

TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
SHARPTONNE.

Aug 19 15

CRIPPS'S CORNER,
FOREST ROW,
SUSSEX.

My dear Fisher.

Thanks for your letter.
The economic value of human
beings is not an easy question,
and I had better perhaps
keep my remarks vague!
Here is a subject for you
to tackle some day! What
I had in view about rarity
value was this. If one man
possesses certain information
& 9 men don't, he can impart
his knowledge to the 9.

If one man possesses the information and 99 do not, he can impart it to the 99. In short, as regards the power of affecting others, it seems to me the more rare the individual, the more valuable he is. But I see from what you say that, as regards a man's individual output of goods, it may increase less rapidly in value than the increase in the natural qualities on which his output depends. This because Environment has a leveling effect.

But I want to write a
word on quite a different
subject. Would your method
of analysis afford a practical
means of deciding how much
poverty ~~and~~ ^{or} criminality (or
other such characteristics)
depends on heredity and how
much on environment? I
am writing a paper for the
Statistical Society to be ready
for printing in November, and
I might put in a ^{word or} note on
the point if it fitted in.
I may have to bother you on
another point in connection
with the paper. Yours sincerely,
L. Darwin