

Letters sent following the publication of "The History of Twins As A Criterion of the Relative Powers of Nature and Nurture"

Publication/Creation

1875-1876

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Ansell

f.1r

National Life Assurance Society,

2, King William Street, London, E.C.



31 January 1876

My Dear Sir

I beg to thank you very much for sending to me your papers on twins, which I have read with great interest.

The facts which you have brought out, in addition to their value in elucidating the distinctive effects of "nature and nurture", appear to me calculated to throw much light upon what is at present but obscurely

understood right the theory
of generation.

I need scarcely say that I feel
much gratified at the complimentary
way in which you have been
good enough to allude to my
recent work.

Believe me

Yours truly

Chas Ansell W

Francis Galton Esq. F.R.S.

T. Beddow, Clifton, ^{P.R.} Nov 24 1875

My dear Sir

I return the letter
you lent me - The writer
has evidently worked much,
but I am not much impressed
by the letter otherwise -

—
Lord Ducie should be
styled Earl of Ducie,
not Earl Ducie -

I don't know whether you ^{turn}
care about more turns -

The following are
known to me.

Sir R. Christison is

a twin: his twin brother,
my father in law, is dead -
the two were not much
alike -

Dr Dacey, Burlington
Buildings, Redland, Bristol,
has twin daughters, grown
up, & much alike -

Dr Hudson, Manilla
Hall, Clifton, has twin
boys of about 10 years, much
alike -

The late Robert
Chambers had twin daughters,
much alike - one is dead,
the other is the wife of
Dr W. O. Priestley, the

well known obstetrician -

Yours sincerely
John Beddoe

F. Galton, Esq -
2 2



Child
beg hereditary
woundish

sent by Monteiro

f. 1r



10, St. George's Square,
Regent's Park, N.W.

26/2/76

Dear Sir,

Until now I
have not had time
to answer your letter.

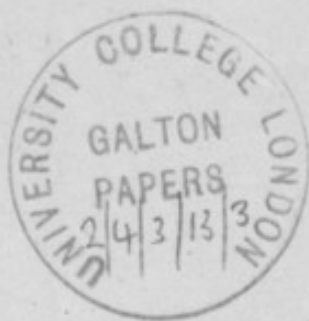
With respect to
the questions about
'Lewis' there appears
so little for one to
answer that I can

W. H. G. Galton
F. R. S.



P. IV

do so in a very few
words. Their names
are Harold John
& Edith Bernice.
They were born on
the 13th June 1864.
The boy is very fair
with blue eyes, the girl
dark with brown eyes.
They are not alike in



any respect, nor does
there seem any
sympathy between
them - My Father
was a twin, & bro.
Nightingale (my wife's
sister) also. With
kindest regards.

Believe me

Yours very truly
J. Child.

J. J. Montagu

f. 15

POST CARD



THE ADDRESS ONLY TO BE WRITTEN ON THIS SIDE.

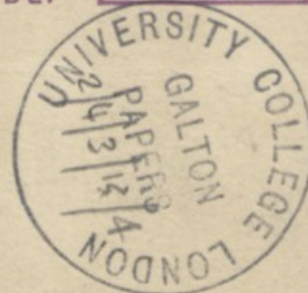


Francis Galton Esq.

42 Bedford Gate

London.

S.W.



Dear Sir,

Crawford

f.1v

I have been invalided for some time,
confin'd to the house, and have been
therefore unable to look up some cases
which may prove of interest to you - to wit -
one, E. M. D. two men some years ago
in this city. One so alike that a barber
actually shaved both of them in one
day, and wondered how it was that
the same man wished to be shaved
twice - I am going down south next
week & there will be enabled to procure
an answer for to my own case.

I hope I shall not be too late to
prove useful to you in your researches.

Very faithfully yours J. H. Crawford.

Ed. Lamb.

April 6. 75



Farmon

f.1r

Sep 25/75



DOWN,
BECKENHAM, KENT.
RAILWAY STATION
ORPINGTON, S.E.R.

My dear Galton

Many thanks for
yr note & for the Revue which
shall be returned in yr name
to the R. Soc. Dr Ogle tells me
privately that the twins were his
own sisters, & that a child four
of the twins has the bicuspid
tooth misplaced. I cannot make
up my mind whether this case
is one of reversion like yours.
I have a book Puvion "Sur

POSTAGE
PAID
STATION
KENT
DUNN

la Dégénération" which when
I get my catalogue I can
find & which from its title, may
be worth your looking at, tho'
I can remember nothing about
its merits.

My dear Salter

Yrs very sincerely

Ch. Darwin

From Darwin



Trin. Coll. (Camb.)
July. 31. 76

My dear Mr. Galton,

I have your *Twins* to
Mrs. Jebb - wife of the - new
Glasgow professor of Greek -
a 'belles americaine'. She
says "Reading about so many
other twins suggested to me
the surprise I used to feel
about the close resemblance
of two ~~forties~~ ladies of fifty,
I once knew in Chicago.
Both were married the one
happily the other unhappily;
the one had a large family
of sons & daughters, the

other no children, & yet not
a line was to be seen on one
soft round old face that
the other did not repeat.

Even the expression of the eyes
seemed exactly the same, &
wh. was Mrs Cobb & which
Mrs Beecher not one of us could
tell. And yet people think
that every line on our faces
tells its story of experiences."

Adams has looked at
my Geolog. paper, & I had
a long talk with him.
He regards it favourably
& has promised to present

it to the R.S. I have been ^{f.2r}
doing a great deal to it for the
last month & it has swollen
out in all sorts of unexpected
places, so that condense as
I will I fear it won't
ultimately go into less
than 30 or 40 pp. of the
Trans. — if it ever gets there.

