatus  
 for that & chemical industries.  
 me Ann Flinders (Petrie), writer of some books & articles pop-  
 ularizing mineralogy, about 1840; learned both Hebrew &  
 Greek single handed.



Correct  
 15th 72.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *S. C. U. Pickering Esq., F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	(E.R.P.)	3	me fa	—	J.S.S.	1	fa fa	Edward Nocturnal
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	(E.S.S.)	3	me fa	John Spencer Stanhope
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	P.A.P.	—	—	—	—	4	me me	Lt Elizabeth S. Stanhope
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	A.M.W.P.	—	—	—	—			(Coke)
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	6	S.H.P.	9	me bro	2	(W.T.W.S.S.)	5	fa	Reverend Andrew Pickering
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2	—	10	me si	3	(J.R.S.S.)	6	me	Anna Maria Willhelmina
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	(R.N.U.P.)	—	—	—	—			Pickering (Stanhope)
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2	M. 2 de M. A.M.D.W.S.	—	—	—	—	7	fa. bro	Edward Hayes Pickering
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0	—	15	me son	—	—	9	me bro	Walter Thomas William
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0	—	16	me da	—	—			S. Stanhope
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0	—	19	si son	0	—			John Roddard S. Stanhope
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0	—	20	si da	0	—	11	bro	Rowland Neville
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	5	—	23	me bro son	4	—			Unfreville Pickering
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	3	—	24	me si son	1	—	12	si	Mary Evelyn de George
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	5	—	27	me bro da	5	—			(Pickering)
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1	—	28	me si da	0	—	"	"	Anna Maria de George
											Wilhelmina Shirley
											(Pickering)

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	so	0		Ethel Laura	1898	so Wi bro	
Daughters .	30	da	0		Willmott		so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Reverend Spencer Aufreville Pickering*  
*Harpden, Herts*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Spencer Pickering



f.11

1. fa fa. Edward Rowland Pickering

Founded a successful firm of solicitors in London, and made a good deal of money. Scientific tendencies. Otherwise a man of limited views. (His father & grandfather do not seem to have been men of any note).

3 me fa. John Spencer Stanhope. F.R.S. & <sup>? member of the Institut de France</sup> Member of the Institut de France at 28 years. author of "Hædon & Olympia" & other topographical studies in Greece: also of a Journal recently published by S.P. A man of marked ability & taste, highly classical.

(His father's brother was a celebrated ~~Yorkshire~~ <sup>Yorkshire</sup> lawyer. His mother was a very able woman, a Miss Pickering, who was heiress to the Collingwood & Roddams properties, & apparently to some of the ability of those families. J.S.W. had 14 brothers and sisters (12 surviving children) & only one of them approached him in ability, namely, his elder sister Marianna Hudson who was the author of the famous novel "Almásy".)

4. me. me. Elizabeth Spencer Stanhope<sup>3rd</sup> da. of Colke of Norfolk, E. of Leicester. Decided ability. At 17 she became mistress of Holkham. She also had considerable artistic ability. Descended from Colke the famous lawyer.

5. fa Percival Andre Pickering. Various distinctions at Ston & Cambridge. Fellow of St. Johns. G.C. Judge of passage court. Attorney General for County Palatine. Author of classical essays, and works on parliamentary law. United receiving <sup>full</sup> judgeship through accident and death.

6. me. Alice Maria Wilhelmina Pickering (Spencer Stanhope) Decided ability & taste: literary & classical in tendencies. The eldest & certainly the ablest of a family of 6. Author of her 'Memoirs' recently published by S.P.

- 7 fa bro Edward Hayes Pickering. Decided classical ability. Obtained 2 prizes at Eton, & also captain of Mount. Fellow of St. John's Camb. Died comparatively young. Of his 6 children, none showed marked ability; to also with his 13 grandchildren, who were all children of his daughters.
- 9 me bro. Walter Thomas William Spencer Stanhope. 1<sup>st</sup> class Mathematics Oxford. Scientific tendencies. M.P. for West Wicking for 3 sessions. C.B. a man of considerable mark in his country; but inferior in general mental ability to his father & also elder sister. Has had 9 surviving children none of which show ability.
10. me bro John Roddham Spencer Stanhope Has made himself a considerable reputation as an artist, but is not otherwise a man of much ability. Married, but no surviving child.
- 11 bro. Rowland Neville Unfreville Pickering, Medical. A man of great ingenuity & considerable ability in certain directions. From want of good health, & sufficient back bone he is not likely to make his mark. (Not married)
- 12 si Mary Evelyn de Morgan (Pickering). Great ability as a professional artist. (painting) (no children)
- 12 si Anna Maria Diana Wilhelmina Stirling (Pickering) author of various novels & tales under the name of Percival Pickering. (no children)

In three out of the cases available ability and alto fertility seems to be concentrated in the elder children. (1) <sup>Walter</sup> John Spencer Stanhope (the writer's great grandfather) had two able children out of 12 who survived; these were his 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> children (the eldest was injured at birth & became an idiot). The former of these had 6 children. Of his other 10 <sup>non-able</sup> non-able children 5 married (all sons) and between them they had only 7 surviving children. (2) John Spencer Stanhope. Of his 6 children the most able were his 1<sup>st</sup> (a daughter) & in a less degree his 3<sup>d</sup> (a son). These between them had 13 surviving children. Of his other four children, two married, & produced only one surviving child. (3) Edward Howard Pickering. Of 8 surviving children the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup> (both sons) showed most ability: between them they had 10 children: of the other 6, four married, & had between them only 8 children.

The ratios of fertility in these cases would be:—

Taking only those who married.

Taking all the children

<u>Able</u>		<u>non-able</u>	<u>Able</u>		<u>non-able</u>
3	:	1.4	3	:	0.7
6.5	:	0.6	6.5	:	0.25
4.5	:	2	5	:	1.3

I should say that in the case of my own father ability has been about equally divided between his four children, though it shows itself in different directions in each case. The absence of offspring of the three who are married is probably not due to infertility on their part.



Evidence of ability in various early progenitors exists:—

as to the Pickerings: they date from <sup>Sir</sup> William de Pykewille an officer of William the Conqueror (according to Domesday Book); sundry members of the family held moderately high state appointments, two being made Barons by James I.

my fa m. was Mary Vere, descendant of the de Veres, Es of Oxford.

my fa fa m. was the heiress of the Unfreewilles. Sir Robert de Unfreewille was a Minister of Wm the Conqueror.

He was made Lord of Tours & Veres, & his descendants were also L<sup>ds</sup> of Redesdale, Otterburn, Pledhoe, Agnes &c. & were famous in various ways. They married into the Royal branches, & can trace from Egbert (877) & Duncan of Scotland 1040.

my fa fa m. m. was a Weld, a branch of the Welds of Lulworth castle.

The families of Lascelles, Howther and of John Dryden intermarried with the Pickering.

as to my m.'s family, the Spencer Stanhopes, they were a branch from the same stock as the Chesterfields, Harringtons & Stanhopes, and intermarried with the Rodmans, Collierswoods, Sulleins, Cokes, Nothenberlands & other noted families.



Cricket & athletic statistics.

my fa. fa. 2.R.P. had cricket propensities, but owing to his position & the habits of his times, no public record can be traced as to him. He had a 'family' eleven composed mainly of his sons. His children were.

(1) E.H.P. 20 or eleven 2<sup>nd</sup>, Cambridge eleven, gentlemen v. players from whom,

2 sons, not cricketers, & several daughters who have had numerous instances of whom showed special cricket or athletic tendencies.

(2) D.A.P. no cricket tendencies.

2 sons, neither showing cricket tendencies, but one of them (P.S.U.P.) in 1890 football eleven.

(3) G.S.P. injured in early life, & incapacitated.

(4) J.H.P. 20 or eleven 1<sup>st</sup> from whom,

2 sons. One of them in 1890 eleven 2<sup>nd</sup>, Trigari, & Leestock.

The other in 1890 22. The latter, 1 son & 1 dr. no cricket records.

(5) A.P.P. no cricketer.

1 son & 1 dr. showing no cricket or athletic tendencies.

(6) W.P.P. In 1890 eleven 5<sup>th</sup>, out of which he was captain

3<sup>rd</sup> (quite unprecedented). Capt. of Cambridge, gentlemen v. players &c. No children.

(7) dr. no record.

(8) dr. Jane Ann. did play cricket with her brothers & married a cricketer & one of a cricketing family. Had 3 sons & 1 dr.

1<sup>st</sup> son played for Hants & otherwise athletic.

He had 6 sons, of whom only one was moderately a cricketer, the others gained distinction in rackets and football.

2<sup>nd</sup> son capt. of Woolwich, also Woolwich football &c. & S.P.

3<sup>rd</sup> son. County cricket, football & generally athletic. Was.

1 son & 3 dr. The son & 2 of the drs show considerable athletic tendencies, the son being better at football than cricket.

*Harpenden Herts*

Percival Spencer Umfreville Pickering, (b.1858), F.R.S.;  
director of the Woburn Experimental Fruit Farm; investigator  
in chemical physics; editor of Memoirs of Anna Maria Pickering  
& author of 150 papers on chemical & physical subjects.  
(Who's Who)

fa fa Edward Rowland Pickering, founded a successful firm  
of solicitors in London.

me fa John Spencer Stanhope, F.R.S. & Membre de l'Institut  
at 28 years of age; a man of considerable classical attainments  
& author of "Plataea & Olympia", & other topographical  
studies in Greece.

me me Elizabeth Spencer, nee Coke; a woman of considerable &  
artistic ability.

me me fa Thomas William Coke, of Holkham, created Earl of Leicester  
(1752-1842), M.P. for Norfolk 1776-1806, & 1807-32; favoured  
protection & parliamentary reform; <sup>or</sup> introduced modern methods  
into agriculture, and the improvement of stock.  
(Dict. N. Biog.)

fa Percival Andre<sup>e</sup> Pickering, fellow of St. John's Coll, Cambridge;  
Q.C.; judge of passage court; attorney-general for County  
Palatine; author of classical essays<sup>s</sup> & works on parliamentary  
law.

me Anna Maria Wilhelmina, nee Spencer Stanhope, a woman of  
decided literary & classical ability; author of "Memoirs"  
recently published.



fa 60 Edward Hayes Pickering, Captain of Montem, Eton; fellow of St. John's Coll. Cambridge; died young.

me bro Sir Walter Thomas William Spencer Stanhope, K.C.B; (b.1827), 1st class Mathematics, Oxford, 1848; M.P.

W.Riding of Yorkshire, S. division, 1872-80, & 1882-90.

(Who's Who)

me bro John Roddam Spencer Stanhope, an artist <sup>of</sup> ~~wife~~ some reputation.

si Mary Evelyn de Morgan, an artist of great ability.

si Anna Maria Diana Wilhelmina Stirling, author of various novels & tales under the name of Percival Pickering.







Wycliffe House.

Oxford.

May 10 / 1904

My dear Galton,

I have some very  
best. & I hope what I  
send is what you want.

I don't see how so we  
<sup>in the column</sup>  
no and everything <sup>beneath it</sup>  
comes in except very recently.

On the other hand I see no  
numbers or places for  
We fa, who, to be  
all of importance for one's

children . I have therefore  
carried on the numbers to  
31 — 34 for these.

Two of my wife's brothers  
are M P s, but I assume  
I do not consider this  
noteworthy in any sense.

In most cases it is due to  
means, & all goes back  
to the founder of the firm  
whom I have inserted.



If it is not bothering you I  
 shd. like to know if I  
 have grasped your meaning  
 sufficiently. With kindest  
 regards  
 Princesse.

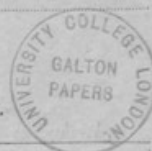
V.B. Parker

P.S. If you do think  
 M.P. entitles to a place  
 kind of return my way  
 & I will insert them  
 V.B.P.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Pigman E. B. Poulton, Esq.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.



bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		6	me	Georgina Selina Poulton
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	G.S.P.	9	me bro	3	E.B.	29	so	Edward Palmer Poulton
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	*2		10	me si	4	J.B.	29	so	Ronald William Poulton
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—		30	da	Emily Hilda Poulton
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—		30	da	Margaret Lucy Poulton
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son			30	da	Janet Mary Palmer Poulton
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da			33	Wi fa	George Palmer
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	1				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	3		23	me bro son			34	Wi fa me	Mary Palmer
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	5		24	me si son	2				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	8		27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	7				

1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	2	E P P R W P E H P M L P J M P P	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
Daughters . . .	30	da	3		Emily Palmer 1881	30 Wi bro 30 Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					30(2) Wi bro 30(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)						

\* I died young but not it is  
children - early children.

31 ♂ 4  
32 ♀ 2

33 Wi fa G.P.  
34 Wi fa me M.P.

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Edward B. Poulton*

*Wykebeam House  
Oxford.*

(S)



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

6. me. Georgia Selina Poulton.

Allowing for the statement that "women can rarely display their full abilities" & for opportunities I have no hesitation in writing this name.

In 1855 she published "A new History of England Civil, political & ecclesiastical" (London, Freeman)  
It was not successful but the publisher became bankrupt soon after publication, & it had no chance. It appears to me to show the same command of English which was very evident in her conversation. The amount of reading & hard work required to produce the 768 pages of this large Octavo work must have been very great & altho. this is not in itself a justification for inserting the name the person whose work <sup>completed by a woman</sup> ~~was~~ 49 years ago is evidence of quality which in a man would have probably easily attained the standards here set up. She also wrote a novel which was a less successful effort, mainly I believe from want of a sufficiently broad experience of life.

(Born Oct 1, 1883).

29. SO. Edward Palmer Poulton & Selected to a Brackenbury Scholarship in Natural Science at Balliol. With Christmas 1901. (Robert)

There is only one of these Scholarships in Science in each year & it is the best thing to be got in Science on entrance to the University of Oxford

1.22  
29. So. Ronald William Poulton (Born Sept 12, 1889) (2.  
(last Term) Won  
8 cups at the recent athletic sports at  
Rugby, winning 3 events under 14½ (all  
firsts) and 5 events under 16 (3 firsts 2  
seconds). There are 550 boys in the school.  
Described to me by ~~the~~ the head master of his  
Preparatory School (Lynham's, Oxford) as the best  
all-round athlete he had ever had ~~been~~ in the school.

30. da. Emily Hilda Poulton (Born Nov. 25, 1884)  
in the school  
Second at Wycombe Abbey School, High Wycombe,  
200 girls or rather over. ~~At the time~~ The youngest  
girl in the 6th form (at the same time)

30. da Margaret Lucy Poulton (Born Jul. 21, 1887)  
Great powers of observation and originality. Here  
are the qualities which lead to success but at her age  
cannot do so. (noteworthy)

30. da Janet Mary Palmer Poulton (Born Sept 13, 1892)  
always successful in competition both physical  
& mental. The same quality which makes  
for noteworthy success. In many respects a combina-  
-tion between the mental characteristics of the two  
elder sisters.

33. Wi fa. George Palmer. The leading  
spirit in the foundation of the business of Humphrey  
& Palmer.

34. Wi fa me. Mary Palmer. Left with a widow  
with her youngest child 4 years old, she managed the  
farm <sup>herself</sup> & brought up her 3 sons & 1 daughter so  
that her children always attributed to her their  
success in life. This seems to be the quality which in  
man would lead to noteworthy success.



9. one bro - Edward Baguell . (3  
a clergyman . Wrote " Saul and David  
a Sacred Dramatic Poem " (London Hatchard  
Edon 1836 ). He died ~~young~~ <sup>believed to</sup> young of  
phthisis - 100 young <sup>to</sup> become noteworthy.

---

9. one bro - John Baguell . Passed all  
the examinations for his medical profession  
with extraordinary brilliancy - so the  
family tradition & runs - : then died  
of phthisis.

---

#### NOTE

It is right to qualify the conclusions which might  
be drawn from the omissions & commissions in the  
above statement.

Such success as I have attained I believe I owe very  
largely to inheritance from ancestors who were not  
unworthy in the sense here accepted : from the  
health & longevity of my father's family ; from  
qualities which appeared in his brother Cornelius  
who was a most skilful preparer of objects for the  
microscope, and above all in the love of work &  
power of work which were most conspicuous in  
my father up to the very end of his life.

Wykeham House . Oxford . Edward B. Toulson  
May 10 - 1904



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. W. H. Power, M.D., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>J.P.</i>	3	me fa	—	<i>W.S.</i>	1	fa fa	<i>John Power</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		3	me fa	<i>William Smart</i>
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>W.H.P.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	fa	<i>William Henry Power</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	<i>J.A.P.</i>	9	me bro	1		7	fa bro	<i>John Arthur Power</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	5	<i>md.S.</i>	10	me si	<i>Mary Douglas Smart</i>
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—	—	18	bro da	<i>Mary Douglas Power</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—	24	me's son	<i>Charles Henry Young Godwin</i>
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	<i>Nil</i>		15	me son	<i>Nil</i>		30	da	<i>(as Mildred Olive Power)</i>
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					<i>(by Cousin Mary Power)</i>
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	<i>Nil</i>		19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1	<i>m.S.P.</i>	20	si da	5				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	<i>Nil</i>				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	<i>Nil</i>		24	me si son	3	<i>C.H.Y.G.</i>			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	5		27	me bro da	1				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	<i>Nil</i>		28	me si da	3				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	<i>Nil</i>	<i>Charlotte Jane Godwin</i> (my first love - <i>me si da</i> )	1876	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			<i>m.O.P.</i> <i>C.M.P.</i>	so Wi si
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)			1882	da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender  
*W.H. Power*  
*Glenside*  
*Greenhithe*  
*20. Nov. 1904.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.




Sir Francis Galton,

I return, filled in as is I think desired, your Schedule for record of data respecting "Ability in Families" that was issued to Fellows of the Royal Society last summer. My <sup>excuse</sup> ~~example~~ for delay in so doing is partly lack of time for objects outside my all day and every day work, - mainly it is the need that I had for consulting other members of my family and for referring to family documents.

The chronicles of the Power Family in that they are probably parallel with those of a multitude of families of the middle class, must needs supply history to which you have become accustomed.

Tradition has it that the Powers were aforetime persons of consideration on the borders of Warwickshire and Leicestershire, and that the down grade of the family as regards prosperity was entered on in their sustained adherence to the Stuart Cause:- that thus (more especially perhaps through the ministrations of the Parliamentarians) they lost in one and another way houses and lands, as also deeds and family records. Their impoverished descendants, however, have kept something like a complete account of marriages, births, and deaths in the direct line for near upon two centuries, and during half that time like facts for collateral branches also; this latter period corresponding to that during which the Powers have had most of them to earn their own living. They have apparently proved under these conditions a level-headed race. Almost without exception the males of the family have entered the Professions, and, also almost without exception, they have done respectably. Always, there appears to have existed in the family (and does now) a maxim deterrent



of that eager striving for personal advancement and notoriety which is in these days denominated "push". It has been deemed among us that to do well (while at the same time obtaining one's "living") that work which falls in ordinary course to the individual to do should suffice for personal contentment. Thus, not many Powers have attained ~~prominence~~ notoriety of the better sort; while as regards such of them as became in this sense conspicuous, it has been held by their relatives generally that they have owed their prominence less perhaps to ability beyond the common level-headedness of the family than to the force of extraneous circumstance.

*W H Power*

*20. November 1904*





1. fa fa: John Power M.D. (Edin.) sometime in practice at Market Bosworth, afterwards a physician in London. He was regarded, within the family, as a man of great mental ability and intellectual attainment, as equal if not superior to his younger brothers:- Namely Joseph Power, <sup>11th</sup> Wargley, Fellow of Clare, and University Librarian; and Alfred Power B.B.B. 2<sup>nd</sup> class (1826), Fellow of Downing, and, later, Vice-President of the Local Government Board, Ireland.<sup>+</sup> John Power was not successful in physician's practice in London; his second son, my father, he could not send to Cambridge; perhaps for the reason that he gave much attention to matters scientific - to embryology for instance in

+ another brother (William of Heasley Hall) of John, Joseph, and Alfred, though not himself distinguished in other than private life, had noteworthy sons as follows:-

John Power D.D. 8<sup>th</sup> Wargley; Fellow and Tutor, afterwards Master, of Pembroke. Sometime Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Sam Power 11<sup>th</sup> Wargley; Fellow and Tutor Emmanuel. Afterwards Head Master of Cathedral School, Hereford; Vicar of Upton Bishop, Ross; Rector of Hereford.



regard of which, I have been given to understand, he was much in ~~advance~~ advance of his time. But he never published, I think.

- 3 me fa William Smart of Rainham Kent  
 A land owner and agriculturalist,  
 held of the bounty in high estimation  
 in both capacities. His father died  
 when W.S. was about entering <sup>at</sup> Oxford  
 and accordingly W.S. had to devote  
 himself instead to land management  
 and agriculture. He resembled, however,  
 reputed in the family (on both sides)  
 to be a well read man in a wide  
 range of subjects, and to be mentally  
 of high ability. I myself believe this.



5. fa William Henry Bowser M.D.: - Unable,  
 owing to lack of funds, to go to Cambridge  
 like his elder brother (next below), he  
 entered the medical profession by  
 apprenticeship to an uncle, and sub-

sequently engaged in medical practice in London. This he relinquished as time went on for private medical tutoring in regard of high class examinations, as for instance competitions for admission to the Naval and Military Medical Services. Unquestionably he had exceptional capacity in mastering matters medical and surgical in their scientific and other aspects, and of imparting grasp of them to other minds. Intellectually he was, in my opinion, considerably above the average, and in no way inferior to his brother John Arthur.



7. father : John Arthur Poser 27<sup>th</sup> Warrington (1832), and Fellow of Bar. Subsequently studied medicine at Addenbroke Hospital and entered the Medical Profession. The chief interest of his life, however, was Entomology, which he as a boy commenced to study with his grandfather Dr John Poser of

Lichfield. As a result he became a high authority on this subject, especially as regards the Coleoptera.

10. ne si. Mary Douglas Smart. Noteworthy in that, despite the upbringing of girls and young women in the first quarter of last century, she developed the brain of a man of more than average intelligence. This was recognised by the males of two generations in the family; no occasion arose for manifestation of her exceptional ability in any public way. She died a spinster in her 90<sup>th</sup> year.



- 18 Bro da: Mary Douglas Power. Lecturer of Arts, London University.

- 24 me si son: Charles Henry Young Godwin A.M.C. Obtained first place in competitive examination for admission to the Army Medical Service. Professor of Surgery at Exeter.



30 da : (a) Mildred Olive Power. ~~M.A.~~  
graduate University of London. Late  
Assistant Bacteriologist to the Royal  
Commission on Sewage Disposal.  
Now Factory Inspector, Home Office  
(b) Constance Mary Power. Artist  
of promise, especially in miniature  
painting. Has had work of hers  
accepted (though not hung) by  
the Royal Academy.

W. Power

20. Nov. 1907



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Regina J. H. Poynting*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa	Thomas Elford Poynting
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		17	bro son	John Elford Poynting
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. E. P	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	1	JEP	19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	2?				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	2		24	me si son	0 2 4				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	2		27	me bro da	4				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Maria Adney Cropper	1880	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*J. H. Poynting 10 Ampton Road Birmingham*



## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

10, AMPTON ROAD,  
EDGEASTON,  
BIRMINGHAM.

5<sup>th</sup> fa Thomas Elford Poynting

Began as a working mason.  
Educated himself & became a  
schoolmaster in an elementary school  
Entered Manchester New College at  
Manchester to be trained for the  
Unitarian Ministry, overcoming great  
difficulties in carrying on his college  
course. Became a ~~very well known~~  
minister very widely known among  
Unitarians.





10. AMPTON ROAD,  
EDGEASTON,  
BIRMINGHAM.

17 bro son John Elford Pagutug  
Exhibitor of Ballist College Oxford  
Successful in the competition  
for the Indian Civil Service  
now aged 30 a judge in  
the I.C.S.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Mr William Reece KCB FRG L*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	1		3	me fa	+				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	2		4	me me	+				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	2								
Mother . . . . .	6	me	2								
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	J.R.P.							
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	5								
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2		19	si son	4				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da	6				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage	Sons . . . . .	29	so	4			30 Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da	3			31 Wi si	
2nd marriage	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				32(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				33(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *W. H. Reece 20 Grosvenor Lodge Wimbledon*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Professor Y. Purdie, MRS.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*. \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	5	J.P.	9	me bro	1		7	fa bro	Thomas Purdie
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	—				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	— 0		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	1	J.B.	15	me son	John Buchanan
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	2		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	—				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—		24	me si son	—				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	1				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—		28	me si da	—				
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.				
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.			
1st marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29	so	—	—	—	—	10 Wi bro				
Daughters . . .	30	da	—	—	—	—	10 Wi si				
							da Hu bro				
							da Hu si				
2nd marriage.											
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—	—	10(2) Wi bro				
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—	—	10(2) Wi si				
							da(2) Hu bro				
							da(2) Hu si				
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>Thomas Purdie</i>											





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

7. fa. bro. Thomas Purdie

Established & managed a large house-decorating business in Edinburgh & London. Published a volume entitled "Form & Sound" (Adam & Chas. Black 1849)

15. ne. son. John Buchanan

Trained as artist. As a youth made literary & artistic contributions to various journals & I believe to "Punch", but all trace of these is lost. Artistic ability inherited by a daughter who exhibits in the Royal Academy, & apparently also by a grand-child. Became eventually manager of one of the largest copper-smelting establishments in Chile.



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF D. P. H. Pyle-Smith, F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa		4. father I.P.S.	3	me fa	3				J.P.S. learned & scientific F.R.S.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me		mentally afflicted before death	4	me me	6				
Father . . . . .	5	fa		Good professional position accomplished							
Mother . . . . .	6	me									
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si		accomplished			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4	A.P.S. R.P.S.							bro Arthur P.S. energetic Philanthropist bro R.P.S. Good professional position
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3								
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da		clever	20	si da		clever			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son		Not remarkable	24	me si son		Good soldiers.			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da		not remarkable	28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1				so Wi bro
	Daughters .	30	da					so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si

Signature and Address of the Sender

P.H. Pyle-Smith

48 Brooklet London W.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. A. A. Rambaut, 4th*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		1	E.F.R.	Edmund Frances Rambaut
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		2	D.F.R.	Daniel Frederick Rambaut
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	E.F.R.	—	—	—	—	3	A.E.R.	Arthur Edmund Rambaut
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	4	G.M.R.	Gerrard Marlonde Rambaut
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	5		9	me bro	1		5	J.H.L.	John Henry Longford
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	2		6	J.W.	John Wilkins
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	D.F.R.	—	—	—	—	7 generations back		
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	— 0		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	— 0		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	— 0		19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	— 0		20	si da	—				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son	1				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	— 0		24	me si son	4				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	7		27	me bro da	2				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	— 0		28	me si da	10				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	so	3	A.E.R. G.M.R. J.H.L.	Emily Longford	1883	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters .	30	da	—					
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)						

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Arthur A. Rambaut, Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Particulars.

1. E.F.R. - Edmund Frances Rambart  
 fa Clerk in Holy Orders. Incumbent of Laceyfort Church,  
 Blackrock, Dublin. Highly thought of in Irish Church.
2. <sup>bro</sup> D.F.R. - Daniel Frederick Rambart <sup>M.D., S.L.</sup> (Age 39)  
 Brain Specialist - Superintendent of the Salop &  
 Montgomery District Asylum.
3. <sup>son</sup> A.E.R. - Arthur Edmund Rambart - (Age 19)  
 Mathematical Scholar (Open) at Brasenose College  
 Oxford.
4. <sup>son</sup> G.M.R. - Gerrard Marlandi Rambart - (Age 16)  
 King's Scholar (1901) Westminster School.
5. I.H.L. - John Henry Longford (Born 1855)  
 Obtained a University Scholarship in Mathematics at  
 Trin. Coll. Dub. <sup>1879</sup> but his health broke down shortly afterwards  
 & he died of phthisis. (1888)

We have been a very ordinary family for several  
 generations without great men. The only big name  
 to which we can point is that of Dr John Wilkins,  
 perhaps I might mention him.

6. L.W. - John Wilkins - Warden of Wadham College  
 & Bishop of Chester. First Secretary of the Royal Society.  
 Married Robina Cromwell, the Protector's sister. She was  
 my fa-fa-me-fa-me-fa-fa. A.C.R.

9  
 We have  
 must

We have  
 back to  
 small

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Sir William Ramsay, K.C.B., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																											
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	W.	3	me fa	—	—			William Ramsay																																											
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																															
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				Andrew Crombie Ramsay Robert Robertson																																											
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																															
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	A.C.	9	me bro	3	R.																																														
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	1																																															
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—																																															
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—																																															
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0																																															
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0																																															
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0																																															
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0																																															
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1		23	me bro son	0																																															
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	1																																															
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	4		27	me bro da	0																																															
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	0																																															
<div>29 me fa fa bro son 1 A. 30 me fa fa da son 1 A. Wife's brothers and sisters.</div> <table><thead><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Regr.</th><th rowspan="2">Title.</th><th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th><th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Titles.</th></tr><tr><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td>1</td><td rowspan="2">Buchanan</td><td rowspan="2">1881</td><td>so Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td>1</td><td>so Wi si</td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td>—</td><td></td><td></td><td>da Hu bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td>—</td><td></td><td></td><td>da Hu si</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Titles.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Buchanan	1881	so Wi bro		Daughters .	30	da	1	so Wi si		2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			da Hu bro		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—			da Hu si	
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Titles.																																															
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																														
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Buchanan	1881	so Wi bro																																															
	Daughters .	30	da	1			so Wi si																																															
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			da Hu bro																																															
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—			da Hu si																																															



Archibald Robertson, F.R.S.  
Archibald Robertson, A.D.

Signature and Address of the Sender

William Ramsay, 19 Chelsea Terrace, London N.W.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

TELEPHONE NO.  
3979 CENTRAL.

GOWER STREET, W.C.

1. *fa fa*. William Ramsay

Manufacturing Chemist. First  
made acetic acid from wood. Dis-  
covered bichrome. President of the  
first Chemical Society: Glasgow 1796,  
subsequently (1802) merged in the  
Glasgow Philosophical Society.

? even if a generalization  
say he was 34 when Pres, he would  
have been 40 in 1800 & 146 in 1904



## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

TELEPHONE NO.  
3979 CENTRAL.

GOWER STREET, W.C.

7. Fa bro. Andrew Crombie Ramsay.  
F. R. S. Head of Geological Survey  
of Great Britain. Succeeded Murchison,  
distinguished as geologist.



F.6

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

TELEPHONE No.  
3979 CENTRAL.

GOWER STREET, W.C.

9. Mr bro. Robert Robertson. Editor  
of London Paper, daily - About 1835.





UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

TELEPHONE NO.  
3979 CENTRAL.

GOWER STREET, W.C.

Addendum - 29. me fa fa bro son.

for remeth Archibald Robertson, F.R.S.

Medical man; practised at Northampton

Addendum 30. me fa fa bro son son son.

for remeth Archibald Robertson, Bishop of Exeter. Theologian. Late vice-chancellor of London University.



Sir William Ramsay, (b. 1852), K.C.B., LL.D., D.Sc., Ph.D.,  
F.R.S., F.C.S. prof of chemistry, University Coll., London,  
since 1887; sometime prof of chemistry & principal of Univer-  
sity Coll., Bristol; has published numerous important  
scientific papers. (Who's Who)

fa fa William Ramsay, manufacturing chemist; first made  
acetic acid from wood; discovered bichrope; president of m/  
the first chemical society, Glasgow, 1796, which was merged in  
the Glasgow Philosophical Society, 1802.

fa pro Sir Andrew Grombie Ramsay<sup>a</sup>, (1814-1891), F.R.S.,  
prof. of geology, University Coll, London, 1847; director-  
-general of the geological survey, 1871. (Dict.N.Biog.)

no pro Robert Robertson, editor of London paper (daily)  
about 1835.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Prof. Arthur Ranome, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																													
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																		
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J. A. R.	3	me fa	—	—		F. R. G. S.	John Atkinson Ranome																																													
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																	
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	J. A. R.	—	—	—	—		F. R. C. S.	Joseph Atkinson Ranome																																													
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																																	
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	—	N. F.			Lady Mary Fry. Artist.																																													
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si																																																		
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—																																																
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—																																																	
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son	—																																																	
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																		
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	4	J. A. R. M.		M. A.	John Arthur Ranome Marriott. Secy to Oxford U. Expt. Delegation																																													
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	1																																																	
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son	18			M. T. G. E.	Francis																																													
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son	10 or 12					F. F.																																												
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	10 or 12			M. T. G. E.	Sir Douglas Fry. Engineers																																													
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da																																																		
<table><thead><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Regr.</th><th rowspan="2">Title.</th><th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th><th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th></tr><tr><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td>3</td><td rowspan="2">J. A. R.</td><td rowspan="2">Lucy Sigaret. F. L. L. A. N.</td><td>30</td><td>Wi bro</td><td rowspan="2"></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters . .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td>4</td><td>31</td><td>Wi si</td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>32(2)</td><td>Wi bro</td><td rowspan="2"></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters . .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>33(2)</td><td>Wi si</td></tr></tbody></table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	3	J. A. R.	Lucy Sigaret. F. L. L. A. N.	30	Wi bro		Daughters . .	30	da	4	31	Wi si	2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				32(2)	Wi bro		Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				33(2)	Wi si
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	3	J. A. R.	Lucy Sigaret. F. L. L. A. N.	30	Wi bro																																																
	Daughters . .	30	da	4			31	Wi si																																																
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				32(2)	Wi bro																																																
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				33(2)	Wi si																																																

Signature and Address of the Sender

Arthur Ranome  
56 Newbury St. - 4th Fl. - Birkbeckhead

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Rt. Hon. the Lord Rayleigh, OM, FRS*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		11	Brother	Edmund Gerald Strutt
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		24	me si son	Ronald Burrows
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—		29	so.	Robert John Strutt
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—			me fa bro	Major Gen. Edmund Peers
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0 4 5		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4	EFS	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	5		19	si son	1			Wi bro	Arthur James Balfour
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	5		20	si da	0			"	Gerald William Balfour
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0 4 5		23	me bro son	3			"	Francis Maitland
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son	4	A.B.		"	Eustace James
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da	5			Wi si	Edmond Maitland Silgwick
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	3	R.J.S.	Edith Balfour 1871	Wi bro	EJB, EWB
	Daughters . .	30	da	— 0			Wi si	F.M.B., E.J.B.
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	E.M.S.
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Rayleigh*

Testing Place *Witham Essex*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Noteworthy Kinsfolk of Lord Rayleigh 6.11  
F.R.S.

