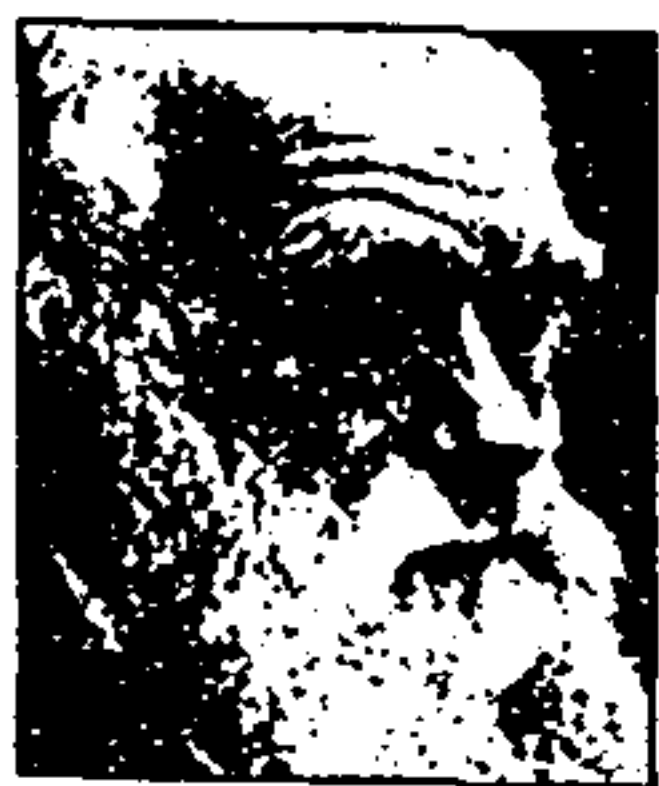


Darwin's haul



IF YOU are offered a chance to buy a set of miniatures of Charles Darwin's family in the next few weeks, don't hesitate — ring Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

On March 8 a burglar broke into the Darwin Museum at Down House, near Sevenoaks in Kent, and got away with almost £30,000-worth of stuff, including personal effects of Charles Darwin.

Down House is the place where the great evolutionist lived and quietly plotted his revolution. An excellent place to visit, it is in urgent need of restoration, according to the Natural History Museum. The items lost include furniture with no obvious Darwin connection, ceramics, works of art and miniatures, including portrait medallions of scientists. Meanwhile, the museum needs to raise at least £1.5 million by November for its restoration plans.