Dear Fisher,

I received the Quarterly Review as an advertisement. It cost me nothing, and I therefore felt no compulsion to read it. Then it occurred to me that I had better give it to someone and get a little credit by doing so. Now you begin to see my little game. But to gain full credit, I felt I had to show I had looked at it. Now there is one point on which I think we don’t see quite eye to eye. In our Outline, I think you put in that “the Society is strongly opposed to redistribution by means of taxation...”. Now I have been slowly drifting more and more to tolerate or even approve of such
a method of improving the lot of the poor—though my ideas are still very shaky. Now in this Quarterly there is an article on high wages, which I thought might interest you nicely. It is true that I neither like him nor trust him, in spite of his being my niece's brother-in-law. But he is very clever, and won't go far off the line for any reason. Hence it occurred to me it might do you good to read it. Then read my cousin J. Wedgwood's article, if you have not previously turned this production into the fire in disgust. Please finally deal with it in that way, for I don't want to see its face again, and do not write—for I am, I think, going to bore you with another letter tomorrow, on a subject as to which we may possibly agree.

With every love,
Damon
Dear Fisher,

Thanks for your interesting letter. I am glad to hear of your German edition. I do not see why this new part should not form a preface. Still, I think, very important—let me know if financial or other difficulties stand in the way of the German edition.

I agree that blending would stop selection if the mutation rates are high enough. You may be right about my pathetic views. I incline to think, however, that—
you have a clear idea of a mutation, which he could not have had it, and I suppose, the idea of the transmissio of one generation to generation of quite mistrustful healthy elements had never even occurred to his mind. I remember when about 1890 I was thinking over Galton's ancestral law, I used to puzzle myself as to how it was conceivable that the average quality of the race could be transmitted from generation to generation as well as particular individual qualities, this being necessity of reversion to the mean taken place. The broad view of-
the Darwinian-embryology sense could, I conclude, have influenced my father scarcely, as well as on the deduction you draw from it. But you may be right in thinking that he saw matters more clearly than I suppose.

I shall keep your letter a week or two. I may myself be able to see it in two days. I think I agree with what you say about reversum to the mean.

No more today.

Yours sincerely,

D. Darwin