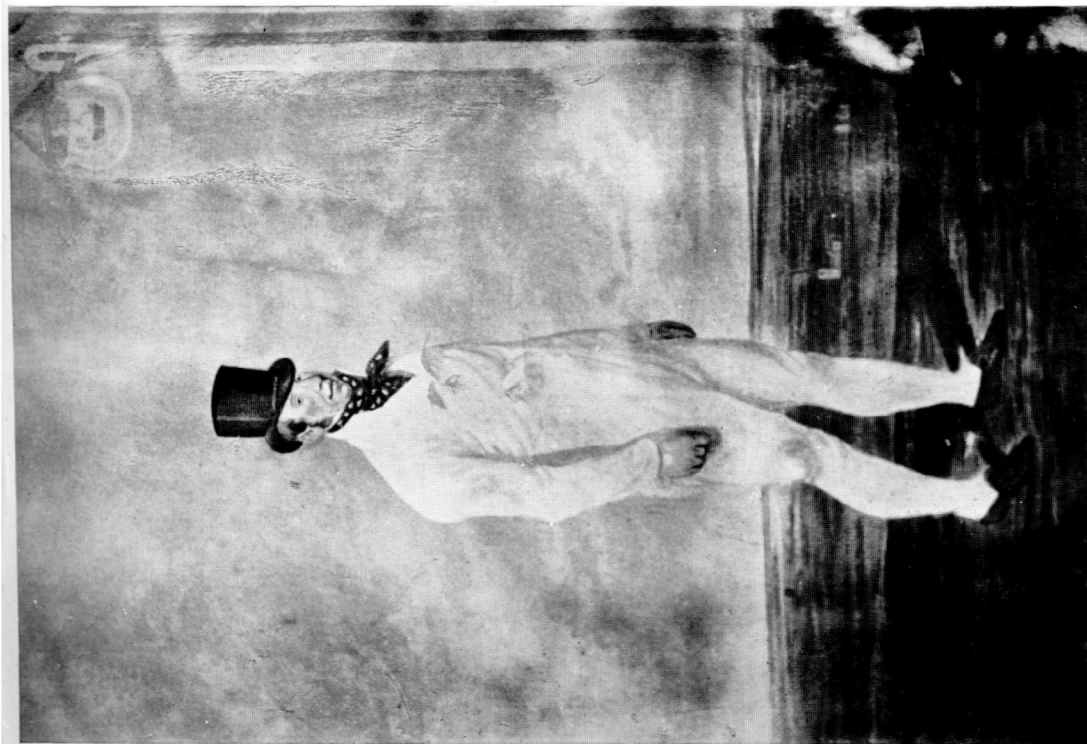




Robert Barclay

ROBERT BARCLAY (1731—1797).
Father of Lucy Barclay (Mrs Samuel Galton) and Captain Robert Barclay-
Allardyce. Great-grandfather of Francis Galton. From a print in the
possession of Mr Wheler Galton after the picture by Raeburn.



CAPTAIN ROBERT BARCLAY-ALLARDYCE (1779—1854).
From a picture formerly at Ury, showing him on his
1000 mile walk in 1000 hours.

stubbornness and physique we find in the Barclays were almost certainly the factors which in earlier generations made their ancestors great in the land. The reader may think that the bond is slender, but it is strange how often we find the great linked to the great in history. And let us remember that, although we have traced the Barclays up to many great names, we have not followed those names downwards again to all their descendants who may have been famous. Our pedigree is directed only to *one* such man. If the reader believes that time and patience would lead *any* single individual to find in his ancestry names great in history, then will that reader assuredly find himself in error. In nine ancestral lines out of ten we find a stock which, if we can carry it back beyond 1600, lands us in a yeoman family. There we end in the soil, and there probably the ancestry has remained from Anglo-Saxon times.

If we turn back to the fifth generation of Sir Francis' ascendants, we find ourselves very near to that yeomanry stage at least in a moiety of the branches. Actually, in some of the branches, we have to deal with the younger sons of yeomen who had come into the towns as traders. The Galtons—supposed to have sprung originally from Galton in Somersetshire—are described in the church registers as yeomen and husbandmen. They send sons into the law and the church, but we have no record of any member of the family being of note. Look at the other names, as far as it has been possible to trace them. Robert Galton, the brother of the second John (see Pedigree Plate A), started as a "Haberdasher of Smallwares" in Bristol; the Farmers were "Ironmongers" there; the Freames were grocers in Aldgate, but later goldsmiths as well; the Braines were Tobacconists of Wapping, but carried on a variety of other trades in Whitechapel and Ratcliffe, even to bakers and butchers. But in many cases we can show that they were the sons of yeomen or squires who came into the towns to trade, just as the younger sons of yeomen do to this day. Much more was this the case in the days of the religious persecution of the Quakers. To be a member of the Society of Friends in the latter half of the 17th century demanded splendid courage, and the being, as Galton phrases it, "grandly and simply stubborn"; but it demanded more; it needed marked industry and persistency in carrying on a business, and supporting a family under repeated fines and imprisonments. Stringently selected, as the early Quakers were, their rules of intermarriage led to a splendid breed of men and women. If the reader wants to realise how a particular

type, even among mankind, can be relatively easily reached by selection and intermarriage, he has only to study the history of the Society of Friends. Great businesses were established by them, and the banking interests of the country were largely in their hands. We are concerned here only with their energy, persistence and industry. They did not apparently always follow the highest dictates of their faith. While in Yorkshire members of the Society were ejected, because they had shares in merchant vessels which carried a gun to protect them against privateers, the Galtons and Farmers set up a gun-factory in Birmingham which supplied large quantities of muskets to the Government. But the business had much wider ramifications; there were large transactions in Lisbon, and on one occasion £54,000 of slaves were handled in America¹. Ultimately in the time of Samuel and Tertius Galton it developed in association with the Farmers into a banking enterprise. Generally with the Galtons as with others we pass from the country to retail trading in the towns, then to large mercantile concerns built up under the new conditions of industry, where the Quaker characteristics produced their full return.