- 11 Hon<sup>ble</sup> Edward Gerald Strutt - Has established  
& manages a large Land Agency & Surveying  
business - & makes farming pay in Essex on a big scale
- 24 Ronald Burrows - Professor of Greek in the University of Cardiff
- 29 Hon<sup>ble</sup> Robert John Strutt - Science Fellow of Trinity Coll. Camb.  
Has done original work on Radium &c
- me & bro. Major Gen. Edward Vicars R.E. Distinguished himself under Lord John  
Hay on N. coast of Spain. & received breast Majority & Spanish orders  
for gallantry in action before San Sebastian 1836. Selected for special  
duty with the Fleet in 1854. Taken ill on the way out & retired on full pay
- Wi. bro. M<sup>r</sup>. Hon. C. J. Balfour - Prime minister
- " " Fearnis Maitland Balfour late Prof. of morphology & fossils
- " " M<sup>r</sup>. Hon. Gerald William Balfour M.P. President of the Board of Trade
- " " Eustace James Balfour Col. of London Scottish Bunters. Architect of Arington Hall  
Suffolk  
& of St. Anselm's Church in Davison - &c
- Wi. si M<sup>rs</sup> Eleanor Mildred Sedgwick President of Newnham Coll. Camb.



*Herling Place, Witham, Essex*

John William Strutt, 3rd Baron Rayleigh, (b.1842), D.C.L.

(hon. Oxon), LL.D., F.R.S., Hon. C.E., Sc.D.(Cambridge & Dublin),  
Order of Merit; professor of natural philosophy, Royal Inst.,  
since 1887; senior wrangler & Smith's prizeman, 1865; prof.  
of experimental physics, Cambridge, 1879-84; author of  
"Theory of Sound" & many scientific papers. (Who's Who & *Encyc. Brit.*)

bro Hon. Edward Gerald Strutt, *Successful Land Agent & Surveyor*  
~~has established & managed a~~  
~~large land agency & surveying business, & makes farming on a~~  
~~large scale pay, in Essex.~~

me si son Ronald Montague Burrows, (b. 1867), professor of  
greek in the University College of S. Wales & Monmouthshire.  
(Who's Who)

son Hon. Robert John Strutt, <sup>6.</sup>(1875), science fellow of  
Trinity Coll. Cambridge; has done original work on Radium etc.  
(Who's Who)

me fa bro Major-General Edward Vicars, R.E., distinguished  
himself under Lord John Hay on north coast of Spain, & received  
brevet majority & spanish orders for gallantry in action  
before San Sebastian in 1836; selected for special duty with  
the fleet in 1854; taken ill on the way out & retired on full  
pay.

wife nee Balfour ~~(Vide account of Balfour family)~~





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Clement Reid, Esq. 4102*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		4	me me	Margaret Barnard
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—	<i>M. B.</i>	12	si	Margery Anna Reid
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	23	me bro son	Harold Leslie Barnard
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	4				membro Michael Faraday
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	6				me fa bro George Barnard
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	4		—	—	—	—			me fa bro Fred Barnard
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4	<i>M. A. R.</i>	—	—	—	—			son
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	—				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	8	<i>H. L. B.</i>			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	4		24	me si son	5				
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	6				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	6		28	me si da	7				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.							<i>H. L. B.</i> ; <i>J. R. W. E.</i>	
Sons . . .	29	so	—	—	<i>E. M. Wynne Edwards, (B. in Lond.)</i>	1897	10 Wi bro 10 Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters . . .	30	da	—	—				
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—			10(2) Wi bro 10(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—				

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Clement Reid, Gorran Haven, St Austell*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Clement Reid

F.14

4 me. me.

Margaret Barnard

Faraday's sister — said to have been of exceptional ability. Brought up a large family.

12 si

Margery Anna Reid

B.Sc. London; science mistress at Ladies' College, Cheltenham. Conspicuous success as a teacher, speciality geography.

23 me. bro. son.

Dr Harold Lesley Barnard.  
Surgeon & inventor of apparatus for testing blood pressure.

me me. bro.

Michael Faraday

me fa bro.

George Barnard  
Landscape Artist & author of various books on drawing & painting.

me fa bro son.

Fred Barnard  
Artist & Caricaturist.



Wi. bro. Hugh Copner Wynne Edwards, Civil Engineer; director Sir John Jackson, Limtd.; in charge of construction Admiralty Dock Yards, Simon's Bay.

Wi. bro. Rev. John Rosindale Wynne Edwards. Open scholarship Ch.Ch. Oxford; head master Leeds Grammar School



F.15

I would point out that this mode of enquiry is likely to handicap large families & make them appear to be below the average in ability. Other things being equal, there will be less money to spend on the education of a large family than of a small one, & the members will have to earn their living at an earlier age. This has certainly been the case in the families treated of in the form annexed.

Clement Reid



*Geological Survey Office, Tennyson Street*

Clement Reid, F.R.S., district geologist on survey of England & Wales; author of many works on geology. (Who's Who)

si Margery Anna Reid, B.Sc., London; science mistress at Ladies' Coll., Cheltenham; very successful as a teacher.

me bro son Harold Leslie Barnard, surgeon, & inventor of apparatus for testing blood pressure.

me me bro Michael Faraday, (1791-1867) famous chemist & electrician; started his scientific career as assistant to Sir Humphrey Davy. (Dict.N.Biog.)

me fa bro George Barnard, landscape artist & author of many books on drawing & painting.

me fa bro son Frederick Barnard, (1846- 1896), artist & caricaturist;

illustrator of Dickens, & contributor to Punch etc. (Dict. N.Biog.)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. A.W. Reinold, FRS*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																											
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—																																															
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																															
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—																																															
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—																																															
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	0																																															
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0		10	me si	0																																															
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	E.K.R.	—	—	—																																															
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—																																															
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son																																																
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da																																																
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	2		19	si son	0																																															
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	1		20	si da	0																																															
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	0																																															
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	8		24	me si son	0																																															
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	0																																															
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	8		28	me si da	0																																															
<table><thead><tr><th rowspan="2"></th><th rowspan="2">Regr.</th><th rowspan="2">Title.</th><th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th><th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th><th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th><th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th><th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th></tr><tr><th>Titles.</th><th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . .</td><td>29</td><td>so</td><td>3</td><td rowspan="2">Owen</td><td rowspan="2">1869</td><td>Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30</td><td>da</td><td>1</td><td>Wi si</td><td></td></tr><tr><td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td><td>Sons . . . .</td><td>29(2)</td><td>so(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>da(2) Wi bro</td><td></td></tr><tr><td>Daughters .</td><td>30(2)</td><td>da(2)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>da(2) Wi si</td><td></td></tr></tbody></table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so	3	Owen	1869	Wi bro		Daughters .	30	da	1	Wi si		2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da(2) Wi bro		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Wi si	
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																															
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																														
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so	3	Owen	1869	Wi bro																																															
	Daughters .	30	da	1			Wi si																																															
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da(2) Wi bro																																															
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Wi si																																															
Signature and Address of the Sender <i>A.W. Reinold, 9 Vanbrugh Park Rd, Blackheath</i>																																																						



*Edw. Konrad Reinold*  
*Inventor of automatic*  
*sluice gate used in India*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. J. Emerson Reynolds, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>J. E. R.</i>	3	me fa	—				<i>Janet Emerson Reynolds</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>J. R.</i>	—	—	—				<i>Janet Reynolds, Novelist</i> ( <i>in L. L. A. Bennett</i> )
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro		<i>me</i>	9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si		<i>me</i>	10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		<i>me</i>	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si		<i>me</i>	—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son		—	15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da		—	16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son		—	19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da		—	20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		<i>me</i>	23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son		<i>me</i>	24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da		—	27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da		<i>me</i>	28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	<i>me</i>	<i>A. J. E. R.</i>	<i>Janet Elizabeth Reynolds</i>	1875	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>me</i>
	Daughters . .	30	da	<i>me</i>	<i>me</i>	<i>me</i>		<i>Wi si</i>	<i>me</i>
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>me</i>
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					<i>Wi si</i>	<i>me</i>



Signature and Address of the Sender

*J. Reynolds* . 29 Campbell Hill Court W.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Ringer  
(Form not sent)

F. 19r

15, CAVENDISH PLACE. W.

July 10

Dear Dr Falton

I have returned  
you the form. without  
any spaces filled up  
for none of my people  
have been in any way  
noteworthy.

My father began  
life in a humble position  
the son of a small trades-  
man. by his high character

& from business abolishes  
 he achieved considerable  
 success. but died at 42.  
 was the old eldest brother  
 for over 30 years ~~was~~  
 in China & by great  
 business capacity, at first  
 saved a good fortune.  
 but by an unfortunate  
 speculation late in life  
 all lost all. The second  
 brother has been for 30  
 years in Nagasaki where

He has established the  
formal business ~~there~~ &  
is the leading man in  
the place

Any other questions  
you may wish to put  
to me I shall be glad  
to answer

Yours very truly

Sydney Rogers



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Isaac Roberts D.Sc. F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	—		9	me bro	—				
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	—		10	me si	—				
Brothers . . .	11	bro	—		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	si	—		—	—	—				
Half-brothers .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	—				
First cousins .	21	fa bro son	—		23	me bro son	—				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	—		24	me si son	—				
First cousins .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	—				
Female . . .	26	fa si da	—		28	me si da	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				30 Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				31 Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				32(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				33(2) Wi si	

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON  
GALTON PAPERS

I have no family & my relatives were & are honorable persons possessing ordinarily good common sense but without any remarkable characteristic feature that would bear on your enquiry

Signature and Address of the Sender Isaac Roberts D.Sc. F.R.S. — Stanfield, Crowborough Sussex

4/7/04

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonic. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

H. ASTLEY ROBERTS,  
Solicitor.

43. Bishopsgate Street Without.

London, E.C. 7<sup>th</sup> June 1904

Dear Sir,

My father Mr Samuel  
Robert F.R.S. of 27 Nassington  
Rd Hampstead has requested  
me to fill up the enclosed  
form & to sign it on his  
behalf as he is unable  
to do so owing to failure of  
eyesight

Yours truly

H. Astley Roberts

Francis Galton Esq

42 Rutland Gate  
S.W.







# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

me fa 1/2 bro grandson

Alfred B Churchill

see Dictionary of National Biography, Edited by Leslie  
Stephenson & L. Dow

Henry Churchill C.B.

(Brother of Alfred B Churchill) H.M. Consul  
at Palermo & other places - 3 of Henry Churchill's  
sons hold Consular office viz  
Harry Lionel Churchill H.M. Consul at Nesht-  
Sidney J. A. Churchill H.M. Consul at Palermo  
William A. J. Churchill H.M. Consul at Para Brazil

9 me bro

Joel Churchill Emigrated in 1819 to America  
& in 1820 settled at Albion Edwards Co Illinois  
"where he lived & died one of the most prosperous  
"respected & influential citizens of that portion  
"of Illinois" Extract from letter of grandson of Joel Churchill  
"All Joel Churchill's descendants have chosen  
" & pursued honorable callings have been of  
"recognized worth in their respective fields of  
"activity & have in all things maintained the  
"fair reputation of their ancestor" Extract from  
letter of grandson of Joel Churchill

29 So

Samuel Oliver Roberts

Scholar of St John's Coll. Camb.

Seventh Wrangler June 1882

Head Mathematical Master Royal  
Grammar School Newcastle on Tyne  
1884

Second Mathematical Master & Sixth Form  
Master on Modern Side Merchant Taylors  
School

died 1899

see Journal of Education July 1899.

S. fa. sc. Emma Romer.

Distinguished Operatic Singer.  
mentioned in Dictionary of  
National Biography.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *The Lord Justice Romer, G.C.B., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro	0 7 5				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	6	E. R	10	me si	2		8	fa. si.	Emma Romer
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	6		19	si son	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3		20	si da	3				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	1		23	me bro son	1 5 2				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	6		24	me si son	1				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	7				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	12		28	me si da	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	5	Betty Lemon	1864	Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da	2			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da(2) <del>Hawthorn</del>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) <del>Hawthorn</del>	

Signature and Address of the Sender	<i>Robert Romer. 27 Harrington Gardens, London S. W.</i>
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

TELEGRAMS, WEST-HORSLEY.  
PARCELS, HORSLEY STATION. L.S.W.

f.27

Jul. 26. 04

WOODCOTE LODGE,  
WEST HORSLEY,  
LEATHERHEAD.

My dear falton

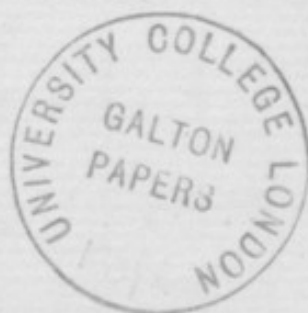
I must apologise for  
not having sent you ere this  
the enclosed "noteworthy Kinsfolk"  
of myself. Englishmen are said  
always to be late but not too late.

I trust that this will hold  
good in my case.

I am yours very truly

Henry R. Roscoe

J. falton Esq. FRS  
de fr



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Sir Henry Roscoe F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	WR	3	me fa	—	—	1		William Roscoe ✓
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	A. E.	4		Ann Enfield
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	HR	—	—	—	—	5		Henry Roscoe ✓
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	M. F.	—	—	—	—	6		Maria Fletcher
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	7	W. S. R.	9	me bro	—	—	7		William Stanley Roscoe ✓
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	8	TR	10	me si	—	H. F.	7		Robert Roscoe
				J. R.				—	7		Thomas Roscoe ✓
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		—	—	—	—	—	8		Jane Roscoe
Sisters . . . . .	12	si		—	—	—	—	—	10		Harriet Fletcher
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son		—	15	me son		—			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da		—	16	me da		—			
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son		—	19	si son		—			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da		—	20	si da		—			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		W. C. R.	23	me bro son		C. B.	21		William Caldwell Roscoe
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son		W. S. J.	24	me si son		—	22	F.R.S.	William Stanley Jevons
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da		—	27	me bro da		—	24	P.C.	Charles Booth.
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da		—	28	me si da		—			

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Lucy Potter	1863	Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Henry Enfield Roscoe*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



## REMARKS on the Noteworthy KINSFOLK of SIR HENRY ROSCOE

1

- No. 1. WILLIAM ROSCOE of Liverpool. Historian & Poet & Philanthropist. Author of the Lives of "Lorenzo<sup>di</sup> Medici" & "Leo X" M. P. for Liverpool. *(The George in George England)*
- No. 4. ANNE ENFIELD daughter of Dr Enfield of Norwich. *(Can this be George's name S.N. 1802 X.V. 370)*
- No. 5. HENRY ROSCOE youngest son of William Roscoe. Barrister-at-law. Author of "Roscoe's Digest of the Law" & other standard works on law, & the "Life of William Roscoe" *Thomas Roscoe*
- No. 6. MARIA FLETCHER Artist & Authoress. Wrote the "Life of Victoria Colonna" *me*
- No. 7. WILLIAM STANLEY ROSCOE Poet. *fa les*
- No. 7. ROBERT ROSCOE Poet, author of "King Alfred" a poem in blank verse. *fa les*
- No. 7. THOMAS ROSCOE Author. See "Biographical Dictionary." *fa les*
- No. 8. JANE ROSCOE Poetess. Authoress of "Poems by a Family Circle." *fa ti*
- No. 10. HARRIET FLETCHER Authoress of "Tales for Children." *me li*
- No. 21. WILLIAM CALDWELL ROSCOE Essayist & Poet. *fa les son*
- No. 22. WILLIAM STANLEY JEVONS F. R. S. Political Economist & Statistician. *fa di son*
- No. 24. CHARLES BOOTH P. C. F. R. S. Economist & Statistician. *me li son*



THE *(Ross)*  
LIVERPOOL SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE.

f. 30

Telephone 19 X Edge Hill.

JOHNSTON TROPICAL LABORATORY,  
UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL

4<sup>th</sup> July 1904

Dear Sir

I much regret  
that it is impossible  
for me to give you  
information about  
my relatives you  
require, owing to  
death, absence etc.

Yours faithfully

R. Ross -



f.31r



Newnham Cottage,  
Queens' Road,  
Cambridge.

July 10 1904

Dear Sir

I would gladly  
fill up the paper of  
questions you have sent  
to me if I could get  
the information you  
want with any real  
accuracy. My relations

are so numerous & so  
scattered over the colonies  
that it could only be  
obtained by much letter  
writing & would not be  
worth so much labour.  
I have put a few items  
on another paper which  
may possibly be useful.

I remain  
yours truly

E. J. Routh



E. J. Routh.

Father's Father. A Judge in Newfoundland, died before my birth.

Father Sir Randolph J Routh, made KCB for eminent services in the Army. See National Biography.

Uncles on Mother's side } were Roman Catholics. one  
& their sons

me bro Elgear Alexandre Taschereau was a Cardinal.

me bro Another Thomas Taschereau was a Judge of the Supreme Court of Canada. His eldest son

me bro Sir Henri Taschereau is a Judge in the same Court, received by the King here last month.

me in son The Hon T Elgear Taschereau is also a Judge in the same court & a greater writer on law; he is the son of another uncle. See "Canadian Men & Women of the Time".

Half Brother } Dr C H. F Routh & his son Amand  
he Routh are both eminent physicians in London.

Wife's Father Sir George B Airy the late Astronomer Royal was a Mathematician of the first rank.

Wife's Brother Dr Osmond Airy, Wrangler at Cambridge, Inspector of Schools, is an Historian. His last work is "Charles II".



Sons. George Routh Scholar at Charterhouse  
& Pembroke College, 13<sup>th</sup> Wrangler &  
now Inspector of Schools.

R Rupert Routh gained leaving Math<sup>l</sup>  
Scholarship at Charterhouse (Valued £320),  
was Math Scholar at Caius Coll, & gained  
a good place last year in the open  
competition for Indian Civil Service.

Sister's sons. Mrs Kilkelly's sons gained  
honours in Trinity College Dublin  
& have subsequently served in India  
as distinguished medical officers.

The only members of my family who  
have taken an interest in Mathematics  
seem to be Sir G Airy, two of my sons  
& myself. The Taschereau family  
exhibited great ability in law & therefore  
some of them might possibly have  
studied Mathematics had there been  
any opportunities to do<sup>so</sup> in Canada  
in their time.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

D<sup>r</sup> E. J. Routh, HRS.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

See "Men of the Time"

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	4		15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	none		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	5			Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da	1			Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



me bro Elzear Als Carter  
 ✓ me bro Thomas Judge of Supreme Court



me bro (Thos) to Sir Henri Taschi Judge of same Court received here  
 by the King last month June 1904

me bro (and the wife) to Hon T Elzear Judge & writer of law  
 see Canadian Men & Women of the Time

F35.

D' E J Routh. Newnham Cottage, 22 Essex Road, Cambridge

Edward John Routh, (b. 1831) Sc.D., Camb., Sc.D., (hon.), Dublin, LL.D., (hon.), Glasgow, F.R.S., senior wrangler & Smith's ~~prizeman~~ prizeman, 1854; Adams prize 1877; has had 27 senior wranglers & more than 40 Smith's prizemen among his pupils. (Who's Who) *Author of several books on theoretical Dynamics & of many mathematical papers.*

space.  
1782

Sir Randolph Isham Routh, (1785?-1858) Commissary general in the army; saw much foreign service, & was senior commissariat officer at Waterloo; K.C.B., 1848. (Dict. N. Biog.)

me bro Hon. Jean Thos. Taschereau, judge of the King's bench in Canada.

~~me~~ bro son His Eminence Elzéar Alexandre Taschereau, (b. 1820) son of the above; Cardinal Priest of the Roman Catholic Church, & Archbishop of Quebec.

me bro son Hon. Henri Thomas Taschereau, (b. 1841) judge of the supreme court of Canada.

me bro son Hon. Henri Elzéar Taschereau, (b. 1836), judge of the supreme court of Canada; author of many works on law. (The accounts of the Taschereau family taken from "Canadian Men & Women of the Time")

fa son C.H.F. Routh, eminent physician in London.

fa son son Amand J. McC. Routh M.D., F.R.C.P., obstetric physician to Charing Cross Hosp. consulting obstetric physician to the Samaritan free Hosp. for Women, to the St. Marylebone General Dispensary, & to St. John's Hosp. Twickenham.

author of numerous papers & articles on Midwifery & Gynaecology. (Who's Who)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Mr. Arthur W. Rücker, Jr.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa.	Daniel Henry Rücker
Grandmother . . .	2	fa-me	—		4	me me	—		11	bro	Edmund Augustus Rücker
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	D.H.R.	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	—		9	me bro	3		12	sc.	Helen Louisa Siddion
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	6		10	me si	2				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2	E.A.R.	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	3	H.T.E.	—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	6	all young	19	si son	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	5		20	si da	5				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	—		23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—		24	me si son	—				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	—		27	me bro da	—				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—		28	me si da	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so		Marian Heaton	1876	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	1			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	1	Theresa Charlotte Story-Munkelype	1892	so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Arthur W. Rücker, 19. Steinhilber Strasse S.W.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



5. fa. Daniel Henry Rücker

owing to heavy losses in his preceding generation my father began life on small means, was a most successful business man, well known in Mining Lane. He left a considerable fortune.

11. ho. Edward Augustus Rücker

My father succeeded to my father's business & is, I believe regarded as one of the leaders of that business (Colonial Broker) in Mining Lane.

12. si. My sister Mrs ~~Edwards~~ Edolison writes under the pseudonym of "George Frost"



# Additional Notes.



In the case of business family such as mine it is difficult to appraise success relatively to the professions, but I think the following notes may bear on the general question of heredity if not on the particular problem under review.

The family can be traced back to the early part of the 17<sup>th</sup> century, but all those to whom I shall refer are descendants of ~~Seigmund Rucker~~ ~~Rucker~~.

I Siegmund Rucker b. Berlin May 4. 1682  
d. Hamburg Dec 27. 1744

He settled in Hamburg, which was then one of the Hanse towns & was governed by a Council consisting of the leading men of the town who were called "Senators".

II One of his sons my fafafa was a Senator. Another settled in England, became very wealthy, & built at Putney a house called "Melrose" now converted into a Hospital for incurables. Curiously enough he is mentioned in the Minutes of the Council of the Royal Society for Nov 4. 1762 as "Mr Rucker an eminent Merchant" in connection with D'Arkelgus my wife's fa-me fa.

III. In the third generation 2 of the family were Senators of Hamburg; & another settled in the United States where the family is in a good position one ~~being~~ ~~known~~ being a Colonel in the U.S. Army, while another married the celebrated General Sherman.

IV. In the fourth generation one member of the family was so successful as a Hamburg merchant but he was known as "Gold Riecher".

Another was a Senator.

The English branch of the family suffered heavy reverses in this generation.

V. The most notable members of the family in this generation were:

Sigismund a well known virtuoso & collector of water colours, china &c who lived at West Hill, Putney.

Alfred; who was the last Minister from the House of Lords to the court of the Emperor.

Victorine who married Baron von Dönhof a Prussian Minister, & brother of the present Chancellor of the German Empire.

Conrado President of the High Court of ~~Justice~~ Monte Video.

& my Father of whom I have reported separately.

VI. My own generation on which I have reported.

On the whole then for the last 150 years the family has in each generation produced some men who have been to the point in their own times of life.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Prof. R. A. Sampson, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		11	bro	Walter Treviskey
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		9	me bro	Martin MacDermott
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	11	bro	John Sampson
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	3	M M			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	5				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3	WTS, JS	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	—				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	—		23	me bro son	4				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1		24	me si son	1				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	4				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2		28	me si da	1				

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				me Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da				me Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				me(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				me(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*R. A. Sampson* *Overatny House* *Durham*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Samuelson ✓

f.2



56, Princes Gate.  
South Kensington.

July 4. 1904

Dear Sir

I simply write to say that the circular which you say was posted a few weeks ago has not reached me. This may account for your not having received replies from Fellows.

I cannot report high success in our families - Some notice of my own career will appear in the August number of "School" published by John Murray.

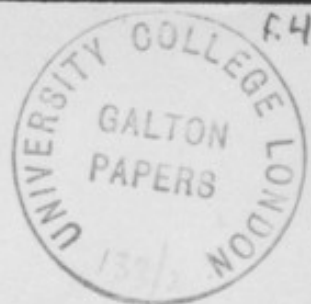
My grandson Cecil Gooden obtained medals and a scholarship for Latin and Greek verse at Harrow and Cambridge. I cannot trace these successes to ancestors. Two of my sons

STANN'S.

MOUNT HERMON,

WOKING.

4.VI.04



Dear Sir

I have filled up the enclosed  
& sent you such particulars as  
I think may possibly be of use

I fear most of the data are  
too unimportant for much  
value to be attached to them  
but I thought I had better give  
them & leave it to your judg-  
ment as to which you use

Yours truly  
Wm. Stann

63v  
have, like myself, been in Parliament

Myself

Parliament

Francis Galton Esq





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Edward Saunders, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	WWS	—	—	—	—			William Wilson Saunders
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	JS	9	me bro	3				Joshua Saunders
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0 9 5		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	GSS	—	—	—	—			George Sharp Saunders
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1	WFS	15	me son					William Frederic Saunders
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3	JCS	23	me bro son	1				James Carr Saunders
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0 1 5		24	me si son	0 9 5				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	8		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	6	ENGLAND PAS SW	Mary Agnes Brown	1872	so Wi bro 3 so Wi si 5 da Hu bro da Hu si	3 FNB
	Daughters .	30	da	4					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)						

Signature and Address of the Sender



Edward Mello Saunders  
Leonard Dimock —  
Hugh Alban —  
George William —  
Frederic Nathaniel Brown

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

- W.W.S. F.R.S. & well known as a Scientific Collector and Botanist &c.
- J.S. F.R.H.S. well known as an Orchid cultivator
- G.S.S. F.L.S., Hon F.R.H.S., Author of various articles in Gardening papers on Economic Entomology
- W.F.S. F.L.S. F.R.H.S. Good Botanist but never wrote anything
- J.C.S. The Original Underwriter of the Commercial Union Ass<sup>y</sup> - [The original success of the Co<sup>y</sup>] and was largely due to his efforts.
- E.M.S. M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. Sambrook Exh<sup>t</sup>. Warneford Prize. 18<sup>th</sup> years Scholar. Late Medical Registrar King's Coll. Hosp. Demonstr. Anatomy. House Accouch<sup>r</sup> & Physician to Children R.C. Hospital
- L.D.S. M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. Warneford Scholar, Warneford Prize Tanner Prize, Obstetric Prize, Hygiene Prize Late Accouch<sup>r</sup> Physician, Women & Children R.C. Hosp. Contrib<sup>d</sup> Case of acute Tetanus with points of interest Lancet
- H.A.S. B.A. Oxon. Diploma in Education Oxon. Joint Editor with Andrew Herbertson in Bibliography of British Isles
- G.W.S. B.A. Camb. Sambrooke Endowment Exh<sup>t</sup> 1898. King's Coll. School -
- F.N.B. M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. Preliminary Scientific Exh<sup>t</sup> V Barts 1887 1<sup>st</sup> class Honours Nat Medica, 2<sup>nd</sup> class with Organic Chemistry in M.B. Lon Univ 1884.

Relationship  
not clear  
used





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

- 1 fa fa Johann Heinrich Schäfer.  
Municipian. Director of the Opera House Hamburg  
during the early part of last-century.
- 29 so John Sharpey Schäfer. Lieut. R.N. born 1881  
Passed second on list into Britannia. 1895
- 30 da Marjory Schäfer. born 1880  
Scholarship at St Leonard's School St Andrew  
Second class in Historical Tripos Cambridge (Fulmer College)
- Wicks Frederick Augustus Dixey. Fellow & Bursar of Wadham College.  
Distinguished as an entomologist.



E. A. Schäfer

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D<sup>r</sup> P. L. Sclater, & res.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>W.L.S.</i>	—	—	—	—			<i>William Lutley Sclater, of Hoddington, J.P.</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	2				<i>George (Sclater-Booth) First Lord Basing. (see 'Men of The Time')</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	1				
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1	<i>G.S.B.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3/6		19	<i>si son</i>	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>	1				
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	—		23	<i>me bro son</i>	—				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	4		24	<i>me si son</i>	—				
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	—		27	<i>me bro da</i>	1				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	4		28	<i>me si da</i>	2				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	4	<i>W.L.S.</i>	<i>Jane A.E. Hunter-Blair</i>	1862	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>	1				<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
								<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
								<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Philip Lutley Sclater, Bodiam Priory  
Winchfield*

*William Lutley Sclater - (of Cape Town)*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Philip Lutley Sclater, Odiham Priory Winchester  
Born 1799

5 William Lutley Sclater, of Hoddington House,  
was for many years a well known personage  
in North Hants, where he was Chairman of  
the Basingstoke Bench, <sup>of Magistrates</sup> and of the Board of  
Guardians for about 40 years. He died  
in 1885, at the age of <sup>nearly</sup> 97

bro 11 George (his eldest son) was M.P. for North Hants  
20 years, and afterwards became Lord Basing  
See 'Men of The Time', 'Pearson' (born 1863)

son 29 William Lutley Sclater, eldest son of P.L.S.,  
took a first class in Natural Science at Oxford  
and is a well known Zoologist, and author  
of many papers on Mammals, Birds &c. He  
is now Director of the South African  
Museum, Cape Town.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

D. O. H. Scott, Esq.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.



bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived child-hood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		31	fa fa fa	Rev. Thomas Scott.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		3	me fa	Oldrid
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	q. q. S.	—	—	—	—	5	fa.	Sir George Gilbert Scott
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	7	fa ho.	Rev. Thomas Scott
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	6	T. S.; M. H. S.	9	me bro	1		7	fa ho	Rev. Thomas Scott
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	2		7	fa ho	Rev. Thomas Scott
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4	G. G. S.	—	—	—	—	11	bro.	George Gilbert Scott
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—	0	—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	7	G. G. S.; H. G. S.	19	si son	—		7	bro son	Giles Gilbert Scott
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	6		20	si da	—		7	bro son	Henry George Scott
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	17	T. S.; S. G. S. /	23	me bro son	2		17	fa bro son	Canon Thomas Scott
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	1	S. S.	24	me si son	4		17	fa bro son	Canon Samuel Gilbert Scott
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	22		27	me bro da	—		17	fa bro son	Canon Edwin Scott
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	4		28	me si da	5				
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	2	Hendrina Victoria Klansow	1887	Wife's brothers and sisters.		32	3rd cousin	Lord Alousme
		30	da	4			Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	33	fa fa	Bishop Charles Scott.
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)						2	2nd cousin	
		30(2)	da(2)								

Signature and Address of the Sender

D. O. H. Scott

The Old Palace, Richmond, Surrey.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

31. fa fa fa. The Revd. Thomas Scott

Author of A commentary on the Bible

"The free of truth" & other theological works.

3. me fa

Oldrid. Successful business man  
Mayor of Boston. Lines.

5. fa.

Sir George Gilbert Scott. R. A. Architect  
wrote "Medieval Architecture".

"A plea for the faithful restoration of  
ancient churches"

"Gleanings from Westminster Abbey".

7. fa bro

The Revd. Thomas Scott. 11<sup>th</sup> Wrangler.

7 fa bro.

The Ven. Arch. Melville H. Scott. Archdeacon  
of Stafford.

11. bro.

George Gilbert Scott. F.S.A. Architect.

wrote "History of English Church Architecture"  
architect of R. C. Cathedral Norwich.  
Head of Moral Science Tripos. Cambridge

Burney Prize Essay.

7 bro son.

Giles Gilbert Scott son of G. Gilbert Scott  
Architect of <sup>new</sup> Liverpool Cathedral, chosen by  
competition at the age of 22.

7 bro son.

Henry George Scott son of J. Oldrid Scott  
Director of mines & geology to Siamese  
government at the age of 24.

17. fa bro son

Canon Thomas Scott.

Head of Moral Science Tripos. Cambridge

17 fa bro son

Canon Samuel Gilbert Scott.

won mile race in Oxford about 1867.

for many years Rector of Woolwich.

17. fa bro son.

The Ven Edwin A. Scott Archdeacon of  
Christchurch. New Zealand.

32 3<sup>rd</sup> cousin on

Lord Alverstone Lord Chief Justice

father's side.

Bishop Charles Scott, of North

33 2<sup>nd</sup> cousin on

China.

father's side.



