Jan 21-31
Cripps's Corner,
Forest Row,
Sussex.

My dear Fisher,

I am now an idle man, so I love my friends write letters, to which I expect no answers. I am really glad that you did not answer my last.

You may care to place it enclosed, and then throw it away. See p. 291. Is not the conclusion or high grade defective as to the case of disease quite enough to account for the greater amount of maternal defect or congenital syphilis? Doctors seem wholly incapable of statistical argument. Dr. Potts, who writes a preface article, is a very nice man, but as silly as they
are made. Syphilis is increasing, whilst mental defect is increasing. Syphilis is more prevalent in form, and mental defect in the county: at least I believe so. It would be interesting to compare the incidence of syphilis and defect in different towns. Hereford, Cheltenham, Aldershot, Portsmout, and some central towns. The same with alcoholism. I fear that Dr. Turner of Cheltenham is out to prove-in-momentary cases.

Nature said my letter was too long, but I wrote it down. It would be no use, anyway I am not surprised.
Now the answer.

Yours sincerely

L. Darwin