I am going to Minib at
the end of August & possibly
for a day or two to the Brit.
Assoc. Then I'm going on
to Arthur Balfour's deer
forest in the Highlands
so my 'Long' is pretty

p. 2v

well filled up & very pleasant.

I was at Gayle's last week for 3 days & saw a trial of the Tower's wave propulsion boat, but it can't be told yet whether it will be a success, tho' it looks rather likely.

There's wonderful Spiritualism going on now in London

Wh. I will tell you about when we meet next; you ought to go. I certainly intend to do so.

My brother W^m is touring in Scotland & is getting immensely

f.3

immensely better - after seeing
D. Clark - send square post
or propter?

When do you start abroad?
I am afraid you won't
be at the B.A.

I shall pass thro' town
in about 10 days time,
I perhaps may make time
to come down to Rutl. Sch.

Ever yours very truly

C. H. Darwin



Hair

Edmund
EdwardsVery light brown
Straight
thin & fineSophia
BendaFlaxen
fuzzy but
setting straight
thick & strong

Complexion

fair

Sanguine

Eyes

Blue but Blue
darker

Height

Taller $3\frac{1}{9}\frac{3}{4}$ in
considerably

Build

a big raw
colt

a colt

Shape of face

Long

Chubby

Hands

Darkened with
character - strong
& more formed
than the sister's

Chubby

Foot

6 $\frac{7}{8}$ in -6 $\frac{7}{8}$ in

Round head

21 in

20 $\frac{1}{2}$

Forehead

high

Rather projecting
hair coming forward

Desperateness

Edder
Excitable

Active

Commanding

Thinking

Atrabilious
nervous

Bindce P.1v
Placable
merry

Patience quiet

Simple minded

Somewhat
lymphatic



Turns

From Bert & the Cave
N.B. 24



Rev^d W. Evans

f.15

Whitbourne Hall.
near Worcester

March 13. 1870

H. Galton Esq
Dear Sir

I was very much interested
in the perusal of your article
upon Truis, published in the
last number of the Anthropological
Review.

I reside in a parish (Whitbourne)
in Herefordshire containing a population
of about 800 distributed over an
~~area~~ ^{area} of about 2500 acres - within
the last 12 months we have
had 4 sets of truis a cir-
-cumstance unprecedented in

the annals of the parish and
 within the same period the
 wife of the Rector of an adjoining
 parish has had twins also, though
 these were actually born in Cheltenham
 within she had removed only a
 few weeks previously.

Regarding this lady's case we
 can reckon 5 sets of twins
 within about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of each
 other.

I write to you thinking it possible

that you may have had other
returns showing that throughout
England generally, the last
12 months have been exceptional
but under any circumstances,
the cases I have named are
extraordinary, as during more
than 13 years that I have been
resident here I can't remember
a single case of them in
the immediate neighbourhood

Remain dear Sir

Yr. very truly

C. Richardson Evans



Eastbourne

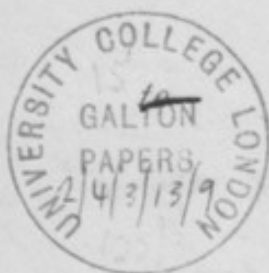
Allingham

p. 15

Sep 3. 1875

FRASER'S MAGAZINE:

39 PATERNOSTER ROW,
LONDON, E.C.



~~The Editor presents his compliments~~

Dear Sir

I accept with pleasure
your paper on Twins for November
on the understanding that Fraser
is not to be forestalled by the
printed publication of the matter
elsewhere.

I confess I sh^d reckon the
paper more valuable for the
magazine if given there to
the public first of all (i.e.
without even being read to
an audience / ^{not to speak of the audience} itself, a great
many

readers are satisfied if they
 can get an inkling of any
 topic that is talked about,
 so that even a brief summary
 w^d take to edge off their
 curiosity. And, moreover,
 if any reporting be permitted
 how is it to be restricted?

Perhaps you will favour
 me with a line in reply -
 to Eastbourne during September.

With thanks

Sincerely yours

Francis Galton Esq
 &c &c

W Alvingham Esq.



^{Albion House}
Meads, Eastbourne ^{f.2}
Sep 16. 75

Dear Sir

What you propose
as to the 'Twins' article is
quite satisfactory, &
there will be no objection
at all to your reprinting
after January.

You shall have a proof
early next month.

If you can conveniently
send me the addition in
^{indicating where it is to come in,}
M.S. ^{it will save us some}

small expense; but if
you prefer to add it on
the proof, pray do so.

FR Galton Esq

believe me
sincerely yours
W Allingham

(Fraser)

Murdoch

f.3r

Oct 9.75

12, TRAFALGAR SQUARE,
CHELSEA, S.W.

Dear Sir

Your two proofs will
soon reach you if they
have not already done
so.

At Meads, an agricul-
tural hamlet a mile
west of Eastbourne I chance
to find twins in a shepherd's
house ^(opposite the ship inn) - Anne & Albina
Barcomb, aged 7 - healthy
girls, very like, but Anne



(the firstborn) slightly taller
& stronger, also quicker
in mind. They agree closely
in habits & likings, and
in health, being usually
well or ill at the same time.

The mother's father was
a twin: she knew of
no other case in her or
her husband's family.

The oddest statement
~~was~~ (confirmed to me by
other people in the village)



was that within a twelvemonth
of the birth of these twins
four other
~~five~~ pairs of twins were
born at Leeds, and
there have been none
since -

I had not time to
enquire farther.