Let us look a little into some of these other Quaker ancestors of Francis Galton. The Freames spring from Robert Freame of Cirencester². The pedigree illustrates the three stages, yeomanry, town traders, and ultimately mercantile houses. Thus the brothers Robert and John of Aldgate were grocers, but John was a goldsmith as well. John Freame of Bushhill, Edmonton, married Priscilla Gould, and his sister Hannah married Thomas Gould, probably her brother. Of Robert Freame's children by his first wife the most interesting is Thomas, who went to Philadelphia. He married in 1725 Margaret Penn—daughter of William Penn by his second wife Hannah Callowhill of Bristol—and their daughter, Philadelphia Hannah Freame, became Viscountess Cremorne. It was into the business of the Freames, and indeed into their very household, that David Barclay of Ury came, when he walked up to London. Like the apprentice of romance,

¹ On the other hand David Barclay of Youngsbury, Tertius Galton's great-uncle, who had come into the possession of £10,000 of slaves for a business debt, carried them to New York, taught them crafts and then, when they could maintain themselves, emancipated them. This David Barclay (see Plate XXII) was one of the finest characters of his time, a true humanitarian and a worthy descendant of the Apologist.

² I think this Robert may be the son of Richard Freame (? Freame), mayor of Gloucester, whose pedigree can be further followed in *Harleian Publications*, Vol. XXI.

but at a much later age, he married his master's daughter Priscilla. In conjunction with his brother-in-law, Joseph Freame, the business was developed into a large banking and mercantile firm¹. Lucy Barclay, the great-grandmother of Sir Francis Galton, was a child of this marriage.

But the Freame and Barclay intermarriages are by no means thus exhausted. Sarah Freame, Priscilla's sister, married David Barclay's son James, by his first wife, Ann Taylor. James Barclay and Sarah Freame had three children, two sons who left no issue and a daughter Anne, who married James Allardyce. Their daughter, Sarah Anne Allardyce, was the second wife of Robert Barclay (1731—1797) and mother of Captain Robert Barclay Allardyce (the pedestrian, and last Robert Barclay of Ury) and of Margaret Barclay, Mrs Hudson Gurney, the great-aunt, and kind hostess to Francis Galton's sisters and himself. Robert, Margaret and Lucy Barclay, who married Samuel Galton, were thus directly half brothers and sisters, but in addition their mothers were granddaughter and great-granddaughter of David Barclay of Cheapside, and granddaughter and great-granddaughter of John Freame of Lombard Street! Captain Barclay, the pedestrian, and Mrs Hudson Gurney were thus much closer in blood than great-uncle and great-aunt to Francis Galton². Lastly another sister of Priscilla Freame, Mary, married Thomas Plumstead of London, and their daughter Priscilla married James Farmer of Bingley, the partner in Birmingham of Samuel Galton, the first. Their daughter in turn became the wife of Charles Lloyd, who was the managing partner of a large Birmingham bank. Thus Priscilla Farmer and Lucy Barclay were cousins, and this no doubt brought Lucy Barclay the second into touch with Samuel Galton, and led to their marriage. According to a memorandum of Samuel Galton, he met Lucy Barclay at Hertford in 1776 for the first time, and married her in Oct. 1777, shortly after his mother, Mary Farmer's death. The pedigree (Plate C at the end of this volume), in which a very large number of collaterals are omitted, will

¹ It should be noted that the goldsmiths were largely bankers in the 17th century. The firm was Freame and Gould in 1698, and Freame and Barclay in 1736; the business seems to have been a continuation of that of Pepys' goldsmith Stokes: see Hilton Price, *Handbook of London Bankers*, pp. 10—12.

² Another daughter of David Barclay married a Gurney, and his famous daughter, Elizabeth Fry, a worthy niece to David Barclay of Youngsbury, was second cousin of Tertius Galton and also a feature of Francis Galton's boyhood.

serve to elucidate the complex relations of Freames, Barclays, Farmers and Galtons. Thus Samuel Tertius Galton was second cousin to Hudson Gurney, and Sir Francis himself great-nephew to Mrs Hudson Gurney, Margaret Barclay, the sister of the pedestrian! It will be seen how the Freames, if not among the persecuted Quakers, were associated with some of the most industrious, zealous and noteworthy of the Quaker stocks.

Of the Braines, tobacconists of Wapping, we have been able to piece together less information. The two brothers, James and John, and the sister, Elizabeth, were all married between 1670 and 1677, James to Elizabeth Graeme in 1670; John to Elizabeth Hutchins of Ratcliffe in Jan. 1672-3, and Elizabeth to Henry Fiegensnow of Limehouse in 1677. Of James Braine we know that in 1681, for refusing to take the oath at a coroner's inquest, his goods were taken by distress; and again, in the winter of 1684, the Quakers were kept out of their meeting at Ratcliffe by a guard of soldiers, but they held their meeting constantly in the yard or street. For doing this they were fined, and James Braine again had his goods taken by distress. William Braine and Thomas Braine suffered also imprisonment and fine—they were doubtless relatives. Where the Braines originally came from I have not succeeded in finding out. Some of the records point to Somerset and Gloucestershire, and the name occurs in the Gloucestershire Visitations and in the Registers of Little Deane as that of a family of some distinction. In London they lived in Stepney Parish, and the various Quaker Braines belonged to Wapping and Ratcliffe. The family must, however, have been commercially of some weight, or we should hardly find them in touch with the Barclays. The birth entries in the registers (the spelling varies) are:

To John Braine of Wapping, Parish of Stepney (Tobacconist), and Margaret¹ (in one entry there is by a slip Mary) his wife: Thomas Braine, b. 12/11/1674; Margaret Braine, b. 13/5/1676 (married 14/7/1699 at Devonshire House, Abraham Coleman² of Wapping); Elizabeth Braine, b. 20/12/1677 (married 6/6/1696 Robert Barclay of Scotland); Francis Braine, b. 23/11/1679; Farley Braine, b. 17/1/1682-3;

¹ If Elizabeth Hutchins be not a slip for Margaret Hutchins, John Braine's first wife must have died in her first year of marriage.

² The name suggests Anne Coleman, cruelly flogged as a Quaker at the cart tail through New England. Sewel, *History of Friends*, Vol. 1, pp. 431-4.

John Braine, b. 24/5/1684; Mary Braine (b. ?), dau. of John and Margaret Braine, late of Ratcliffe, Stepney, married 11/7/1707 John Midford of London.

The sons we have not been able to trace further. It is noteworthy that Robert Barclay of Ury must have married Elizabeth Braine when his brother David was only 14 years of age, and accordingly it is unlikely that David was the link which brought Robert to seek a wife in commercial circles in East London. His father, the Apologist, made several visits to London, and was in touch with Friends in London; one of these visits in April, 1683, was to place his son Robert at school in Theobalds, 12 miles from London; or the link with the Braines may have been through the latter's maternal grandfather, the merchant Mollison¹ of Aberdeen, who would probably have business connections with Wapping, then almost the port of London.