27 Dunkinfield Henry Scott, (b. 1854), F.R.S., Hon. Keeper  
Jodrell Lab., Royal Gardens, Kew: botanical sec. of the  
Linnean Soc.: president of the Royal Microscopical Soc.:  
author of "An Introduction to Structural Botany",  
"Studies in Fossil Botany", & various papers in Phil.  
Trans. & etc. (Who's Who)

fa fa fa Thomas Scott, (1747-1821), chaplain of Lock Hosp.  
London, afterwards rector of Aston Sandford: produced ✓  
in weekly parts from 1788-92 a commentary on the Bible.  
author of many other religious writings. (Dict. N. Biog.)

27 fa fa ~~bro~~ Thomas Scott, (1780-1835), Queens' Coll, Cambridge:  
author of many religious works. (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa ~~Se~~ Sir George Gilbert Scott, (1811-1878), R.A., architect.  
restoring architect to Ely, Hereford, Lichfield, Salisbury,  
& Ripon cathedrals: architect of India, Home, & Colonial  
offices, etc.: pres. Royal Inst. Brit. Architects, 1873-6:  
prof. of architecture R.A. from 1868. (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa bro Thomas Scott, (Rev.) 11th wrangler.

~~fare~~ fa bro Ven. Melville H. Scott, archdeacon of Stafford.

bro George Gilbert Scott, architect of Roman Catholic  
Cathedral, Norwich: head of Moral Science Trip., Cambridge:  
Burney Prize Essay: author of "History of English Church Architecture"  
(Who's Who)

bro son Giles Gilbert Scott, architect of new Liverpool  
Cathedral, chosen by competition at the age of 22.

*The Nicolai-  
Kirche at  
Hamburg;  
St. Mary's  
Cathedral  
Edinburgh*

bro son Henry George Scott, director of mines & geology  
to the Siamese government at the age of 24.

fa bro son ~~son~~ Canon Thomas Scott, (b.1831), Whewell University  
prizeman: 1st in 1st class Moral Science Trip., 1854.

(Who's Who)

*fabroson* The Ven Edwin A. Scott, archdeacon of Christchurch,  
New Zealand.

fa fa bro son son Charles Scott, bishop of N.China.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. Robert H. Scott, Esq.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J.F. (A)	3	me fa	—	C. (B)			fa fa John Richard Scott fa me Charles Northwick.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	F.S. (C)	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro		W. D.			fa James Smyth Scott
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					me bro William Northwick
Brothers . . . .	11	bro		CB. (E) FG (F) FA (G)	—	—	—				bro Charles Northwick Scott bro James George Scott bro Edward Ashley Scott
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son		GD (H) EW (I)	19	si son					bro son George Digby Scott bro son Charles William Scott
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son		EW (J)	23	me bro son		W (K) G (L) W & F (M) CB & B (N)			fa bro son Edward William Scott me bro son William Northwick me bro son George Northwick me bro son John Northwick.
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					me bro son Charles Northwick

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender  
*Robert H. Scott* 6 Elm Park Road S.W.

(S)

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



- f. 16 A John Pendered Scott. Resident at Court of Buckle  
 18th Century, Friend of Lawrence Hastings
- f. 16 B Charles Brodick Archbishop of Cashel, Ireland
- f. 16 C James Smyth Scott Gold Medallist, Irish Coll. Dublin.
- m. 16 D William Brodick Dean of Wells.
- bro E Charles Brodick Scott High Classic and 22nd Wrangler  
 1848 Fellow Irish Coll. Camb.  
 Head Master Westminster
- bro F James George Scott Archdeacon of Dublin  
 Chancellor St. Patrick's Dublin
- bro G Edward Ashley Scott Fellow Irish Coll. Camb.
- m. 16 H George Digby Scott 1st Exhibition from Haileybury  
 Scholar Irish Coll. Camb.  
 1st Class Classics Tripos
- m. 16 I Charles William Scott Engineer Irish  
 Lights Board
- f. 16 J Edward William Scott for many years  
 for many years Sec Military Road Works  
 General Bengal Army
- m. 16 K William Brodick, 8th Viscount Middleham  
 Barrister. Dublin of Seaway.
- m. 16 L George Charles Brodick DCL Oxford  
 High Class Classics 1852  
 " " Lib. Human 1853  
 " " History 1854  
 Long connected with the "Times"  
 Fellow & Librarian of British Museum 1881  
 Member of the Royal Society  
 Author of several works.
- m. 16 M m. 16 so so W St John Brodick. Sec of State for India
- m. 16 N Charles Brodick Bernard Bishop of Exeter  
 Ireland

Robert Henry Scott, (b. 1833) D.Sc., F.R.S., classical scholar <sup>1855/</sup>  
 Trin Coll. Dublin 1853; 1st Senior Mod. Exp. physics; super-  
 nt/ -intended Meteorological, 1867-1900 office 1867-1900; (Who's Who)

<sup>red</sup>  
 fa fa John Pender Scott, resident at the court of Oude, friend of  
 Warren Hastings.

me fa Charles Brodrick, archbishop of Cashel, Ireland.

fa James Smyth Scott, gold medallist Trin. Coll., Dublin.  
 Me Bro. William John Brodrick, Dean of Wells, 2<sup>d</sup> Viscount Middleton,  
 bro Charles Brodrick Scott, senior classic Cambridge, 1848;

headmaster of Westminster School.

bro James George Scott, Archdeacon of Dublin, Chancellor of  
 St. Patrick's, Dublin.

bro Edward Ashley Scott, fellow of Trinity Coll., Cambridge.

bro son George Digby Scott, 1st class classical tripos,  
 Cambridge.

bro son Charles William Scott, engineer Irish Lights board.

fa bro son Edward William Scott, general Bengal artillery;  
 for many years secretary to the military board Bengal.

me bro son William Brodrick, 8th. Viscount Middleton;  
 Lord Lieutenant of Surrey me-bro-son

me bro son George C. Brodrick (d. 1903) D.C.L., warden  
 of Merton Coll. Oxford; brilliant college career; connected  
 with the "Times" 1860-73. (Who's Who)

me si son Charles Brodrick Bernard, bishop of Tuam, Ireland. <sup>m/</sup>

me bro so son William St. John Brodrick, P.C., secretary  
 of State for war 1900-3; subsequently for India. (Who's Who)





TRINITY COLLEGE,

CAMBRIDGE.

July 17 1904

Dear Dr. Galton

I am much  
ashamed to have  
delayed returning the  
form of note-worthy  
Lunenburg, wh: Inc?  
for the first time on  
July 4.

I will send it you as  
soon as I can, but I  
am very much  
pressed at present

I find a difficulty in  
getting the details.

So far as I know, there  
are no noteworthy Kentsfolk  
except the old Adam.

They were most of them  
good shilling shrewd  
people, so far as I know,  
who never had much

of a chance to share  
in the world, possibly  
not much with.

I think there is not  
so much difference between  
people in ability as in



opportunity. But I  
will let you have the  
form as soon as I  
can

Yr very truly  
Adam Sedgwick

Adam Sedgwick  
(no return yet)

f.19v





TRINITY COLLEGE,

CAMBRIDGE.

Jan - 3 1905

Dear Mr. Galton

I must apologise for delay  
 in replying to your enquiries.  
 I have been continuously occupied  
 since its arrival with the  
 completion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> vol. of  
 my Zoology which has been a  
 great burden to me in addition  
 to my ordinary work as Tutor  
 of Trinity & Reader of An.  
 morphology (part 2) at my living.  
 I have had some difficulty in  
 deciding wh: of my predecessors  
 I ought to mention as noteworthy.  
 as none of them excepting the  
 late Woodwardian Professor

F.20v

acquired any distinction outside  
their own neighbourhood.

I have however thought it worth  
while to mention them, for  
although it cannot be claimed for  
them that they were in any  
way noteworthy, & their  
achievements, yet they were  
on the whole well above the  
average of their neighbours.

Yrs sincerely

Adam Sedgwick

The difficulty is in estimating a person  
who has had small opportunity -  
noteworthy achievement is generally  
the combined with favourable  
opportunity.



Adam Sedgwick.

P.21

Reg. no. 1. John Sedgwick fafa was an M.A. of St. John's College Cambridge & Vicar of Dent, Yorkshire. He was practically the head of Dent during his time as was his father before him. Together from what I hear of him that he was a man of sound practical sense, who would have done well in the great world, had he had the opportunity.

R no. 2 Jane Sedgwick to fafa me was an exceptional woman of great ability & determination - as shown by her success in organising the National School at Dent & in assisting in the foundation of Cowgill Chapel.

Adam Sedgwick, LL.D. F.R.S., Canon of Norwich & was Woodwardian Professor

fafa bro was undoubtedly an exceptional man.

Richard Sedgwick fafa fafa was Vicar of Dent, where he obtained the same kind of, but greater, celebrity attended by his son John Sedgwick (no. 1)

~~no. 1~~  
no. 3 John Woodhouse of Bolton-le-Moors me fafa made himself a good & profitable business as Solicitor at Bolton & took some part in the development of Railways in that neighbourhood.

Dr. Robinson of Armagh, my wife's fafa "the well known Astronomer & member of the Prussian Order of Merit."

Details about the first four will be found in Clark & Hughes' Life of Adam Sedgwick



NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF Adam Sedgwick (Jan 3, 1905)

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J. S.	3	me fa	—	J. W.	1	Rev.	John Sedgwick
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	J. S.	4	me me	—	—	2	Mrs.	Jane Sedgwick
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	Mr.	John Woodhouse
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0	—	9	me bro	2	—	—	—	—
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1	—	10	me si	2	—	—	—	—
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0	—	15	me son	0	—	—	—	—
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0	—	16	me da	0	—	—	—	—
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0	—	19	si son	1	—	—	—	—
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0	—	20	si da	2	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0	—	23	me bro son	1	—	—	—	—
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0	—	24	me si son	4	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0	—	27	me bro da	0	—	—	—	—
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0	—	28	me si da	5	—	—	—	—

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so		Robinson	1892	so Wi bro 0	
	Daughters . .	30	da				so Wi si 2	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	30(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender Adam Sedgwick, Trinity College Cambridge



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. David Sharp, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.	
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.						
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—					
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—					
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2	<i>None of my relatives have been noteworthy.</i>	9	<i>me bro</i>	0					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	1		10	<i>me si</i>	0					
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	3		—	—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	2					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	2					
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	1		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	0		24	<i>me si son</i>	0					
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	1	27	<i>me bro da</i>	0						
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>		28	<i>me si da</i>	0						

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *Dr. Sharp.*  
*Cambridge.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

TUFFLEIGH,  
ST. VINCENT'S ROCKS,  
CLIFTON.



July 31. 1904

My dear Sir

I have been looking through  
the papers you sent me. It  
is rather difficult to take them  
in. There is no doubt at all  
that all my ancestors up  
to grand parents (except one a  
grand mother who died young) were  
very much above the average <sup>of middle class people</sup> in  
the matter of mental power  
& energy. - That is one calls

& often much practical capacity  
 Chances, showed disapp. w/  
 Wm. - But like in so much.  
 to strengthen the Part - (we are all  
 descended from a broken of him)  
 there is no one of this actually  
 made a mark comparable  
 to the FRS as you put it.  
 But the other - have all had  
 a way of breaking down your  
 say 30 to 40 - I myself as  
 a matter of fact had a bad  
 break up at 17 and it

was of a character to effect  
any athletic pattern more by  
mental activities.

Of the same generation as myself  
<sup>(much younger)</sup>  
there are several, who now  
make poems. Two in

art. Two in Science - one

the latter is Junior Professor

of Science at Oxford L

the other lectures on Chemistry

there is a <sup>very</sup> prominent young



cheerful - Perhaps he  
 indeed does not you  
 want. I mean by not

writing to me

I am

Yours truly

W K Thomsen





36, CREFFIELD ROAD,  
COLCHESTER.

Joseph Shenstone, fa fa. ( Great Nephew of the poet Shenstone; also  
renowned for his landscape garden) Was left as a child only sur-  
-vivor of a family of seven. He became an intellectual leader in  
West of England, Was proprietor of a very successful private sch~~o~~  
Founded the Mechanics institute Bath (now Bath Atheneum) ~~Wid~~ ~~Wid~~  
He was a good mathematician and much interested in science. He was  
paralized when comparatively young.

James Chapman, M~~e~~. Fa. Was a very large Malster. at Wells Norfolk.

Thomas Ashwell Shenstone fa bro. Was a successful civil engineer. He was  
assistant engineer on St. Louis branch of Great Pacific Railway,  
and is mentioned in Fifth Annual Report 1855. His health broke  
down when still under 30, He was regarded as amongst the most  
promising upon the staff, and his appointment was kept open during  
his last illness, for a year, until his death.

F.L.S. Bro

James Chapman Shenstone, Has devoted his leisure from close occupation in  
Public and private business to scientific work. Contributed the  
Article on Botany to Victoria County History, Essex. and is con-  
-tributing articles to second volume. Also papers to Society of



36, CREFFIELD ROAD,  
COLCHESTER.

Public Analysts, Essex Naturalist, Illustrated Scientific News etc.

*me ls sm*  
Chapman Bros? You must find out about these:

*me ci ds*  
Ethel Nisbet, Gilchrist Scholar, Queen's Square; Bloomsbury School of

Art, ~~Art Teacher~~ Pupil Teacher. Author of Flower Painting

for beginners, Blackie and Sons. Exhibitor in Water Colours

*Institute for the Blind*  
at ~~Royal Academy~~ for some period.. Successful as an Art Tea-

-cher.

*me ci ds*  
Annie Seaton, Gilchrist Scholar, Queens Square; Bloomsbury School of Art

Now Pupil Teacher at same school.

Note. On our Fathers side all ~~the~~ males who survived childhood are men-

-tioned, except fa. who was left to make his way in the world

without friends, and died comparatively young. He had little

opportunity to give attention outside his vocation.

On mothers side great skill in embroidery and fine lace

making was displayed by MeMe; Me; Si.

*Sidney J. Chapman. Tenth Paper of Science in the Victoria Building  
David Leonard Chapman a physics and chemistry demonstrator in  
the Victoria Building.*

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF W. A. Shenstone, Esq., &c.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*. \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regt.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J. S.	3	me fa	—	J. C.			Joseph Shenstone
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				James Chapman
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	J. A. S.	9	me bro	2				Thomas Ashurst
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	5				Shenstone
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	1	J. C. S.	—	—	—	—			James Chapman
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			Shenstone
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da	2				
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son	2				Sidney J. Chapman
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son	8				David Leinster Chapman
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					Ethel Nesbit
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	7				Annie Seaton

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters . . .	30	da				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				da Hu bro	
	Daughters . . .	30(2)	da(2)				da Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

My daughter  
X. Skous signs off knowledge income capacity if we were just by very rapid promotion in a 03 (and) Bank  
X. H. Hill with you





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Chas. S. Sherrington, M.D.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	C.B.R.	3	me fa	—		1	fa fa	Caleb Burrell Rose
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				F.R.C. Surgeons.
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	1	E.R.	15	me son			13	fa son	Edward Rose
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					
Wife's brothers and sisters.											
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Titles.		Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro			
	Daughters .	30	da					so Wi si			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					da Hu bro			
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					da Hu si			



Signature and Address of the Sender

*Charles Scott Sherrington*  
*16 Grove Park Liverpool.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution; one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

1 <sup>2nd</sup> fafa

Caleb Burrell Rose, practised as a surgeon at Swaffham in Norfolk, later at Great Yarmouth, in that county. He was distinguished as a local geologist, and contributed much in the years 1835- to 1855 toward geology, especially in regard to the Brickearth of the Nar - of which he practically was the identifier & authority. He was a good paleontologist and naturalist generally. He was the discoverer of Coenurus cucurbiti, as a hydatid, in 1833, (London Medical Gazette, Nov. 9. 1833). His work on this and allied subjects attracted considerable scientific notice, see Cobbold's Entozoa, p. 122 &c. London 1864. He published numerous Geological, Paleontological & Zoological papers, in addition to communications to the medical journals on medical subjects. His private geological collection was visited by all who desired to study the geology of Norfolk: at his death it was bequeathed to the Norwich Museum where it now remains. He was reputed a good lecturer, and his Lectures, given from occasion to occasion, at the request of scientific friends and of Scientific Societies in the East of England, were largely attended. He was a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons.

13 <sup>3rd</sup> fason

Edward Rose, dramatic author: a notice of his work is given in "Who's Who" for the current year.



C. S. Sherrington.  
16 Grove Park  
Liverpool.



July 4. 04

WOOD ROYD,

BEN RHYDDING.

Dear Sir

I am sorry to have  
delayed a reply to your enquiry.  
I now send a meagre statement  
which is really all I can  
chronicle within the limits  
indicated. I have presumed  
that the added paragraphs will  
not be published

Yours faithfully  
Arthur Smithells



5. fa. James Smithells

A man of humble origin who became a distinguished Railway Manager and would probably have been offered knighthood if he had lived a few years longer.

6. me. Martha Smithells.

A woman of remarkably strong mental powers  
convinced I believe from her mother's side.



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. A. Smithells, Esq.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family; when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

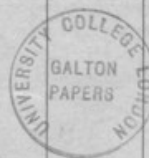
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—		5	fa	James Smithells Martha Smithells.
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—		6	me	
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				30 Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da				31 Wi si 32 Hu bro 33 Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				34(2) Wi bro 35(2) Wi si 36(2) Hu bro 37(2) Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender Arthur Smithells The University Leeds.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Dr. H. C. Sorby, M.D.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																										
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																															
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>J. S.</i>	1	<i>fa fa</i>	<i>John Sorby</i> <i>Successful man of business.</i>																																																										
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																														
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																													
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																													
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	8		9	<i>me bro</i>	0																																																														
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	3																																																														
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	0		—	—	—	—																																																													
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	0		—	—	—	—																																																													
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	0		15	<i>me son</i>	0																																																														
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	0		16	<i>me da</i>	0																																																														
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	0		19	<i>si son</i>	0																																																														
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	0		20	<i>si da</i>	0																																																														
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	18		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0																																																														
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	1		24	<i>me si son</i>	2																																																														
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	8		27	<i>me bro da</i>	0																																																														
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	3		28	<i>me si da</i>	3																																																														
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Regr.</th> <th>Title.</th> <th>No. who survived childhood.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th>Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td><i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters . .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>		Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>							2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>		Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																													
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																												
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>																																																													
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>																																																																		
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>																																																													
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>																																																																		
<p>Signature and Address of the Sender <i>Henry Clifton Sorby</i> <i>Broomfield</i> <i>Sheffield</i></p>																																																																					



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Sprenzel

L. 35r



54, DENBIGH STREET, LONDON, S.W.

July 10<sup>th</sup> 1904.

Dear Sir,

Your esteemed inquiry about my "Noteworthy Kinsfolk" I find difficult to answer.

With every disposition to comply with your request, I only can point to one relative, viz. to my uncle Karl, my father's elder brother - an agricultural Chemist, whose biography is published. You will find his name in Brackhaus' Kon-

versations Lexikon, 14<sup>th</sup> ed., vol.  
15, p. 198.

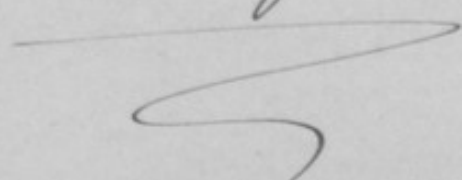
The other two much more  
"natively" Sprengels, viz. the  
Botanists Christian Konrad  
and Kurt (L. c.) are no re-  
latives of mine.

My grandmother i.e. my  
father's mother was a very  
talented, cultured & spirited old  
lady.

Yours very faithfully

A. Sprengel

D<sup>r</sup> Francis Galton, F. R. S.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Pigemon H. Sprengel, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. E. H. Starling, M.D.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa	Mathew Henry Starling
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		6	me	Ellen Matilda Starling
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	M.H.S.	—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	E.M.S.	—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	2		10	me si	Jonie Sophia Watkins
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0		10	me si	3	J.S.W.			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	2				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	2				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so		Amelia Florence	1901	Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da		Starling		Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender: Emma H. Starling, University College, W.C.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, LONDON.

TELEPHONE No.  
3979 CENTRAL.

GOWER STREET, W.C.

5. fr. Matthew Henry Stirling

• Clerk to the Crown Bench  
Author of "Indian Penal Code", "Indian  
Limitation Act". For many years acting Judge  
of High Court. (N.B. Better than his record. Was,  
relatively to his ability, unsuccessful).

6. ms. Ellen Mathilda Stirling.

Artistic - good musician & singer

10. ms si Jessie Sophia Watkins. (unmarried)

Very successful as producer of Christmas cards, almanacs  
&c. Earlier <sup>in life</sup> a good teacher & mathematician.



EAS

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.  
"STEAD, MIDDLESBRO."

PATTINSON & STEAD.  
FELLOWS OF THE INSTITUTE  
OF CHEMISTRY.

ANALYSTS, SAMPLERS,  
METALLURGISTS, METAL MICROSCOPISTS,  
GAS EXAMINERS.

J. E. STEAD.  
BOROUGH ANALYST.

Laboratory and Assay Office,  
Middlesbrough.



Aug<sup>st</sup> 8/04 -

Frederic Galton Esq. D.C.L. ScD. F.R.S.

Dear Sir

Perhaps you will be able  
to fill in the enclosed paper  
from the following meagre  
data.

The only relative of noted name is  
W. Y. Stead. of the Review of Reviews.  
I cannot find anything  
about any ancestor  
which is noteworthy.

Yours truly  
J. E. Stead

TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS.  
"STEAD, MIDDLESBRO."

PATTINSON & STEAD.  
FELLOWS OF THE INSTITUTE  
OF CHEMISTRY.

ANALYSTS, SAMPLERS,  
METALLURGISTS, METAL MICROSCOPISTS,  
GAS EXAMINERS.

J. E. STEAD,  
BOROUGH ANALYST.

Laboratory and Assay Office,  
Middlesbrough.



August 11/04

Francis Galton Esq.

Dear Sir

Pardon etc overnight  
H. T. Stead is my elder brother.

I am  
Yours truly  
J. E. Stead

P.S. I shall look out "Nature"

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *John E. Stead, Esq. J.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	675		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

The Rev. J. R. R. Stebbing &amp; Co.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	H. S.	—	—	—	—	5	fa	Henry Stebbing
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro		W. G.	9	me bro	William Griffin
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	5	W. S.	—	—	—	—	11	bro.	William Stebbing
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)				da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender Thomas R. R. Stebbing, Ephraim Lodge, 46 Cornhill, Cambridge Wells.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

5 fa Henry Stabbing.

'Poet, preacher, and historian' (see Dict. of National Biography); Editor of 'The Athenaeum', 1828; S.S., 1839, F.R.S., 1845.

9 ma bro William Griffin  
Vice-Admiral.

11 bro William Stabbing  
Double-first, Oxford; leader-writer for the Times, which for a while he edited on behalf of De laune; author of 'Sir Walter Raleigh', etc (see who's who).



Apart from the stringent definition of 'Noteworthy', it may be worthy of note that two of my sisters enjoy some repute as authoresses, two of my brothers have shown good business capacity, and several of my nephews and nieces give promise of success in various directions, scientific, legal, artistic.

T.R.R.S.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Progenitor E.C. Stirling, M.P.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS" &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	E.S.	—	—	—	—			Edward Stirling
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro	1	J.T.			John Taylor
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si	2				John Lancelot Stirling James Archibald Stirling
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3.	J.L.S., J.A.S.	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4.		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so		Jane Gilbert	1877.	so Wi bro	
	Daughters . .	30	da	5			A.F.S. J.W.S. A.M.S.	so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					



Signature and Address of the Sender

*E.C. Stirling, Adelaide, South Australia*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of *general* ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

S.C. Stirling  
21/6/04

645

# The University of Adelaide.



## 5. Fa Edward Stirling.

Came to South Australia during the very early years of its foundation. Acquired a position of influence & affluence <sup>in the leading mercantile house</sup>. Became member of the first Legislative Council. Decided commercial ability.

9. me bro. John Taylor. Came to South Australia in its very early days; successful in mercantile & pastoral pursuits. Distinct commercial & some literary ability. Was for some time editor of the leading newspaper.

## 11 bro. John Lancelot Stirling.

President Legislative Council. Knighted. At Cambridge distinguished as an athlete being Amateur Champion in Hurdle racing & representing Cambridge v. Oxford in the sports.

## 11 bro James Archibald Stirling

Marked financial aptitude. Was for many years (till his death) managing director of a large London financial concern (Trustee Executors & Mortgage Co Winchester House E.C.)

30 da Anna Florence Stirling Some literary ability

da Jane Winifred Stirling Some musical ability not remarkable <sup>in itself</sup> but above the average.

da <sup>algie</sup> Mary ~~Adelaide~~ Stirling — Distinct artistic ability with some originality

NOTTING HILL GATE STATION.  
TELEPHONE 1473 WESTERN.



30, Ledbury Road,

Bayswater,

London, W.

July 26, 1905.

My dear Dr Galton  
I now enclose my  
far too much belated  
return, in which you  
will see two entries  
marked with an (?).  
About these I am  
uncertain, and if it  
is thought necessary, I  
will make further



inquiry about them.

Sir Bindon Blood  
about whom you ask  
is my, & my brother's,  
first cousin — my mother's  
nephew. He was distinguished  
in the Chitral Expedition.  
also in S. Africa { & on other occasions.

His father Wm Bindon Blood  
carried out some important  
Engineering work. For some years  
afterwards he was a Professor of  
Engineering. He was the author  
of some valuable professional papers.

The late Prof: Geo Fred. Fitzgerald

unusually  
 did much valuable scientific  
 work, a good deal of which  
 you will find in the 'Scientific  
 Writings of the late Geo. Tra.  
 Fitzgerald' edited by Dr. Farnor.

His eldest Brother Maurice  
 Fitzgerald is Professor of Engineering  
 in Queen's Coll: Belfast.

My brother, Bindon Blood  
 Stoney, is I suppose ~~the~~ the  
 most distinguished Engineer in  
 Ireland. He was the author of  
 the first & what for many years  
 remained the standard book on  
 lattice bridges & both here & in  
 America, & his harbour works  
 included concrete block work on  
 a scale never before attempted, the  
 blocks weighing 350 or 360 tons each.  
 They attracted the attention of Engineers

\* carried out the work with  
an economy never before approached

Mr. Parsons would have proposed for the R. No. 4  
but we thought too much of his work was not  
productive, being confidential  
in them the  
firm.

from all quarters. He got the  
Jelford Medal for them. He  
has for long been recognised  
as the highest authority in  
England on Marine Engineering.  
Gerald Stoney\*, the last on  
my list, is one of the principal  
Engineers in the Works of the  
Hovell & Co. Parsons C.B. & F.R.S.,  
of Steam Turbine reputation.

You wd I imagine not  
care to know about other more  
distant relatives — foremost among  
whom, from your point of view,  
I sh<sup>d</sup>. be disposed to place the  
late Francis Stoney of Ipswich,  
the inventor of the sluices which  
made it possible

made it possible to construct  
the Attnam Dam (& g.w.<sup>n</sup>  
there is an example on the  
Thames near Richmond) is  
also inventor of the  
scooping & tipping machinery  
w<sup>h</sup> made the Manchester  
Canal practicable, &c.

He was great grandson  
of my grandfather's brother -  
too distant a relative, I  
imagine, to come into your  
survey. Nor need I mention  
other lesser lights.

Believe me, with kindest  
regards & apologies,  
very truly yours  
G. Johnstone Stoney.



NOTTING HILL GATE STATION.  
TELEPHONE 1473 WESTERN.

30, Ledbury Road,

Wayswater,

London, W.



149v

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D<sup>r</sup>. G. Johnstone Stoney, FRS.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—		9	<i>me bro</i>	<i>William Bindon Blood</i>
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—		11	<i>bro</i>	<i>Bindon Blood Stoney, FRS.</i>
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—		19	<i>si son</i>	<i>Maurice Fitzgerald</i>
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—		19	<i>si son</i>	<i>Geo. Francis Fitzgerald, FRS</i>
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	3		9	<i>me bro</i>	2	<i>W B B</i>	23	<i>me bro son</i>	<i>Gen<sup>l</sup>. Sir Bindon Blood, KCB.</i>
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>	6		29	<i>son</i>	<i>Gerald Stoney.</i>
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1	<i>B.B.S.</i>	—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	2		—	—	—				
Half-brothers	13	<i>fa son</i>	<i>none</i>		15	<i>me son</i>	<i>none</i>				
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	1		19	<i>si son</i>	3	<i>M. Fe</i>			
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>	3	<i>G. F. Fk.</i>			
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	9		23	<i>me bro son</i>	4	<i>B B</i>			
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	4(?)		24	<i>me si son</i>	4				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	11		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	3(?)		28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2	<i>G.S.</i>	<i>Margaret Sophia Stoney</i>	1863	<i>so Wi bro</i>	
Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	3				<i>so Wi si</i>	
							<i>da Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	<i>none</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *G. Johnstone Stoney, 30 Sedbury Road, W.*

*Notes*  
I am not certain that the numbers marked with a note of interrogation, are correct.  
*GJS*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

B. B. Stoney, 402

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so				so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender



I have nothing to add to the information already supplied to Mr Galton by my brother G. Johnstone Stoney F.R.S.

July 1-1904 - Bindon B. Stoney

(S)

(3)



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 Rutland Gate,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

(2)

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF General Sir Richard Strachey, G.C.S.I., &c.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.



bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	H. S.	3	me fa	—	W. R.	1.	Sir	Henry Strachey
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—	3.	General	William Kirkpatrick
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	E. S.	—	—	—	—	5.	—	Edward Strachey
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.	—	Richard Strachey
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2	H. S., R. S.	9	me bro	2	J. B. B.	10.	M <sup>r</sup>	Isabella Barbara Buller
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2	—	10	me si	—	—	11.	Sir	John Strachey
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	5	J. S., H. S., E. S.	—	—	—	—	11.	Col.	Henry Strachey
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1	—	—	—	—	—	11.	Sir	Edward Strachey
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—	—	15	me son	—	—	17.	Sir	Arthur Strachey
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—	—	16	me da	—	—	17.	—	John St. Lo Strachey
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	9	A. S., J. S. L. S.	19	si son	3	—	21.	—	Charles Buller
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	9	—	20	si da	—	—	21.	—	Arthur Buller
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2	—	23	me bro son	6	—	29(2)	—	Giles Lepton Strachey
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—	—	24	me si son	—	—	29(2)	—	Oliver Strachey
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	8	—	27	me bro da	—	—	29(2)	—	James Beaumont Strachey
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—	—	28	me si da	3	—	30(2)	Miss	Joan Penel Strachey
									30(2)	Miss	Marjorie Colville Strachey
											John Strachey

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	so			Caroline Anne Bowles	1855	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters .	30	da						
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	5	G. L. S., O. S., J. B. S.	Jane Maria Grant	1859	so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	5					

Signature and Address of the Sender

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



by Lancaster Jan  
6 Oct/04

My dear Galton

I return the  
'Slip' you left with a few  
corrections -

I do not know how far it  
would conform to your system  
to add to my qualifications,

Chairman of East Indian Railway  
from 1889.

The E. I. R. Y. is the most important  
of Indian Railways - and whether 'post  
hoc' or 'propter hoc' - the results have

Year	Miles open	Passengers carried one mile	Tons Goods carried one mile
1880	1548	610 million	799 million
1903	2234	1418 "	2227 "

I am not certain that this has not been  
quite as useful period of my life as any other! *WJ*





Confidential.

## DRAFT FOR CONSIDERATION.

Lieut.-General Sir Richard **Strachey**, R.E. (retired 1875), G.C.S.I., F.R.S., LL.D. Camb. Sec. Govt. Central Provinces of India during mutiny, 1857-8; public-works Sec. to Govt. of India, 1862; legislative member of Gov. Gen.'s Council, 1869-70; Member of Council of India, 1875-89; acting financial member of Gov. Gen.'s Council, 1878; Chairman of Meteorological Council from 1883; pres. R. Geograph. Soc., 1888-90; royal medal of Royal Society, 1897. Publications:—"Lectures on Geography"; "Finances and Public Works of India" (jointly with his brother, Sir John S.); various scientific memoirs.

Noteworthy kinsfolk in near degrees, ascending and collateral.

fa fa, Sir Henry **Strachey** (1736-1810), private sec. to Lord Clive in India; joint under-sec. of state for the Home department, 1782; cr. baronet, 1801; F.S.A.—["Dict. N. Biog.", Supp. 3, 364.]

me fa, Lieut.-Gen. **Kirkpatrick** (1754-1812), orientalist; military sec. to Marquess Wellesley; Resident at Poona; translated Persian works, expert in Oriental tongues and in manners, customs and laws of India.—["Dict. N. Biog.", 31, 222.]

fa, Edward **Strachey** (1774-1832), chief examiner of correspondence to the India House, the other two being Peacock and James Mill (secretaries' work, writing despatches, &c.).

fa bro, Sir Henry **Strachey**, Bart. (1772-1858), distinguished Indian civilian, described by James Mill ("Hist. Brit. India," 6, ch. 6) as "the most intelligent of the Company's servants."

fa bro, Richard **Strachey**, Resident at Lucknow and Gwalior.

me si, Isabella Barbara **Buller**, well known in her day as a centre of literary and political society.

bro, Sir John **Strachey**, G.C.S.I., eminent Indian statesman; Lieut.-Governor of the N.W. Provinces; financial member of Council. Publications:—"Finance and Public Works of India," 1882 (jointly with his brother, Sir Richard S.); "India," 1888, third ed., 1903.—["Who's Who," 1904.]

bro, Sir Edward **Strachey**, Bart. (d. 1904), author of "Hebrew Politics in the Time of Sargon and Sennacherib."

bro, George **Strachey** (1873-90), Chargé d'Affaires and Minister Resident at Dresden.

bro son, Sir Arthur **Strachey** (1858-1901) [son of Sir John S. and of Katherine, dau. of George Batten, painter of Haddon]. Chief Justice Allahabad art. 39, d. art. 43.

bro son, John St. Loe **Strachey** (1860-) [son of Sir Edward S. and Mary, sister of John Addington Symonds, writer and critic, editor of the Spectator.]

me bro son, Sir Trevor **Plowden**, K.C.S.I., Resident at Kashmir, Hyderabad and Bagdad.

me bro son, Sir Henry Meredith **Plowden**, Senior Judge of Chief Court, Punjab (1880-94).—["Who's Who," 1904.]

me si son, Charles **Buller** (1806-1848), distinguished politician, sent as secretary with Lord Durham to Canada, 1838, Chief Post-law Commissioner.—["Dict. N. Biog.", 7, 246.]

me si son, Sir Arthur **Buller**, judge of the Supreme Court, Calcutta.