Sincerely yours

W. Sturges
Francis Galton Esq



Allen Thorne

f.5r

FRASER'S MAGAZINE:

39 PATERNOSTER ROW,
LONDON, E.C.

Nov 29. 1875

~~The Editor presents his compliments~~

My dear Sir, In reply to
yours of the 26th (rec^d this morning
through the Row) - you are welcome
to have the paper on Twins
reprinted in the way and at the
time you wish.

I have sent your address
to the writer of the enclosed.

May I add that I sh^d
have been glad if you had
favoured me with your paper
"on Heredity", wh^{ch} I see is coming
out in the Contemporary - and
say at the same time (although

this is not your object in
writing) that I hope to
arrange that we shall
not fall short of any of
our contemporaries in
the particular of honourarium!

I am
truly yours

W Allingham

To Francis Galton Esq
42 Rutland Gate.

(12 Trafalgar
Square
Chelsea SW)

Gilchrist
about Galton



MEMORANDUM.

1/5 775

FROM

DR GILCHRIST,

Crichton Royal Institution,

Dumfries.

TO

Francis Galton Esq

81r

Mr Fillon, 13 Pelgrim Street Leith
has two in girls' school in Edinburgh
They are reported by my friend's children
at same school & he is like that
the master constantly mistake the
one for the other.

MM	ME	1	1	2	1	2
	PM	FR	1		1	2
1	3.50	1	2	2	2	
1	6.20	1				

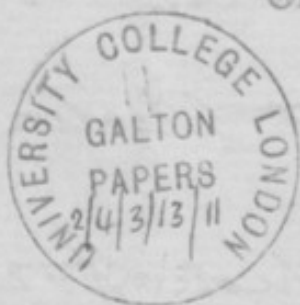
1 6 1

Rev. S. Green

f.1r

Compton Dando Vicarage.

Bristol.



Jan 21. 1876

Dear Sir

I thank you for sending
me of two pamphlets on the history
of twins and of heredity manifested
in them. The facts you have collected
are most interesting and afford
matter for much thought. The
older I grow the more to me natural
disposition and ability outweigh
all educational care and training.
Your facts and deductions con-

from this view. I wish it
were otherwise - that greater
results could be hoped for
from care and cultivation
but it is no use shutting one's
eyes to the truth.

Yrs faithfully
Edward. D. Green

Francis Galtou Esq & Co. S.

Red G. Hill

f. 1

22 Jan 1876

VICARAGE, S. WINNOW.

LOSTWITHEL.

My dear Sir

Allow me to thank you for your kindness in forwarding to me your two papers on the subject of Twins, reprinted from the Anthropological Journal.

I regret I have never been able to follow up enquiries respecting a twin-producing family of whom I wrote to you some time back. The family removed to another parish, and I lost sight of it completely.

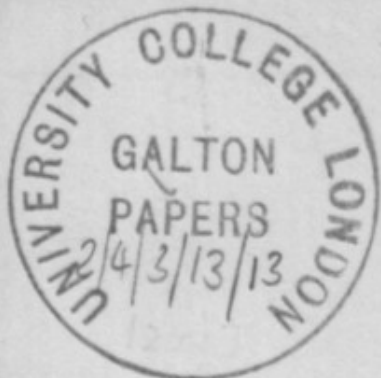
I am yours faithfully
G. Hill.

J. Gallows Esq. F.R.S.

VICARAGE 2. WIMBORNE

POSTMASTER





Hooker f.l.r

Mr 1/13.

Dear Galton
We wish the
H.G. I. published. List of
Names? I am told
that there is none!

I have been reading
"Notes" with great
pleasure (i.e. Fraser).



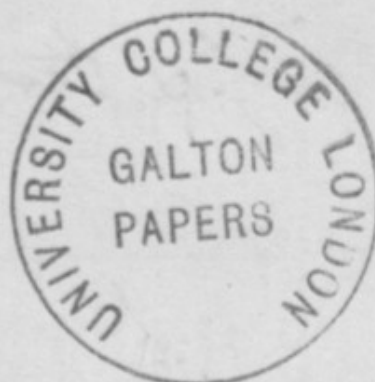
When you mention
the synchronous taking
of disease I do not
doubt that you
state that the
virus was spread &
I am influenced by
some of the diseases

are infectious & others
 not this is 2 impulses
 has long

W. H. H.

Do you know Hood? /
 from a H. writing..?

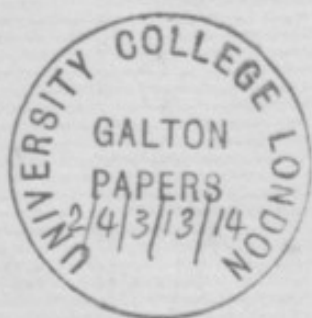
f.2v



Wright

V - Lushington

f.1r



21, New Street,
Spring Gardens,
S.W.

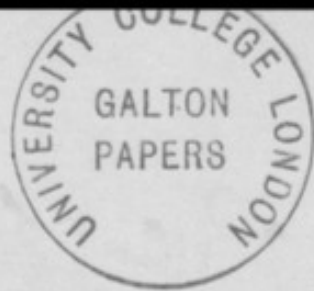
20 Jan. '76.

Dear Galton,

Thank you for sending
me your entertaining Paper
upon Twins - Certainly it
is a very pretty problem for
you ; - full of striking puzzles,
and yet bringing out or confirming
broad results, especially the

truth that Nature is far
more potent than Nurture.

