

TELEGRAPH OFFICE,
SHARPTHORNE.

Sept. 3 1915

CRIPPS'S CORNER,
FOREST ROW,
SUSSEX.

My dear Fisher

Thank you for your letter. I will answer your points in the order you raise them.

As to my "first problem", I gather that you think by a scheme of genotypes and fluctuations you can, as it were, imitate the facts of ^{nature} ~~the case~~. I do want to 'explain' the regression we know to exist. We will have another talk on this subject, as it interests

me much.

As to sexual selection, I hope you will get a paper written for the October journal. I expect you can make an interesting point. I won't say in advance how much I shall agree with you. But I do want discussion with difference of views, as it is only in that way that the truth emerges.

Then as to the blunder, Pearson's or mine as the case may be. I shall not move in the

matter, but naturally I should like to see myself proved to be right. I want to think mainly of what will do Eugene's good, and at home I was brought up to believe that controversy with individuals ~~is~~ was a great waste of time. Supposing Gule said you were right, should you write something on the point? Where for? It would make Pearson your enemy, I fear, and that should not be forgotten. If for our Journal you should write, then I must have some responsibility, as President of the Society. It would be easy to write a note saying that I had in the July 1913 Journal

in effect suppressed a wish that
my views should be criticised.

Then quote offending passage.

Then say that I had said
in the Oct 1973 Journal
it had been pointed out to
me I had made a blunder.

This, you could say you presumed
from Biometrika, was from

Prof. Pearson, and it was little

wonder that I accepted his
Correction, as he is the leading

authority. But you hold I was
right. Then give your reasons,

and show why question is
of some importance. Now in

all this I am thinking on

paper rather than in the least
declaring to you. I am wondering

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whether if you are
confident you are right, &
if you did intend to
write something, whether it
would not be best to write
out your remarks in their
final form, and submit
them to Gale, or get us to
do so. I should be bound to
get assurances you were on
the right tack before
publishing ^{in our journal.} For I cannot profess
to judge myself, and Schuster
agreed I had come a howler.

It would be tempting
to bring in Galton's name,
and say one wonders what
he would really have thought!
But this would only embitter
the controversy, which may
be bitter enough anyhow.
I doubt if P. is honest enough
to confess an error.

Yours sincerely

Leimard Darwin