Noteworthy kinsfolk in more remote degrees of ancestry.

fa fa bro, John **Strachey**, Archdeacon of Suffolk, Prebendary of Llandaff, preacher at the Rolls, LL.D. Camb. F.S.A.

fa fa fa fa, John **Strachey**, F.R.S. (1671-1743), geologist, said to have first suggested theory of stratification in his work "Observations on Different Strata of Earths and Minerals," 1727.—["Dict. N. Biog.", Supp. 3, 364.]

Wife, and her kinsfolk, ascending and collateral.

wife, Jane Maria, nee **Grant**, 2nd wife, authoress of "Lay Texts," "Poets on Poets," "Memoirs of a Highland Lady," &c.—["Who's Who," 1904.]

wife's fa, Sir J. P. **Grant**, G.C.M.G. (1807-1893), Indian and Colonial Governor; Member of Council and Governor of Central Provinces of India; Governor of Jamaica (1860-1873).—["Dict. N. Biog.", Supp. 3, 341.]

wife's fa fa, Sir J. P. **Grant** (1774-1848), Chief Justice of Supreme Court of Calcutta.—["Dict. N. Biog.", .]

Descendants.

son, Giles Lytton **Strachey**, scholar Trin. Coll., Cambridge, Chancellor's medal for English verse.

son, Oliver **Strachey**, Eton scholarship.

son, James Beaumont **Strachey**, scholarship at St. Paul's School.

da, Joan Pegmel **Strachey**, lecturer on old French at Royal Holloway College.

da, Marjorie Colville **Strachey**, prize offered in 1904 by the British Ambassador in Paris to all undergraduates, male and female, of all colleges in Great Britain for examination in French; scholarship Royal Holloway College in 1904.

Chairman of East Indian Club from 1874

li/

Member of Council of India

Chief Justice Allahabad

J/

K.C.B. /  
Lieut. -  
Lieut. Governor of Bengal

Gov. Gen's  
Hastings and  
the Resolute War

to

( Rough Draft, for the purpose of  
putting the genealogy into convenient shape )

1.55

Please return  
to F. Gallon  
42 Rutland Gate  
SW

General Sir Richard Strachey, G.C.S.I., F.R.S.

An extract from *Who's Who* will be inserted here. I have not got  
the book at hand, at this moment

Noteworthy kinsfolk in near degrees, ascending and collateral

fa fa. Sir Henry Strachey (1736-1810), Private secretary to Lord Clive in India  
joint under-secretary of state for the home department, 1782; created baronet 1801,  
F.S.A. [Dict. N. Biog. Suppl. III, 364].

me fa. Lieut. General Kirkpatrick (1754-1812), orientalist; military secretary  
to Marquis Wellesley; Resided at Poona; translated Persian works, expert in  
Oriental tongues and the manners, customs and laws of India [Dict. N. Biog. xxvi, 222]

date fa. Edward Strachey, chief examiner of correspondence to the India House, the other two  
being Peacock & James Mill (secretaries work, writing despatches, &c.) 1774-1832.

date fa bro. Sir Henry Strachey Bart., distinguished Indian civiliser, described by James Mill  
as "the <sup>most intelligent</sup> ~~best~~ of the Company's Servants". Hist. of British India, 1816. ch. 6. 1772-1858.

fa bro. Richard Strachey, Resident at Lucknow and Gwalior

me si. Isabella Barbara Butler, well known in her day as a centre of literary  
refinement and political society. *References wanted to some "refinement" for*

bro. Sir John Strachey, G.C.S.I. Eminent Indian statesman, Lieut. governor of the  
N.W. Provinces, financial member of Council.

date bro. Colonel Henry Strachey, Tibetan explorer, gold medalist of the R. Geogr. Soc. 1852.

bro. Sir Edward Strachey, Bart. Author of a work on Hebrew politics in the time of Sargon &  
Sennacherib?

bro son. Sir Arthur Strachey. Chief Justice at Allahabad 1839 died in 1901 at 43.

bro son. John St. Loe Strachey, editor of the Spectator.

me son. Charles Butler (1806-1848), distinguished politician, sent as secretary with  
Lord Dufferin to Canada 1838, chief Poor Law Commissioner [Dict. N. Biog. vii, 246]

me son. Sir Arthur Butler, judge of the Supreme Court Calcutta

Noteworthy kinsfolk in more remote degrees, or above, of ascending.

fa fa bro. John Strachey, archdeacon of Suffolk, prebendary of Llandaff, preacher  
at the Rolls. L.D. Canons, F.S.A.

fa fa fa fa John Strachey <sup>F.R.S.</sup> (1671-1743) geologist, said to have first suggested  
theory of stratification in his work 'Observations on different Strata of Earths and Minerals, 1727  
[Dict. N. Biog. Suppl. iii, 364.]

bro. George Strachey. Charge d'Affaires and Minister Resident at Dresden (1872-1890)



Continued  
next page

Insert after bro Sir Edward Strachey -

bro. George Strachey, ~~the~~ Secretary of Legation, and Minister at Dresden - 1873-1898.

me si. I am afraid I can't give a reference; except perhaps to Carlyle's Autobiography in Froude's Life of Carlyle. He gives a very spiteful account of her (more suo), & I cannot remember if he in any way conveys the idea of her having exceptional ability. In the same work Carlyle speaks with admiration and tenderness of fa and me. I did not enter me in the list sent, because it is difficult to give satisfactory proof of the ability of women, which except in rare cases is latent as regards the public. But her sons consider her to have been decidedly above the average in intellect; she was deeply read in theology and learned Hebrew when over 40.

bro son. ✓ Sir Arthur Strachey son of Sir John Strachey.

wi. of Sir John S. } His me was Katharine Jane Watten.

fa. George Watten, Principal of Haileybury College.

me<sup>(1)</sup> bro son. ✓ Sir Trevor J. Chichele Plowden K. C. S. J. Resident at Kashmir, Hyderabad, & Baghdad.

me<sup>(2)</sup> bro son. Sir Henry Meredith Plowden

✓ Chief Justice of Lahore. <sup>When was 1904</sup>  
Through her me, Amelia Chichele Plowden, she <sup>is</sup> ~~was~~ 10<sup>th</sup> in descent from the famous lawyer of Queen Elizabeth's time, Edmund Plowden, d. 1584; <sup>(not 134)</sup> ~~and~~

The same for  
wi. (2<sup>nd</sup>)

(Continued)

F. 57

2

Wife and her near kinsfolk

Wi (2)

Please insert here

also title of books (see memorandum)

Wi fa Sir J. P. Grant, G.C.M.G. (1807-1893) Indian and Colonial Governor; ~~secretary to home department of India~~, Member of Council, ~~governor-general of~~ Central Provinces - Governor of Jamaica 1866-1873 [Dict. N. B. Suppl. iii, 341.]

Wi fa fa Sir J. P. Grant (1774-1848), Chief justice <sup>of the Supreme Court</sup> of Calcutta [Nat. Biog.]

### Descendants

Son Giles Lytton Strachey, b. 1880 Scholar Trin. Coll. Cambridge, Chancellor's gold medal for English verse

Son Oliver Strachey, b. 1874 Eton scholarship.

Son James <sup>Regiment</sup> Strachey, b. 1887 Senior scholarship at St Paul's school.

da Joan Pernel Strachey, lecturer on Old French at Royal Holloway College

\* first da Marjorie <sup>Colville</sup> Strachey, Prize offered by the British-ambassadors in Paris to all undergraduates, male and female, of colleges in Great Britain <sup>1904</sup> for examination in French. Royal Holloway College Scholarship - 1904.

\* It was not a first prize, but the first time any such prize was offered





Telegrams  
Blunham

MORHANGER PARK,  
SANDY, BEDS.

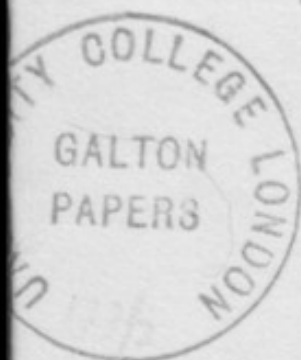
29 September 1904

My dear Galton -

At last I return  
your papers with a supplementary  
note by Lady S. I do not  
think it is possible to improve  
on these data - so far as the  
Strachey family is concerned.

Your proposed investigations  
are very interesting - but will give  
great trouble to you in working  
them out -

Lady S is keeping up a very  
elaborate register of all her



kinsfolk. I hope it will be continued  
to be carried on by some of her  
successors.

I should say that the merits  
of Lady S. (Wife 2<sup>d</sup>) at the end of  
the supplementary note are by me  
& are the best I can do. As she  
says in one of the previous notes  
it is very difficult to get a proper  
standard for women's abilities in  
most cases.

We have passed our Summer  
holiday at this place - about  
5 miles from Bedford. The  
country is given over to Market  
gardening on a large scale, with  
concomitant manure heaps &  
attendant ~~odour~~. Square miles

of Cabbages & other vegetables such  
as I do not think are to be seen  
elsewhere - At all events I have  
never seen the like.

We return to London tomorrow.  
where I hope to see you again

I keep reasonably well and  
still able to go on with my  
regular work

Lady S joins in saluting

you - Yrs truly

R Strachey

Of course you understood  
that you are at liberty to  
make what use you think fit  
of all the information we have  
sent you -



and 8<sup>th</sup> in descent from Sir Edmund Plowden K<sup>nt</sup>,  
Created Lord Earl Palatine of New Albion, Virginia  
County, 1634.

bro son. John S<sup>t</sup> Lee, son of Sir Edward Strachey.

wi of Sir His me was Mary Isabella Symonds.  
2d S.

Fa. John Symonds M. D. of Clifton. a well-known  
physician.

✓ bro. John Addington Symonds, writer & Critic.  
(Nat. B. 9?)

Wife (2<sup>nd</sup>). Jane Maria Grant. Generally reputed to be highly  
intelligent, & with considerable social gifts. Great  
literary knowledge & powers of criticism. Works. Poets  
on Poets. Lay Texts. Nursery Lyrics. see Who's Who.

1 Her me was Henrietta Chichele Plowden, sister  
of Sir Arthur Strachey's me me; the Plowden kins.  
= folk are therefore the same. [that is, Sir John  
Strachey and Sir Richard Strachey married first  
Cousins on the mothers' side.]



Lady Strachey

f. 62

69, LANCASTER GATE, W.



Dear Mr. Galton

Herewith your papers filled up. It is rather difficult to know the line of noteworthiness, but as a Commission is to sit upon the answers, I trust no harm will be done by a blundering estimate.

You were right about Mr. Grundy. She comes from Speed the Plough by T. Morkow, who lived between 1764? and 1838.

What a charming evening we had at your house the other night!

Yours very sincerely

John Strachey

May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Secretary to Lord Clive

1. Sir Henry Strachey. <sup>fa fa</sup> Under Secretary of State for Home department. Created Baronet. In Dicty of National Biography.
3. Lieut-General William Kirkpatrick. <sup>me fa</sup> Military Secretary to Lord Wellesley. Resident at Hyderabad. Oriental Scholar. In Dicty of N<sup>o</sup> Biof.
5. Edward Strachey. <sup>fa</sup> Chief Examiner of Correspondence to the India House, the other two being Peacock & James Mill. (Secretary's Work - writing Despatches. &c.)
7. Sir Henry Strachey, Bart. <sup>fa bro</sup> Distinguished Indian Civilian. Described by James Mill as "the wisest of the Company's Servants."
7. Richard Strachey. <sup>fa bro</sup> Resident at Lucknow & at Gwalior.
10. Isabella Barbara Buller. <sup>me di</sup> Well known in her day as a centre of literary & political Society.
11. Sir John Strachey. <sup>bro</sup> Eminent Indian Statesman. Lieut. Governor of the N. W. Provinces. Financial Member of Council. G. C. S. I.
11. Colonel Henry Strachey. <sup>bro</sup> Tibetan Explorer. Received Gold Medal of R. F. Society.
11. Sir Edward Strachey, Bart. <sup>bro</sup> Author of a work on Hebrew Politics.
17. Sir Arthur Strachey. <sup>bro son</sup> Judge of the High Court at Bombay at 37 years of age. Chief Justice at Allahabad when under 40. died at 43.
17. John St. Loe Strachey. <sup>bro son</sup> Editor of the Spectator.
21. Mr. Charles Buller. <sup>fa bro son</sup> Distinguished politician. Sent as Secretary with Lord Durham to Canada. Judge Advocate General. Chief Poor Law Commissioner. died at 42. In Dicty of National Biography.
21. Sir Arthur Buller. <sup>fa bro son</sup> Judge of the Supreme Court, Calcutta.

- 29(2) Giles Lytton Strachey (youth) <sup>Sm (2)</sup> Major Scholarship Trinity Coll. Cambridge. Chancellor's gold Medal for English Verse.
- 29(2) Oliver Strachey. <sup>Sm (2)</sup> Eton Scholarship.
- 29(2) James Beaumont Strachey (youth) <sup>Sm (2)</sup> <sup>a</sup> St. Paul's Senior Scholarship.
- 30(2) Joan Pernel Strachey. <sup>da (2)</sup> Lecturers in Old French at Royal Holloway College.
- 30(2) Marjorie Colville Strachey (youth). <sup>da (2)</sup> Prize, offered by the British Ambassador in Paris to all undergraduates, male & female, of Colleges in Great Britain, for best examination in French.
- Additional. Fa fa bro. John Strachey. Archdeacon of Suffolk. Prebendary of Sandaff. Preacher at the Rolls. L.D. Cantab, F. S. A.

### Notes

Although my Wife's brothers (5), are clever fellows, they have not risen to particular distinction, but as bearing on one of the points it is desired to elucidate I will mention that her wi. fa (Sir J. P. Grant G.C.M.G., K.C.B.) her wi. fa fa, wi. fa fa fa, are in the Dicty of National Biography.

In like manner my so W. bro. (2) are too young to have gained distinction but my so. W. fa. is Sir Henry Wyke Norman, Field Marshall, Governor of Chelsea Hospital, G.C.B., and G.C.M.G.

N. Strachey

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Aubrey Strahan, Esq. & Co.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	<i>G. F.</i>	3	me fa	<i>George Fisher</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—		11	bro	<i>George Strahan</i>
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	11	bro	<i>Charles Strahan</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	19	si son	<i>Ralph Hawtry</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro			21	fa bro son	<i>Herbert Kynaston</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	0 9 9		10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4	<i>G. S. C. S.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	5		19	si son	1	<i>R. H.</i>			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	4		20	si da	3				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3	<i>H. K.</i>	23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0 9 9		24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	6		27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	1		<i>Roscoe</i>	<i>1886</i>	so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da					so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Aubrey Strahan*

*12 Marlboro Road  
London, W.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

3 me fa George Fisher, General R.A.  
and knighted. Commandant  
Woolwich Arsenal.

11. bro George Strahan - 2<sup>nd</sup> for Pollock  
Medal at Addiscombe - <sup>Late</sup> Superintendent  
of the Great Trigonometrical Survey of  
India. Col. Bengal Engineers.

11 bro Charles Strahan - Lieut. General  
Bengal Engineers. Late Surveyor General  
of India.

19 si son Ralph Hawtrey. 18<sup>th</sup> Wrangler -  
10<sup>th</sup> in Civil Service Comput. Exam. 1903.  
Has entered the Treasury -

21 fa bro son Herbert Kynaston (formerly Knowlton) - D.D.  
late Head Master, Cheltenham Coll.  
Prof. of Greek Durham University

12 *Marble Road London.* <sup>RG7</sup>

Aubrey Strahan, (b.1852), F.R.S., district geologist on the Geological Survey of England & Wales: <sup>author of</sup> ~~has published~~ Geological Survey *memoirs* on Chester, Bhyl, Flint, Isle of Purbeck, & Weymouth, South Wales Coal field etc.; & contributions to scientific journals. (Who's Who)

me fa George Fisher, general R.A., & knighted. Commandant of Woolwich Arsenal.

bro George Strahan, 2nd for Pollock Medal at Addiscombe: late superintendent of the great Trigonometrical Survey of India: c olonel ~~X/V~~ Bengal Engineers.

bro Charles Strahan, Lieutenant-General Bengal Engineers: late Surveyor-General of India.

si son Ralph Hawtrey, 18th wrangler: 10th in Civil Service competitive exam, 1903: ~~has entered Treasury.~~

fa bro son Herbert Kynaston, (b.1835). <sup>D.D.</sup> Camden medallist & Browne medallist, 1855: bracketed senior classic, 1857: fellow of St. John's Coll., Cambridge, 1858: principal of Cheltenham Coll. 1874-88: professor of grreek & classical literature, University of Durham, 1889. (Who's Who)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *J. Pridgin Teale, Esq., M.D.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>C.D.</i>	5	Father	<i>Thomas Pridgin Teale</i> <i>F.R.S., de laing's hel</i> <i>a Surgeon to the General</i> <i>Infirmary at Leeds,</i> <i>and a Crown nominee</i> <i>on the General Medical</i> <i>Council.</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>T.P.T.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	0				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	2		10	<i>me si</i>	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	5		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>	4	<i>G.B.</i>			
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>	3				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	1		24	<i>me si son</i>	1				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	1		27	<i>me bro da</i>	1				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	2		28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	4		<i>Alice Teale</i>	1862	<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	1
Daughters . . .	30	<i>da</i>	4					
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
Daughters . . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						

Signature and Address of the Sender *J. Pridgin Teale. 38 Cookridge St. Leeds.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

3. Mother's Father - The Rev<sup>d</sup>  
Charles Isherwood. Fifteenth  
Wrangler. Fellow of Magdalen  
College Cambridge. - Had a  
knowledge of Astronomy,  
& was said to know ten languages,  
including Hebrew, & Arabic.

5. Father Thomas Bridgman  
Teale. Fellow of the Royal  
Society. Distinguished as  
a Surgeon to the General  
Infirmary at Leeds.  
Honorary M.D. of the  
University of Dublin.  
Crown nominee of the  
General Medical  
Council, - a geologist.

7 Bridge in Tealer

F3

(2)

This must be himself

for I have never seen him before

Pepper on the bones of man-  
moth chiropterus found  
in the valley of the Aire  
near Leeds; ~~in to his~~ read  
before the British Association  
in which he was amongst  
the first to suggest that  
such pachyderms had  
survived the glacial period  
& were probably coeval  
with man. Author of  
a "Treatise on Hernia" &  
"Amputation by a long  
& a short rectangular  
flap" works which be-  
came standard works  
in surgery.

(3) 64  
T. Pridgin Teale.

19. - Sister's son. Lieut:  
Geoffrey Brierley, R.A. -  
obtained the D.S.O.  
in the South African  
war. -



no letter

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF J. J. H. Teall, Esq., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																															
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																				
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">No Noteworthy Kinsfolk</p>																																															
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—																																																			
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—																																																		
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—																																																		
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	4																																																			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	3																																																			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—	—																																																		
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—	—																																																		
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0																																																			
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0																																																			
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0																																																			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0																																																			
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	3																																																			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	3																																																			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	1																																																			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	1																																																			
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th rowspan="2">Regr.</th> <th rowspan="2">Title.</th> <th rowspan="2">No. who survived childhood.</th> <th rowspan="2">Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th rowspan="2">Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th rowspan="2">Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td>so</td> <td>2</td> <td rowspan="2"> <p>Harriet Moore Cowen</p> <p>1879</p> </td> <td rowspan="2"></td> <td>30</td> <td>Wi bro</td> <td rowspan="2">H</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td>da</td> <td>—</td> <td>31</td> <td>Wi si</td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td>so(2)</td> <td>—</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>32(2)</td> <td>Wi bro</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td>da(2)</td> <td>—</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>33(2)</td> <td>Wi si</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>													Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so	2	<p>Harriet Moore Cowen</p> <p>1879</p>		30	Wi bro	H	Daughters .	30	da	—	31	Wi si	2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			32(2)	Wi bro		Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—			33(2)	Wi si		
	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																			
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																		
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so	2	<p>Harriet Moore Cowen</p> <p>1879</p>		30	Wi bro	H																																																	
	Daughters .	30	da	—			31	Wi si																																																		
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—			32(2)	Wi bro																																																		
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	—			33(2)	Wi si																																																		

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Lieut-General J. F. Tennant, R.E., C.I.E., F.R.S.*

(“WHO'S WHO” <sup>does not</sup> contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)  
*Kindly send further particulars*

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means “MY father's brother's son IS”; *me da* means “MY mother's daughter IS”; *so Wi bro* means “MY son's wife's brother IS”; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>J.T.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>K.C.B.</i>	<i>Lie James Tennant</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—		<i>Col. Gen. Adj.</i>	
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>		<i>W.T. G.</i>	22.		<i>Lie W. T. Gaisford F.R.S. 1860</i>
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>		<i>W.T. G.</i>	24	<i>me si son</i>			“		<i>James Gaisford late of Public Record Office</i>
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>Augusta Dick</i>	<i>1852</i>	<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	<i>1</i>				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>		<i>Seline Luden Crawford</i>	<i>1867.</i>	<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	<i>3</i>				

Signature and Address of the Sender *J. F. Tennant*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.





Kew, May 20. 07



Dear Mr Galton,

I return you five forms which  
I have done my best to fill up.

In my own family history  
there is an absence of High  
Success. There is a certain  
amount of ability, & a lower  
Standard.

The particulars I enclose  
with this <sup>be</sup> probably <sup>be</sup> of some  
use for your purpose. Still  
I feel some little interest in  
putting them together. I had  
never in fact considered the  
fact of my own "ontogeny".



The facts as regards  
 myself are: - (i) that I  
 have sufficient mathematical  
 ability to take an Honours  
 degree at Oxford; (ii) that  
 I have devoted my life to  
 botanical science; (iii) that  
 I have a moderate amount  
 (untrained) of artistic aptitude.

All these qualities I seem  
 clear to me I derived through  
 my mother, alone.

My paternal ancestors the  
 Threlkottes seem to have been  
 steady, slow-going & rustic  
 people who in Eight centuries

Seen & have not been prolific  
or to have been produced any more  
of destruction.

Thank my fa fa me, a  
Dyer, we seem to have  
inherited a certain amount of  
"punctuality".

The fa me was a French  
woman of good but decayed  
family. I think I have  
inherited from her the Currier's  
feeling that when I am in  
France, I do not feel a  
foreigner. On the other hand  
~~at~~ during two years I lived  
in Ireland I never got over  
the feeling that I was more  
or less an alien.

My son has imbibed through  
 the same source as myself  
~~considerable~~ some mathematical  
 ability and very considerable  
 artistic aptitude.

We are all singularly  
 deficient in the power of  
 acquiring languages.

Yours sincerely

W. F. Threlton: Dger





As with most middle-class families, no family  
seem to have been loath to preserve <sup>our</sup> family record.

The Throckmores were I suppose German who took  
their name from the village of the same name in  
in which county the name still occurs  
Rutlandshire. They spread into the Eastern counties  
as early as the 13<sup>th</sup> century. As the name is  
somewhat uncommon I conclude they were not  
a popular race. Nor do I know of their having  
produced any one of distinction. A few scattered  
in the United States but have apparently shown  
no marked ability.

The Dyers were West Country people apparently  
at one time of some importance. They were  
Royalists and apparently came to great grief  
in the Parliamentary wars.

My fa fa fa was a Throckmole and a <sup>London</sup> printer.  
He was a man of strong character but not  
otherwise remarkable.

My fa fa me was a Dyer

Thence, there was shown some ability by  
making their way in the world with practically  
no backing of any sort.

William Matthew Throckmole Dyer  
My fa fa was a barrister who took an  
active part in public life. He was  
Steward and Coroner of the Town, a magistrate,  
held various public positions including some  
which put at Somerset House

My fa bro, Charles <sup>Alfred</sup> Throckmole after  
holding some small appointment at the  
Foreign Office ultimately became Registrar of  
the Archbishopric of York.

Archdeacon



fa fa

omit



Another bro fa bro, Arthur ~~Lutherburg~~ Luthertberg  
Thurston was an artist and attained  
some distinction as a non-painter and  
Dung Lane.

My fa me was Louis Merzeau a Surgeon.  
The pedigree of his family has been traced  
with great care. It starts with Pierre  
Oger de Repommey in Bas Poitou (c. 1650).  
The forefathers were driven out of  
France and the Merzeaus settled in  
Spitalfields as silk-weavers. The Oger  
descendants in that country ~~are~~ pretty  
numerous and developed a good deal of  
ability in different directions. Amongst these  
are the Comtaults who are important  
Crape-manufacturers in Essex, the  
Wagners who were well-known clergy at  
Thingston and a <sup>and philanthropist</sup> geologist ~~whose name has~~  
~~escaped me~~ Sir Antonio Brady.

My me fa was Thomas Fitzinger, K.C.D. son  
of a Kentish Gorman (small landowner).  
He was a mathematician and astronomer.  
It was for fourteen years Principal Assistant  
at Greenwich Observatory under S. Skakelgren  
the Astronomer Royal. The University of  
Aberdeen gave him the degree of L.L.D.  
in consideration of his scientific distinction.





me

My me Catharine Jane Friminger had a great  
taste for botanical study - the influence  
of this I cannot doubt forced itself on my  
own career.

me bro

My me bro the Rev. Thomas Augustus Charles  
Friminger spent much of his life in  
India. He too had botanical tastes.  
He wrote the standard work on Indian  
Gardening which has gone through many  
editions. He was also an artist &  
more than ordinary ability and frequently  
exhibited at the Royal Academy though  
he never cared to part with his pictures.



bro

My bro the Rev. Thomas Friminger Thistlethorpe  
took his degree with honours in  
Theology at Oxford and wrote books  
in a popular style on Folk Lore and  
Historical subjects.

So (Gault)

My bro George Henry Thistlethorpe took his  
Degree in Engineering at Cambridge. He  
was a long range Rifle shot and shot for  
the University at Orléans.

Mr. dau of Mr Joseph Hooke

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Mr William F. Threlton-Dyer, R.C.M.G., C.I.E., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCRETE WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*not at all well filled up & accordance with the accompanying papers*

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	6	W.M., C.A., A.G.	3	me fa	0?				C.A.
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	6		4	me me	0?				A.G.
Father . . . . .	5	fa	3		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	me	3		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	0				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	0				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0				
First consins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	3				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	0				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	4		27	me bro da	4				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1		28	me si da	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.		
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	G.A.T.D.	Hooker	1877	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	1				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					da Hu bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					da Hu si	



Signature and Address of the Sender

*W. F. Threlton-Dyer*

*Roger Otterle Garstons. Ken*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Thurthor

F. 131

TUDOR HOUSE,  
RICHMOND GREEN, SURREY.

HP  
4<sup>th</sup> August/04



Dear Mr. Galton.

I would be glad to  
pick up your paper on  
the ability of families  
if I knew how to do it,  
but I am sorry to say I  
am fairly puzzled, & I am  
unable to know how I  
could point to any approach  
to ability in my family; so with  
diffidence I write back to  
to assure you that this

only from sheer necessity  
 that I have been unable to  
 respond to the call made on  
 me. I am only a  
 poor journeyman sent out to  
 India in the good old  
 Crampson service, &  
 formerly employed in the  
 capacity of an Engineer  
 at the head of the Great  
 Indian Survey, in which  
 capacity my elder son  
 of the Royal Engineers, succeeded me, & at the same  
 time nothing to be said

of, except the acknowledgment  
of a liberal gift of having  
done an duty, & so the  
rewarded as such, I could  
not send in a paper  
that you describe as  
pertaining to any special  
ability.

Believe me with the  
highest estimation of your  
powers & scientific fame,

Very truly yours

H. D. Macmillan  
General Ed. Act.  
J. R. S.

Francis Galton, Esq.





# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Richard Threlfold*

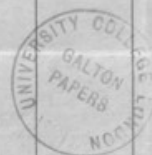
("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>J. M.</i>	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Richard Threlfold</i>
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—		6	<i>me</i>	<i>Sarah Jane Threlfold</i>
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>R. T.</i>	—	—	—	—	3	<i>me fa</i>	<i>Joseph Mason</i>
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—	<i>S. J. T.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	4		9	<i>me bro</i>	0				
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>	2				
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>	2				
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>	3				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	2		23	<i>me bro son</i>	0				
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	2		24	<i>me si son</i>	2				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	5		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	3		28	<i>me si da</i>	3				



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	4	<i>Elizabeth Baird</i>	1890	<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>-2.C.C.</i>
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2			<i>Wi si</i>	<i>-D.B.</i>
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *R. Threlfold 30 George Road Salford near Birmingham*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *ma* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

5. f.a. Richard Threlfoel.

Business ability - made over £70<sup>5</sup> as merchant  
 Great aptitude as an architect

6. me. Sarah Jane Threlfoel.

Natural aptitude for arithmetical calculations  
 could handle up to five figures mentally; very  
 methodical & managed a considerable estate without  
 making a mistake for thirty years, universally  
 consulted by all relations on any question of policy.

3. me. f.a. Joseph Mason.

Business ability made large fortune as merchant  
 specially. attention to detail - left him no spare time,  
 very kind & playful even at 70 years of age

R. Pa. Bass. Son. John Mayor Threlfoel. Very successful in founding a large  
 Fa. Fa. Fa. fa. bro. Fa bro. <sup>business</sup> Without reaching the standard  
 set were all (1) very musical (2) Fond of mechanical  
 invention in small matters. (3). successful in  
 business

X Wi. Si Emily Constance Cook. Some literary success as an <sup>essayist</sup>

X Wi Si Dorothea Baird some success as an actress.

X Probably not up to the standard required.



Ser  
NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF JOHN I. THORNYCROFT

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—	J.F.	3	<i>me Ju</i>	JOHN FRANCIS Sculptor
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—		6	<i>fa M.T.</i>	THOMAS THORNYCROFT MARY THORNYCROFT Sculptors.
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	T.T. M.T.	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2		9	<i>me bro</i>	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	0		10	<i>me si</i>	5				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1	W.H.T.	—	—	—	—	1	<i>bro</i>	WILLIAM HAMO THORNYCROFT Sculptor R.A.
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	5		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	1		19	<i>si son</i>	8				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>	5				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	—		23	<i>me bro son</i>	—				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	—		24	<i>me si son</i>	4				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	—		27	<i>me bro da</i>	—				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	—		28	<i>me si da</i>	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2	Coules	1870	<i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	5			<i>Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—			<i>da(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—			<i>da(2) Wi si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender John I. Thornycroft.





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

*Syot Vika, Chiswick, Middlesex*

Sir John Isaac Thornycroft, (b.1843), LL.D., F.R.S.,  
vice-president of Inst. of Naval Architecture, etc.  
founded ship-building works at Chiswick, 1866: introduced  
improvements in naval architecture & marine engineering,  
which have promoted the developement of high speeds at sea.  
(Who's Who)

me fa John Francis, (1780-1861), sculptor, pupil of Chantrey:  
exhibited at the Royal Academy, 1820-56: works include  
busts of Miss Horatio Nelson, Queen Victoria, Prince  
Albert, & the Duke of Wellington. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa Thomas Thornycroft, (1815-1885), sculptor: executed  
the group of Commerce on the Albert Memorial, & other statues.  
(Dict.N.Biog.)

me Mary Thornycroft, (1814-1895) sculptor: (Dict.N.Biog.)

bro William Hamo Thornycroft, R.A. (b.1850) sculptor: his  
works include national monument to Gen. Gordon in Trafalgar  
Square & in Melbourne: John Bright in Rochdale: Lord  
Granville in House of Parliament, & very many others.  
(Who's Who)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. W. A. Tilden, M.D.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	<i>H. B.</i>			<i>Henry Balls</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>A. J.</i>	—	—	—	—			<i>Ann Tilden</i> <i>Charles Balls</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	<i>6</i>		9	me bro	<i>3</i>	<i>C. B.</i>			
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	<i>5</i>		10	me si	<i>3</i>				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	<i>1</i>		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	<i>0</i>		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	<i>0</i>		15	me son	<i>0</i>				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	<i>0</i>		16	me da	<i>0</i>				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	<i>3</i>		19	si son	<i>0</i>				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	<i>2</i>		20	si da	<i>0</i>				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	<i>2</i>		23	me bro son	<i>7</i>				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	<i>10</i>		24	me si son	<i>4</i>				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	<i>1</i>		27	me bro da	<i>12</i>				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	<i>4</i>		28	me si da	<i>5</i>				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	so	<i>1</i>	<i>PAT</i>	<i>Charlotte Picher Bush</i>		<i>Wi bro</i>
	Daughters . .	30	da	<i>0</i>				<i>Wi si</i>
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					<i>da(2) Wi bro</i>
	Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					<i>da(2) Wi si</i>
								<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>
								<i>da(2) Hu si</i>

Signature and Address of the Sender *Wm. A. Tilden* *The Oaks Northwood Middx.*



*Note.* I am the only member of the family on either side, who has been at any time occupied in Scientific pursuits.  
My Son (et 17) has a strong artistic bias, Composes music, much verse, and draws well.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *C. S. Jones, Esq., & Co.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	<i>J. T.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—				<i>John Jones</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>J. T.</i>	—	—	—	—			<i>John Jones</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			<i>Robert Fisher Jones</i>
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2	<i>R. F. J.</i>	9	<i>me bro</i>	4	<i>G. S.</i>			<i>George Sisley</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	<i>/</i>			<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Charles S. Jones*  
*9 Park Crescent*  
*Portland Place*  
*W*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nonenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

9 Park Crescent  
Portland Place, W.

*M.A.*  
Charles Sissmore Tomes, (b.1846), F.R.S., F.R.C.S., ~~consulting~~  
~~dental surgeon~~ *late* lecturer on dental anatomy at Dental Hosp.  
of London: *Crown* ~~Privy Council~~ nominee on General Medical Council,  
1898, etc.: author of papers on odontology in Phil. Trans, &c  
& of "A Manual of Dental Anatomy, Human & Comparative". *6 editions*  
(Who's Who) *translated into French & German*

*F.R.S., F.R.C.S.*  
fa Sir John Tomes, (1815-1895), dental surgeon: invented dental  
forceps & studied histology of bone & teeth: delivered lectures  
at Middlesex Hosp. which marked new era in dentistry: induced  
Royal Coll. of Surgeons to grant licence in dental surgery:  
one of the chief founders of the odontological Soc., 1856,  
& of the Dental Hosp., 1858: secured passing of Dentists Act,  
1878: wrote wellknown treatise on "Dental Surgery" & other  
works. (Dict.N.Biog.)

