

P.S. I will write Sam about your paper just-received.

Keep the book I send you till we meet in October if you like. CRIPP'S CORNER,  
I have got tired of another copy. FOREST ROW,  
SUSSEX.

My dear Fisher. Aug 21-28

I wrote Cutler a short-while ago to say that I was sorry for the kind of review which The Builders of America had received at the hands of James, but implied that, when written, none had to accept it. I wanted anyhow to read the book again, and it occurred to me that it might be useful if I wrote Whitney a letter partly better and partly criticism. I thought it would indicate that I was, at all events, much

interested in the book. I wrote  
the letter as I went along, and  
it has ~~been~~ <sup>turned out</sup> much longer than I  
first intended. Then I came to  
what seems to me a regular  
howler which I felt I could not  
pass over if I wrote at all.  
All I ask you to do, and I should  
be much obliged if you would  
do it, is to read the part of  
the enclosed letter to Whitney  
which is marked by a red line,  
and tell me if he is right and  
I have blundered, or vice versa.  
I ~~do~~ <sup>is</sup> his ~~blunder~~ if it upsets some

of his conclusions, such as the heredity of athletic qualities, or rather that they are correlated with big families. If I am right, I think I shall send the letter, though with some doubt.

If you look at the book for yourself, Chap VIII on Crime is interesting, and his figures as to cost extraordinary if true. Then look at the table on p 161, and compare columns B and E. These show that the low fertility of those worse educated is almost entirely due to a diminished marriage rate. Does not this indicate that income tax allowances, if only applicable to two children are more beneficial than would otherwise be thought? They <sup>ought</sup> encourage marriage, I suppose.

Then the information about the families of mathematicians will please you. p. 192. 193. Of course his most important point is that in our class the most "successful" have most children. It wants a good deal of thinking about.

If you think I am right about the blunder, kindly let me know. No particular hurry. Keep the book longer if you want to read it. I am sending it by this post.

Yours sincerely

Leland Dewar,

P.S. I have just <sup>seen</sup> ~~sent~~ an abstract of 5 mathematical papers by Haldane in Cambridge Phil. Soc, by Reed of U.S.A. I did not know of Haldane's work, but doubtless you do.