

Draft Circular for Inquiry into the Permanent Effects of Mental Work

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Staff of a proposed circular

F. 1r

School life

Were you elected to an entrance scholarship in your school?

How many hours a day did you usually work, when preparing for the scholarship examination?

Did your health suffer from that work?

College life

How long have you been a fellow, a scholar or even college?

How many hours a day have you usually worked at college, when in health?

Have your habits of physical exercise been as regular as those of the generality of your contemporaries?

Have you been in the habit of taking unusually severe exercise?

Have your habits of sleep and of diet, been as regular as those of the generality of your contemporaries?

Has your health ever materially suffered from over mental work, since you have been at College?

If so, please answer the following questions as applicable:

Have you ever been wholly incapacitated from mental work, in other words had you ~~been~~ "broken down," since you have been in College?

If so, (How often & for how long a period in each occasion?) has your health broken down?

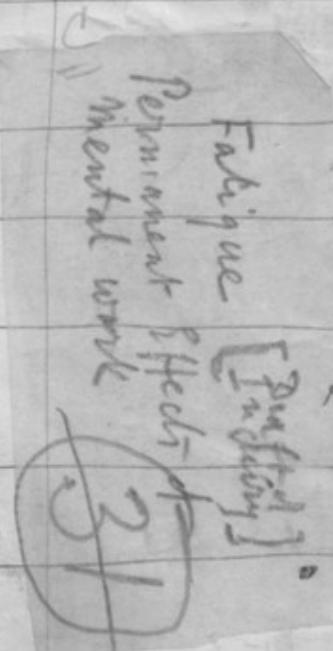
Do you ascribe the "breaking down" to a period of exceptional hard work?

For how long had the period of hard work lasted, and for how many hours a day, did you work during that period?

Any further remarks bearing on the subject of this enquiry, would be acceptable.

Signature. Date. . . .

Name
College



of the present system of examinations
and other matters is a simple
matter of ~~fact~~ ~~so~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~more~~
~~object~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~present~~ ~~system~~ ~~is~~ ~~to~~ ~~obligate~~
~~the~~ ~~student~~ ~~to~~ ~~work~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~exams~~ ~~I~~ ~~have~~
~~obtained~~ ~~information~~ ~~about~~ ~~the~~ ~~health~~ ~~of~~ ~~those~~ ~~who~~ ~~have~~
~~succeeded~~ ~~in~~ ~~getting~~ ~~a~~ ~~competitive~~
~~mark~~ ~~but~~ ~~also~~ ~~for~~
It does not deal with the case of students who
have tried & not failed but with the
→ those who have failed so needs
immediate object in disorder
& whose health may or may
not have suffered from these exertions &
I sincerely trust that the scholars & junior
Fellows of Oxford, to whom their creators in
the first instance ~~had~~ will ~~securely~~ take
the pains of answering the query, the object
of the exams is one of ~~considerable~~ ~~extreme~~ ~~value~~
& can only be solved by fair standards
of slow hard ~~recovery~~ ~~recovery~~ & give the aperient
which I now do, that the reply will be
completely ~~but~~ ~~the~~ ~~very~~ ~~short~~ ~~one~~
I think will be ~~surely~~ ~~stated~~ ~~in~~
in the treatment

Drawn up at the effect of the medical
system of competitive examinations upon
the health.

There is so much difference of opinion & of view
as to the consequences to competing when the
fact is in little evd.

It is in consequence of the great difference
of opinion that exists upon the effect of competitive
examinations upon health, that I have pleasure
to send the accompanying circular of ours
to assist all by pointing to the ~~difference~~
between ~~the~~ ~~two~~ ~~systems~~ ~~when~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~student~~
~~capable~~ ~~of~~ ~~passing~~ ~~both~~ ~~exams~~
from the same

Who have themselves been successful
in these examinations & can testify
to it ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~student~~

There are two who assert
that in the ~~recovery~~ ~~recovery~~ ~~the~~ ~~health~~ ~~of~~ ~~my~~ ~~boy~~ ~~are~~ ~~severely~~
injured ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~exams~~
There is no doubt that the present system of competitive
examinations severely injures the health of many but
not all. ~~Students~~ ~~are~~ ~~not~~ ~~all~~ ~~affected~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~degree~~
but ~~most~~ ~~of~~ ~~them~~ ~~feel~~ ~~some~~ ~~discomfort~~ ~~or~~ ~~pains~~ ~~or~~ ~~aches~~
caused by ~~the~~ ~~exams~~ ~~which~~ ~~will~~ ~~last~~ ~~for~~ ~~years~~
Some are not ~~there~~ ~~to~~ ~~give~~ ~~me~~ ~~too~~ ~~few~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~of~~ ~~use~~
to ~~the~~ ~~general~~ ~~country~~ ~~but~~ ~~others~~ ~~after~~ ~~the~~ ~~exams~~ ~~will~~ ~~be~~ ~~no~~ ~~longer~~ ~~willing~~ ~~to~~ ~~go~~ ~~out~~ ~~to~~ ~~an~~ ~~innocent~~ ~~amusement~~