*1824 - 1904*  
fa bro Robert Fisher Tomes, authority on Insectivora &  
Chiroptera: edited Bell's British Quadrupeds: ~~has written~~ *wrote*  
natural history sections for his own and neighbouring  
county histories: ~~has done~~ *did* much work on geology of Lias & *oolite*  
especially corals: made fine collection of British birds, *small*  
*in animals & corals, the Dr. Latham book and for long sum by British Museum*  
was long chairman of Board of Guardians, & of Highway Board:  
an active & influential magistrate.

me bro George Sibley, C.E.I., without influence went out  
to India as a civil engineer: rose to be chief engineer of  
East Indian Rail, & did much important work in bridge building:



7 Paternal grandfather. John Jones.

Am in some doubt whether to return this name. Placed in disadvantageous <sup>as far as education and means</sup> circumstances is a remote country place, and withal neighbours of similar culture, gained a real acquaintance with philosophy, familiar with writers of Hamilton, Mill, Spence &c and was a very scholarly type of man, but wrote nothing himself.

5 Father Sir John Jones. F.R.S.

Was an early microscopist and obtained fellowship of R. S. for researches on bone, dentine and comparative histology of teeth. His "Dental Surgery" <sup>1858</sup> was the first scientific treatise on the subject & still, after numerous editions, maintains its place. Took as a two fold & primary the welfare of his profession, was chiefly instrumental in securing passage of Dentists Act 1878 & was knighted in recognition of these services.

7 Paternal uncle. Robert Fisher Jones. A versatile man of really great ability who would have made more name had he not spread his energies over so many subjects. Was an authority on Insectivora & Chiroptera years ago but has not kept the up. Edited Bell's British Quadrupeds, & has written natural history sections for his own & neighbouring County histories. Has made fine collection of British Birds. Has done much work on paleontology of Lian, especially Corals but long chairman of Board of Sanitation and of Highway Board and is an active & influential County magistrate.

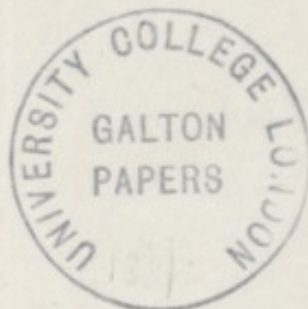
9 Maternal uncle George Sibley, ~~CEI~~ C.E.I.

With great influence went out to India as civil engineer. Rose to a Chief Engineer of East Indian Rail, and did much important work in bridge building, becoming natural diplomatist who needed rigour of design &c





University of Aberdeen.

26<sup>th</sup> May 1904

Dear Sir,

I have filled in the accompanying schedule & additional sheets in so far as I could to give the information that seemed to me likely to be useful for the objects sought; but I fear I may not have hit the standard in some respects.

I find it very difficult to estimate



ability; & success as measured by attainment so often depends on fortunate environment that I am inclined to question its verdict applied to my personal acquaintances, including the many students that I have known while an undergraduate & during 27 years as a professor here.

Perseverance & self-denial are more

likely to lead to success than ability  
apart from them.

As to the standard I have included some  
that you will probably strike out, as  
I thought you would rather do that than  
have even one omitted that should be in.  
My own estimate of the stock I come  
from would be rather above medium,  
the grade attained depending on the  
amount of determination & of self-de-  
-nial to secure the labour that will gain  
success. I suppose that corresponds

pretty much with the average intellect  
that with labour it will usually suc-  
ceed more or less & without labour  
it must fail.

If there is any other point on which  
information is wished from me I will  
be glad to know & to send it.

I am

yours sincerely

James W. H. Trail



Francis Galton, Esq., F.R.S.



Relations of Mrs K. E. Trail

Continue here

31. <sup>W</sup> Me fa David Macbeth Moir, M.D., Physician in Musselburgh.  
 Scottish poet & novelist; Wrote on poetry & also on medical subjects.  
 See Biographical notices in standard dictionaries.
32. <sup>W</sup> fa William Milligan, D.D., Entered the church of Scotland.  
 From 1860 to 1893 was Professor of Biblical Criticism in the University of Aberdeen. Moderator of the Church of Scotland. For several years chief clerk to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. A leader in educational matters in Aberdeen & in the administration of the Univ. of Aberdeen. One of the Revisers of the translation of the New Testament. Author of numerous books & articles on Biblical Criticism.
33. <sup>W</sup> bro. George Milligan, D.D. Clergyman in Church of Scotland, Has written several theological works
- <sup>W</sup> bro. David Macbeth Moir Milligan Head of a large legal firm in Aberdeen.  
 Takes an active part in public undertakings in Aberdeen.
- <sup>W</sup> bro William Milligan M.D. a specialist in ear & throat diseases in Manchester
- <sup>W</sup> bro Oswald Milligan M.A., B.D. Distinguished himself as a student in the University of Edinburgh. Is probably the ablest of the family.

There are two other brothers of fair ability, & 4 sisters; i.e. the family consists of 6 sons & 5 daughters, all of whom are alive.

James W. H. Trail



5. *sa* Samuel Trail,

gained the scholarship (Hutton) awarded <sup>annually</sup> to the most distinguished graduate in Arts in the University of Old Aberdeen (King's College) in 1825. Entered the Established Church of Scotland. Received the Honorary degrees of LL.D. & D.D. In 1867 gained by competitive examination the professorship of Systematic Theology in the University of Aberdeen. In 1874 was Moderator of the Church of Scotland, - regarded as the highest honour in that church

9. *me bro.* Hercules Scott, LL.D. Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University in Old Aberdeen from 1820 to 1860. Is said to have taken a large part in the administration of the University

*Daughter*  
9. *me bro.* John Scott, M.D. a successful physician for a number of years in Surrey. Died nearly fifty years ago.

11. *bro.* John Arbuthnott Trail, LL.D. Writer to the Signet in Edinburgh. Has taken part in administrative work connected with the University of Edinburgh, the Church of Scotland & other public bodies as chairman of Committees, ~~as well as in~~ the legal profession.

24. *me si son.* David Brown, general on retired list. Was Commissioner in command in Lower Burmah.

As far as I can judge, my ancestors on both sides have possessed ability of sufficient to secure relative success, when accompanied by perseverance, but among their relatives have been failures through lack of

James W. H. Trail

of perseverance. A few of my ancestors on both sides find a place in biographical notices. The church & the army are the professions usually followed by them, with medicine & professorships among collaterals.

A love of Natural Science has not been conspicuous among them, so I cannot trace clearly my love for such studies; but from my earliest recollections zoology had a fascination for me. An interest in Botany came later, rather as a consequence of the other taste.

My mother always impressed me as possessing more ability than my father, and her counsels & encouragement were of much value to me.

She was fond of pet animals & had an unusual power of taming them. Perhaps I should add that the brother of my father next to him in age was one of the most successful practitioners of Medicine in the county of Aberdeen, & that of his two sons one took the degrees of M.A. & M.B. in the University of Aberdeen, with honourable distinction in each case, & now has a large practice in Aberdeen, while the other gained the first place in a large competitive examination for scholarships in the University.

Of my children none has as yet shown any special taste for Natural Science. My son (William S. Trail) entered Sandhurst in January, with the wish to enter the Indian Army. He has as yet distinguished himself more by athletics than by mental ability.

James W. H. Trail



Old Aberdeen

11<sup>th</sup> May 1905

Dear Sir,

Herewith I return, as  
wished, the slip sent to me, correct  
as far as I can make it.



I am

yours sincerely

James W. H. Trail

Edgar Schuster, Esq. M.A.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. J. W. H. Trail, M.A.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.  
fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		5	fa.	Samuel Trail,
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	S.T.	—	—	—	—	11	bro.	John Arbuthnot Trail
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—	9	me bro	Hercules Scott
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro	3	H.S., J.S.			John Scott
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	3	J.A.J.	—	—	—	—	24	me si so	David Brown.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son	2				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2		20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	2		31	me fa	David Macbeth Moir
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0 4 5		24	me si son	2	D.B.	32	fa	William Milligan
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da	4		33	bro	George Milligan (aged 44)
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2		28	me si da	3				David Milligan (aged 42)
											William Milligan (aged 40)
											Oswald Milligan (aged 23).
Wife's relatives											
Wife's brothers and sisters.											
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Titles.		Initials of the noteworthy.	
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	18		Katherine E. Milligan	1884	so Wi bro			
	Daughters .	30	da	3				so Wi si			
								da Hu bro			
								da Hu si			
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro			
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si			
								da(2) Hu bro			
								da(2) Hu si			
Signature and Address of the Sender											



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on *fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

University of Aberdeen

230

James William Helenus Trail, (b. 1851), F.R.S., regius professor of botany, University of Aberdeen since 1877: travelled in N. Brazil as naturalist of an exploring expedition, 1873-5: has published numerous papers on botanical & zoological subjects in scientific journals. [Who's Who]

*Has been largely occupied in the administrative work of the University (in Court & Senate, Dean of Science Faculty, Curator of Library) & of other Educational bodies in Scotland.*

fr. Samuel Trail, LL.D., D.D., (both hon.) obtained Hutton scholarship in Aberdeen as most distinguished graduate of his year, 1825: professor of systematic theology, University of Aberdeen, 1867: moderator of the Church of Scotland, 1874. ~~1770/8~~ me bro Hercules. Scott, LL.D., professor of moral philosophy in the <sup>King's College &</sup> University, ~~of~~ Old Aberdeen, 1820-1860: said to have taken a large part in the administration of the university.

bro John Arbuthnot Trail, LL.D., writer to the signet in Edinburgh: has taken a prominent part in administrative work connected with the University of Edinburgh, the Church of Scotland & other public bodies.

me si son David Brown, general on retired list: formerly commissioner in command of lower Burmah.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Roland Trimen, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>		<i>H. T.</i>	—	—	—				<i>Henry Trimen.</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *Roland Trimen* 26, Campden Grove, Kensington, W.





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

From Roland Trimen, M. A., F. R. S. F328

---

11. bro. Henry Trimen.

M. B. Lond. (honours); F. R. S.

Born, Oct. 1843. Died, Oct. 1896.

Botanist of distinction.

Principal Assistant, Department  
of Botany, British Museum, for  
10 years.

Director of Botanical Gardens,  
Ceylon, for 16 years.

Joint Editor of the "Journal of  
Botany" (with Dr. Seeman), and  
afterwards sole Editor till his  
departure for Ceylon in 1880.

Joint Author of the "Flora of  
Middlesex" (with Prof. - now Sir -  
W. T. Thiselton-Dyer); and of

"Medicinal Plants" (with Prof. Bentley.)

Author of "A Handbook to the Flora of Ceylon." - Three vols. published in his life-time; and the two remaining vols. (partly prepared) edited and completed after his decease by Sir J. D. Hooker.

Author of numerous papers and memoirs on botanical subjects (see Royal Society's Catalogue).

—  
Biographical (Obituary) Notice in Proceedings of Royal Society, 1902.

R. T.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Prof. F. J. Isoulton, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Registr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Registr.	Title.			Registr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				<i>E Burke</i> <i>James Earl</i> <i>J. Burke</i> <i>Exporting business</i> <i>to U.S.A. &amp; Company</i> <i>now with Capt. in a</i> <i>million U.S.</i>
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro		E.B.	J.B.		
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . .	11	bro			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	si			—	—	—				
Half-brothers .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins .	21	fa bro son			23	me bro son					
Male . . . .	22	fa si son			24	me si son					
First cousins .	25	fa bro da			27	me bro da					
Female . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da					

	Registr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hester</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hester</i>	
	Daughters .	30	da					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hester</i> <i>da</i> <i>Hester</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)					

Signature and Address of the Sender *F. J. Isoulton.* *2 Hulse & Park, W.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

H. H. Turner, F.R.S.

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family; when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	5		9	me bro	3				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	5				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	2		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	2		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	1 } children still		19	si son	2 } children still				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	3 } one brother married		20	si da	3 } one sister married				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	2		23	me bro son	2				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	5				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	2		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	8				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	0		Agnes Margaret Whyte	1899	so Wi bro	None at present
Daughters . .	30	da	1 still a child of 4	so Wi si			da Hu bro	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender H. H. Turner, University Observatory, Oxford



I fear we cannot claim any distinctions. My father was a struggling artist of great enthusiasm, but moderate talents; my mother a woman of considerable business ability as she shewed when other means of livelihood gradually failed. With a better start some of us might have become "distinguished," but in no case except my own was any considerable start forthcoming.

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such *as* may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



THE MUSEUM HOUSE,  
OXFORD.

July 8 04

Dear Galton,

I really have  
no Kingsfolk noteworthy  
in your strict sense.

My brother Alfred had  
too much business on  
hand or he could have  
been well on your list.



Any little success our  
 family may have had  
 I am inclined to trace  
 from Quaker ancestry,  
 avoidance of the "world"  
 leaving room for intellectual  
 pursuits.

Yours very truly  
 C. B. Tylor

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Prof. E. B. Tylor, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da Husband</i> <i>da Husband</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>					
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>Wi(2) Wi bro</i> <i>Wi(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Husband</i> <i>da(2) Husband</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D<sup>r</sup> V. H. Veley, M.A.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)



\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IS

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				M.V
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				Margaret Veley (Novelist)
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				H.C.B
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				Henry Curtis Bennett Stipendiary Magistrate London
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	1		9	<i>me bro</i>	2				More Remote .
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	1		10	<i>me si</i>	3				<i>fa fa</i> 1 <sup>st</sup> Cousins
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	2		—	—	—				(1) Emmanuel de Velay Prof of Mathematics in University of Lausanne one of the founders of the present Swiss Constitution
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	3		—	—	—				(2) Jean Charles de Velay Officer of the Legion of Honour, of the Body Guard of Napoleon I and with him at Moscow; afterwards MD Paris
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	✓		15	<i>me son</i>	✓				
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	✓		16	<i>me da</i>	✓				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	5		19	<i>si son</i>	1				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	3		20	<i>si da</i>	4				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	0		23	<i>me bro son</i>	2				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	2		24	<i>me si son</i>	2				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	4	M.V	27	<i>me bro da</i>	10				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	2		28	<i>me si da</i>	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	0			29 <i>Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	0			30 <i>Wi si</i> 30 <i>Hu bro</i> 30 <i>Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	✓			29(2) <i>Wi bro</i> 29(2) <i>Wi si</i>	
	Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	✓			30(2) <i>Hu bro</i> 30(2) <i>Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *V.H. Veley (Jean Charles de Velay)* Sec 2<sup>nd</sup> Sheet



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

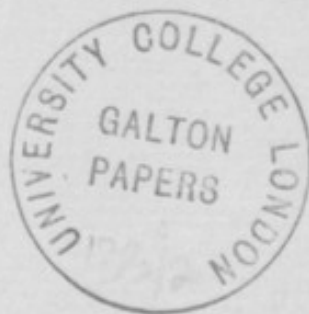
(S)

LONDON, S.W.

23.5.04

Vicarbrook  
Chaucer Road  
Cambridge

F.2r



My dear Galton

I have filled up your paper to the best of my power, but of course you exercise your judgment as to what you want, & revise private judgments as to the eminence of one's relations.

You ask for suggestions, so I am prompted to enquire whether you can't devise a scheme by which women should have a better chance of entry? Confining myself to my own circle, & to people whom I think you must have personally known, do not you think that Mrs Russell Gurney & Miss Stephen ought somehow to be introduced? They, as also my aunt

A.2V

Emelia Verm, a Mrs Dacey (a sister of the first Sir James Stephen) seem to me to ~~have~~ <sup>not much</sup> been intrinsically ~~but~~ <sup>not much</sup> inferior to their more distinguished brothers, uncles, &c. Their inclusion would have to rest upon an estimate, as one could seldom resort to any independent Test or standard. Would you correct the individual estimate by, so to say, empannelling a small family jury to decide whether they deserve to rank with their male relations? For your purpose, i.e. for investigation of Heredity, it is vitally important to include women of similar rank, if this can possibly be done. When you were discussing the inheritance of stature, you put the women on the same footing as the men, after deduction of the due sex-discount: could you do so in respect of ability or "noteworthiness" generally?

You know much more about this than I do, but I should have thought that results worth reckoning with would have been got by a family party deciding how their aunts or cousins stood in comparison with their uncles, brothers, &c.

If you come across my "Family Annals" you may care to look at some of the facts. I hope I have profited by your writings & speculations, & have constantly borne in mind that one has two grandmothers as well as two grandfathers. I know that you (quite rightly from the scientific view) do not care for the results that come from pushing back the purely male branches into remote times. But any unique phenomenon - as I feel pretty certain is the case with us - in the hereditary way will interest you. I am the 8<sup>th</sup> University graduate, from father to son, in my line; & I expect that in a year my son will

f. 3r



have added a 9<sup>th</sup> to the <sup>A3V</sup>  
row.

Yours very truly

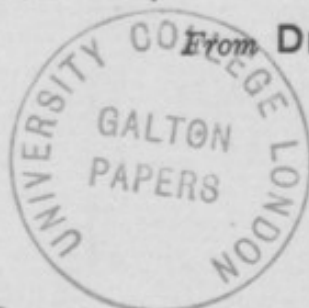
J. Venn

F. Galton Esq<sup>r</sup>



Noteworthy Kinsfolk

(1)



From DR. J. VENN,

VICARSBROOK,

CHAUCER ROAD,

CAMBRIDGE.

fa. fa.

1. John Venn, 1759 - 1813. Scientific & mechanical interest. One of the first to adopt vaccination, applying it to his own children, & recommending it in the parish of which he was Rector (Clapham) in 1800. The principal founder of the Church Missionary Society, 1798, the rules of which he sketched out much as they are still retained.
2. fa. Henry Venn, 1796 - 1873. Wrangler & fellow of Queens' Coll. Cambridge. For many years Secretary, & practically the manager of the Church Missionary Society, which under his guidance increased to an income of over £100,000 per an., with several hundred missionaries all over the world.
7. fa. bro. John Venn, 1802 - 1890. Early success at the E. India Haileybury College, where he gained many medals & was first of his year. Wrangler & fellow of Queens' Coll. Cambridge. Much practical skill & success in philanthropic schemes in his parish at Hereford where he was vicar. He started a steam Corn-mill, 1841, which was so successful that it led to many other developments in the way of aiding the industrious: - e.g. a Loan Department which,

Noteworthy Kinsfolk

(2)

From DR. J. VENN,

VICARSBROOK,

CHAUCER ROAD,

CAMBRIDGE.

by 1848, had advanced some £8,000  
to various poor & struggling persons; an ex-  
tensive 'Experimental Garden' for teaching  
garden, allotment, & small farm-work,  
LL, LL, LL.

22. fa. si. son James Fitzjames Stephen

\_\_\_\_ Leslie Stephen

(See Who's Who for there)



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. John Venn, F.R.S.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J.V.	3	me fa	—	—	1	fa fa	John Venn, 1759 - 1813
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—			
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	H.V.	—	—	—	—	5	fa	Henry Venn, 1796 - 1873
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	1	J.V.	9	me bro	6	—	7	fa bro	John Venn, 1802 - 1890
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3	—	10	me si	6	—			
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1	—	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1	—	—	—	—	—			
<del>Half brothers</del>	13	fa son		} None	15	<del>me son</del>		} None			
<del>Half sisters</del>	14	fa da			16	<del>me da</del>					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	3	—	19	<del>si son</del>		} None			
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	4	—	20	<del>si da</del>					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0	—	23	me bro son	6	—	22	fa si son	James Fitzgibbon Stephen Lestie Stephen
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	3	J.F.S. L.S.	24	me si son	2	—			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0	—	27	me bro da	5	—			
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	3	—	28	me si da	4	—			

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	1	—	Susanna C. Edmonstone	1867	so Wi bro	0
Daughters . .	30	da	0	—			so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
<del>Sons . . . . .</del>	<del>29(2)</del>	<del>so(2)</del>		} None			<del>so(2) Wi bro</del>	None
<del>Daughters . .</del>	<del>30(2)</del>	<del>da(2)</del>				<del>so(2) Wi si</del>		
							<del>da(2) Hu bro</del>	
							<del>da(2) Hu si</del>	

Signature and Address of the Sender *John Venn, Caius College, Cambridge*





## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

*Just Published, Price 15s. net*

# ANNALS OF A CLERICAL FAMILY

BEING SOME ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILY  
AND DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM  
VENN, VICAR OF OTTERTON,  
DEVON, 1600—1621

(Contains biographies of RICHARD VENN, Rector of St. Antholins', London : of HENRY VENN, Vicar of Huddersfield : of JOHN VENN, Rector of Clapham : of HENRY VENN, Sec. of the Ch. Miss. Society : and of JOHN VENN, Vicar of St. Peter's, Hereford. Also a full notice of JOHN VENN, M.P., one of the regicides ; and accounts of Ashton of Penketh, Rigby of Burgh, Bishop of Lincoln, Gay of Goldsworthy, Sykes of Yorkshire, and other allied families, &c. Over 30 portraits and other illustrations.)

BY

JOHN VENN, F.R.S., F.S.A.

FELLOW AND PRESIDENT OF GONVILLE AND CAIUS COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE

London

MACMILLAN AND CO., LIMITED

NEW YORK : THE MACMILLAN COMPANY

1904.

*All rights reserved.*



D.Sc., F.R.S., F.S.A.  
John Venn, (b. 1834) fellow of Caius Coll. Cambridge, president  
1903; for many years lecturer on Moral Philosophy at Cambridge  
author of many works on Logic, & of "A Biographical History  
of Gonville & Caius Coll." (Who's Who)

Space

fa fa John Venn, (1759-1813) scientific & mechanical interest;  
one of the first to adopt vaccination, applying it to his own  
children, & recommending it in the parish in which he was  
rector (Clapham) in 1800. The principal founder of the  
church Missionary soc. 1798, the rules of which he sketched  
out much as they are still retained. (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa Henry Venn, (1796-1873) wrangler & fellow of Queen's Coll.  
Cambridge; for many years secretary & practically manager  
of the Church Missionary Soc., which under his guidance  
increased till its income was over £100,000 per annum.  
vicar of Drypool 1827; & of St. John's Holloway London 1834-46.  
(Dict. N. Biog.)

fa bro John Venn (1802-1890) wrangler & fellow of Queen's Coll. Cambridge; much practical skill & success in philanthropic  
schemes in his parish at Hereford where he was vicar; he started a steam corn mill which was so successful  
that it led to many other developments in the way of  
aiding the industrious: -e.g. a loan department which by 1848,  
had advanced some £18,000 to various poor & struggling  
persons; an extensive experimental garden for teaching  
garden allotment & small farm work, etc.



fa si sons Sir James Fitzjames Stephen & Sir Leslie Stephen

(vide Biography of former, & Who's Who)

fa fa fa Henry Venn, (1725-1797) an evangelical divine,

a man of remarkable energy & force of character; fellow of

Queen's Coll. Cambridge, 1749-57; curate of Clapham 1754;

vicar of Huddersfield 1759; rector of Yelling 1771-97; *Author of the Complete Duty of Man.*

(Dict. N. Biog.)

*A learned divine.*

fa fa fa fa Richard Venn (1691-1740) rector of St. Antholin's

London, 1725-40; he acquired some prominence by publicly

objecting to the appointment of Dr Rundle, a latitudinarian,

to the bishopric of Gloucester, on the ground of unorthodox

views expressed by the latter in a private conversation.

(Dict. N. Biog.)

For further particulars of the Venn family vide "Venn

Family Annals" by Dr John Venn. (Macmillan & Co, 1904)

fa. si. da. Emelia Batten, afterwards Mrs Russell Gurney,  
distinguished by her artistic taste & accomplishments. Author:  
*Dante's Pilgrim's Progress*

mo. fa. bro. Daniel Sykes. (1766-1832)  
Fellow of Trin. Coll. Camb.;  
Recorder & M.P. for Hull. F.R.S. Prominent as an early  
supporter of the Reform Movement

mo. fa. fa. Joseph Sykes. (1723-1805)  
Large & successful merchant in  
Hull, where he was the principal founder of the trade in  
Swedish Iron. Mayor & Sheriff of Hull, & D.L. of the E. Riding





NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Crofton L. H. Vines, Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

*I have no record  
of any relatives  
who have attained  
the degree of  
noteworthiness  
mentioned on the  
other side.*



	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>				<i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Lydney H. Vines.  
Headington Hill  
Oxford.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

**Nomenclature of Kinship.**—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

**Noteworthiness.**—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

**Youth.**—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

**Manhood.**—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

**Authorship** of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

**Awards** of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

**Biographical Notices** in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



f1r

Broadstone, Wimbome  
July 4<sup>th</sup>. 1904

Francis Galton Esq.



Dear Mr. Galton

I did not  
return your "form". because I  
have really no facts as to any  
of my ancestors or relatives,  
but my father & mother, &  
of them nothing special.

Also, I am writing an  
autobiography which will  
contain the very little I know  
as to my family. I can only  
say generally that none of  
my known relatives are



or were "unworthy".

Yours very truly

Alfred R. Wallace



## NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

Professor James Walker, F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	0		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	0		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	0		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son	0				
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da	2				
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	0		19	si son	0				
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	0		20	si da	0				
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	0		23	me bro son	5				
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son	1				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	0		27	me bro da	1				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da	1				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so		Annie Pucell Sedgwick	1897	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

James Walker, 8 Windsor Terrace, Dundee



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *R. Warington, Esq., H.P.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—	<i>G. J.</i>			<i>George Jackson Robert Warington George Warington John Brown George Henry Matkin</i>
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—	<i>R. W.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	<i>3</i>		9	me bro	<i>3</i>				
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	<i>3</i>		10	me si	<i>1</i>				
Brothers . . .	11	bro	<i>1</i>	<i>G. W.</i>	—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si	<i>1</i>		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	fa son	—		15	me son	—				
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	—		16	me da	—				
Nephews . . .	17	bro son	—		19	si son	<i>1</i>				
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da	—		20	si da	<i>2</i>				
First cousins .	21	fa bro son	<i>3 ?</i>		23	me bro son	<i>2</i>				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	<i>9</i>	<i>J. B.</i>	24	me si son	<i>1</i>				
First cousins .	25	fa bro da	<i>5 ?</i>		27	me bro da	<i>3</i>				
Female . . . .	26	fa si da	<i>4</i>		28	me si da	<i>1</i>				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	<i>0</i>	<i>Matkins 1884</i>		<i>Wi bro</i>	<i>G. H. M.</i>
	Daughters .	30	da	<i>5</i>			<i>so Wi si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)	<i>0</i>	<i>Spackman 1902</i>		<i>so(2) Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)	<i>0</i>			<i>so(2) Wi si</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu bro</i>	
							<i>da(2) Hu si</i>	



Signature and Address of the Sender *R. Warington*  
*High Bank, Harpenden, Herts*  
*18/6/04*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Regr.

3 George Jackson (my mother's father) was  
me fa born in Devonshire, but passed his adult  
life in the City of London where he practised  
as a medical man. He had a genius for  
construction, & spent all his spare time in  
a workshop he erected in a small back  
yard. His first works were in wood. He  
was a skilled cabinetmaker & turned  
out beautiful work of all sorts, including  
several new mechanical contrivances.  
He then commenced work in metal in  
which he became equally proficient. He made  
himself a transit instrument, & observed  
the stars regularly. He was awarded a  
medal by the Society Arts for improvements  
in an apparatus for obtaining light. This  
was before the time of lucifer matches, &  
light was obtained from a jet of mixed  
hydrogen & air striking a ball of spongy  
platinum. He made electrical machines  
of various kinds. One of his most useful  
inventions was a dividing machine  
for ruling micrometers with a diamond  
point on glass. He supplied the London  
microscope makers with micrometers  
for sale. This dividing machine has  
continued to be used for the same purpose,  
& is now I believe still in use. It has  
now ruled micrometers for over 50 years.  
In his later life the improvement of the  
microscope was a subject to which he  
gave much attention, many of the  
improvements introduced by Ross &  
Smith & Beck were his. He made himself



several microscopes. One of these is now in the possession of the Royal Microscopical Society. Mr. Jackson was at one time President of this Society. The last new subject taken up was photography. He made himself a camera, & soon became an expert operator. All this was done in spare time snatched from his medical practice. He died in 1861 at the age of 69.

5. Robert Warrington F.R.S. (my father,) was chemist, pharmacist, & naturalist. a good draughtsman & fair musician, of keen observation, ingenious in contrivance. His principal achievement was the foundation of the Chemical Society in 1841 of which he was for ten years the secretary. He is also known as the originator of the Aquarium. Every window in his house in London was occupied with a fresh or salt water Aquarium, or else a Warde's Case of plants. He was the author of many papers on Chemical & Natural History subjects. He died in 1867 at the age of 60.

My grandfather's three sons were all able men, but not conspicuous. None of them showed a talent for construction. The talent has appeared however in a grandnephew of my grandfather, Mr. T. G. Churchward, Nottingham. standing very poor opportunities for education he has risen to be superintendent of the G.W. Ry. Locomotive Department, & is the author of many inventions.

11. George Warington (my brother). His powers were very considerable, he achieved much in a few years, but early death (aged 33) prevented his reaching the position he would have occupied. He passed 1st Class in the Natural Science Tripos at Cambridge. His chief reputation was however due to his critical publications, & to his talents as a teacher & speaker. His reasoning powers were of a high order.
22. John Brown (father's sister's son) a civil engineer. He has risen to be Engineer in Chief to the Cape Government Railways, & has been made C.M.G. by the King.
- ~~Henry~~ George Henry Makins. (my first wife's brother) Full surgeon, & lecturer on Anatomy at St. Thomas' Hospital. Created C.B. by the King.



*High Bank, Harpenden, Herts.*  
*M.A.,*

Robert Warington, (b. 1838) *F.R.S.*, examiner in agricultural science to the Board of Education, since 1894: professor of rural economy, Oxford, 1894-97: author of papers in

(17th edition) the transactions of the Chemical society, "The Chemistry of the Farm" & "Lectures on the Rothamsted Experiments", & "Lectures on the Physical Properties of the Soil"

(Who's Who)

fa Robert Warington, (1807-1867), *F.R.S.*, chemist, pharmacist, & naturalist: founded in 1841, & was for 10 years secretary of the Chemical Soc.: originator of the Aquarium: the author of many papers on chemical & natural history subjects. (Dict. N. Biog.)

me fa George Jackson, (1792-1861), medical practitioner & inventor: awarded medal by Society of Arts for improvements in <sup>an</sup> ~~the~~ apparatus for obtaining light: invented a dividing machine for ruling micrometers, which is still in use: introduced several improvements into the microscope: & was president of the Royal Microscopical Soc.

bro George Warington, *B.A.* first class natural science tripos, Cambridge: died at the age of 33, but before his death made a considerable reputation as <sup>an author,</sup> critic, teacher, & speaker.

fa si son John Brown, civil engineer: engineer-in-chief to Cape Government railways. (C.M.G.)





20th July 1904

OWELLINGTON CRESCENT

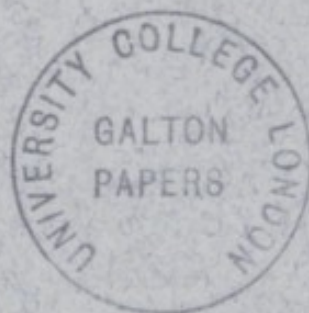
RAMSGATE

Dear Mr Galton

I enclose 'Notes on the  
Hampshire' paper in.

Yours truly

Chambers



Acknowledged by me  
EB.

2 May 1874  
 From  
 General Sir Charles Warren.

10, WELLINGTON CRESCENT  
 RAMSGATE.

Dear Sir I should be very glad to assist  
 you by telling in the title of your letter, you  
 have sent me, but without a specimen title  
 I do not think I can do it correctly.

For example I do not know when I am  
 to sit to to me to in -  
 yours truly

Francis Jackson Esq.