An instance of this, or
what appeared to me such
or at any rate an illustration of the two things,
made an impression on me
yesterday - I had the pleasure
of going to a Board School
in the Old Kent Road, and
hearing the Boys sing. They



f.2r

sang admirably, and what is
more they all appeared to sing.
Of course they did so because
they had been taught & well
taught. But I said to myself
- These children are of the
poor. - What music could
their fathers & mothers, their
grandfathers & grandmothers,
& many antecedent generations

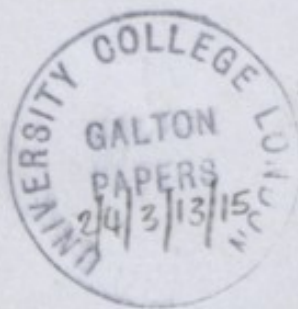
have had a chance of hearing?
The faculty of appreciating Music
must have been silently trans-
mitted thro' all these generations,
and now, at last, it blossoms
out into song - It is curious, is
it not, that transmission^{of faculty}, - without
which all the teaching in the
world would do no good, - and
yet very encouraging to see
what good nurture may do -

With very kind regards to
Mrs. Galton, I am yours truly
Vernon Lushington

21

J. Maturin

f.1



Amfield

The Cairnies

Perth. N.B.

23rd Nov. 1845.

Sir,

I would be much obliged if
you would kindly let me know
the address of Mr. Francis Galton,
the writer of a late article in Fraser's
Magazine relative to Turins, as I
have some interesting observations
on the subject which I would
like to put him in possession of.

Yours faithfully

Chas. Gabriel Maturin M.D.

The Editor of Fraser's Magazine.

6.1

D. Nuttall

f.2r



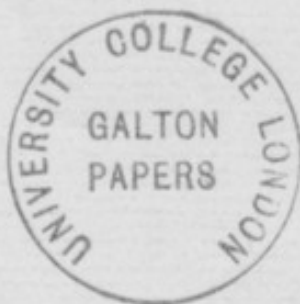
Amfield
The Cairnies
Perth

1st Dec. 1845.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 30th Ult. and hasten to reply to it. My attention was directed to your paper by a notice of it in a number of the "Lancet," and as I came across some cases of muterism in twins, while compiling the

"Status of Disease" in Ireland
for the Census Commissioners
of 1841, which I investigated
and inserted in the Report,
it occurred to me that pro-
bably you had not seen it,
and that these ^{cases} might be
some assistance to you in
the investigation of the very
interesting subject of your
paper. I have not however
as yet seen the Magazine in

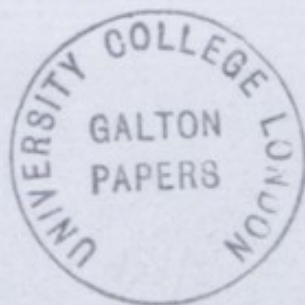


which your paper was published, so that I have only surmised this.

I send you by this post the Report in question which you can return at your leisure. It contains also some observations on the subject of Hereditary Muteness & Blindness which may be interesting to you, as I understand you have investigated the subject of

Credity. I have marked the places in which any notice thereof occurs.

Should you contemplate supplementing your paper on tinis at any future time I shall be most happy to investigate any cases I know of, or may meet with hereafter, if you will kindly send me some of the forms you use. The subject is an intensely interesting one.



There just now occurs to my
mind the case of twin
daughters of friend of mine
presenting most marked
similarity in appearance &
manner of talking. Although
not tongue-tied or otherwise
deformed they both formed
the words as if they were
so in an extreme degree, & were
wholly unintelligible to every
person but their parents &
brothers & sisters. I re-

Member on one occasion one
of them being sent by her
mother with a message to
my grandmother, but as
she could not understand
her, she directed her to tell
her mother to send some
person else with the message.
The second one was then
sent, and was so like in
appearance & talked so like
her sister that my grand-



matter however it was the same girl sent a second time, and was highly indignant with the mother.

When about 12 years old they were put under the care of an elocutionist & subsequently talked quite naturally.

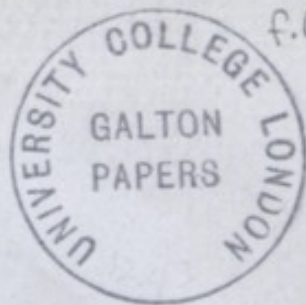
Hoping the Report will be of interest & service & soon arriving in time

I am, Sir,

Yours faithfully

Chas. Francis Maturin
Francis Galton Esq.

G. Mavorji
C. 1



Amfield
The Cairnes
Perth

9th Dec. 1845

Dear Sir,

I received your letter
of the 3rd Inst., & circular,
and am much obliged for
your kind promise of a
copy of your revised paper.

As regards the nature of
the identical simultaneous
blues in separated similar
twines, I suppose you mean

Hooper remarks after 60

Such observations to be
confined to diseases of
a sporadic nature, for
those of a zymotic or
epidemic nature would,
according to the laws
that influence them, argue
the simultaneous exposure
to their poisons that
respectively give origin
to them, rather than the
effect of identical idiosyn-



^s
 crays. Diathetic diseases
 (scout, Scrophula, Phthisis,
 Cancer, &c) are influenced
 greatly by heredity. The
 occurrence of Local Disease
^{therefore}
~~would~~ under such circum-
 stances, would serve your
 purpose more than the
 other classes.

There is a peculiarity about
 monsters (which are only
 conjoined twins) that they
 are always joined together
 by like parts, i.e., the back

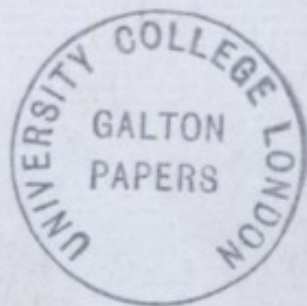
of one is never joined to the abdomen of the other, or the chest of one to the abdomen of the other, but chest, ~~back~~, or abdomen of one is joined to the corresponding part of the other.

There is a peculiarity among uniparous mammals that when they produce twins of opposite sexes the female is infecundible, though the male ~~can~~ capable of continuing his species.