Another strenuous Quaker, was Jaspar Batt. He came originally from Street in Somersetshire, and must have been among the earliest converts to the doctrines of George Fox. As early as 1657 he had his goods seized, and in the same year he was fined for refusing to take an oath. In 1660 he was sent to prison; in 1663 we find him in Ilchester gaol, from which he wrote a letter with Matthew Perin, who was his daughter Edith Batt's second husband. In 1667 Batt was imprisoned in Taunton Castle; in 1678 others were fined for listening to his preaching. In 1683 he was arrested for preaching, and later in the same year he was again seized and put in prison. In a letter to George Fox, 1683, he describes how his "dear wife" and he lay on the boards of the floor because they cannot "with safety receive or keep any goods or bedding in our house," owing to repeated distrains. In 1684 he was again before the court; in 1685 he was in trouble about tithes, and in 1686 we learn that he had already spent 2 years 4 months and 19 days in gaol for his conscience's sake. It might be supposed that Edith Batt's experience of her father's difficulties might have prevented her selecting a mate of like stubbornness! On the contrary she found in Robert Button a husband who had spent no less than eight years of his previous life (1664—1672) in gaol for conscience's sake².

¹ Gilbert Mollison was brother to the famous Colonel Mollison, who signalised himself in the defence of Candia besieged by the Turks.

² Besse's *Sufferings of the People called Quakers*, Vol. II, pp. 42—4. He was discharged from the county gaol for Wiltshire in 1672 with Walter Penn.

The Buttons are descended from an old Glamorganshire family, and there are several distinguished men of this name. Robert Button, who married Edith Batt, was a near relative of Admiral Sir Thomas Button, probably first cousin or first cousin once removed, but the evidence is traditional and I have as yet no proper pedigree worked out. Sir Thomas Button, however, was clearly a stubborn old fighter, much of Robert Button's type. He was one of the earliest to seek for a North-west passage in 1612, and although he did not discover it, he for the first time, amid great hardships in the ship *Resolution* with the pinnace *Discovery*, explored the coasts of Hudson's Bay. Button's Bay and Isle, Resolution Island and Nelson River (called after the master of his ship who died there) still remind us of Button's voyage. Later he was Admiral of the Irish seas, busily engaged in repressing the numerous pirates of those days. As in the case of most strenuous men, he succeeded in quarrelling with officialdom, but the charges raised against him were absurd, were easily disproven, and probably only raised to avoid paying his salary, which remained unsettled at his death.

When Robert Button married on his release from gaol Edith Batt in 1672, he is described as of Taunton, Somersetshire, and by trade he was a grocer. They had eleven children, of whom no less than eight died in infancy. The youngest, Robert, born 1693, married twice, first (March 1716) Mary Ellis, and second Martha Vickris¹ (October 1719). Both died within ten years of their marriages. Ellis, the child of the first, married a cousin, another Mary Ellis, but does not appear to have had any children; he died aged 40. His father, the second Robert, died aged 33 in 1726.

Those who survived were Elizabeth (1689—1754) and Sarah (1682—1754), who married John Galton of Yatton in 1703. Elizabeth married (1723) Joseph Gifford, of Wellington, who settled at Taunton. Three daughters died as infants, one son only, Joseph Gifford (b. 1724), survived, but did not marry and died in 1801, suspicious of all his relatives. His father died in 1730.

The mortality of the Buttons² is remarkable, and doubtless points

¹ A well-known Quaker name.

² Edith Button (*née* Batt) was 42 years old at the death of her husband. In the following year she married Matthew Perin, the companion in Ilchester gaol of her father Jasper Batt. Perin was then 60 years of age, and died three years after. His widow married a third time a year later Edward Watts, fifteen years her junior. There was no issue of either of these marriages.

to some weakness in the stock, probably on the Batt side. But we have to realise that during the 20 years of the married life of Robert and Edith Button, Robert spent additional time in gaol. George Fox visited Taunton in 1656 and 1663, in which year Street was visited. Fox's meetings in Bristol were very frequent, and he married Margaret Fell there in 1669; his last ministry there was in 1677. There can be little doubt that Robert Button like Jasper Batt came personally into contact with George Fox. John Galton must have been already a Friend in 1700, when he married Sarah Button, but we do not know at what date or under what influences. Originally he had been apprenticed to William Wake of Shapwick, a gentleman grazier of Dorset (d. 1705) and father of Archbishop Wake. He moved from Yatton to Taunton¹ on the day of his marriage,—which he tells us was “a sunshine day,”—and his children were born and he died there. Probably the great mortality of the Button family opened some field of activity for him in Taunton. His sons Robert and John moved to Bristol, where their widowed mother also resided. But the worst persecution of the Friends in the West was over before the date of John Galton's marriage (1703). The severest years were 1682 and 1683²—the former

¹ Yatton is 12 miles from Bristol, Taunton 45 miles, and Street, near Glastonbury, about halfway between Bristol and Taunton.

² Probably the Grace Button who was fined with Elias Waymouth, an innkeeper of Taunton, and 20 others in 1670 for being at a meeting was a relative of the then imprisoned Robert (Besse's *Sufferings*, Vol. 1, p. 607).

In 1678 we find Robert Button is confined again in Ilchester by Justices' warrant for contempt in not appearing at the Bishop's Court on processes for tithes at the suit of Robert Collier, Priest of Chard. He and other Friends were confined in a place called the Friery, and it would seem that he had been there since 1675 (Besse's *Sufferings*, Vol. 1, p. 612).

In 1683 we again find a record of imprisonment for Robert Button.

“On the 12th of the Month called August, Henry Walrond, a Justice of the Peace and Cap^t of the Militia, came with some of his soldiers and a Constable to a Meeting at Gregory-Stoke where Jasper Batt was preaching. After some time he was silent, and they scornfully bid him Go on; He answered, It is not meet to cast Pearls before Swine. Then the Cap^t took their names both men and women. He let the Women go, but committed the Men to the Constable's Custody except four, viz. William Calbreath, John Powel, John Crocker and Robert Button, whose words he took to appear at his House next day, requiring the Constable to bring the others also thither at the same time.....(p. 637). Next day those four who had promised to appear, went to the Captain's House, who set one of them at liberty, fined William Calbreath and John Powel 10l. 10s. each and committed Robert Button to prison” (Besse, Vol. 1, pp. 626 and 627).

being the year of birth of Sarah Galton (*née* Button). In Bristol all the men in these years were put in prison; then the women kept up the meetings and they also were seized. Then the Friends' children were left alone with the servants, and the children under 16 kept up the meetings. Notwithstanding that the law could not properly reach them nineteen of them were carried to the house of correction and threatened with a whipping. Most of the Friends committed to prison were traders and craftsmen, and they endeavoured to carry on their trades in gaol, but were not permitted. It was a time of stringent selection and many children suffered, but it brought the "grandly stubborn" into a community, and gave Francis Galton a factor of his ancestry, which is too influential to be passed over.