Charles Warren

Here are some I do not know how to place.

to to to to to . Sam Warren. Trin Col. Cam: Vicar of Ashford.

to to to to to . Richard Warren. Archdeacon of Southwell  
 Fellow of Trin Col. Cam

to to to to to . John. F of Queens Col. Cam. MA. D.D.  
 Pres. Exeter

to to to to to . William. LL.D. F of Trin: Hall Cam

to to to to to . Richard. M.D. FRS . /

to to to to to . John D.D. Bishop of Bangor  
 Phys: to Georg: III.

to to me to . Peter Shaw. M.D. FRS. Physician to G II.

to to . John Warren. MA. Dean of Bangor. NW

to to to . Charles " Chief Justice of Chester.

to to to . Henry. Sen. Op. MA. Trin Col. Cam.

to to to . Frank. Admiral R.N.

to to to . Pelham. M.D. FRS. Phys: to G. IV. /

Then 3  
 can place { to to to . M Gen Sir Charles Warren. KC B V  
to to to . John Warren. MA FRS ✓



F. 104

Sir Ch. Warren

✓




(“WHO’S WHO” contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* Write at first faintly in pencil; correct leisurely in concert with members of your family: when satisfied, ink in.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.		Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
		Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	J.W	3	me fa	—	—	—	1	Sc/k	Rev. John Warren, Dean of Worcester
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—			4	me me				—	—
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	C.W	—	—	—	—	—	7	Sc/bro	Rev. John Warren F.R.S.
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—			—	—				—	—
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	—	J.W	9	me bro	—	—	—	21	}	Rev. T. Trevor, Honorary Chaplain, Arthur Trevelyan, M.D.
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	—			10	me si					—
Brothers . . . . .	11	bro	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	23	}	Charles Warren, M.D.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—			—	—					—
Half-brothers . . .	13	fa son	—	—	15	me son	—	—	—	25	}	Richard Warren, B.A., M.B., F.R.C.S.
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—			16	me da					—
Nephews . . . . .	17	bro son	—	—	19	si son	—	—	—	30	}	Good Shepherd
Nieces' . . . . .	18	bro da	—			20	si da					—
First cousins . . .	21	fa bro son	—	T.T A.T	23	me bro son	—	—	—	27	}	Rev. G. P. Hargrave, Son.
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	—			24	me si son					—
First cousins . . .	25	fa bro da	—	—	27	me bro da	—	—	—	28	}	John of Ancestry, great, 1812 & 1855
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	—			28	me si da					—



Signature and Address of the Sender

Charles Warren



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

10 Welington Crescent Ramsgate

General Sir Charles Warren, (b.1840), K.C.B., G.C.M.G.,  
R.E., F.R.S., Administrator & Comm.-in-chief, Griqualand  
West: commanded troops northern border expedition, 1879:  
H.M. special Commissioner & Maj.-Gen. commanding Bechuana-  
-land expedition, 1884-5: commanded troops Suakim 1886:  
Straits Settlements, 1889-94: Thames district, 1895-8:  
Lt.-Gen. in command of 5th Div. S. African Field Force,  
1899-1900: author of works concerning the archaeology  
of Jerusalem, the excavations of which together with the  
reconnaissance of Palestine he conducted, 1867-70: also <sup>Under General Foxen's name "The Tunnel in the Tunnel"</sup>  
of "On the Veldt in the Seventies", & "The Ancient Cubit

& Our Weights & Measures"

(Who's Who)

Son, Richard Warren, b. 1876. M.A. Coling. Ox. Univ. 1898. Hon. Sec. Nat. Sci. Phys. Scholarship. London Univ. Arch. Phys.  
M.A. Ox. M.D. Ox. F.R.C.S. F.I. L.R.C.P. Lm. Basch. Travelling Fellow. House Physician. House Surgeon. Lm. a Hospital  
(1767-1838) Senior Res. Association.

fa fa John Warren, M.A. Dean of Bangor, N.W.  
(1764-1828) M.P. for Doncaster.  
fa fa bro Charles Warren, Chief Justice of Chester.  
(1772-1845)  
fa fa bro Henry Warren, M.A. Senior Opt., Trinity Coll. Cambridge  
fa fa bro Frederick Warren, (1775-1848), Vice-Admiral:  
defeated Danish Gunboat flotilla in the belt, 1809:  
Comm.-in-chief at the Cape, 1831-4: admiral-superintendent  
at Plymouth, 1837-41. (Dict.N.Biog.)  
fa fa bro Pelham Warren, (1778-1835) M.D., F.R.C.P.,  
F.R.S., physician at St. George's Hosp.: Harveian orator  
1826. (Dict.N.Biog.) Phys. con. to the King  
K.C.B. K.C.G.  
fa Sir Charles Warren, (1798-1866), Maj.-Gen.: served in  
India, 1840-8: in China, 1841-4: in the Crimea 1854-6.  
(Dict.N.Biog.)



fa bro John Warren, (1796-1852), F.R.S. mathematician:

fellow & tutor of Jesus Coll., Cambridge: chancellor of Bangor.  
(Dict. N.Biog.)

son Richard Warren, (b.1876), M.A., M.B., F.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,  
New Coll., Oxford: 1st

Class honours, Natural Science: Prize scholarship in Anatomy  
& physiology, London Hosp.: Radcliffe travelling fellow,  
Oxford: House physician, house surgeon, & senior res. ~~aeaeue~~  
accoucheur, London Hosp.

fa fa bro son Major-General Arthur Frederick Warren, C.B.,  
(b.1830), son of Dr. Pelham Warren. (Who's Who)

fa fa bro son

fa fa fa fa fa Samuel Warren, (1637-1720), Trinity Coll., &  
St. Albans Hall, Oxford.

fa fa fa fa Richard Warren, (1687-1748), arch deacon of Suffolk  
fellow of Jesus Coll., Cambridge: rector of Cavendish.

fa fa fa fa bro John Warren, (1670-1786), M.A., D.D.,  
fellow of Queens Coll, Cambridge: prebendary of St. Peters  
Exeter: rector of Farringdon, Devon.

fa fa fa fa bro William Warren, LL.D., (1683-1744), fellow  
of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

fa fa fa Richardd Warren, (1731-1798), M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.,  
fellow of Jesus Coll., Cambridge: physician to George III,  
& to George, Prince of Wales. (Dict N.Biog.)



MA

fa bro John Warren, (1796-1852), F.R.S., mathematician:  
fellow & tutor of Jesus Coll., Cambridge: chancellor of  
Bangor. (Dict.N.Biog.)

CB

fa fa bro son Maj-Gen. Arthur Frederick Warren, (b.1830)  
son of Dr. Pelham Warren. (Who's Who)

(1637-1720)

and S' Alban's Hall. Oxford

fa fa fa fa fa Samuel Warren, Trinity Coll. Cambridge.  
vicar of Ashford.

(1681-1740)

fa fa fa fa Richard Warren, archdeacon of Suffolk:  
fellow of Jesus Trinity Coll. Cambridge. Rector of Cavendish.

(1670-1736)

fa fa fa fa bro John Warren, M.A., D.D., fellow of Queens  
Coll. Cambridge. Perbendary of S' Peter's Exeter. Rector of Farringham

(1683-1747)

fa fa fa fa bro John-Warr William Warren, LL.D., fellow  
of Trinity Hall, Cambridge.

fa fa fa Richard Warren, (1731-1797), M.D., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.,  
physician to George ~~XXXXXX~~ prince of Wales, 1787. and to

(Dict.N.Biog.) George III.

Fellow of Jesus Coll. Cambridge. F.R.S

fa fa fa bro John Warren, (1730-1800), D.D., Bishop of Bangor.  
(Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa me fa Peter Shaw, (1694-1763), M.D., F.R.C.P.,  
physician in ordinary to George II, 1754, & to George III,  
1760. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa. fa bro son. Admiral Richard Lewis Warren. Commander  
in chief of the Nile & in West Indies.

Son of Admiral Frederick Warren

Warren G.C.M.G.

fa fa bro son son. Pelham Lewis Warren. Capt. General Hampden. Chin  
Son of Admiral Lewis Warren. (Who's Who)





NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. W. Watson, Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\*.\* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &amp;c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—	<i>None living</i>	3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro			9	me bro					
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si			10	me si					
Brothers . . .	11	bro			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . .	12	si			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers .	13	fa son			15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da			16	me da					
Nephews . . .	17	bro son		19	si son						
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da		20	si da						
First cousins .	21	fa bro son		23	me bro son						
Male . . . .	22	fa si son		24	me si son						
First cousins .	25	fa bro da		27	me bro da						
Female . . . .	26	fa si da		28	me si da						

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	so		<i>unmarried</i>		Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da				Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)				Wi(2) bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				Wi(2) si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *D. W. Watson*  
*Upperbury, W. W.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Professor W. F. R. Weldon, F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	W.W.	3	me fa	—	—	5	fa	Walter Weldon
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4	—	9	me bro	—	—	—	—	—
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1 (died at 19)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—	—	15	me son	—	—	—	—	—
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—	—	16	me da	—	—	—	—	—
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—	—	19	si son	—	—	—	—	—
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—	—	20	si da	—	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	*	—	23	me bro son	—	—	—	—	—
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0	—	24	me si son	—	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	*	—	27	me bro da	—	—	—	—	—
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	1	—	28	me si da	—	—	—	—	—

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	0		Florence	1885	so Wi bro	—
Daughters . .	30	da	0		J. Webb		so Wi si	—
							da Hu bro	—
							da Hu si	—
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	X
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	X
							da(2) Hu bro	X
							da(2) Hu si	X

Signature and Address of the Sender

*W. F. R. Weldon* *Newton Lea, Oxford.*

\* I have an uncle in America, from whom I have not heard for 20 years, nor have I got children.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution; one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S) LONDON, S.W.



5-fa. - Walter Weldon

Son of a poor dyer at Loughborough; born 1832, died 1885.

Received a very poor education as a boy, poor because of his parents' poverty.

Went to London in 1854, and practised journalism. From 1860-1864 was editor of a journal, which attracted contributors of ability (e.g., W. M. Rosetti, William Howitt, E. A. Sala, John Hollingshead, John Marshall the Surgeon, etc.).

During this period, studied Chemistry by himself.

In 1865 patented a process for the recovery of the peroxide of manganese used in the manufacture of Chlorine.

This process came slowly into use, but by 1869 it had become widely adopted, and the reduction in the price of bleaching-powder, which resulted, made the present cheap paper, etc., possible.

From 1870, the process referred to ensured my father a competence, and he worked at other industrial problems, patenting several chemical processes of minor importance. He was always anxious to recover the whole of the Chlorine from the chlorides used as raw material, instead of the half recovered by the treatment of  $\text{HnO}_2$  with  $\text{HCl}$ ; and shortly before his death he patented a process for the decomposition of Magnesium Chloride by heat, ~~involving~~ by which this was effected. The process was employed for a year or two by at least one French and one English firm; but I believe it is now superseded by a cheap electrolytic process.

A theoretical paper, on some relations between the Atomic Weights of the Elements, was not thought well of by chemists whom my father consulted and was therefore only printed privately. — Since his death, I have more than once been asked for a copy by chemists who have declared it to be of value; but I cannot judge it.

In 1877, received the "Favorable" Medal of the French "Société d'Encouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale"; and in 1878 made "Chevalier" of the Legion of Honour.

In 1882, F.R.S.

In 1883, President of the Society of Chemical Industry.



W. A. R. Weldon

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *W. C. D. Whetham, Esq., F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	<i>C. W.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—		31	<i>fa fa fa</i>	<i>Stephen Whetham</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—		32	<i>fa fa bro</i>	<i>Stephen Whetham</i>
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	4		9	<i>me bro</i>					
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	4		10	<i>me si</i>					
Brothers . . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	—		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—		19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—		20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	6		23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	—		24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	8		27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	—		28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>			<i>Holt</i>	<i>1897</i>	<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	<i>all infant girls</i>
Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2	<i>infant daughters</i>				
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						

Signature and Address of the Sender *W. C. D. Whetham, Upwater Lodge, Cambridge.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S) LONDON, S.W.

W.C.D. Whetham

F. 19

fa fa fa - Stephen Whetham, J.P. Dorset, etc.  
Founded and developed a large  
manufacturing business of sail-cloth etc.

fa fa ~~bro~~ - Stephen William Whetham, J.P. Dorset, etc.  
During early life managed and increased  
the same business. married a second  
wife when about 60 years old and  
had thereafter 9 children, all of whom  
enjoyed childhood.

fa fa - Sir Charles Whetham, Knt. J.P. Dorset, etc.  
Director of Great Western Railway, and  
several other Railways and Companies.





4 May 4

F. 20r

FREDA, CAMPDEN ROAD,  
CROYDON.

Dear Mr. Galton

I've done my best with  
your form. I never had a  
large stock of kind folk & have  
now very few, as far as I know.

None have done anything  
that can be said to be near  
the verge of noteworthy. None,  
as far as I know, have done  
anything bad. The only  
notable thing is one that  
don't concern your enquiry,  
namely that my father, &  
mother & one aunt, lived to be

GEORGE CAMPBELL ROAD  
GEORGE CAMPBELL ROAD

over 90.

We are just an average  
middle class family, with  
a downward slope in my  
uncle's case. My Aunts  
were unmarried.

Yours very truly  
W. Stutaker



Note on the Kinsfolk Farm (21)

I have never heard of any noteworthy Kinsfolk.  
But apparently the farm wants a note of all  
near Kinsfolk, who survived childhood.  
I can return but very few of such.

one si'. died before I was born I believe,  
young.

one bro son } I had some. Have not seen  
— da } some of them, & those seen  
were so long ago only,  
long ago. Haven't an  
idea as to where they are  
now. Can't give the  
nos. of those who survived  
childhood. Certainly 1 of  
each, probably 2, possibly  
more. In humble positions.



daughters. One died at 18, which  
I presume is outside childhood.

Wolstanton  
4 May 4

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *W. Whitaker, Esq. F.R.S.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	—		9	<i>me bro</i>	—				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	—		10	<i>me si</i>	—				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	—		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	—		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	—		19	<i>si son</i>	—				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	—		20	<i>si da</i>	—				
First cousins . . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	—		23	<i>me bro son</i>	—				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	—		24	<i>me si son</i>	—				
First cousins . . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	—		27	<i>me bro da</i>	—				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	—		28	<i>me si da</i>	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	1			<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	2				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *William Whitaker 3 Camden Rd., Croydon*





## ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Arthur Willey*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>W.W.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Rev. William Willey</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	2	<i>J.W. and T.W.</i>	9	<i>me bro</i>			7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>John Willey</i>
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>			7	<i>fa bro</i>	<i>Thomas Willey</i>
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>			—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>			—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>					
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>					
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>					
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>					
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>					
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>					
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>					
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>				<i>so Wi bro</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>				<i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>					

Signature and Address of the Sender *Arthur Willey, Colombo Museum, Ceylon.*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survive is entered, as is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph on fresh paper should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the third column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written on separate sheets, and the heading of each should consist of the *Register number*, the *Title*, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor order in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

No. —

## MEMORANDUM.

General 9  
(F 4)

From D. A. Willey F. R. S.

Dated July 24. 1904.

To Francis Galton F. R. S.

5 fa. Rev. William Willey, Wesleyan Minister, a great reader of classics in many languages.

7 fa bro. John Willey, successful as farmer, architect and managing director of a big company (London Electric Wire Co. Ltd).

7 fa bro. Thomas Willey, founded ~~company~~ the London Electric Wire Co.; at the age of forty qualified himself in the Medical Profession.





(No letter)

f.25.

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

C. Y. R. Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				
Grandmother . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . .	7	fa bro	2		9	me bro	2				
Aunts . . . .	8	fa si	1		10	me si	3				
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	3		15	me son					
Half-sisters . .	14	fa da	1		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	3		23	me bro son	0 5 4				
Male . . . .	22	fa si son	0 5 4		24	me si son	5				
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da					
Female . . . .	26	fa si da			28	me si da	8				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . .	29	so					so Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30	da					so Wi si	
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . .	29(2)	so(2)					so(2) Wi bro	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)					so(2) Wi si	
							da(2) Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	



Signature and Address of the Sender

C. Y. R. Wilson. Sidney College, Cambridge

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



Faculty of Medicine

Prof. Windle, M.D., F.R.S.,

Dean.

The University,  
Birmingham.

July 15. 1904.

Dear Sir,

I must apologise for having  
left your letter to languish and let  
it lay when we have time for  
all the facts. The following  
points may also interest you -

On my father's side most of my  
relatives have been persons of  
scholarship and respectable and  
remarkable abilities - my father  
was a person of a very popular &  
attractive preacher -

On my mother's side I have  
a number of more or less well-  
worthy people but they belong

a generation higher in the person of  
 my <sup>Great</sup> grandfather (<sup>maternal</sup> maternal)  
 Charles Kendal Bushe, d. C.J. of the  
 King Bench Ireland, one of the  
 most noteworthy figures as the  
 pride of the Union, mentioned in  
 all the memoirs of that period  
 as the ablest man of his day & a  
 great judge & described as "incor-  
 ruptible" in the list of the Irish  
 Parliament which betrayed its  
 country by agreeing to the Union.

I am sure & his family strong  
 many noteworthy persons, but many  
 of them are 2nd cousins. Plunkets,  
 Crampsons, Herts, Smyth's & others -

I believe I know as far as the  
 his family if you would care to ask.

I think I have given you all  
 those within the Union for you require.

Yours sincerely

Robert F. W. W. W.



Acknowledged. 873



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Prof. B. C. A. Winkle, Jr.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—		9	me bro	Col. Kendall Coghill
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—	—	23	me bro son	Seymour Coghill Horn Bunker.
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro	2	K.C.	"	" " "	Herbert L. de la Beane.
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	3		10	me si	9		"	" " "	Boyle Sumnerville
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	1		—	—	—	—	"	" " "	Comm. R.R.
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	—		—	—	—	—	"	" " "	Francis W. Beane.
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son			15	me son			28	me li da	Edith Beane
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da			16	me da					Sumnerville.
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son			19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da			20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4		23	me bro son	4	S.C.H.B.			
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	5		24	me si son	17	H.W.G. B.S. F.W.G.			
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	3		27	me bro da	3				
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	2		28	me si da	13	E.O.E.S.			

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	—		Horn	1886	Wi bro	2
Daughters . .	30	da	2				Wi si	—
							da Hu bro	
							da Hu si	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—		Rager	1901	Wi bro	2
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	—				Wi si	4
							da Hu bro	
							da(2) Hu si	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Betham Coghill alone Grindle - Knott's Cross. Solihull*



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

9. me bro. Colonel Kendal Coghill -  
See "Who's Who."

23. me bro son. Seymour Schell Hart Brooke  
See "Who's Who."

" " " " Herbert Helen Green - M.A., B.C.L.  
Fellow & Lecturer of Magdalen  
(M. & Oxf. - former Vice-  
President. author of Latin  
Version of Rubens & of other  
Khayam & Ronsard

" " " " Francis W. Greene - Hans Bauer & Partners,  
Brewery.

" " " " Boyle Somerville - Commander R.N.  
author of papers in the  
local journal on the history  
of the sea Polytechnic Museum.

25. me rida . Edith Cecile Somerville . well  
known author (with Violet  
Martine - "Martine's & her  
Convincer.) of Irish books - "Remains  
of an Irish R.H." - "All on  
the Irish Shore" - "The Deal (harbours)".  
"The Silver Fox" - & many others. above  
covered of General novel - also an artist.  
of some repute see "Fox hunters Alpha-  
bet" illustrations to different  
novels.



*Queen's Coll. Cork Ireland.*

Bertram Coghill Alan Windle, (b.1858), president of Queen's Coll., Cork. M.D., D.Sc., Dublin, M.Sc., Birmingham, F.R.S., <sup>F.S.A.</sup> late dean of the medical faculty & professor of anatomy & anthropology, University of Birmingham: author of scientific papers, books on <sup>anatomy</sup> anatomy, "Tyson's Pygmies of the Ancients", "Life in early Britain", etc. (Who's Who)

me bro Colonel Kendal Coghill, (b.1832), C.B., J.P., served in Burmah, 1853-55: adjutant of 2nd European Bengal Fusiliers during Indian mutiny, 1857-58: commanded 19th Hussars in Egyptian campaign, 1882. (Who's Who)

me fa Admiral Sir J. Coghill,



me me fa Charles Kendal Bushe, (1767-1843), solicitor-general for Ireland, 1805-22: chief justice of king's bench, 1822-41. (Dict.N.Biog.)

? me ~~bro~~ son Seymour Coghill Hort Bushe, (b.1853), K.C., senior moderator & Berkeley gold medallist: gold medallist in oratory, Dublin: senior <sup>Crown</sup> prosecutor for county & city of Dublin, 1901. (Who's Who)

? me ~~bro~~ <sup>si?</sup> son Herbert Wilson Greene, well known fellow & lecturer, Magdalen Coll, Oxford: author of version of Rubayat of Omar Khayam, etc.

? me ~~bro~~ <sup>si?</sup> son Francis W. Greene, head brewer of Guinness' brewery.

? me ~~bro~~ <sup>si?</sup> son Boyle Somerville, commander, R.N., author of papers on the ethnology of the Polynesian race in the <sup>o</sup> Anthropological journal.



me si da Edith Oenone Somerville, M.F.H., author of  
"Reminiscences of an Irish R.M.", "All on the Irish Shore"  
& other books, all ~~no~~ humorous novels of exceptional  
merit.

BAR-LOG  
THE-LOG

Shoe Type Water Co. Ltd.  
1234 Queen Victoria St  
LONDON

From  
Dr. H. WOODWARD, F.R.S., F.G.S.  
Editor of the  
Geological Magazine,  
Established 1864.

129, BEAUFORT STREET,  
CHELSEA, S.W.

Dear Mr Galton,

Please accept my  
humble apologies for the  
very long delay in replying  
to your Questions.

I have been away much  
of the time & worried by  
work at other parts.

Yours very sincerely

Henry Woodward





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF

*Horace Bolingbroke*  
*for return J. H. B. Woodward* f. 34  
**H. B. Woodward, Esq., M.D.**

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—	S.W.	3	me fa	—	—	1.	fa fa	Samuel Woodward
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—	—	4	me me	—	—	—	—	—
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—	S.P.W.	—	—	—	—	5.	fa	Samuel Pickworth Woodward
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	4	B.B.W. H.W.	9	me bro	—	—	7.	fa bro fa bro	Bernard Bolingbroke Woodward Henry Woodward
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2	—	10	me si	—	—	—	—	—
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	5	B.H.W. H.W.W.	—	—	—	—	11.	bro bro	Bernard Henry Woodward Herbert Willoughby Woodward
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	—	—	15	me son	—	—	—	—	—
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	—	—	16	me da	—	—	—	—	—
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	—	—	19	si son	—	—	—	—	—
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	—	—	20	si da	—	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	4	H.P.W. M.F.W.	23	me bro son	—	—	21.	fa bro son fa bro son	Harry Page Woodward Martin Fountain Woodward
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	2	—	24	me si son	—	—	—	—	—
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	9	E.C.W. A.B.W. M.W.	27	me bro da	—	—	25	fa bro da	Ellen Caroline Woodward Alice Bolingbroke Woodward Mary Woodward
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	4	F.J.B.	28	me si da	—	—	—	fa si da	Fanny Jane Bayfield

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	so	—	—	Alice Jennings	1873	so Wi bro so Wi si da Hu bro da Hu si	
Daughters . .	30	da	1	—	—	—	—	
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	so(2)	—	—	—	—	so(2) Wi bro so(2) Wi si da(2) Hu bro da(2) Hu si	
Daughters . .	30(2)	da(2)	—	—	—	—	—	

Signature and Address of the Sender *Horace B. Woodward* 89 Marlborough Mansions, Cannon Hill, N.W.



# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Noteworthy Kinsfolk of H.B. Woodward, F.R.S.

1. fa. fa. Samuel Woodward - author of "Ecology of Norfolk"  
 & other works. [Memor in Dict. Nat. Biogr.]

5. fa. Samuel Pickworth Woodward, Ph.D. (hon. Göttingen),  
 Assoc. Linn. Soc. (hon.) author of "A  
 Manual of the Mollusca", &c.  
 [Memor in Dict. Nat. Biogr.]

7. fa. bro. Bernard Bolingbroke Woodward,  
 Librarian to H.M. at Windsor - author  
 of a "History of Wales" & other works.  
 [Memor in Dict. Nat. Biogr.]

fa. bro. Henry Woodward, F.R.S.



11. bro. Bernard Henry Woodward.  
 Curator of Museum at Perth, Western Australia.  
 Corresponding Mem. Zool. Soc. Lond.

bro. Herbert Willoughby Woodward.  
 Archdeacon of Magila (Zanzibar)

21. fa. bro. son Harry Page Woodward  
 (formerly) Government Geologist for Western Australia

fa. bro. son Martin Fountain Woodward  
 Demonstrator in Biology, Royal College of Science;  
 Secretary of the Malacological Society  
 [Obit. in "Nature", Proc. Malacol. Soc.]

25. fa bro da

Ellen Caroline Woodward -  
Has Exhib? at Royal Academy.

fa bro da

Alice Bolingbroke Woodward.  
Has Exhib? at Royal Academy

fa bro da

Mary Woodward  
Has Exhib? at Royal Academy

26 fa si da

Fanny Jane Bayfield  
Has exhib? at Royal Academy.

Thomas Woodward  
19/6/04.





38 Marlborough Mansions, Cannon Wh. N.W.

Horace Bolingbroke Woodward, (b.1848) F.R.S., F.G.S.,  
assistant director of geological survey of England & Wales:  
author of "Geology of England & Wales", & other works  
on Geology. (Who's Who)

fa fa Samuel Woodward, (1790-1838), geologist & antiquary:  
clerk in Gurney's bank Norwich, 1820-38: studied history  
& archaeology, & formed collection of fossils & antiquities,  
& published works relating to Norfolk. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa Samuel Pickworth Woodward, (1821-1865), professor of  
geology & natural history at Royal Agricultural Coll.  
Cirencester, 1845: first-class assistant in dept. of geology  
& mineralogy, British Museum, 1848-65. <sup>author of "Manual of the Mollusca" (1851-56)</sup> (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa bro Bernard Bolingbroke Woodward, (1816-1869).F.S.A.,  
librarian in ordinary to Queen Victoria at Windsor.  
(Dict.N.Biog.)

fa bro Henry Woodward, (b.1832), LL.D., F.R.S., president  
of Palaeontological Soc. since 1896: vice-president of  
Royal Microscopical Soc, : late keeper Geological dept.,  
British Museum (Natural History).author of many works  
on palaeontology zoology etc. (Who's Who)

bro Bernard Henry Woodward, <sup>director</sup> ~~curator~~ of museum at Perth,  
W.Australia.

bro Herbert Willoughby Woodward, archdeacon of Magila, Zanzibar.

fa bro son Harry Page Woodward, (b.1858), government  
geologist for W. Australia, 1887-95.

fa bro son Martin Fountain Woodward, demonstrator of Biology,  
Royal Coll. of Science:sec. Malacological Soc.(obituary in Nature)

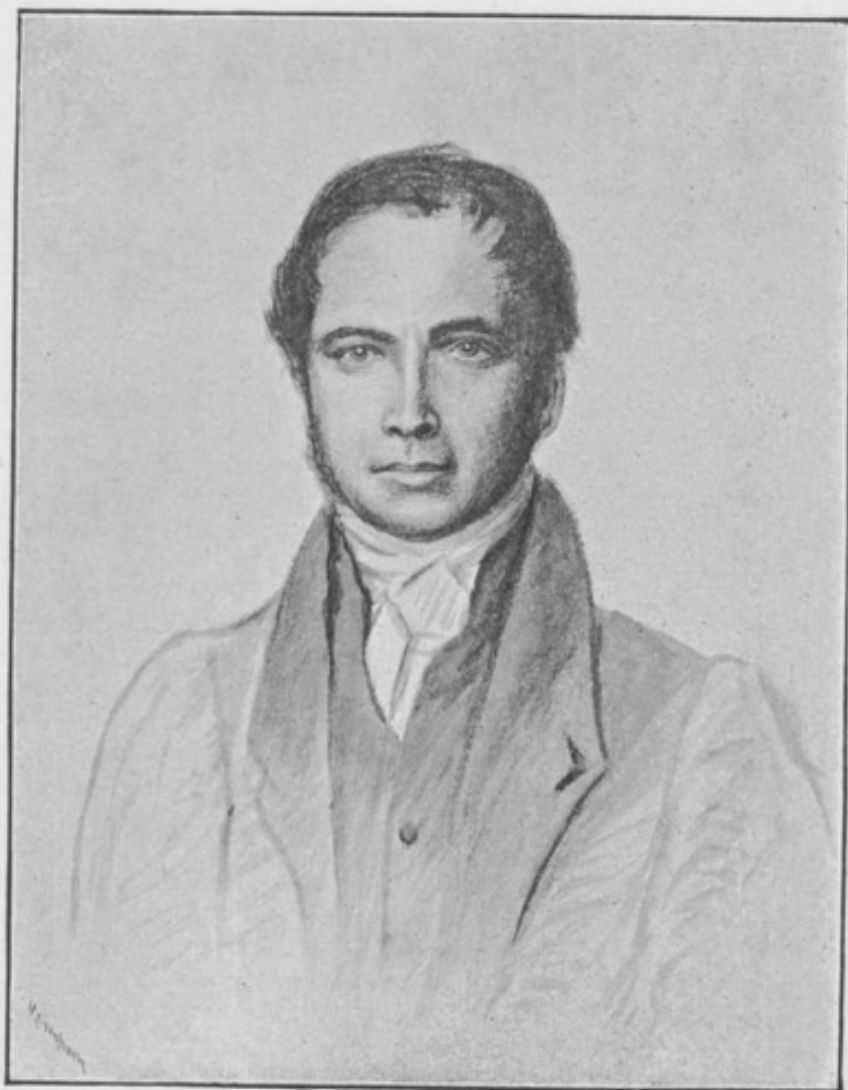


A GEOLOGIST OF A CENTURY AGO:  
SAMUEL WOODWARD.

*[Extracted from the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, January, 1891.]*

London: KEGAN PAUL, TRENCH, TRÜBNER & Co., Ltd., 57 and 59, Ludgate Hill.





Sam Woodward



[*Extracted from the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, Decade III. Vol. VIII.*  
No. 319, p. 1, January, 1891.]

### A GEOLOGIST OF A CENTURY AGO :

SAMUEL WOODWARD OF NORWICH, Antiquary and Geologist.<sup>1</sup>

(With a Portrait.)

GEOLOGISTS are so accustomed to deal with vast periods of time, that a century may be deemed by them as equivalent to the moment-measure of the dial, or the sand-grains of the hour-glass.

Nevertheless a century, in human affairs, especially that just expiring, has for us a vastly wider significance, and although its passage may not have seen the birth, it has witnessed all the growth and development of Geological science, and a large proportion of that of her sisters also. It cannot be without interest, therefore, briefly to record in these pages the name of one who, although born a hundred years ago, with but scanty opportunities either of position or education to assist him, yet by sheer force of energy and perseverance, and attracted by a strong love of Nature, became a geologist of no mean merit, and left behind him a name honoured by those who knew him, and a record of work accomplished, worthy to fill a much longer life.

Samuel Woodward was born at Norwich, on the 3rd October, 1790. His grandfather, Simon Woodward, came from London to settle in Norwich, where he married and left two children, the younger of whom, William, born in 1762, married, in 1789, to Elizabeth Springall, and died in 1795, at the early age of 33 years. He left a widow and two children, the elder of whom was Samuel Woodward, the subject of the present Memoir. His father died before he was five years old, and after attending a day-school for a short time, he was placed under the care of a relative who was a shawl-weaver, then one of the staple manufactures of Norwich. So desirous was the boy to learn that he devoted every spare moment to study, and read with eagerness every book which came within his reach. At ten years of age we find him singing, as a

<sup>1</sup> Those who are interested in the story of a Norwich boy who became a geologist may read the fuller account, of which this is but an abstract, in the Transactions of the Norfolk and Norwich Naturalists' Society, vol. ii. pp. 563-593, 1879, by Horace B. Woodward, F.G.S. (grandson of Samuel Woodward), and author of the "Geology of England and Wales," one of the best text-books ever written. The portrait is reproduced by permission from an original sketch, in Indian ink, in the possession of his daughter, Mrs. T. G. Bayfield of Norwich, drawn from life by his eldest son, B. B. Woodward.—EDIT. GEOL. MAG.

FMS  
1906

chorister, on Sundays, in St. George's Colegate, the church of the parish in which he lived with his mother. Here he was introduced to Mr. Alderman Herring, a wealthy manufacturer, and at one time Mayor of Norwich, who kindly took the lad into his warehouse, and having first placed him in a school for a short time, he afterwards bound him apprentice to his own business, that of weaving Camlets and Bombazines. Here he gradually rose to a position of trust and responsibility; nor did he, during this period of twelve years, neglect any opportunity of improving his mind, eagerly availing himself of the kind permission given him by Mr. Herring to use his library for study whenever he had leisure to do so. His pursuits had already assumed the form they retained in later life. He collected and cultivated flowers, and his room was adorned with curios and shells which he bought at the old-curiosity shops in the city.

One of the first geological puzzles he endeavoured to solve was a mass of flint containing *Ananchytes*, which he had noticed on a cottage mantel-piece, where it was kept, well black-leaded, as an ornament. And one of the books which first excited his attention, and perhaps directed it to antiquarian and geological studies, was Verstegan's "Restitution of Decayed Intelligence, in Antiquities concerning the most noble and renowned English Nation," a curious work, of which the first edition was published in 1605, and in which the former connection between England and France was then advocated.