The late Sir James

B. C. 2

f. 8r



The late Sir James Simpson
investigated this & found
that the female organs of
reproduction were incomplete,
and the animal is called
among graziers a "Freemartin".
He investigated the subject
also with respect to human
females born co-twin
with males, and found
that this did not occur
among them, though I

forget if he found them
less fruitful than females
who were not twins. The
subject is published in one
of the volumes of his gyna-
eological works which
some of your medical friends
are certain to read.

I have under my care
at present dissimilar twins
one of whom is the subject
of a skin affection that
often accompanies dentition,



p. 95

whilst the other, although
undergoing the ~~same~~ process
is perfectly free from it.

Regarding the effects of
cousin-marriages, I have
often thought that probably
I ascribed too much influence
to them in producing congenital
lesions, wanting any data
to prove it by, in the way
of statistics showing ^{the} ~~what~~
proportion of the entire
marriages that cousin-

Mary's farm.

Faithfully Yours
 Chas. F. Russell

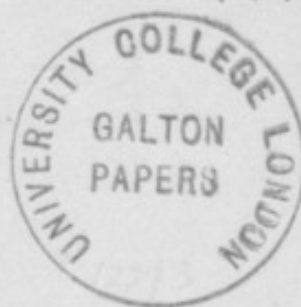
P.S. On thinking over the matter
 I remember that Sir J. Linneon
 found that it was only the cow,
 of all the domestic animals, whose
 female profane, co-tive
 with a male, was unfecundable.

Chas. F. Russell

Francis Patton Esq

J. Malcolm
J.

f. 10r



Trinity College,
Gloucester,

Perth, N.B.

7th Feby 1846

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for your
letter and pamphlets which
interested me very much.
The statistics given by Churchill,
in his work on Midwifery,
of the combination of sexes
among twins does not

agree with the results you
have arrived at, as he
shows that twin children
are more frequently of
opposite sexes.

Thus he shows that in 1320
cases the children were
Both Males in 416 cases
Both Females in 409 "
One Male & one Female in 495 "

I enclose you a case from
the Lancet showing a

great tendency towards
plural births.

Yours faithfully
Wm. L. M. Maturin



Francis Galton Esq.

FOUR AT A BIRTH.

To the Editor of THE LANCET.

f. 12r

SIR,—On Saturday morning last I was called at half-past two to see the wife of John W——, a mechanic. At about seven o'clock on the previous evening the waters had broken. About eleven and soon after, two children were born. On my arrival I found her very low, the bed under her being saturated with blood, besides large quantities elsewhere. A strong dose of nitric acid in a degree at once allayed the bleeding. On making an examination, I was for a moment deceived by the promontory of the sacrum, which was curved very unnaturally downwards and forwards, and felt like a head presenting. Introducing the hand and arm, I found a mass of membranes &c. at the top of the uterus, high up in the abdomen. With some little difficulty I disengaged a leg and drew it down, and in a short time delivered her of the third child. I again introduced my hand, and delivered her of the fourth child. All four were girls, and apparently seven months' children. They were of good size and well formed. There were three placentas, the largest one being attached to the apex; to this were attached two cords. On either side was a smaller placenta, each with one cord attached; one of the cords was slightly branched, indicating, I believed, an abortive fifth foetus. The great weight of the four children and their height in the abdomen had kept the poor woman for some time in much discomfort. She had only slightly exerted herself the day previous; but this had evidently caused two of the children to fall from their position, and to rupture the membranes. She is doing well, but is very anæmic from the great loss of blood. She has previously borne six children, twins once.

I remain, Sir, yours truly,

T. P. LUCAS, M.R.C.S.E., &c.

Mount-terrace, Westminster-bridge-road, Dec. 20th, 1875.

Received 15th Jan 1876.



SIR, Numerous cases have been
the removal of uterine polypi, yet considerable difficulty is more or less experienced in the application of them all. The wire-rope *écraseur* of Dr. Braxton Hicks is, I suppose, on the whole, the favourite instrument with most obstetricians. But the following modification of Dr. Lombe Atthill's *écraseur* will be found, I think, to be more easy of application than Dr. Hicks's instrument, and at the same time as efficient in its results.

The appliances requisite are two canulas of adequate length and calibre, an *écraseur* with eyelets sufficiently large to admit of the passage of the canulas, some whipcord, and some wire-rope or stout steel wire. After the preliminary dilatation of the os and the seizure of the growth by the vulsellum, the two canulas armed with the whipcord are passed up to the pedicle of the polypus; one tube is then held still, while the other carries the whipcord round the neck of the growth. To the extremity of the cord hanging from the end of one of the canulas is now neatly attached the wire-rope or steel wire according to the fancy of the operator; the other end of the cord is then pulled upon, and the wire is thus drawn up one of the canulas, follows the course of the whipcord round the neck of the tumour, and then passes down the remaining canula to the outside of the vagina; the cord is then detached from the wire, the canulas are slipped through the eyelets of the *écraseur*, and the extremity of the latter passed up along the canulas to the pedicle of the polypus; the tubes are then removed, and the ends of the wire are secured to the transverse sliding bar of the *écraseur*, and the neck of the tumour divided in the ordinary way. The great point to attend to is the neat and careful adaptation of the ends of the whipcord and the wire, so that the latter may easily slide through the tubes, and also pass smoothly round the neck of the growth.

Yours truly,

Southend, January, 1876.

G. D. DEEPING.

on Morgan
Cunningham

folr



2 Rathbone Terrace
Wavertree

W^r Liverpool
1876 Jan 22nd

Mr Alfred Morgan
presents his compliments
to Mr & Galton F.R.S
and encloses a para-
graph cut from today's
Liverpool Daily Post,
which though it is most
probable Mr Galton



F. IV

may have seen it
is yet possible he
may not.