We now reach the Farmer and Abrahams families. In both of these we find an ancestor killed in the Civil Wars (see Pedigree Plate D): probably but not certainly on the Puritan side, for the sons of both became Friends. Two sisters, Sarah and Abigail Abrahams, married two brothers, Joseph¹ and Thomas Farmer, in 1711 and 1713 respectively.

Again in 1686:

"On the 12th of the Month called April this Year, Robert Button, a Grocer of Taunton, being Overseer of the Poor, appeared before the Commissioners of Enquiry into the Rebels Estates upon Summons. They would have administered an Oath to him, which he refused to take, mildly telling them, that he should do his Duty as faithfully as those who did Swear. One of the Commissioners upon this began to examine him: When he had been at Church and when he took the Sacrament? To which Robert answered, That he thought he was not summoned here for that, and that he did not come to accuse himself. Whereupon the Commissioners required the Mayor and another Justice present to tender him the Oath of Allegiance, which they did, and on his refusal to take it, committed him to Taunton Bridewell, where he was confined about two weeks" (Besse, Vol. 1, p. 648).

It will be seen that Robert Button was obviously a man respected in his own district, for he was Overseer of the Poor, and he was clearly recognised as a leader, for when others are fined he is sent to gaol. In England, I think, few were more frequently or longer in gaol than this father-in-law of John Galton of Yatton. Yet those who will read the history of Admiral Thomas Button's fight with the Admiralty, will understand that Robert Button was not "grandly stubborn" because he was a Quaker, but a Quaker because he came of "grandly stubborn" stock.

¹ This Joseph appears to be the man referred to in a deed of 1720. Joseph Farmer, Ironmaster of Birmingham, entered into articles of agreement with Joshua Gee of London, William and Thomas Russell of Birmingham, Ironmasters, John Ruston of Worcester, Ironmaster, and Stephen Onion of Brewood, Stafford, Ironmaster, to purchase land in Baltimore County in 1720 (March 17), and also gave directions to John Copson to purchase other lands in Cecil County, convenient for navigation into

Abigail Farmer, after the death of her husband in 1725, married Arthur Jephson of Bristol, and from this Abrahams' marriage was descended John Henry Shorthouse the author of "*John Inglesant*." The commercial links between Bristol and Birmingham were very strong, and we are inclined to think that Joseph Farmer, the father of Joseph and Thomas, may have been a Bristol man. There are Joseph Farmer of Cary's Lane, Bristol, who died in 1755, and his wife Sarah, who died in 1722, and these may well have been the parents of our Joseph and Thomas. Anyhow, we find the son Thomas of Thomas Farmer is an ironmonger of Bristol, and marries there in 1743 Mary Jephson, almost certainly a relative of his mother's second husband, Arthur Jephson¹. It is in Bristol, rather than Birmingham, that we must look for the link between the Galtons and Farmers. Robert Galton, son of John of Taunton, appears in Bristol as a "Haberdasher of small wares," and there in 1734 he marries Hannah Farmer²; this is the first Galton-Farmer marriage. Hannah was daughter of Thomas Farmer and Abigail Abrahams and sister of Thomas the ironmonger in Bristol. It is quite probable that Thomas Farmer and Robert Galton both dealt in Birmingham hardware, and from this basis started the common mercantile interests of Galtons and Farmers in later years, Bristol being then largely the port of Birmingham. Robert Galton lived in King's Square, Bristol, and there his last child, Sarah, was born in 1743, and she died and was buried in 1745. Shortly after this he appears to have gone to Boston in New England, probably on business matters, and there he died in 1746, or according to some accounts in 1749. It is hardly likely that he settled there as his wife and children remained in Bristol. It is possible that his mission had something to do with the large consignment of slaves valued at

the Bay of Chesapeake, near to the Ironstone Mines, where they would erect their forges and furnaces. Thus Farmer seems to have been one of the pioneers in establishing the iron-industry of America and the Galtons' connection with the Farmers and their dealings in slaves seem to point to the reason for Robert Galton's visit to New England in 1743—1745. [The deed above referred to was in the possession of Messrs S. and E. Coleman of White Hart Lane, Tottenham, in July, 1913, and was most kindly purchased and presented to the Galton Laboratory by Mr Edmund Wheeler Galton.]

¹ Tertius Galton's physician at Leamington, Dr Jephson, was probably also a relative.

² There were only four children of this marriage, three died in infancy, one only survived to twenty and died then.

£54,000 to John, Robert and Samuel Galton to which I have already referred. His wife Hannah Galton (Farmer) died in 1767 at Bristol and was buried in the Quakers' Ground at Redclif. The youngest brother, Samuel Galton, born in 1720, also started life in Bristol¹, where he paid for his freedom in 1742. In 1743 his stock, he tells us, was worth £1144. In 1746 he married Mary Farmer, the daughter of Joseph Farmer of Birmingham, and thus cousin of Hannah, his brother Robert's wife. He received £1600 as marriage portion, and definitely becomes assistant to his brother-in-law, James Farmer. This probably took Samuel to Birmingham where his brother John was already established at Duddeston. In the next year, 1747, he is admitted partner with James Farmer for a quarter of his stock for £2500. In 1753 he is equal partner with Farmer. James Farmer's cousin Benjamin Farmer, son of Thomas, was a merchant in Lisbon, and James had very large ventures there in 1755. The earthquake of that year appears to have involved the Farmers in great losses, and James Farmer was bankrupt in this year. The partnership was dissolved and the estates at Duddeston, Saltley, etc. were assigned to Galton. Samuel Galton renewed the partnership with Farmer in 1757, and from an agreement of 1766 the shares of James Farmer and Samuel Galton are placed respectively at £13,862 and £22,281. Meanwhile by the death of his mother, Sarah Button, in 1754, an estate had accrued to Samuel at Taunton. By the death of his brother John in 1775, several other estates in Somerset—Edgmead, High Ham, Allermoor, Bridgwater—were inherited by Samuel². This brother John had married Hannah Alloway and settled at Duddeston on the outskirts of Birmingham as it then was. He, however, had no children, and his property passed to his brother. When Samuel Galton died in 1799 aged 80, the Galton business held in equal partnership by himself and his son Samuel was valued at £139,000.