He not only used every opportunity of adding to his own store of knowledge, but was ready to help others, for he himself taught in both an evening and a Sunday school. It was whilst thus engaged that he became acquainted with Joseph John Gurney, who, throughout his life, proved a true friend to him.

In 1812 Mr. Herring gave up his manufactory owing to the general depression of business, but in 1814 Samuel Woodward obtained a clerkship in the Norwich Union Fire Office, which he held for six years, when he entered the Banking-house of Messrs. Gurneys' & Co., where he remained until his death.

In 1815 Samuel Woodward married Elizabeth, daughter of Bernard Bolingbroke, Esq., of East Dereham, Norfolk, and niece of Nathaniel Bolingbroke, Esq., formerly Mayor of Norwich, and of Sir John Yallop, Sheriff of that city. This union resulted in a family of six sons and three daughters; but one son and one daughter died in their infancy.

After 1820, he was brought prominently under the notice of Hudson Gurney, Esq., M.P., of Keswick, and Dawson Turner, Esq., of Yarmouth, both Fellows of the Royal Society, and partners in Gurney's Bank. It was to their friendly aid and encouragement that he largely owed the opportunities he enjoyed for the prosecution of his favourite studies, and also the success which attended his labours. To them he was particularly indebted for the loan of books, and for aid in his publications.

The works of Parkinson, William Smith, and, later on, those of

Conybeare and Phillips, became his text-books; while the writings of Richard Taylor gave an impetus to his local researches. Taylor's earliest paper was published in 1822,<sup>1</sup> and in the following year Samuel Woodward made his first geological tour of the coast, but without obtaining any specimens of fossil bones. In 1824 Mr. Robert Lacy sent him two molars of Elephant from Mundesley, and soon after he made another excursion from Yarmouth to Cromer along the beach, and obtained some good specimens; and might, he says, have obtained some very large and fine bones, but for the difficulty of conveyance.

From this year and up to the time of his death he maintained a considerable correspondence with many of the leading naturalists and geologists of the day. The letters he received, together with many miscellaneous notes and memoranda, are preserved in eleven quarto volumes, now in the possession of his youngest son, Dr. Henry Woodward, F.R.S. During this period of fourteen years he seems to have kept every scientific letter he received, and it must be remembered that in those days letter-writing was, as a rule, far more elaborate and careful than it is now. Many of these letters are only of value as autographs, and merely relate to inquiries as to coins, rings, seals, merchants-marks, ancient buildings, and other antiquarian matters mostly of local interest. Others bear upon geological topics: amongst them we find letters from William Bean (of Scarboro'), C. W. Peach. R. C. Taylor, Hudson Gurney, Dawson Turner, the Rev. James Layton (of Catfield); Thomas Amyot (Treasurer of the Society of Antiquaries), J. W. Robberds, Miss Etheldred Benett,<sup>2</sup> Goddard Johnson, H. Denny (of Leeds), Daniel Stock (of Bungay), Dr. Buckland, Prof. Sedgwick, Dr. Mantell, G. B. Baker (of Bungay), Dr. Charles König (British Museum), Sir R. I. Murchison, Prof. John Phillips, Dr. James Mitchell, Wm. Gilbertson (of Preston), the Rev. Thomas Image (of Whelpstead), the Rev. George Munford, the Rev. W. Foulger. There are also short notes from Fitton, De la Beche, Lyell, Agassiz, Sir Philip Egerton, Elizabeth Fry, Harriet Martineau, and Charles Waterton.

Samuel Woodward's first letter to Mr. Caleb Rose, F.G.S., of Swaffham, was written in May, 1826, and from that date there was an uninterrupted correspondence, mostly on geological topics, until the death of the former in 1838. The enthusiasm of the two friends seems to have been very great; every discovery of a new fossil was at once communicated, while books and specimens were borrowed and exchanged, in a way that speaks well for the prosecution of science in those days.

In 1824 he made his first communication to one of the learned Societies of London. It consisted of a series of maps and plans of Ancient Norfolk, which he submitted to the Society of Antiquaries through Mr. Hudson Gurney. One of these maps illustrated the Roman period, showing the several stations and roads constructed

<sup>1</sup> "Fossil Bones on the Coast of East Norfolk," *Phil. Mag.* vol. ix. p. 132, 1822.

<sup>2</sup> Well known to geologists as authoress of "A Catalogue of the Organic Remains of the County of Wilts," 1831; (of Norton House Warminster, Wilts).

by the Romans; another pictured the great estuary which it was considered had spread itself as far as *Venta Icenorum* (Norwich) before the sands on which Yarmouth was built were left uncovered by the sea. This latter map was based upon the ancient 'Hutch Map,' belonging to the Corporation of Yarmouth, with, however, many inaccuracies as to places and distances corrected.

In 1825 he had already nearly completed two works in MS., one entitled "Sketch of the Norwich Crag Deposit, with a Descriptive Catalogue of its Fossils," a quarto volume containing twenty plates with outline figures of the species; the other, entitled, "Remarks on the Geology of the County of Norfolk," 4to. illustrated with coloured figures of the fossils and coloured sections of the strata. Both works, however, were commenced and carried out on a plan far too ambitious and expensive for publication. The projected "Geology of Norfolk" was to comprise 24 plates, and nearly 1000 figures; he had already drawn about 300, and others were subsequently added; these remain as he left them. The substance of his observations, and figures of many of the species were, however, published in his "Geology of Norfolk," in 1833. The original drawings of fossils are extremely accurate and very carefully executed and bespeak considerable native talent. In 1826 he was elected a member of the Committee of the Norfolk and Norwich Museum (established in 1824), an office which he held at intervals during the subsequent years of his life. In 1827 he exhibited before the Society of Antiquaries, in London, some antiquities found at Coltishall, which he conjectured to have been a landing-place to the Romans when navigating the River Bure on their way to Bampton or Burgh-by-Aylsham. Later in the year he was engaged with Mr. W. C. Ewing, in exploring the Barrows at Eaton Heath. The Bronze Celts and a perfect metal mould obtained there, were exhibited at the Society of Antiquaries, Dec. 6, 1827 (see *Archæologia*, vol. xxii. p. 424, 1829). On the 5th Feb. 1828, he was elected an Honorary Member of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society, at the suggestion of John Phillips, then Curator of the York Museum, with whom he frequently corresponded.

In 1828, in a letter to Dr. Fitton, F.R.S., President of the Geological Society of London (read 2nd January, 1829), he records the occurrence of Crag at Cromer, and westward at Coltishall, and around Norwich. To the eastward, instead of marine shells, he noticed that there occurred a layer of ligneous and mammalian remains reposing on the Chalk. In this, immense numbers of bones and teeth of the Elephant, Horse, Deer, etc., mingled with trunks, branches, and leaves of trees, had been found, extending even to the distance of twenty miles out to sea, and on the Knoll sands, etc. (*Proc. Geol. Soc.* 1829, vol. i. p. 93). In 1829, he communicated a short sketch of the geology of the county to the "Norfolk Tour," in which he states that in what was subsequently termed the "Forest Bed" there are found a surprising number of vegetable and animal remains, as trunks, branches, leaves, and stumps of trees (*in situ*), etc. He had two years previously (1827) recorded that



in his own collection from the coast were remains of [Elephant, Rhinoceros, Hippopotamus, Horse, Bos, Irish Deer, and three other species of Deer.<sup>1</sup> Many of these were obtained from the oyster-bank off Hasboro', which he regarded as an extension of the blue clay of the cliff. He also observed that "the antlers of the deer are broken into fragments of from six to eight inches in length, and three-fourths of them had been shed, indicating that they were at present not far removed from their original locality, and appeared to confirm the tradition that this part of the sea, called 'the Holmes,' was originally a forest."

In a second communication to Dr. Fitton (23rd March, 1829), he pointed out that "Wherever a section has been made of the Crag of Norwich, with one exception, there has been found a layer of nodular flints from twelve to eighteen inches in thickness reposing on the Chalk. Reasoning from analogy he concluded that the Chalk in these instances had been subject to the action of currents of water previous to the deposition of the (Crag) shells; as the appearance of the flints perfectly agrees with the like phenomena going on at Foulness Point, Cromer, and at Trimmingham Beach, on our coast; . . . . The Chalk under these flints is perforated as if by *Pholades*." These notes, although not published at the time, appeared later on in the "Geology of Norfolk."

In April, 1829, he sent to Mr. Amyot some "Fragments illustrating the History of Norwich Castle;" and in May, some "Observations on the Round Towers of Norfolk," for the Society of Antiquaries. At the request of Mr. Daniel Gurney, he directed his attention, in 1825, to the collecting and publishing of Merchants' Marks, and later on he exhibited six examples referred to dates between 1409 and 1608, which he had drawn on stone ready for publication.

For some time past his "Synoptical Table of British Organic Remains" had been in preparation, entailing much research and correspondence; it appeared on 1st July, 1830, the list of subscribers numbering 155. This work, naturally, has now been out of date long ago, having been superseded in 1843 by the "Catalogue of British Fossils," by Professor Morris, the second edition of which appeared in 1854, now 36 years since. Happily the Vertebrata have been brought up to date by Messrs. Arthur Smith Woodward and C. Davies Sherborn, but the Invertebrata have only been partially listed in separate works, so that much remains to be done in order to complete our Catalogue of British Fossils.

In 1832, Samuel Woodward visited Mr. Hudson Gurney in London, and went the round of the principal learned Societies with him; making the personal acquaintance of a number of eminent geologists and antiquaries whom he had previously known by correspondence. He also attended a conversazione at Mr. (afterwards Sir Roderick) Murchison's house, where he met Dr. Buckland and Mr. (afterwards Sir Charles) Lyell, and others.

The year 1833 saw the publication, on the 1st of May, of his "Outlines of the Geology of Norfolk," one of the first works

<sup>1</sup> See Rev. J. Layton, *Edinb. Journ. of Science*, vol. vi. p. 199.

describing the geology of any English county, and one which in its plan and scope has not at present been superseded. Much necessarily requires revision in the classification of both the strata and their included fossils; but the work has retained its place as a standard book of reference for Norfolk. He attended the meeting of the British Association at Cambridge in 1833, in company with his friend Mr. Caleb Rose, of Swaffham, but they do not appear to have been much gratified with their visit; for, as his friend afterwards remarked in a letter, "authorities were ponderous," and we were only "insignificant labourers."

In this year Professor Sedgwick was appointed a Canon of Norwich Cathedral, and his advent was indeed a happiness to the Norfolk geologist. Dr. Mantell, writing from Brighton (December 14th, 1834), says: "Believe me you are most fortunate to have such a man near you; it will more than compensate for your distance from all the other savants in England. I think Mr. Sedgwick by far the most talented and splendid man we can boast of. I only wish we had a Cathedral here, and he had a stall in it."

During the Professor's residence in Norwich, they not unfrequently met, Sedgwick often inviting Woodward to the Close, and coming occasionally to spend an evening at Grove Cottage, to look over the treasures in his geological collection.

In February, 1835, he delivered a lecture on "The Antediluvian Topography of Norfolk" at an evening conversazione of the Norfolk and Norwich Museum.

About this period his health seems to have been very feeble; he was suffering from a most trying complaint, diabetes. At times he had to relinquish his duties at the Bank, and seek in travel and change of scene, a temporary alleviation from his indisposition. Thus, on the 13th July, 1835, he went by packet to Yarmouth, and thence to Hull, where he inspected the Hull Natural History Museum with Mr. W. H. Dykes, and Mr. John Edward Lee, the Curator of the Museum. He next proceeded to Beverley, and afterwards to Scarborough, where he met Mr. W. Bean, Dr. William Smith, and Mr. Williamson, and was shown the geology of the coast by William Smith. Thence to York to visit John Phillips and the York Museum; afterwards to Leeds, to the Museum and to visit Mr. H. Denny. Then on to Preston to stay with Mr. Gilbertson, the well-known collector of Mountain Limestone fossils.<sup>1</sup> Later on he returned via Liverpool, and made his first railway journey from that city to Manchester, thence to Nottingham and so through Derbyshire by Buxton and Matlock to Derby and back to Nottingham, then on to Newark and so home via Sleaford, Lynn, and Dereham to Norwich, a truly formidable journey in those days.

In 1836 we find him again in London, seeking health, though mostly visiting amongst friends and attending the meetings of scientific societies.

In September, the Marquis of Northampton, who was much interested in geology, visited him at Grove Cottage, Lakenham, in

<sup>1</sup> Whose collection, like William Smith's, is now preserved in the British Museum (Natural History).

order to see his collections; also Mr. Joseph Prestwich, jun. (afterwards Professor Prestwich, F.R.S.) who, paid his first visit to the Thorpe Crag-pits under Mr. Woodward's guidance, and there obtained a fine molar of *Elephas meridionalis*, now in the Norwich Museum.

Although his bodily powers failed him, his mental energies never ceased to display their activity, and even at the last he occupied himself with numerous archaeological subjects, and with the preparation of a new work, "Theoretical View of the Geology of the Norfolk Coast," a MS. which was never published.

He was also engaged in the preparation of his "History and Antiquities of Norwich Castle," edited, after his death by his eldest son, B. B. Woodward, F.S.A., in 1847; and in gathering materials for the "Norfolk Topographer's Manual," revised, augmented, and edited by W. C. Ewing, and published in 1842. Nothing could exceed the sympathy and kindness shown to Mr. Woodward during his last illness by all his friends, but his malady baffled medical skill, and he died on the 14th January, 1838, in his 48th year.

Thus ended a life of devotion to science, a life whose published works form but a partial memorial of the indefatigable industry of their author. "I believe," writes Prof. Sedgwick, "it is not too much to say that his life has been cut short by his devotion to science, and by his continuing (after the laborious duties of the day) to spend hours in study, which ought to have been given to rest." "His memory," writes his eldest son, "remains an object of reverence to his children, whose paths, by his patience and toil, have been made so easy and pleasant compared with his own, and of unfeigned respect to all who were acquainted with his character and his acquirements."

LIST OF WORKS BY SAMUEL WOODWARD OF NORWICH.

- 1829.—1. Geology of Norfolk. In "A General History of the County of Norfolk intended to convey all the Information of a Norfolk Tour." [By J. Chambers.] 2 vols. 8vo. 1829.
2. A Letter [to Dr. Fitton] respecting some remarkable fossil remains found near Cromer, in Norfolk. [Read Jan. 2nd.] Proc. Geol. Soc. vol. i. pp. 93, 94.
3. Musical Snails. Mag. Nat. Hist. vol. ii. p. 244.
4. [Notes on some Antiquities found in Norfolk.] Archaeologia, vol. xxii. pp. 422-424.
- 1830.—5. On the Hydra, or Freshwater Polypus. Mag. Nat. Hist. vol. iii. p. 348.
6. A Synoptical Table of British Organic Remains: in which all the edited British Fossils are systematically and stratigraphically arranged in accordance with the views of the Geologists of the present day; and a reference given to their localities, strata, and engraved figures. 8vo. and 4to. London and Norwich.
- 1831.—7. Observations on the Round Church Towers of Norfolk; and on the materials employed in constructing the early religious buildings in that County. [Read May, 1829.] Archaeologia, vol. xxiii. pp. 7-9.
8. A Descriptive Outline of the Roman Remains in Norfolk, accompanied by a Map of the County. [Read Dec. 1830.] Ibid. pp. 358-373.
9. A Copy of an Ancient Plan of the Chalk Vaults near St. Giles' Gates, Norwich: made by John Bond, 1571; exhibited, with notes, by Mr. Samuel Woodward. Ibid. pp. 411-412.
10. Natural History Collection. Mag. Nat. Hist. vol. iv. p. 177.
11. Luminosity of the Sea. Ibid. p. 284.
12. Ætites or Eagle Stones. Ibid. p. 468.



- 1832.—13. *Trichiosoma lucorum*, the Pupa and Imago of, a Habitat of, and the destruction of by one of the Ichneumonidae. *Mag. Nat. Hist.* vol. v. pp. 85, 86.
14. Luminousness of the Sea. *Ibid.* vol. v. pp. 302, 303.
15. Origin of the Crag Stratum of Norfolk. *Ibid.* vol. v. pp. 544, 545.
16. Sir John Byerley's Theory of verifying Dates by calculations on the Precession of the Equinoxes. *Ibid.* vol. v. p. 761.
- 1833.—17. An Outline of the Geology of Norfolk. 4to. and 8vo. Norwich.
18. The Natterjack in Norwich. *Mag. Nat. Hist.* vol. vi. p. 457.
19. Remarkable Meteor seen from Norwich, Dec. 19th, 1832. *Ibid.* p. 463. [Also Letter in 'East Anglian,' 1832, on this subject.]
- 1834.—20. Drawing of Two Steelyard Weights, one of which was found at Catton; exhibited by Mr. Samuel Woodward. [Communicated Feb. 2nd, 1832.] *Archæologia*, vol. xxv. p. 589.
21. An Account of certain Judicial Proceedings at Norwich, at the commencement of the Usurpation, copied from a Manuscript written about 1675, in the possession of Edward Steward, Esq., of Norwich. Communicated by Mr. Samuel Woodward. [April 12th, 1832.] *Ibid.* pp. 591-594.
22. Sketch of an Ancient Sword, found in the Bed of the River Yare, at Thorpe. [Communicated Dec. 12th, 1833.] *Ibid.* pp. 618, 619.
- 1835.—23. Some Remarks upon the Crag Formation of Norfolk and Suffolk. *Phil. Mag.* series 3, vol. vii. p. 353.
- 1836.—24. On the Crag Formation; in answer to Mr. Charlesworth's "Reply." *Ibid.* vol. viii. p. 138.
25. An Account of some Discoveries made in excavating the Foundations of Wymondham Abbey, with a Plan and Description of the Religious Establishment. [Communicated December, 1834.] *Archæologia*, vol. xxvi. pp. 287-299. [Also Letter on this subject to Editor of "Norwich Mercury," dated 30th December, 1833.]
26. Modern Conglomerate at Cromer. *Mag. Nat. Hist.* vol. ix. p. 47.
27. Evidence in argument that remains of *Mastodon giganteus* and *Mastodon latidens* have been found in the Tertiary Beds of Norfolk. *Ibid.* p. 151.
- 1838.—28. Ancient Swords, found near Norwich. [Communicated November 16th, 1837.] *Archæologia*, vol. xxvii. pp. 435-437.
- 1842.—29. The Norfolk Topographer's Manual: being a Catalogue of the Books and Engravings hitherto published in relation to the County. The whole revised and augmented by W. C. Ewing. 8vo. London.
- 1847.—30. The History and Antiquities of Norwich Castle. Edited by his Son [B. B. Woodward]. 4to. London and Norwich.



Self

F.45

THE RETIREMENT  
OF  
DR. HENRY WOODWARD.

by  
R. Lydekker M.A. F.R.S.  
Decr 1901.

[Extracted from the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, N.S., Decade IV, Vol. IX, pp. 1-2,  
January, 1902.]



London: DULAU & Co., 37, Soho Square, W.

F.46a.v



*Yours very truly,  
Henry Woodward.*



DR. HENRY WOODWARD, F.R.S., F.G.S.

KEEPER OF GEOLOGY,

BRITISH MUSEUM, (NATURAL HISTORY).

CROMWELL ROAD, SOUTH KENSINGTON,

S. W.

*written about 10 years ago (1904)*

PRIVATELY PRINTED.]

## DR. HENRY WOODWARD.

HENRY WOODWARD, LL.D., F.R.S., F.G.S., F.Z.S., F.R.M.S., V.P. Pal. Soc., Keeper of the Department of Geology, British Museum (Natural History), is the sixth son of the late Samuel Woodward, of Norwich, author of "The Geology of Norfolk," 1833; a "Synoptical Table of British Organic Remains," 1830; "History and Antiquities of Norwich Castle," 1836; etc. His eldest brother, Mr. B. B. Woodward, B.A., Lond., F.S.A., was for some years Librarian to Her Majesty at Windsor Castle. He was author of a History of Wales; History of the United States; History of Hampshire; and joint author with W. L. R. Cates of an Encyclopædia of Chronology, etc. His second brother, Dr. S. P. Woodward, F.G.S. for seventeen years in the Department of Geology, British Museum, was a geologist and naturalist of eminence, and author of a "Manual of the Mollusca," (1851-56), which has had a wonderful popularity, and reached a sale of upwards of 12,000 copies.

The subject of the present notice was born at Norwich, November 24, 1832. His father died when he was only five years of age. Henry Woodward was educated at the Norwich Grammar School, under the Rev. J. Banfather, and afterwards by the Rev. G. Haddock, at the Grammar School, Botesdale, Suffolk. From thence, in 1846, he went to reside with his brother, Dr. S. P. Woodward, at that time Professor of Natural History at the Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester, where he entered as an out-door student at the College, and worked diligently for three years. Here he imbibed that knowledge of Geology and love of Natural History, which, inherited from his father, only needed opportunity and encouragement to develop. The lectures by Professors Way and Blyth on Chemistry greatly stimulated his mind, and he spent much time in fitting up apparatus for himself, and carrying out on a small scale, with Professor Way's Assistant, chemical and electrical experiments. Geologising, Botanizing, and collecting Insects and land and fresh-water Mollusca on the Cotteswold Hills, with lectures at the College, occupied all his time. At Christmas, 1849, he came to London, and after his brother was appointed to the British Museum, he was engaged by the Botanical Society of London to work at their Herbarium, and by Dr. J. E. Gray, in preparing slips for Zoological Catalogues in the British Museum.

In 1851 he entered the East of England Bank at Norwich, where he remained until early in 1858. This period was one of severe but useful discipline, which had its influence on his after-life. His Natural History pursuits were not abandoned, and he diligently collected Chalk and Crag fossils, and maintained his old studies in his leisure hours.

In 1857, Mr. Woodward married Ellen Sophia, only child of M. F. Page, Esq., of Norwich, by whom he has two sons and five daughters.

In January, 1858, Prof. Owen, the Superintendent of the Natural History Departments in the British Museum, wrote, offering him a junior Assistant's post in the Geological Department, under Mr. G. R. Waterhouse, and where his brother, Dr. S. P. Woodward, was already a senior Assistant. His ready acceptance of this small post evinced



his anxiety to take up Geology as a profession, and he entered on his new duties with alacrity.

In 1859 he was made a second class Assistant; in 1865 a first class; and in 1867 he entered the first class upper section, a proof that his services met with favourable official recognition.

In the spring of 1860 he accepted an invitation to join Mr. Robert MacAndrew, F.R.S., on a dredging expedition to the south coast of Spain and the Mediterranean; and at Malaga and Gibraltar he made excellent zoological and geological collections.

In 1863 he again joined MacAndrew in a dredging expedition along the north coast of the Spanish Peninsula from Bilbao to Coruna. Excursions were also made into the interior to Vittoria, Burgos, &c.

In 1864 Mr. Woodward commenced, with Prof. T. Rupert Jones, F.R.S., to edit the *Geological Magazine*, a monthly journal of Geology (with which is incorporated the "Geologist"). This journal, which Mr. Woodward has edited in chief since 1865, assisted by Professor John Morris, M.A., F.G.S., Mr. Robert Etheridge, F.R.S., Mr. W. H. Hudleston, M.A., F.R.S., and Dr. G. J. Hinde, F.G.S., has attained a well-merited scientific success, and reached its 314th monthly number August, 1890.

Dr. Woodward's contributions to scientific literature commenced in 1860, and have continued to the present time in the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society, the Proceedings of the Geologists' Association, the Annals and Magazine of Natural History, the Geological Magazine, and other scientific periodicals. His separate memoirs number nearly 200; he has also published a Monograph on the "Fossil Merostomata," and one on "Carboniferous Trilobites," in the volumes of the Palæontographical Society, a Catalogue of British Fossil Crustacea, published by the Trustees of the British Museum; articles on "Mollusca" and "Crustacea," in Cassell's Natural History; and on "Crustacea," in the Encyclopælia Britannica.

In 1873-4 Mr. Woodward was elected President of the Geologists' Association, and a Vice-President of the Geological Society of London, 1887-8.

In 1873 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, and in 1878 the University of St. Andrews conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D.

On the 23rd June, 1880, on the retirement of Mr. George R. Waterhouse, the Principal Trustees appointed Dr. Henry Woodward Keeper of the Department of Geology, in which he had served as an Assistant for twenty-two years; a promotion which has been received with satisfaction among scientific men generally.

In 1886 he was a Vice-President of Section C (Geology), and in 1887 he was elected President of that Section at the Manchester Meeting of the British Association.

Since June, 1880, Dr. Woodward, with his Assistants, has achieved the arduous task of re-arranging the entire Geological Collection in the new Galleries of the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, where, by the aid of popular and well-illustrated Guide Books, together with diagrams and descriptive labels, the scientific student, and even the ordinary mass of visitors, can take a lively interest in the objects displayed in the cases, and find it full of interest and attractiveness.

Dr. Woodward's eldest son, H. P. Woodward, F.G.S., is now Government Geologist for Western Australia, and the younger, M. F. Woodward, is Demonstrator in Biology in the Normal School of Science and the Royal School of Mines, South Kensington.



[*Extracted from the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, Decade IV, Vol. IX,  
No. 451, p. 1, January, 1902.*]

# THE RETIREMENT OF DR. HENRY WOODWARD.

(WITH A PORTRAIT, PLATE I.)

THE retirement of its Editor from official life, after a period of more than 43 years spent in the public service, is an event which should not be passed over in silence in this Magazine. And during his absence from England the opportunity may be taken to remind both its geological and zoological readers (no one at the present day, we presume, desires to be called a palæontologist) how deeply they are indebted to Dr. Woodward for conducting the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE for the long period it has been under his charge as Editor-in-chief. For those who have no regular official duties, which must take precedence of all else, the task of editing a monthly scientific journal, and supplying, when necessary, 'copy' from their own pens to fill gaps, is no light one; but it is one that can be described by no other word than irksome when it has to be performed while running in official harness. Nevertheless, since 1865 the Editor has conscientiously carried on this labour from month to month and from year to year without complaint—and to the satisfaction, we believe, of all his numerous readers. Punctually at the commencement of each month the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE makes its appearance; and we trust that it may long continue to do so under the same able editorship.

After its 'coming of age' in 1885, full reference was made in its pages to the Editor's connection with this journal.<sup>1</sup> And it will be unnecessary, therefore, on this occasion to repeat the eulogium then passed by Professor Bonney, except to add that since that date more than fifteen extra years of editorial work have been accomplished. If, as Dr. Bonney said, geologists and zoologists were at that time under a heavy load of debt to Dr. Woodward, their obligations must now be enormously increased.

As some indication of the amount of work, apart from editing this journal, that has been accomplished by Dr. Woodward, it may be mentioned that up to the year 1897 the list of his more important memoirs, papers, and addresses (a few written in conjunction with

<sup>1</sup> GEOL. MAG., 1886, p. 45.

Professor T. R. Jones) totalled 264; by this time they are probably little, if at all, short of 300.

But since on this occasion it is our intention to dwell on Dr. Woodward's connection with the British Museum, rather than with his general work and his editorship of this Magazine, we may pass on to our main subject.

Dr. Woodward first joined the staff of the Museum at Bloomsbury in 1858. The following year he was promoted, and he received a step in 1865 and again in 1867. In June, 1880, on the retirement of Mr. G. R. Waterhouse, he was appointed Keeper of the Department of Geology; and since that date, with his Assistants, he has achieved the task of rearranging the entire Geological Collection in the galleries of the Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, where, by the aid of popular and well-illustrated guidebooks, diagrams, and descriptive labels, the scientific student, and even the ordinary visitor, can readily derive instruction from the objects displayed in the cases. How much hard work and patience are required for a task of this nature, and what varied kinds of knowledge are necessary in order to bring it to a satisfactory conclusion (or, rather, to keep the Museum up to date), only those who have tried it can judge.

The first edition of the Guidebook to the Geological Department was issued under Dr. Woodward's superintendence in 1881; and since that date each new edition has been expanded and improved. The Guidebook is, of course, for the benefit of the general public, who have, as taxpayers, the first claim on the Museum. But the needs of scientific workers have by no means been neglected, and to Dr. Woodward is due the credit of having initiated in the Geological Department the issue of 'Catalogues' like those which previously proved so valuable to the students of recent zoology. Since 1881 a large number of these Catalogues have appeared under his supervision; how important these are to workers in the life-history of our globe, readers of the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE do not require to be informed.

It may be added that, according to the rules of the Civil Service, Dr. Woodward's time of service expired more than four years ago; but, upon the recommendation of the Trustees of the Museum, the Treasury twice sanctioned an extension of his period of service. We learn, moreover, that they have approved of his employment for a year longer on special work connected with the Museum. We also understand that at their meeting on November 23rd the Trustees passed a vote of thanks to Dr. Woodward on his retirement from the office of Keeper for the great services he had rendered during a period of nearly 44 years to the Geological Department.

Readers of this Magazine will, we feel sure, join in wishing Dr. Woodward health and happiness in the comparative rest he has so well earned; and they will be pleased also to have a copy of his portrait, which we have the privilege of inserting.

R. L.



Son

RSO

*Francis Galton, Esq. F.R.S.  
with compliments  
from Woodward*



Martin Fountain Woodward.

BORN NOVEMBER 5, 1865.

DIED SEPTEMBER 15, 1901.

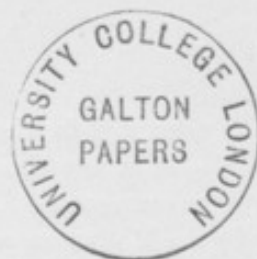
set 36







*Martin Woodward*



## MARTIN FOUNTAIN WOODWARD.

BORN NOVEMBER 5, 1865.

DIED SEPTEMBER 15, 1901.

BIOLOGICAL Science, and more particularly that branch of it in which this Society is peculiarly interested, has not for many years suffered so sad or so serious a loss as befell it on that dark September night when our then Secretary was drowned through the capsizing of a boat at the entrance of Ballinakill Harbour, on the west coast of Ireland.

Martin Fountain Woodward, the younger son of our esteemed first President, Dr. Henry Woodward, was born in London on the 5th of November, 1865, and received his early education at the Kensington Grammar School, where he attended from 1875 to 1883. In October of the last-named year he entered the Royal School of Mines and Normal College of Science (now the Royal College of Science), where the hereditary bent of his mind found free play, and where he applied himself with such ardour to his studies that the following year (1884), on the conclusion of his geological course, he was awarded the Murchison Medal and prize of books.

During the succeeding session (1884-5) he attended the zoological course, the last conducted by Professor Huxley in person, and was first on the list at both the elementary and advanced<sup>1</sup> examinations, while his dissection for the elementary practical examination was long kept as an ensample.<sup>2</sup>

This brought him his Associateship, while his marked ability in Biology led to his appointment by Professor Huxley as Assistant Demonstrator in October, 1885. In July of the following year he was

<sup>1</sup> Bracketed first in Advanced Zoology with A. V. Jennings, June, 1885.

<sup>2</sup> It had been his father's earnest desire that Martin Woodward should pass out of the Schools in Geology and Palæontology, but Professor Huxley (who was Dean, and at that time still took a lively and active interest in the College) called upon Dr. Woodward and urged upon him that his son should remain attached to the Biological Laboratory, and not pursue the advanced geological course which his father contemplated for him; Huxley, with characteristic animation, exclaiming, "It is necessary to keep up the apostolic succession in Biology, and Martin Woodward is *our man*!"

promoted to the rank of Demonstrator of Zoology, a status he still held at the time of his decease, and, to quote from the official report, "commenced . . . an inquiry into the detailed structure of the Molluscan odontophore."<sup>1</sup>

His zeal in his work was not only shown in the way in which he discharged his official duties, but by the good use he made of the annual long vacations to yet further advance his biological studies. Thus in 1887 he accompanied Mr. W. H. Hudleston on a three weeks dredging cruise in the English Channel to the west of Portsmouth, and accompanied the Geologists' Association on their excursion into Cornwall.

In 1889 he spent three weeks at Guernsey investigating the marine zoology of the island; the summers of 1890 and 1891 were spent at Plymouth working in the Laboratory of the Marine Biological Association; subsequent vacations were passed in South Devon and at Sark (1896 and 1897); whilst on one occasion, with his friend and former pupil Mr. E. W. L. Holt, he explored some of the celebrated dene-holes in North Kent.

In the summers of 1899 and 1900 he joined Mr. Holt at the Marine Biological Laboratory of the Fisheries Board for Ireland, which was then stationed at Inishbofin, and the interesting series of Molluscan specimens that he brought back from that locality and exhibited at our meetings will be in the recollection of our Members.

In the present year, having recently and successfully undergone an operation for hernia, he was officially acting as assistant during the holidays at this Laboratory, which had been moved to a position in Ballinakill Harbour off the hamlet of Moyard. He had this time been especially interested in and had collected a number of fine Fusoids for investigation, which with other material, we are glad to say, has been placed by Mr. Holt in the hands of one of our Members, to be worked out for the Board.

Martin Woodward's stay was drawing to a close when, with his colleague and companion of his holiday, Professor W. Watson, he paid a visit on 15th September to his friend Mr. Allies, the resident owner of Inishbofin. On the return journey they were delayed by contrary winds, and did not approach the harbour until after dark. Suddenly, as they were nearing their destination, and were within a mile of land, a sharp squall from the hills upset and sank the boat. Martin Woodward, though a fairly good swimmer, never rose, and Mr. Watson and the boatman in charge, after calling in vain for their companion, only reached land themselves with great difficulty.

---

<sup>1</sup> 34th Rep. Dept. Sci. & Arts, p. 38.