Mr Morgan has
read Mr Galton's
papers in the last
journal of the
anthrop inst. with
much pleasure

AN EXTRAORDINARY FAMILY : FIVE CHILDREN
IN ELEVEN MONTHS.—In Sheldon-street, Sheffield,
there lives a family named Cunningham. The
husband, Thomas Cunningham, is a hafter by trade.
On Thursday morning his wife gave birth to
triplets—two girls and one boy. The girls died
shortly after birth, but the boy survived till
Sunday morning. Only eleven months ago Mrs.
Cunningham presented her husband with twins,
making no fewer than five children within a single
year! Although Mrs. Cunningham is still a
young woman, being merely 27 years of age, she
has given birth to eleven children. It may be
added that Mrs. Cunningham is herself one of
three at a birth.

Travis, hered & Mary f. 2v



Sheldon 5-

Cuyumingham 4.35



Sheffield

Jan 26/76

Dear Sir

In answer to
your letter about the
Birth of my three twins
I have to inform you of
its correctness there are
dead they were very much
alike the boy lived two
days and had black hair
the other two died in ten
minutes after birth they
were much alike in features
The two twins born before
one lived till it were seven
months old the other died as

f.3v

soon as it were born there
were very much alike and
bore the features of the Mother
she is one of a birth of three
and is very stout she had
one Aunt that had twins
and both are alive one
resembles the Father very
much both in features and
disposition the other is like
the Mother also she had
one Uncle twins he is
very much like his own
Sister there are about the
remarks I can make at
present

Truly Believe me yours
Thos Cunningham

uncle & aunt

(2)

Aunt

(2)

(3)

(3)

(2)



Leon Magrath

f.1r

Private



3 Nov/75

My dear Galton



I can not as yet
read your paper on Twins,
I do not know how to find
the following curious fact -
but as several of the people
are alive and among our
own Society, you must not



Her two names.

The family of the late
(Chamberlain Journal)
Robert Chambers was remarkable
for its twins.

Mrs Chambers herself told
me that when she had a single
child it had always six fingers
or six toes: but the twins
never had.

Two of her twins

from most lovely girls. I
Stayed in the house for a week.
and apart could not tell
one from another although
I saw them I could. One of them
was engaged to be married.
During the week of my visit,
and though I was much
interested in the fact, the
two girls both loved me the

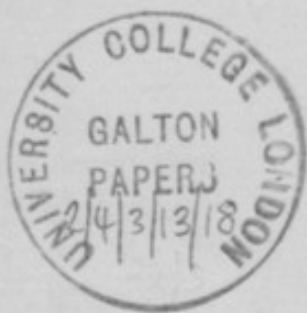
Whole day by personating
 each other & giving in the
 most ludicrously diverse
 accounts of the transaction.

One of these young ladies
 is now wife of a celebrated
 London physician who was the
 hero of the mystification.

Yours truly

Lyon Haffman





Rawson

a 1 f. 1r



Lansdowne. Up. Knwood.

22nd Sept 1875.

Dear Sir,

I could have answered
your note of the 15th note
respecting my Fairs corner,
if I could have given you the
desired information myself,
but I had to seek it from
Miss Knuth. & it was only
yesterday that she furnished me
with the same notes which I have

copied, with a few additions, in
the enclosed memorandum. I
hope that they will supply all
that you desire to know regarding
the Series. If I can be of
further use, it will afford
me pleasure to assist ^{you in} your
interesting enquiries.

I shall look forward with
much curiosity to your
forthcoming paper in Fraser
I remain,
Yours truly
Harold Macdonald

In the time of Nebuchad-
 nezzar I the Medes were
 already very powerful, &
 some say that Ecbatana
 was founded not long
 after Babylon.

elder twin



In the time of Nebuchad-
 nezzar I. the Medes were
 already very powerful, &
 some say that Ecbatana
 was founded not long
 after Babylon.

younger twin

In the time of Nebuchad-
nezzar I the Medes were
already very powerful; &
some say that Ecbatana
was founded not long
after Babylon.

elder twin



f. 25v

Miss Rawson

4.2cr

In the time of Nebuchad-
nezzar I. the Medes were
already very powerful, &
some say that Ecbatana
was founded not long
after Babylon.

younger twin

f.2cv

Mr. Ransom

Newton.

A 2

1835

Mem. relating to the twin Misses Newton.

"Differences in growth of body."

These have been very trifling: that the last two years there was but half an inch difference in height, & that alternately. Since then the second-borne has kept above the other, but by

Hands & feet are of the same size, or the difference is inappreciable.

The elder has been on every occasion weighing 2 lbs heavier than the other, which seems to be accounted for by a slight difference in stoutness.

They have at all times been together, & been fed, treated, & instructed in the same way.

"The close resemblance has rather increased" on account of the elder having been until the last two years slightly fuller in features than the other.

As to mental differences we observe
in the younger & greater family in the
study of languages - in arithmetic, & in
execution on the Piano, the elder
exhibits a little more character; the
younger a little more softness; but
the differences are slight. Their feelings,
and general traits & tastes are the
same. They are rather shy & reserved
to others, & cannot bear to be separated.

Both are generally, but not always,
attached with the same illness. On
one occasion both sickened together
for typhoid fever; after four days
the elder recovered; the other went
through all its stages on another
the elder took scarlatina from a
brother. The other pined so much
when separated, that she was put with

her sister & brother, but refused to
take more than a slight sore
throat. The scarlatina was very
decided, but mild.

Their writing is very similar,
but their mother observes in it the
difference noted above. That of
the younger is more regular &
neat. That of the elder is less
precise. I send specimens.