We have gone into these details as they are illustrative of the Quaker stubbornness turned to successful commercial achievement.

¹ The connection with Bristol was kept up, for Samuel's sister Mary died there in 1789 and his daughter Hannah in 1773.

² In 1776 Samuel Galton states in his memoranda that he sold the estate at "Beer Hill." This proves that the Thomas Galton of Beere who appears in the Registers of Winterbourne-Kingston in 1617, and who was probably the Thomas baptized Jan. 7, 1580, was an ascendant or relative of the John Galton of Yatton.

A very appreciative notice of Samuel Galton the first appears in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for 1799 (p. 63):

"A sound and acute understanding, a quick and clear conception, extended views and a mind active and firm, joined to the habit of unremitting industry, commanded success with regard to the improvement of his fortune. The same talents were ever ready to be employed in giving advice and assistance to those who asked and in forming and directing charitable institutions."

After referring to his local charities and general beneficence, the writer continues:

"These excellent qualities were accompanied with great hospitality, and their effect improved by the urbanity and courtesy of his manners, by an agreeable, well-formed person, and a countenance expressive of the intelligence of his mind and the cheerfulness of his disposition. He encountered the various accidents of life and the infirmity of old age with uncommon dignity; the energies of a strong and powerful mind enabling him to support those trials which related to himself, without relaxing in his attention to the distresses of others. The same firmness of character accompanied him in death."

Surely much of this characterisation might be directly applied to his great-grandson Francis Galton. Unfortunately no portrait of him appears to have been preserved¹. Nor were "the various accidents of life" which the first Samuel encountered slight in character; besides the bankruptcy of his partner a more personal distress arose from the

¹ A pleasing pen-picture of this typical Quaker is given by his granddaughter Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck (see Hankin, Christiana C., *Life of Mary Anne Schimmelpenninck*, Vol. 1, Autobiography. Pt. 1, 1778—1787, pp. 45—53. London, 1858).

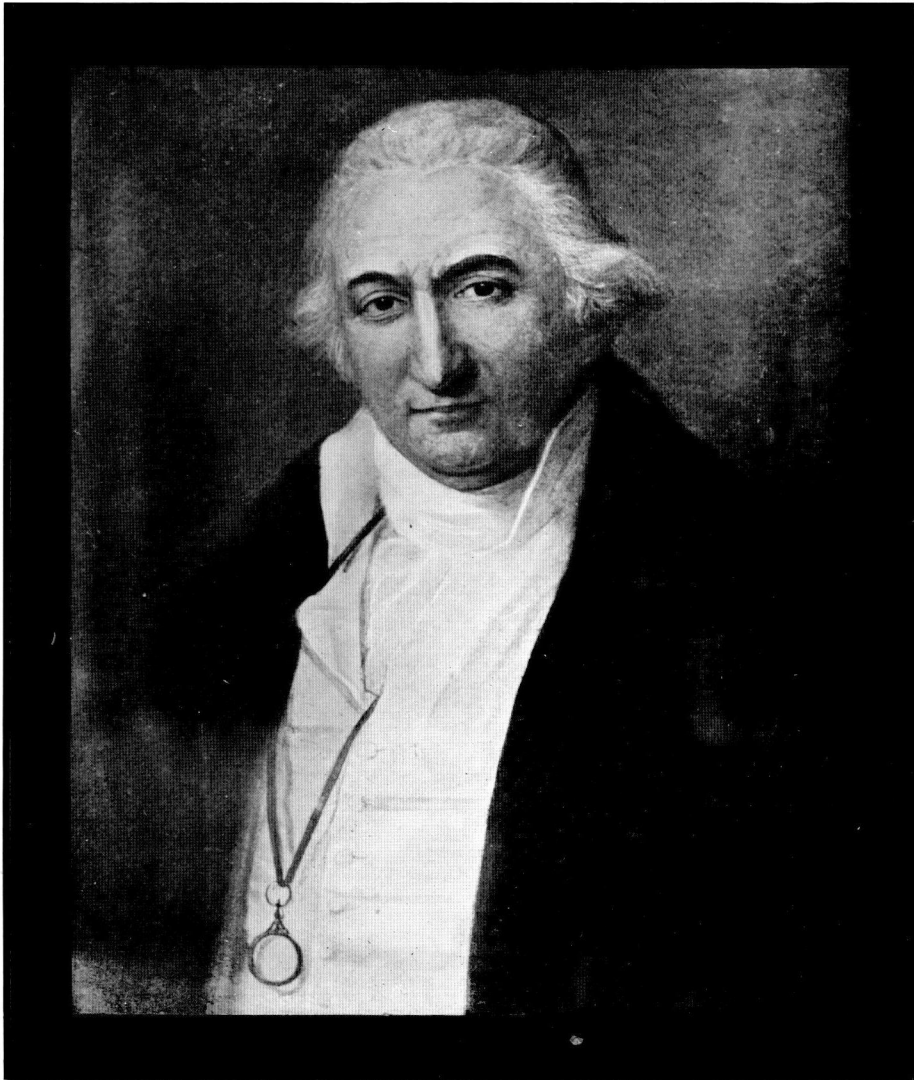
"Of all the pleasures of my childhood, by far the greatest and the sweetest in recollection were the visits, whether of days or weeks, to my dear grandfather at Dudson. I can hardly say how delightful to me was the quiet, the spirit of love and order and peace which characterised his household. The family, as I remember it, consisted of my grandfather himself and of Lizzie Forster. She had formerly superintended the education of my aunts, my father's sisters, but, after the death of my grandmother and my aunts, Lizzie Forster continued her post as head of the establishment. My grandfather himself presented so striking a likeness to Wm Penn in West's picture of the Treaty with the Indians, that I never knew any person who had seen both, who was not struck by it. He was very cheerful, orderly, active, acute as a man of business, and most kindly in his consideration and thought for the welfare and happiness of all about him. While my mother bestowed out of her benevolent heart, like a noble benefactress, my grandfather gave in a benevolent, considerate, and business-like way; with brotherly kindness he ascertained what would add to the well-being of his people, and supplied the want kindly, beneficently, yet not lavishly, with a completeness that showed his pleasure in giving, yet with an orderly economy. He considered himself as a responsible steward, and as his fortune had been the fruit of God's blessing on his industry, he desired, remembering the labour of his youth, to

early deaths of his children. It would seem that the short-livedness of the Button stock was handed down to the third generation. His eldest daughter Sarah died at 13; his second child James at one year; his

reward industry in others, and to make as many hearts as he could, light and grateful to God the Giver, never seeking to fix the eye of the receiver on himself.....

