

“*Father*—An active man all his life, riding every day, and always about, although over eighty.”

26. “Energy shown by much activity, and, whilst I had health, power of resisting fatigue. I and one other man were alone able to fetch water for a large party of officers and men utterly prostrated [other facts given in illustration of undoubted energy.] *In mind*—Shown by vigorous and long-continued work on same subject, as twenty years on . . . . and nine years on . . . .

“*Father*—Great power of endurance, although feeling much fatigue, as after consultations after long journeys; very active; not restless. *In mind*—Habitually very active, as shown in conversation with a succession of people during the whole day.”

27. “Considerable enduring power in fulfilling any given task or duty; have dissected continually for three or four weeks eight or nine hours a day, devoting some sixteen hours to the work at critical times. *In mind*—Considerable.

to be much more common than I had expected. Among those who have sent me returns, I count no less than seventeen who are active heads of great commercial undertakings. There are also ten medical men in the highest rank of practice, and eighteen others who fill or have filled important official posts. Here are some answers to my special inquiries :—

1. — A most eminent biologist wrote as follows, in reply to the inquiry whether he had any special tastes bearing on scientific success, in addition to those for his own line of investigation :—“ I have no special talent except for business, as evinced by keeping accounts, being regular in correspondence, and investing money very well.” It is clear that method and order are essential to the man who hopes to deal successfully with masses of details.

2.—“ I believe I may say that my organ of order is highly developed. Of my collection of some 7,000 birds' skins every one is always in its place, ticketed with name, &c., all by my

all about it. My engagements sometimes suffer . . . [from similar forgetfulness].”

4. “Memory very retentive in regard to incidents and events, but could never learn by rote except with great effort. Often surprise my patients by recollection of their symptoms, but am often at a loss to connect their names with their faces.

“*Father*—Memory remarkably retentive, especially as to the various events of his life and time.”

5. “Memory very bad for dates and for learning by rote, but [extraordinarily] good in retaining a general or vague recollection of many facts.

“*Father*—Wonderful memory for dates; in old age he told a person, reading aloud to him a book only once read in youth, the passages which were coming; he knew the birthdays and those of the deaths, &c., of all his friends and acquaintances.”

6. “A peculiar memory; bad for names of

*Religious sentiments weak, accompanied with more or less Scepticism.*—1. [Being compelled to attend frequent chapels at college, he, for ten years afterwards, refused to enter either church or chapel]. 2. “The negative tendencies of my family may be absence of piety . . . .” 3. “Religious feeling not great.” 4. “Sceptical.” 5. “Not much religious bias except in a boundless admiration of nature.” 6. “I gave up common religious belief, almost independently from my own reflection.” 7. “Bias towards freedom of thought in religious matters.”

*Intellectual interest in religious topics.*—1. “Entertained at an early age independent views regarding the resurrection and salvation of the heathen, which led to frequent disputes.” 2. “At school I became a sceptic, and even worked out in my own somewhat (at that time) reserved mind, a kind of idealism. I afterwards had a phase of religious fervour, but worked through it.” 3. “Given to theological ideas, and not reticent about them.” 4. “Instinctive (or

## BIOLOGY.

*Zoological Subsection.*

(1) [Yes.] “Inherited from my father’s family, who have generally been attached to natural history [especially botany—most remarkable examples are given]. My scientific tastes were largely determined by being appointed . . . .”  
(*a, d, e*)

(2) “Certainly innate. . . . Strongly confirmed and directed by the voyage in the . . . .”  
(*a, h*)

(3) “Love of observation and natural history innate; [I had them] as early as I can remember. My grandfather was very fond of natural history, and a [more distant] relative has written an excellent fauna of . . . . The help of Mr. . . . . has aided me immensely, but not, I think, altered my tendency.” (*a, e, f*)

(4) “Homology innate, and derived from my mother. I trace the origin of my interest in science decidedly to my mother’s observations in

as a whole is as follows: To teach a few congenial and useful things very thoroughly, to encourage curiosity concerning as wide a range of subjects as possible, and not to over-teach. As regards the precise subjects for rigorous instruction, the following seem to me in strict accordance with what would have best pleased those of the scientific men who have sent me returns:—1. Mathematics pushed as far as the capacity of the learner admits, and its processes utilized as far as possible for interesting ends and practical application. 2. Logic (on the grounds already stated, but on those only). 3. Observation, theory, and experiment, in at least one branch of science; some boys taking one branch and some another, to ensure variety of interests in the school. 4. Accurate drawing of objects connected with the branch of science pursued. 5. Mechanical manipulation, for the reasons already given, and also because mechanical skill is occasionally of great use to nearly all scientific men in their investigations. These five subjects should be *rigorously* taught. They are anything but an excessive programme, and