M.M.

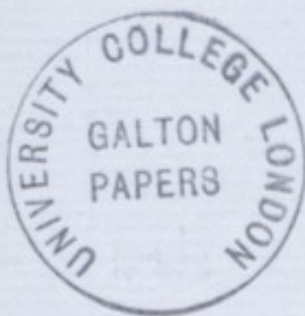
All writing
given to another letter a. 1
the coarser



Newton

6.

f.5r



Academy House, Sydenham
27th Nov. 1875.


My dear Sir,

I promised to send you
the description of the peculiarity
which I have retained in the
hands of my twins, & which has
been called to my mind by
your article in the November
Number of Fraser's Magazine.

They can both bend the
thumbs of both their hands
back from the last joint.

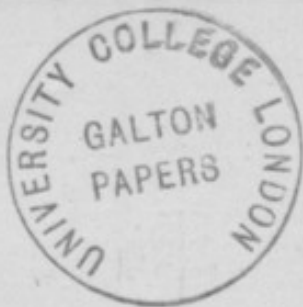


beyond what is usual, & they
 can both bend the last joints
 of the fingers of both hands
forwards without bending the
 middle joints, so that in
 learning to play the piano
 they began by using the last,
 instead of the middle, joints,
 as the point of bending the
 fingers for striking the notes.
 They have been broken of this, but
 they have not lost the power of

Bending at will their fingers
 thus , the middle joints
 being at a, and the last joints
 at b.

The day of meeting of the
 Anthropometrical Committee
 seemed rather undetermined,
 when I was obliged to run
 away on Tuesday. Will you
 let me know what day was fixed.

Yours very truly
 Henry H. Newman.



Bawton

C f.7r



Newlands Nurse Sydenham
3rd Nov. 1875.

My dear Sir,

I may say with some
confidence that none of my
twins' relations have had the
same peculiarity in their
fingers. Their mother, however,
can bend backward the last
joints of her fingers rather
more than usual, more than
her sisters or myself. This may



have given some hereditary tendency
to the crime. But it is strange
that none of their ~~five~~ brothers, ~~nor~~
~~the~~ ~~sister~~ could any such
peculiarity, & that they both
committed the same.

Yours very truly

Samuel M. Newson

You missed an interesting meeting
at the Geographical last night.



Rowson *el* f. 8v



Howlands House - Lydenham.

21st Jan. 1876

My dear Mr Galton

The time of our meeting
on the Anthropometric Committee
is so uncertain that I will not
delay acknowledging & thanking you
for your two brochures on the subjects
of Paris.

The superior influence of
nature over nurture in producing
fluctuating differences in my two

quilt is very marked. What
an interesting code of original
information you have opened!

Yours truly

Samuel Haun



Adeline Robinson

f.l.r



St Biddas, Taurie Park,
Sydenham.



Febr. 14th 1876

Sir,

Can it be of any interest to you to know that, in my sisters family (in Germany) there are twins, boy & girl, who are as dissimilar in every thing as possible? — They were born with quite different individuality, to mark their identity with ribbons was quite unnecessary — they have been nursed & have grown up (that is as far as 10 years now) under exactly the same



circumstances but are bodily & mentally widely apart. No feature is alike with them; the boy is small, inclined to chest disease, yet looking full strong & hearty; he has a determined will, clear understanding & intellectual powers, fair hair & countenance. The girl looking frail & delicate, is tall & as hardy as possible, has low mental capacities, a submissive temper & dark hair & complexion. The likes & dislikes of the two children are remarkably

opposite & have been so
since their earliest baby hood.
Reading your article in
Fraser's Magazine this morning
I thought, these small facts,
which have been watched by
myself for years, might interest
you perhaps.

I am, Sir,

yours obediently
Adele Rockness

J. Galtoun Esq. F.R.S.

Norman

f.1



18 Cornwall Terrace

Regent's Park

Jan 28th /96.

Dear Mr. Galton,

I write to
thank you for the papers.
Those on Twins are particu-
-larly interesting, & the results
certainly of great importance.
It seems as if Nature had
^{in this case} expressly provided the oppor-
-tunity of applying the statis-
-tical method where experiment

f.2

is impossible. I had no
idea that "nature" was of
so much more importance
than "nurture", & in no other
way, I suppose, could the
fact be proved.

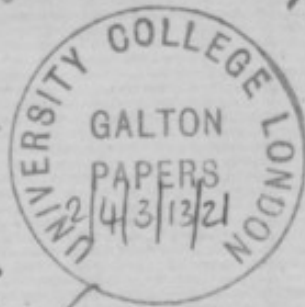
Altho. you will probably
have seen the abstract ^{of my paper,} I
send you a copy. The paper
itself has been accepted for the
Transactions & ^{also} constituted the
Croonian Lecture for the year.

I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Geo. J. Romanes.

From Miss Thabor



Richmond Road, F.R.
Salverham Link.
Nov. 3rd / 1885

Dear Sir

Allow me to thank you
for kindly telling me of the article
in Fraser. I have read it with the
interest that one brings to facts
which help to confirm ones own
convictions. The conclusion arrived
at seems perfectly fair, whether
reached through the similarity
or dissimilarity observed in Twins.
But I suggest though, that some-
thing may be due to sympathy in
increasing the similarity that often
exists in Twins. In such cases this
would naturally be fostered both by

Sentiment and circumstances,
and we know how in others it
sometimes acts in producing a mu-
tual assimilation of character,
tastes, habits, &c. Still this in no
way destroys the argument.