“Well do I recollect my dear grandfather’s cheerful voice, as, at about six o’clock, on a bright summer morning, he would call me to accompany him on his walk, or if he were suffering from the gout, to walk by his wheel-chair in the shrubbery. First we used to visit the little garden he had given me, and watch the growth of the seeds and roots I had planted there under his direction. Then we proceeded to the hothouse or conservatories, where my grandfather affixed to various bunches of grapes or pines the names of invalid friends or others, to whom they might be a comfort. If I had been a good child, he would let me affix the tickets, and would teach me to print the names on them or perhaps allow me to be the bearer of his gifts. And then he liked to visit his bees in their glass hives, whence he drew many a lesson on industry. He was likewise a great florist, and delighted to visit his greenhouse, his auriculas, and other choice flowers. Then we proceeded to the pond, or rather, perhaps, lake, since the stream on which Birmingham stands runs through it. This lake occupied eight or ten acres, and was of considerable length. It was truly beautiful; its borders indented and clothed with the finest willows and poplars I ever saw. The stillness was delightful, interrupted only by some sparkling leaping fish, or the swallow skimming in circles over the water, the hissing of the swans from their two woody islets, or the cries of the wildfowl from the far-off sedges and bulrushes. It used to be a delight to me, when standing near my grandfather in a rustic fishing-house at the farthest end of the pool, he applied to his lips a little silver whistle (such as now, sixty-six years after, I wear in remembrance of him) and immediately the surface of the lake seemed instinct with life. Waterfowl, of all descriptions, rose from their coverts, and hurried towards us: the heavy Muscovy ducks, Sheldrakes, Burrow ducks from the Severn, sea-gulls, Canada and Cape and tall Peruvian geese, and the little moor-hen and teal, half-sailing, half-flying, with six majestic swans all drew near to be fed. How well do I remember my grandfather then saying to me ‘Thou canst not do much good, and canst feed but a very few animals; yet how pleasant it is to do even that! God, the Father of all, opens His hand, and all His creatures on the face of the wide earth are filled with good. How blessed is He!’ Then my grandfather would visit his mill, which was near the lake; there he inquired after all his workmen, went to the cottages of any that were ill, and was sure to leave some substantial evidence of his visit, besides the kind word which accompanied all his gifts. Pleasant were his friendly calls on some infirm or aged person, or sickly child, and sure were those who diligently attended his school of a reward.

“On our return to breakfast, my grandfather would make me partake of his little ration of toast and clotted cream, and then came the pleasure of throwing open the window and spreading corn with salt on the large pigeon-board.....How eagerly I listened when my grandfather pointed out to me the deep attachment of the carrier pigeon to her home, of the queest to her nest, of the turtle-dove to her mate; that they could only flourish upon corn and all their food seasoned with salt. He also showed me



SAMUEL GALTON, the Younger (1753—1832).
From a portrait by Longastre at Claverdon in the possession of Mr Wheeler Galton.

fourth child Mary at 28 ; his fifth Edith in the first year of life ; his sixth Elizabeth at 21 and his youngest Hannah at 14 ! Only his third son Samuel survived to carry on the line¹. To anyone who has studied the pedigrees of families in the 17th century this immense mortality will not seem wholly exceptional. Of its great influence on national life and character there can be small doubt.

The death of his brothers and sisters all previous to that of his father, meant that Samuel Galton the second became, on the death of his father in 1799, a man of large wealth and considerable estates. His portrait (see Plate XXV) seems to indicate a man very similar to the verbal description given by the writer in the *Gentleman's Magazine* of his father. In the family he was often spoken of as Samuel John or John Samuel, but he was not so registered at birth ; it seems probable that the name was merely adopted to distinguish him from his father. Born in 1753, Samuel Galton the second went in 1759 to school at Bristol—a fact which shows how the Bristol connection of the Galtons was still maintained. In 1760 he was transferred to James Fell's School at Worcester, which he left in the following year. In 1768 he

their beautiful but sober plumage, and pointed out, when they soared up aloft, how bright their iridescent colours appeared in the sun.....I loved, too, to assist my grandfather in arranging old letters and papers from friends of his youth, or of his ancestors.....!

“One more anecdote respecting my grandfather. He was most kind to us his grandchildren, but I believe yet more especially to me, who was three years and a half older than any of the others, and who from delicate health always preferred the quiet society of those older than myself, to children's play. It was his custom to give each of his grandchildren a guinea on the day of their birth, and on every birthday add another, paying us also interest on the former. When we were seven years old, he made us keep the accounts ourselves. This was to go till each attained the age of twenty-one, when he intended the whole sum as a little present ; besides this, he frequently gave me money, sometimes half-a-crown, sometimes a guinea. He gave me also a little account-book in which he desired I should set down accurately everything I received and expended. This was contrary to my natural taste and habits ; it was also very different from my dear mother's magnificent manner of spending and acting in all that related to money : but one day my grandfather called me to him and said : ‘My child, thou didst not like when I advised thee, the other day to save thy sixpence, instead of spending it in barberry drops and burnt almonds.....We cannot be self-denying wisely till we know the real value of what we give up ; that is why I wish thee to keep exact acc^{ts}.’”

¹ Their mother, Mary Galton, died at the Swan Inn, Tewkesbury, on her way from Cheltenham to Birmingham in the presence of the two Samuels and her daughter Mary—“my exemplary and dear mother,” as the younger Samuel expresses it.

went to the Warrington Academy, where Dr Priestley taught¹. Here he came, for the first time probably, into touch with this man of commanding scientific ability with whom he remained a close friend during life. Priestley was the second name in 1785 of those² on Samuel Galton's certificate for fellowship of the Royal Society. Nor was the friendship one-sided. Whatever the mob may have thought of Priestley, when they fired the Unitarian meeting-houses, burnt Priestley's private house, wrecked his laboratory and destroyed his manuscripts and books, for sympathising with the French revolutionists, Galton and Wedgwood maintained their friendship for him. There is a fine letter from Samuel Galton to Priestley still preserved which runs (Sept. 7, presumably 1791):

"I have this moment only received your favour by Mr Wm Priestley, and rejoice most sincerely in the idea of seeing you. If you incline to come to Birmingham, which I think much better and more honorable, pray inform me the hour you expect to arrive and where, for I will meet you at the Coach and accompany you in your perambulations about the town, happy in an occasion to avow the most explicit attachment to a Person, whose friendship does me the greatest honour. If you leave the coach at what was once your house, I will meet you there. It shall never be said that Dr Priestley was not received with open arms by one on whom he has conferred such obligations. The idea of fear Mrs Galton³ and myself equally despise, nor do we really think there is any danger, but if the alternative were that we should lose our house or our esteem for ourselves, we would not pause for a moment⁴."