It was not until September 27th that the body was recovered on the site of the catastrophe, and laid to rest two days later in the burial-ground attached to the Protestant Church at Moyard. In this sad fashion was a promising career cut short, alas! all too soon.

Famed for his manipulative skill<sup>1</sup> and his extensive biological knowledge, as well as the great care and accuracy of his observations, Martin Woodward was not a voluminous writer, as the bibliographical list of his papers appended to this notice shows. All his literary productions, however, are characterized by that extreme care and attention to detail which marked the rest of his work, and his conclusions are firmly based on foundations of carefully ascertained facts, while on all points open to difference of opinion the views of others, however adverse, are always fully and fairly stated.

Although, as incidentally mentioned, he started by working at the Mollusca, Martin Woodward's first published articles were on other subjects. Beginning with lighter notes contributed to minor societies, and with records of teratological facts that had come under his observation, he turned for a time to the Vertebrata, and his first important contributions to science comprise a series of papers on the dentition of certain groups of the Mammalia. Of these memoirs Dr. Forsyth Major, no mean authority, kindly writes:—

“M. F. Woodward's first publication, ‘On the Milk-Dentition of the *Procavia (Hyrax) capensis* and of the Rabbit,’ revealed an investigator who was not only perfectly conversant with, and even improved upon, the various methods in use for examination, but who at the same time combined with sound reasoning a clear exposition of known as well as new facts. In the *Procavia* Woodward discovered some additional milk-teeth, and showed that the deciduous set of this genus is composed, apart from the four grinders, of three upper and two lower incisors and a canine in each jaw. The discovery of the Tertiary *Pliohyrax* has imparted renewed interest in these investigations. As to the Rabbit, Huxley's observation of an upper and a lower deciduous incisor, which never cut the gum but are absorbed in the unborn animal, was confirmed and enlarged. His ‘General Considerations’ are, as it were, a programme of Woodward's later work on the Dentition of Mammals.

“In 1893 the first part of his ‘Contributions to the Study of Mammalian Dentition: On the Development of the Teeth of the Macropodidæ’ appeared, and herein were described for the first time the presence of undoubted embryonic vestigial teeth in Marsupials.

---

<sup>1</sup> His latest exploit had been to cut sections of some photographic films for Sir William Abney, K.C.B.



As to the nature of the much debated successional premolar of Marsupials, reasons are adduced for the author's belief that it is in reality, not a replacing tooth, but a retarded milk-tooth. In the following year (*Anat. Anz.*, 1894, ix) vestigial teeth are described in several Rodentia, and are shown to belong to the milk-dentition. It is suggested that the functional molars of the Mammalia—the true molars so called—are to be assigned to the same set as the premolars, i.e. the second dentition (to be termed *third* dentition if we believe in the pre-milk dentition). The same year an able review of the recent work 'On the Succession and Genesis of Mammalian Teeth' appeared in *Science Progress* (1894, i).

"Part ii of the 'Contributions to the Study of Mammalian Dentition' (*P.Z.S.*, 1896) deals with the teeth of representatives of five out of the nine families of Insectivora. In this the author is led to view the considerable variation in the dentition of the Insectivora as a result of suppressions in the dental series, and of a tendency to reduction in the functional importance of the milk-dentition. Strictures are made on the tritubercular as well as on the conrescent theory of the evolution of the molar cusps, and the discussion of these general questions is conducted by a clever handling of arguments taken from ontogeny, comparative morphology, and phylogeny. In the last publication of the series (*Anat. Anz.*, 1896) Woodward sides with the partisans of a *pre-milk dentition* so far as Marsupials are concerned. A set of minute teeth in polyprotodont and diprotodont Marsupialia are described as the remnants of a pre-milk dentition. An analogous interpretation given by other workers to similar slight structures in some Placentalia is accepted 'with some reservation.' Of this paper it may be safely foretold that it will hold its own ground for some decades to come. One of the reasons for which he discontinued his researches in this branch of study, and would presumably have done so for years had he been spared, was that he was rightly convinced the last word in researches of this kind belong to palæontology, but owing to the slow progress of palæontological discoveries the answers also would be slow in coming."

Ere this series was complete, however, Martin Woodward had once more reverted to the Mollusca, and owing to the fortunate incident of his becoming Secretary to this Society in November, 1897, this return bid fair to result in his specializing in this subject, for all his later papers dealt with Molluscan anatomy, and, with two exceptions, appeared in our Proceedings, whilst he was preparing material for the volume on Mollusca in the Oxford Natural History that had been entrusted to him by its editor, Professor E. Ray

Lankester, and his last act as a teacher had been to deliver a course of lectures at the Royal College of Science that embodied his preliminary notes for that work.

In his first Molluscan paper, that dealing with the anatomy of *Ephippodonta Macdougalli*, Tate, he showed that the lattice-like valves, which 'gape' yet more widely than in its nearest ally, *Galeomma*, are completely invested by the mantle as in *Chlamydoconcha*—in brief, that this pelecypod had an internal shell.

His second paper, "On the Anatomy of *Pterocera*," contained careful observations, and the results of some extended experiments, on that enigmatical structure the crystalline style, which he regarded with Hazay and Haseloff as a reserve supply of food.

In *Natalina Caffra* (Fér.) he made a special study of the buccal mass and its functions, contrasting them with those of the more familiar *Testacella*.

Turning next to the larval Oyster, he showed, in contradistinction to another investigator, that the dimyarian stage remained, as it does at the present day, still to be discovered.

Three years later he seized a proffered opportunity of describing the previously unknown anatomy of *Mulleria*, which genus he concluded to be closely related to the Unionidæ, although extremely specialized in accordance with its fixed mode of life.

At the same time the anatomy of the minute *Adeorbis* was occupying him, and had to be described from serial sections, a most difficult piece of work, very ably accomplished, which resulted in the allocation of the Adeorbidæ to a position in the systematic series between the Rissoiidæ and the Naticidæ.

The problem of the systematic position of *Donovania* then claimed his attention, and he was able to demonstrate that it belonged to the Buccinidæ and ranked next to *Pisania*. This was the first occasion on which he was brought face to face with a question of nomenclature, an aspect of zoological study to which he was later on led to pay more attention.

The fortunate chance of two members of the Volutidæ, one rare, the other new, coming into his hands for description caused him to investigate the scanty information already possessed concerning the animals of that family, and to point out that "we are at present incorporating in the Volutidæ several forms derived from distinct stocks." His researches in this direction were unfinished, for he had written to his friend Mr. W. G. Freeman, of the Imperial Agricultural Department for the West Indies, in Barbados, to procure specimens of *Voluta musica*, the Linnean type, or at least first-named species. These specimens, with others from the same source, had recently

arrived and were awaiting his return to town: they have now been placed in competent hands for investigation.

Able as all these papers were, and full of suggestive observations, they nevertheless did not give that scope for broader generalization which he found in his last subject, "The Anatomy of *Pleurotomaria Beyrichii*, Hilg." Here, fortunate in his material, he was able to correct the observations of previous investigators, and to establish that this primitive rhipidoglossate Diotocardian approaches the archi-tænioglossate Monotocardians, *Vivipara* and *Nassopsis*, in the position of the point of origin of the visceral loop, and that it is a form very closely related to the stock from which the Monotocardia originated; while it shows signs of a common ancestry with the Cephalopoda in the position of the supporting skeleton of the gills and in the possession of a spiral stomach-cæcum.

Martin Woodward also edited, and brought up to date by original notes, additions, and emendations, vols. ii-iv of the English translation of Korschelt & Heider's "Textbook of Embryology of Invertebrates" (1899-1900).

The amount of written matter is, however, in Martin Woodward's case no index to the work he really accomplished. An ever-ready willingness to help others was a noted feature of his character from early childhood, and wide indeed was the circle that profited by his kindly assistance and advice. As evidence of the esteem in which he was held and the impression he made on those with whom he came in contact, we may cite the following out of a letter from the Secretary to the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, who writes:—"During the time he was connected with the Department his services were of a most valuable kind, and were highly appreciated, and while his high character, brilliant talents, and devotion to Science were admired, his personality was such that those with whom he came most in contact deplore his loss as that of a real friend." Professor Tilden, too, similarly expressed himself in his address at the reopening of the Royal College of Science for the present session. This encomium from official quarters cannot fail to find warm response from the members of this Society, who one and all have reason to lament a friend in the loss of their late Secretary; they can, therefore, fully sympathize with his intimate friends and relations, and yet more with that home circle of which he was all his years the light and just pride.

B. B. W.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY.

1887. "A three weeks' Dredging Cruise in the Channel, 1887": *Abstr. Proc. Metropol. Scient. Assoc.*, No. 20 [pp. 4].
1888. "Rabbit with an undescended Testis, with notes on the descent of the Testis in the same animal": *Anat. Soc. Gt. Brit. & Ireland in Journ. Anat. & Physiol.*, vol. xxii, pp. xxi-xxiii, fig.
1888. "The Eyes of the Invertebrates": *Abstr. Proc. Western Micro. Club*, 1887-8, p. 13.
1890. "The Development of Echinoderms": *op. cit.*, 1889-90, pp. 10-11.
1892. "On the Milk-Dentition of *Procavia (Hyrax) capensis* and of the Rabbit (*Lepus cuniculus*), with remarks on the relation of the milk and permanent dentitions of the Mammalia": *Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1892, pp. 38-49; 1 pl.
1892. "Description of an abnormal Earthworm possessing seven pairs of ovaries": *op. cit.*, 1892, pp. 184-188; 1 pl.
1893. "Further observations on variations in the genitalia of British Earthworms": *op. cit.*, 1893, pp. 319-324; 1 pl.
1893. "Contributions to the Study of Mammalian Dentition. Part i: On the development of the Teeth of the Macropodidae": *op. cit.*, 1893, pp. 450-473; 3 pls.
1893. "On the Anatomy of *Ephippodonta Macdougalli*, Tate": *Proc. Malac. Soc.*, vol. i, pp. 20-25; 1 pl.
1894. "On the succession and genesis of Mammalian Teeth": *Science Progress*, vol. i, pp. 438-453.
1894. "On the Milk-Dentition of the Rodentia, with a description of a vestigial Milk-Incisor in the Mouse (*Mus musculus*)": *Anat. Anz.*, Bd. ix, pp. 619-631.
1894. "On the Anatomy of *Pterocera*, with some notes on the Crystalline Style": *Proc. Malac. Soc.*, vol. i, pp. 143-150; 1 pl.
1895. "On the Anatomy of *Natalina Caffra*, Fér., with special reference to the structure of the buccal mass": *tom. cit.*, pp. 270-277; 1 pl., figs.
1895. "Note on the Anatomy of the Larva of the European Oyster, *Ostrea edulis*, Linn.": *tom. cit.*, pp. 297-299; 1 pl.
1896. "Contributions to the Study of Mammalian Dentition. Part ii: On the Teeth of certain Insectivora": *Proc. Zool. Soc.*, 1896, pp. 557-594; 4 pls.  
[An abstract of this paper entitled "On the Development of the Teeth in certain Insectivora" appeared in the Rep. Brit. Assoc., 1895 (1896), p. 736.]
1896. "On the Teeth of the Marsupialia, with special reference to the Pre-Milk Dentition": *Anat. Anz.*, Bd. xii, pp. 281-291.
1898. "On the Anatomy of *Mulleria Dalyi*, Smith": *Proc. Malac. Soc.*, vol. iii, pp. 87-91; figs.
1898. "On the Anatomy of *Adeorbis subcarinatus*, Mont.": *tom. cit.*, pp. 140-146; 1 pl.
1898. [Anatomical notes to paper by G. B. Sowerby entitled "Description of a new South African Marine Gasteropod," and published by the Cape of Good Hope Department of Agriculture.]
1899. "Some account of the synonymy and affinities of *Donovania minima* (Mont.)": *Proc. Malac. Soc.*, vol. iii, pp. 235-238; figs.
1900. "Note on the Anatomy of *Voluta ancilla* (Sol.), *Neptuneopsis Gilchristi*, Sby., and *Volutilithes abyssicola* (Ad. & Rve.)": *op. cit.*, vol. iv, pp. 117-125; 1 pl.
1901. "The Anatomy of *Pleurotomaria Beyrichii*, Hilg.": *Quart. Journ. Micro. Sci.*, vol. xlv, pp. 215-268; 4 pls.



---

*Reprinted in advance from the*

PROCEEDINGS OF THE MALACOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

---

Francis Galton, Esq. F.R.S. &c &c

~~42. Rutland Gate.~~

Molt House

SW.

Bibury

Fairford

Glou.

Dr A Woodward.



3 Naturalists' Club  
These families  
of Woodward

F.57v

Woodward

Samuel { Bernard Probingbrook W  
Sam. Pickworth W  
Henry Woodward

— Horace Pickens W

S.

See



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. A. Smith Woodward, Esq.*

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.

*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.																																																										
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.																																																															
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—	<i>J. W.</i>	3	<i>me fa</i>	—	<i>J. S.</i>			<i>John Woodward.</i> <i>John <del>Smith.</del></i> <i>Edward Woodward.</i>  <i>John Harold Woodward.</i> <i>Marion Woodward.</i>																																																										
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—																																																														
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>E. W.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																													
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—																																																													
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>			9	<i>me bro</i>																																																															
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>			10	<i>me si</i>																																																															
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	1 all	<i>J. H. W.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																													
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	2 all	<i>M. W.</i>	—	—	—	—																																																													
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>			15	<i>me son</i>																																																															
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>			16	<i>me da</i>																																																															
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>			19	<i>si son</i>																																																															
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>			20	<i>si da</i>																																																															
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>			23	<i>me bro son</i>																																																															
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>			24	<i>me si son</i>																																																															
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>			27	<i>me bro da</i>																																																															
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>			28	<i>me si da</i>																																																															
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th>Regr.</th> <th>Title.</th> <th>No. who survived childhood.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> <th>Maiden name of their mother, your wife.</th> <th>Year of her marriage.</th> <th colspan="2">Wife's brothers and sisters.</th> </tr> <tr> <th colspan="2"></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Titles.</th> <th>Initials of the noteworthy.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="2">1st marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29</td> <td><i>so</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td> <i>Wi bro</i>  <i>Wi si</i>  <i>da-Hu bro</i>  <i>da-Hu-Hu</i> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30</td> <td><i>da</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="2">2nd marriage.</td> <td>Sons . . . .</td> <td>29(2)</td> <td><i>so(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td> <i>Wi bro</i>  <i>Wi si</i>  <i>da-Hu bro</i>  <i>da-Hu-Hu</i> </td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Daughters .</td> <td>30(2)</td> <td><i>da(2)</i></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>														Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.										Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.	1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da-Hu bro</i> <i>da-Hu-Hu</i>		Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>							2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da-Hu bro</i> <i>da-Hu-Hu</i>		Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>						
		Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.																																																													
								Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.																																																												
1st marriage.	Sons . . . .	29	<i>so</i>					<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da-Hu bro</i> <i>da-Hu-Hu</i>																																																													
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>																																																																		
2nd marriage.	Sons . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>					<i>Wi bro</i> <i>Wi si</i> <i>da-Hu bro</i> <i>da-Hu-Hu</i>																																																													
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>																																																																		

Signature and Address of the Sender

*Arthur Smith Woodward?*

*4, Scarsdale Villas,  
Kensington, W.*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

4, SCARSDALE VILLAS,  
KENSINGTON. W.

1, 3. John Woodward and John Smith.

~~1, 3~~ Owned and directed large silk manufactories, and were successful.

5. Edward Woodward owned and directed silk dyeworks. Was also a pioneer in photography, but did not publish anything.

11. John Harold Woodward, M. Inst. C. E., is a consulting Electrical Engineer with the firm of Preece & Cardew.

12. Marion Woodward is a Licentiate of the Royal ~~Academy~~ Academy of Music.

~~Marion~~ 4 me me was cousin of Thomas Thorneycroft, R.A., her mother & his mother being sisters.

J.H.  
ii

Elizabeth Wordsworth, (b. 1840), Principal of Lady Margaret Hall Oxford; has published some poems & stories, various religious works, also a life of Bishop Wordsworth late bishop of Lincoln. (Who's Who)

fa fa. Christopher Wordsworth, (1774-1846). Master of Trinity college Cambridge, 1820-1841; ~~vice-chancellor of Cambridge University, 1820-1 & 1826-7; a strict & consequently somewhat unpopular master.~~ (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa, Christopher Wordsworth, (1807-1885). Bishop of Lincoln 1868-1885; an eminent classical scholar; was senior classic & first Chancellor's classical medallist 1830; public orator at Cambridge 1836; headmaster of Harrow 1836 (Dict. N. Biog.).

fa bro, John Wordsworth (1805-1839), Fellow & classical lecturer of Trinity College Cambridge; ~~obtained~~ Porson prize 1827 (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa bro, Charles Wordsworth (1806-1892). Bishop of St Andrews Dunkeld & Dunblane; when at Oxford won Chancellor's prize for latin verse 1827; & latin essay 1831. (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa fa bro, William Wordsworth, (1770-1850), The ~~poet~~ <sup>Poet Laureate 1843</sup>; (Dict. N. Biog.)

bro. Christopher Wordsworth, (b. 1848) Sometime fellow & dean of Peterhouse Cambridge; rector of St. Peter's Marlborough since 1897; author of several works dealing mainly with ecclesiastical & archaeology. (Who's Who).

bro. John Wordsworth, (b. 1843) Bishop of Salisbury since 1885; while at Oxford ~~obtained~~ Craven scholar, ~~1867~~ 1867; Chancellor's prize for latin verse; ~~prize for latin verse~~ <sup>prize for latin verse</sup>



fa. fa. sister Dorothy Wordsworth,  
author of "Journal in the Highlands &c"  
mo. fa. brother John Hookham Pease (as in 1800)

manuscript



Elizabeth Wordsworth, (b.1840), Principal of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford: has published some poems & stories, various religious works, also a life of Bishop Wordsworth, late bishop of Lincoln. X (Who's Who)

fa fa Christopher Wordsworth, (1774-1846), Master of Trinity Coll. Cambridge, 1820-1841. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa Christopher Wordsworth, (1807-1885), Bishop of Lincoln, 1868-85: an eminent classical scholar: was senior classic & first Chancellor's classical medallist, 1830: public orator at Cambridge, 1836: head master of Harrow, 1836. Canon of Westminster, 1844. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa bro John Wordsworth, (1805-1839), fellow & classical lecturer of Trinity Coll. Cambridge: Porson prize, 1827. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa bro Charles Wordsworth, (1806-1892), Bishop of St. Andrews, Dunkeld, & Dunblane: at Oxford won Chancellor's prize for latin verse, 1827: & latin essay, 1831. (Dict.N.Biog.)

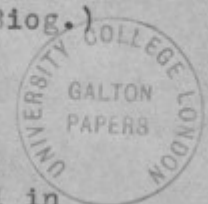
me fa bro John Hookham Frere, vide Frere

fa fa si Dorothy Wordsworth, author of "Journal in the Highlands", etc., edited together with her brother's works by Professor in 1896. [Emrys Brett] (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa bro William Wordsworth, (1770-1850), Poet Laureate, 1843.

bro John Wordsworth, (b.1843), Bishop of Salisbury, since 1885: Craven scholar, Oxford, 1867: Chancellor's prize for latin essay, 1866: fellow first of Brasenose, afterwards of Oriel: filled many important university posts. (Who's Who & Oxf. Reg.)

bro Christopher Wordsworth, (b.1848), Sometime fellow &





dean of Peterhouse, Cambridge: rector of St. Peter's,  
Marlborough, since 1897: author of <sup>e</sup>several works dealing with  
ecclesiastical archaeology. (Who's Who)

fa me fa Charles Lloyd, (1748-1828), of Bingley Hall,  
Birmingham: quaker, banker & philanthropist: a pioneer  
in the movement for the emancipation of slaves: published  
translations from Homer & Horace. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa me ho  
fa me bre Charles Lloyd, (1775-1839), Poet & friend of  
Coleridge & Charles Lamb. (Dict.N.Biog.)

fa fa bro da Dora Quillinan, (1804-1847), nee Wordsworth:  
author of journal of a residence in Portugal (Moxon 1847).

[Dict. N. Biog.]



prize for latin essay 1866; fellow first of Brasenose afterwards  
of Oriel; filled a ~~number of~~ important university posts.  
(Who's Who) & (Oxf. Reg.) *many*

fa me fa Charles Lloyd; (1748-1828) of Bingley Hall Birmingham  
quaker, banker, philanthropist, a pioneer in the movement for  
the emancipation of slaves; published translations from  
Homer & Horace. (Dict. N. Biog.)

fa me bro. Charles Lloyd, (1775-1839) Poet & friend of  
Coleridge & Charles Lamb. (Dict. N. Biog.)

me Susanna Hatley, née Frere; vide *Frere*

fa fa bro da. Dorothy Quinlan (née Wordsworth)

her journal edited together with *her* father's works by Prof Knight  
(Dict. N. Biog.) 1896



...for Latin essay 1866; fellow first of ...  
of ...; ... a number of ...  
(Who's Two) (1861, 1862)

... is ...; ...  
...; ...; ...

... of ...; ...  
... (1861, 1862)

... (1861-1862) ...  
... (1861, 1862)

...; ...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

prize for Latin essay 1866; fellow

# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. A.M. Worthington* <sup>C.B.</sup> <sub>1880</sub>

("WHO'S WHO" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

bro = brother; da = daughter; fa = father; Hu = husband; me = mother; si = sister; so or son = son; Wi = wife.

fa bro son means "MY father's brother's son IS"; me da means "MY mother's daughter IS"; so Wi bro means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	fa fa	—		3	me fa	—				me
Grandmother . . .	2	fa me	—		4	me me	—				
Father . . . . .	5	fa	—		—	—	—				
Mother . . . . .	6	me	—		—	—	—				
Uncles . . . . .	7	fa bro	3		9	me bro					
Aunts . . . . .	8	fa si	2		10	me si					
Brothers . . . .	11	bro	4		—	—	—				
Sisters . . . . .	12	si	1		—	—	—				
Half-brothers . .	13	fa son	0		15	me son					
Half-sisters . . .	14	fa da	0		16	me da					
Nephews . . . .	17	bro son	3		19	si son					
Nieces . . . . .	18	bro da	2		20	si da					
First cousins . .	21	fa bro son	5		23	me bro son					
Male . . . . .	22	fa si son	0		24	me si son					
First cousins . .	25	fa bro da	1		27	me bro da					
Female . . . . .	26	fa si da	0		28	me si da					

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	so	1	Solby	1877	so Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30	da	2			so Wi si	
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	so(2)				so(2) Wi bro	
	Daughters .	30(2)	da(2)				so(2) Wi si	

Signature and Address of the Sender

*A. M. Worthington*

*Mohuns, Tavistock*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.

Whitford College <sup>F.1</sup>

Fowey

Cornwall

9<sup>th</sup> July 1904

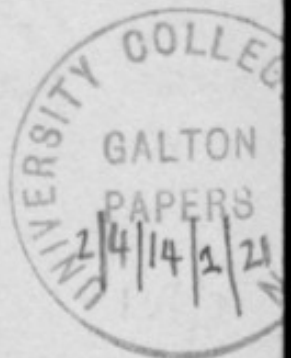
Dear Sir Francis

I regret that absence  
from home caused your other  
notice to remain unanswered.

Hope the enclosed will be  
found satisfactory.

Yours very truly

Gerard F. Yeo



31. Me fa fa. Sir John Ferns.  
 Succeeded eminently as Wine Merchant  
 in Dublin. Distinguished as musician  
 and artist. Possessed a very  
 extraordinary Bass voice -

32. Me me fa. John Browne:  
 attained eminence as Lawyer in  
 Dublin - Equally notable for  
 physical stature & mental ability.  
 Of his 4 sons, 2 became  
 Generals, one an admiral &  
 one a Bishop - His grandmother  
 was his only daughter.

---

NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *D. G. F. Geo, Esq.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY; WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—		31	<i>nefa fa</i>	<i>Sir John Ferns</i>
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—		32	<i>nefa fa</i>	<i>John Browne</i>
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	$\frac{1}{2}$		9	<i>me bro</i>	$\frac{4}{2}$				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	$\frac{1}{2}$		10	<i>me si</i>	$\frac{4}{2}$				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3		—	—	—	—			
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	2		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	—		15	<i>me son</i>	—				
Half-sisters . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	—		16	<i>me da</i>	—				
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	3		19	<i>si son</i>	4				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	7		20	<i>si da</i>	3				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	2		23	<i>me bro son</i>	2				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	—		24	<i>me si son</i>	—				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	2		27	<i>me bro da</i>	2				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	—		28	<i>me si da</i>	—				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.	Sons . . .	29	<i>so</i>	—			<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu-bro</i> <i>da Hu-si</i>	
	Daughters .	30	<i>da</i>	—				
2nd marriage.	Sons . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—	<i>Hunt</i>	1886	<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu-bro</i> <i>da(2) Hunt</i>	
	Daughters .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—				

Signature and Address of the Sender *Gerard F. Geo*





# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *c*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.



University Chemical Laboratory,  
Trinity College,  
12 Raglan Road Dublin,

5. fa. Edward Young. J.P. Established large business.

19. bro. Reginald Young. Has collected and hybridised orchids; recognised authority on cypripedia.

13. fa son Edward Young M.A. 10<sup>th</sup> wrangler; research; author; Council of Mathematical Society.

wi. bro. Charles William Kimmins M.A., D.Sc. Author, Chief Inspector for the Technical Education Committee of the London County Council.



# NOTEWORTHY KINSFOLK OF *Prof. Sydney Young, &c.*

("Who's Who" contains all that is wanted concerning yourself.)

\* \* WRITE AT FIRST FAINTLY IN PENCIL; CORRECT LEISURELY IN CONCERT WITH MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY: WHEN SATISFIED, INK IN.

*bro* = brother; *da* = daughter; *fa* = father; *Hu* = husband; *me* = mother; *si* = sister; *so* or *son* = son; *Wi* = wife.  
*fa bro son* means "MY father's brother's son IS"; *me da* means "MY mother's daughter IS"; *so Wi bro* means "MY son's wife's brother IS"; &c.

Common terms of kinship.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Exact kinship briefly phrased.		No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Regr.	Title.	Full names of those whose initials appear in the preceding column.
	Regr.	Title.			Regr.	Title.					
Grandfather . . .	1	<i>fa fa</i>	—		3	<i>me fa</i>	—				
Grandmother . . .	2	<i>fa me</i>	—		4	<i>me me</i>	—				
Father . . . . .	5	<i>fa</i>	—	<i>E. Y.</i>	—	—	—	—	5	<i>fa</i>	<i>Edward Young.</i>
Mother . . . . .	6	<i>me</i>	—		—	—	—	—			
Uncles . . . . .	7	<i>fa bro</i>	4		9	<i>me bro</i>	1				
Aunts . . . . .	8	<i>fa si</i>	5		10	<i>me si</i>	1				
Brothers . . . .	11	<i>bro</i>	3	<i>R. Y.</i>	—	—	—	—	11	<i>bro</i>	<i>Reginald Young</i>
Sisters . . . . .	12	<i>si</i>	4		—	—	—	—			
Half-brothers . .	13	<i>fa son</i>	2	<i>A. Y.</i>	15	<i>me son</i>	—	—	13	<i>fa son</i>	<i>Alfred Young</i>
Half-sisters . . .	14	<i>fa da</i>	3		16	<i>me da</i>	—	—			
Nephews . . . .	17	<i>bro son</i>	2		19	<i>si son</i>	5				
Nieces . . . . .	18	<i>bro da</i>	2		20	<i>si da</i>	1 (and half si da 4)				
First cousins . .	21	<i>fa bro son</i>	6		23	<i>me bro son</i>	7				
Male . . . . .	22	<i>fa si son</i>	6		24	<i>me si son</i>	0				
First cousins . .	25	<i>fa bro da</i>	9		27	<i>me bro da</i>	3				
Female . . . . .	26	<i>fa si da</i>	5		28	<i>me si da</i>	0				

	Regr.	Title.	No. who survived childhood.	Initials of the noteworthy.	Maiden name of their mother, your wife.	Year of her marriage.	Wife's brothers and sisters.	
							Titles.	Initials of the noteworthy.
1st marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29	<i>so</i>	2 (twins 7 1/2 yrs old)		<i>Grace Kimmins</i>	1896	<i>so Wi bro</i> <i>so Wi si</i> <i>da Hu bro</i> <i>da Hu si</i>	
Daughters . .	30	<i>da</i>	—					
2nd marriage.								
Sons . . . . .	29(2)	<i>so(2)</i>	—				<i>so(2) Wi bro</i> <i>so(2) Wi si</i> <i>da(2) Hu bro</i> <i>da(2) Hu si</i>	
Daughters . .	30(2)	<i>da(2)</i>	—					

*wi bro Charles William Kimmins.*

Signature and Address of the Sender *Sydney Young 12 Raglan Road, Dublin.*

# ABILITY IN FAMILIES.

By FRANCIS GALTON, D.C.L., Sc.D., F.R.S.

THE object of the inquiry is to ascertain the frequency with which Ability, as indicated by High Success, is distributed among the members of a family; how far it is sporadic and how far it seems to be hereditary or else traditional. The replies will add to our knowledge of some of the main causes of evolution: one of these is the coefficient of mental heredity, another the inclination or otherwise of persons to mate with their like or unlike, another the fertility of the mentally exceptional in various degrees, including their tendency to be celibate, or to marry early or late.

The information asked for is wholly honourable to the person addressed and to his family. It is limited to facts that have already appeared in print, though often only in newspapers. Though well known to the person addressed or to members of his family, they could not be found by a stranger without laborious search.

*Nomenclature of Kinship.*—Kinships in the first degree are expressed, as explained at the head of the schedule, by single syllables easy to pronounce, consisting chiefly of a consonant and a vowel. By this means such vague terms, as first cousin, are replaced by brief titles with precise meanings. The syllable *me* is used for mother, as *mo* runs too closely with *bro* and *so*, and *ma* with *fa* and *da*. The French and the Greek words for mother justify the *e*. The alternative forms of *so* and *son* enable the latter to be employed at the end of a phrase, where it is more euphonious. Some of the combinations may have a somewhat childish ring, but none are vulgar or grotesque. The value of this brief and exact method of description becomes greater as the kinship becomes more remote.

*Noteworthiness.*—"Noteworthy" successes are those in any vocation whatever, that in the opinion of the compiler are of a rank not inferior to that which the Fellowship of the Royal Society holds among men of science. The weight ultimately to be assigned to each recorded success must be entrusted to those who will statistically discuss the replies. Minor achievements of persons who are still too young to have achieved any "noteworthy" success deserve record.

As women can rarely display their full abilities, it is necessary to take into account the hereditary significance of the successes of the brothers (and sisters) of all female ancestors. Inquiry is therefore made as to "noteworthiness" in these. To secure equality in statistical treatment, the same course is adopted in respect to the male ancestors also.

For want of space, the forms for the four kinds of great uncle are omitted, namely, *fa fa bro*, *fa me bro*, *me fa bro*, *me me bro*. Similarly as to the great aunts. If any of these should be noteworthy their names may be entered in the third column, preceded by their proper titles. So may grandchildren. Eminent kinsfolk in still more distant degrees can be added in the like way, if thought desirable by the compiler.

The noteworthy names should be written successively in the third column in any convenient order. There will be ample space to hold them all.

The number of kinsfolk in each degree who survived childhood is wanted as a clue to the intensity with which ability (as indicated by success) characterises each family.

A separate paragraph *on fresh paper* should contain the noteworthy facts relating to each person whose name appears in the last column of the schedule. These paragraphs should be written consecutively, and the heading of each should consist of the Register number, the Title, and the full Name of the person to whom it refers, transcribed word for word from the last column of the schedule. Each paragraph should be as brief as may suffice to give a just idea both of the *quality* and of the *grade* of ability in the person referred to. Thus the mention of a high success in one branch will render those of minor ones in the same branch unnecessary, on the principle that the greater includes the less. But if the record of any minor achievements testifies to success in *different* pursuits and therefore to the possession of general ability, they should be included. Also such as may testify to precocity, to slow development, or else to persistence of effort.

The following imperfect list of successes may possibly be useful in suggesting what might otherwise have been overlooked.

*Youth.*—All high competitive successes at school, college, or elsewhere, such as the greater exhibitions, scholarships, fellowships, foremost places in University Class lists, or in examinations for appointments of any kind. Only two or three of the more important of these need be given. The captainship of a notable athletic team may deserve record.

*Manhood.*—High and honourable appointments in any profession, excluding those reached by mere seniority or through social position. Political distinctions. Commercial success in establishing or managing large businesses is usually a sign of exceptional ability.

*Authorship* of valuable memoirs, books, inventions, &c.

*Awards* of titles, medals, honorary degrees, &c.

*Biographical Notices* in standard publications.

By accepting the mere title of F.R.S. as a noteworthy distinction, a body of nearly 500 men is at once determined, to whom these circulars will be sent in the first instance. The Fellows of the Royal Society are, as a class, more likely to be interested in this inquiry than others, their answers are sure to be brief and appropriate, and they are eminently qualified to offer useful suggestions. Such suggestions would be warmly welcomed as the scope of the inquiry will probably be hereafter extended. Moreover, the Fellows of the Royal Society are linked by frequent co-operation and mutual acquaintanceship, which renders it comparatively easy to obtain supplementary information when wanted.

Please address the completed results thus, not omitting a large and very legible S in brackets, in the bottom left-hand corner:

FRANCIS GALTON,

42 RUTLAND GATE,

(S)

LONDON, S.W.