In Nottingham four or five years
ago were two Mr Swindells, Twin
brothers, both business men, and
so much alike that mistakes were
constantly made between them. To
distinguish themselves from one
another one brother allowed his
beard to grow. Their after history was
unfortunate. It would be interesting
as illustrating the comparative in-
fluences of nature and nurture, if
it were possible to find cases of
Twin children who had been brought

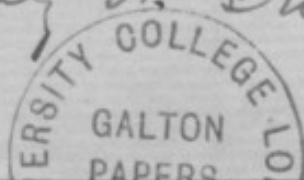
up together long enough to decide on^{f.2r}
their strong resemblance, and then at
the age of say two or three, separated
and brought up apart and under
quite different influences. If the
streams of character still run paral-
lel that would be a two fold con-
firmation of your Law.

May I venture to enlarge the
province which you assign to nur-
ture. It seems to me that it does
the most when it simply aims at
giving a clear field to nature, and clear-
ing away all hindrances to the free
and full development of whatever
is in the child - having the right
food ready for each faculty as it
feels spontaneously the need of
nourishment. Too often, through-
out all the early period of life, nur-

4.24.

there is little more than the repression
of what is strongest in the child,
and the forcing into exercise of
what is weak and immature. A
little "wholesome neglect," as affording
free play to nature, would after
be an infinite blessing to a child
or young person. As it is. Education
in its true significance - leading forth -
is displaced by Instruction.

I wish I might, without fear
of impertinence or presumption,
express the true enjoyment and in-
terest with which I read and re-read
your book. There is much conso-
lation I think, in the Law of Heredity
for those who are distressed by the
consciousness of their own defects.
Certainly it should lead us to charity
and compulsion



and compassion for such as ^{F.35 2} have
been heavily weighted by nature,
mentally, morally, or physically -
But as certainly it does not involve
the conclusions of Necessitarians,
for we are conscious of the freedom
- within certain limits - of our Will.

Just as by the exertion of the Physical
Will - if I may use the term - we can
move our bodies in opposition to,
or agreement with the force of Gra-
vitation, going uphill hardly, down-
hill easily - so by putting forth the
mental or moral will we may
- though to a certain extent only - con-
tract the force of Nature, the acting
of the Law of Heredity - or we may
add its force and our own together.

The signature of Professor New-
man in this Nov. Fraser suggests

an instance of your Law which seems
to me singularly forcible from the
fact that the same natural tendencies
have led the two brothers respective-
ly to the opposite poles of religious
thought. In each the spiritual nature
and the logical are intense. This
necessitates for each a religion
resting on a firm logical basis.

The one brother, as may be seen at
a glance, is deficient in self-re-
liance. Hence he has been able,
though with some difficulty, to
base his religion on the external
authority of the Church; and cer-
tainly the Roman Church, its
premises being conceded, draws
from them logical conclusions.

The other brother being more evenly
balanced is not driven to rest

on others and with equally powerful logic finds internally a basis for his Religion in his own Consciousness and Reason.

There are more things still I would like to say, but I am quite too much ashamed of having written so much already. I can only beg you to pardon what I feel has been an unjustifiable intrusion on your time and courtesy.

I am,

Very truly yours,
Mary C. Talbot.

Townsend

f.1

"The Spectator" Office.

1. Wellington Street.

Strand, London, W.C.

19th Nov^r 1875



Sir,

I am sorry I cannot assist you in your very interesting enquiry. The twins referred to are the daughters of the Revd H. Fox who I think about 13 years old when I knew them or rather to be accurate when my wife knew them they were about six, and certainly were more

4.2

nearly identical in appearance than
any children Lecker saw. Mr.
Eds has a living in Oxford but
I am not on terms with him
to enable me to send your
questions. John, and the chil-
dren's mother whom I
knew better is dead.

Yours Jply

M. Townsend

A good many persons must know
who the originals of were of the
brothers described in Whitby's
"Friends in Bohemia." The sketch
there given is most powerful
of Whitby never invented

anything.

I believe that the most remarkable pair
of twins now alive are two brothers
near Robertson in Bradford. I don't
know them, but I have been told that
their resemblance, though they are
full grown men baffles their most
intimate friends.

W. H. H. 13

Townshend

²⁴⁵
Spectator Office
10th Nov



Sir,

The clergyman, Mr Henry Fox, whose name I mentioned in my note of yesterday is now Vicar of Christchurch Westminster. His two daughters are 10, not thirteen.

I am told that Mr Meldor Headmaster, under the Principal, of Leighton School, has two sons

in which two ~~twins~~ brothers separated ^{f4v}
through life rejoined one another at
about 50 with their identity unim-
paired, but I find real evidence unattain-
able. The brothers were named Wilson,
were Quaker men, merchants & ^{think}
in later life, and were great-uncles of mine.
I have heard their story all my life, but I can
find since my mother's death no one who
can give first hand testimony. Yours faithfully
M Townsend.

f. 5.

of seventeen who are remarkable
for a certain consciousness
of identity. They have, or too
late, had, a confirmed
habit of speaking of them-
selves in the plural. "We
are thirteen years old today."
"We are not fond of animals"
and so on. It is quite probable
that in answer to a direct
application Mr. Sheldon
might give you most in-
teresting facts. The boys are I think
at Rugby. I have tried to learn for
you something of a case

Wright.

f.l.r

4 Full Shut. Derby

Feb: 5. 18/5.

Dear Sir

There was placed in my hands the other day a copy of your paper on "Questions about twins," "Heredit" &c. - Since then I have found three "cases" of twins, and I have thought that if I had one of your papers I might be able to answer a few of the questions therein propounded - if you have not already completed the information you require will you kindly cause a paper to be

forwarded to me?

I am

Dear Sir

Yours faithfully

Frederick William Wright

F. Galton Esq.