There is a good deal of the old Quaker spirit of the Barclays and

¹ It should be noted that John Wedgwood and Malthus were both at Warrington somewhat later 1782-3, and this College link of Wedgwood and Malthus to Priestley, Darwin and Galton should be borne in mind.

² The names are Richard Kirwan (1733-1812), the "Nestor of English Chemistry," and Copley medallist in 1782 for his papers on chemical affinity, "an accomplished linguist, a brilliant talker, and an adept in Italian music"; John Smeaton (1724-1792), the great engineer, builder of lighthouses and bridges and originator of the Institution of Civil Engineers; Josiah Wedgwood (1730-1795), the keen business man, the strenuous potter and the inborn artist; T. Lane (1734-1807), the inventor of graduated medical measures and of the discharging electrometer; and Sir William Watson, M.D. (1744-1825), another distinguished medical man of the time. It would have been difficult at that day to have a group of six supporters more weighty or more varied in their talents.

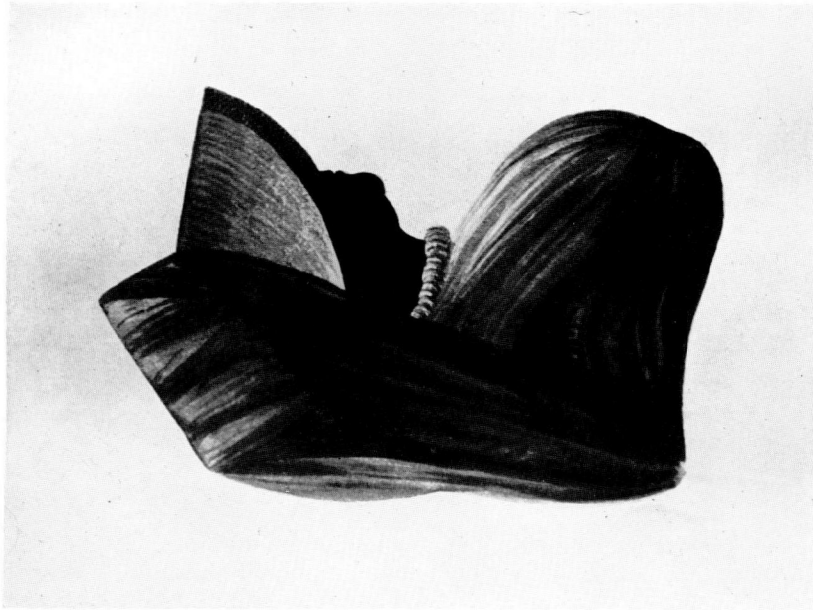
³ Lucy Barclay: see Plate XXVIII.

⁴ Marsh, G. F., *Transactions of the Historical Society of Lancashire and Cheshire*, Vol. VII, p. 69. "On some correspondence of Dr Priestley, preserved in the Warrington Museum."



MRS SAMUEL GALTON.

From a portrait taken in later life in the possession of Mrs T. J. A. Studdy.



MRS SAMUEL GALTON (1757—1817).

From a silhouette taken at Bath in middle-life.



LUCY BARCLAY (Mrs Samuel Galton).

From a miniature taken about the time of her marriage (1777).

Buttons in this letter of Samuel Galton the second, and although Priestley did not venture, perhaps for the sake of his friends, to face Birmingham, Samuel Galton continued* to give an annual benefaction towards the cost of his researches.

The fact that Samuel the first sent his son to the Warrington Academy—while absolutely consistent with the toleration preached by Robert Barclay—indicates that he had already departed somewhat from the religious teaching of the Society of Friends. He also had been concerned in the gun-trade with James Farmer. But in 1795 Samuel Galton was formally disowned by the Society of Friends “for fabricating and selling instruments of war,” after the matter had been for several years agitated. Galton entirely disregarded the disownment and went on attending the meetings until his death in 1832. The position of the Society was, I think, only consistent with their doctrines, but the disownment ought to have come much earlier—even to Samuel the first¹. If the statement be correct, that the Society continued to receive Samuel Galton’s donations, then the disownment was certainly of a very specious character. Both Samuel Galton and his wife Lucy (Barclay) lived and died as Quakers and were buried in the burying ground attached to the Quakers’ meeting-house in Bull Street (see Plate XXXII). There is little doubt, however, that both Samuel the first, and Samuel the second, the friend of Priestley and Erasmus Darwin², had progressed from Quakerism a considerable way towards

¹ In the British Museum is an interesting tract by Samuel Galton, “To the Friends of the Monthly Meeting at Birmingham” 1795. It points out that for 70 years his grandfather (*i.e.* Farmer), his uncle (John G.) and his father (Samuel G.) had been engaged in the business without animadversion on the part of the Society, that the trade had devolved upon him as an inheritance. That to be consistent no member of the Society ought to pay taxes to a Government which prepared for war, or for preserving the peace in case of riots. Men were not responsible for the abuse of what they manufactured. He declines to give any pledge to the Society with respect to abandoning his business; when he did withdraw, it should be from spontaneous sentiment and not from external influence. All is in excellent common sense and full of characteristic stubbornness, but his position was undoubtedly a false one judged by Quaker principles. Actually he gave up the gun business eight years later, three years after his father’s death.

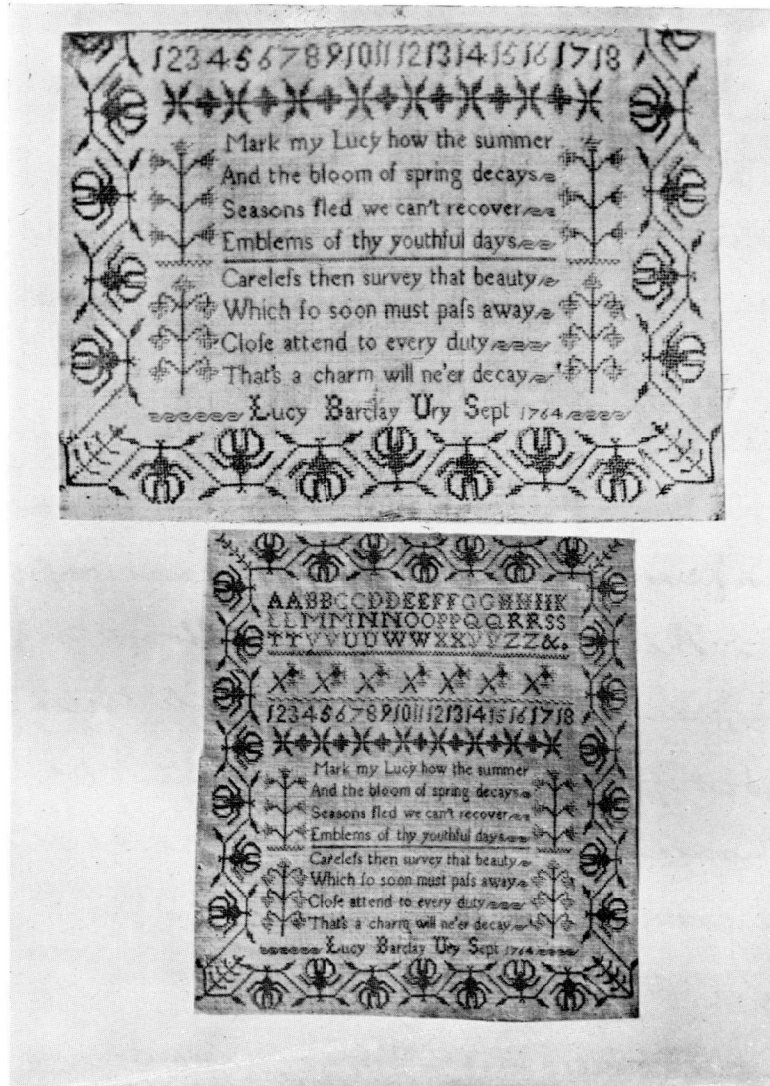
² Erasmus Darwin was regarded as almost an atheist by Anna Seward, and Mrs Schimmelpenninck, referring to Dr Darwin, says: “I was thus in a state of mind to receive evil from a new and hurtful influence which now approached our family circle” (*Life*, p. 126). And again, “I had been much in the society of freethinkers” (p. 441).

Unitarianism, or Deism. The next generation was to return to the Anglican or to the Roman Catholic Confession.

The Warrington Academy has led to this digression on Samuel Galton's relations to Priestley. On leaving Warrington, Galton entered when 17 years of age the counting-house of Galton and Farmer. His diary reveals rapid progress in business success and continuous scientific tastes. In 1775, his father transferred £10,000 to him; in 1776, he first saw Lucy Barclay¹ (see Plate XXVI), in 1777 he married her, and his mother, Mary Farmer, died. In 1778 he became equal partner with his father, and took a house in Five Ways, Birmingham. In 1783 he was worth £35,716. In 1785 he went to live at Barr, and bought cows and followed agricultural pursuits—in the winters he came into Birmingham again. In 1788 he was worth £43,049. In 1792 we find him interested in canal development; in 1794 he bought Warley for £7300, an estate he afterwards presented to his son John Hubert Barclay Galton. After the death of his father in 1799, he went to live at Duddeston, and in 1803 he was worth more than £180,000, and later than this we have repeated investments in and development of landed estates. At death his fortune was upwards of £300,000. Among interesting evidence of the intimacy with Dr Erasmus Darwin are the fees paid to him, 10 guineas in 1787, 100 guineas for a visit to Margate in 1793, when Mary Anne the eldest daughter had a dangerous fever, and 40 guineas for a visit to Bath at the time of the illness and death in 1799 of Samuel Galton the elder. Other items of general interest are 80 guineas for four years to Dr Priestley in 1798, and a further subscription in 1803.

Of Samuel Galton's own development after he started business we may say a few words. He was a member of the Lunar Society, a local society the members of which dined at each others' houses at time of

¹ There is an absurd tale in the first edition of Cassell's *History of England*, only referred to here in case anyone should ever revive it, that Lucy Barclay was a daughter of George III and Hannah Lightfoot, a young Quakeress. The story is disproved by: (1) the marriage certificate of Hannah Lightfoot to Isaac Axford in 1753, four years before Lucy's birth; (2) the marriage certificate of Robert Barclay to the first Lucy Barclay on June 3, 1756, which in 1860 was in possession of Mrs Brewin; (3) the birth of Lucy Barclay at Bushill in the Quakers' records on March 22, 1757; (4) the death of her mother, Lucy Barclay, at her birth or one day afterwards—according to family tradition by her bed taking fire: the Quaker records say she died on March 23 and was buried at Winchmore Hill on the 29th; (5) Lucy Barclay's visits to Ury (see Sampler, Plate XXVII); (6) Robert Barclay's bi-annual visits to Great Barr to see his daughter and her husband, whom he ultimately made one of his executors.



Photographs of Lucy Barclay's sampler, proving her presence at Ury, when seven years of age. According to the MS. diary of Francis Galton this sampler was worked at the gothic window with shutters on the first floor (see Plate XXIII), and he gives a sketch of the recess inside the window where his grandmother sat. A pane of glass broken by her during this weary task was still pointed out in 1839.



MRS SAMUEL GALTON (Lucy Barclay) (1757—1817).
From a pastel portrait by Langastre at Claverdon in the possession of Mr Wheeler Galton.

full moon, and which included many names of note¹, e.g. Erasmus Darwin, William Withering (1741—1799) (a notable physician and distinguished man of science of his day), Baskerville (the famous printer), Wedgwood², Boulton and Watt, Thomas Keir (a very able chemist), Day (the author of *Sandford and Merton*, an eccentric, but of some power), Edgeworth and Small (“a man of delicate sympathy, keen perceptions, and suggestive energy³”). Galton was also a member of the Linnean and Royal Societies.

The atmosphere of Birmingham in those days was one of progressive commercial development based on intimate relations to science, and Samuel Galton was one of the strongest links in the chain. His self-culture went on throughout his busy life. At 19 he attended Harris' lectures on oratory; at 21 he began to form a library, at 23 he attended Walker's⁴ lectures on gases, and he heard Walker again at 28. In 1799, at 46, he attended Bankes' lectures on philosophy, and in 1811 he assisted in founding the Birmingham Philosophical Society. In 1781 he bought a microscope for £10; in 1782 Nairn's electric machine; in 1783 Buffon in 16 vols.; in 1786 a reflecting telescope by Watson, and optical apparatus; in 1789, a camera obscura, and in 1818 he paid £42. 6s. 0d. for an orrery, which his great-grandson, Mr Edward Wheler Galton, has recently presented to the Eugenics Laboratory. Of Samuel Galton's published contributions to science there are few to record. Dr Erasmus Darwin's long note on Galton's colour mixing experiments in *The Botanical Garden*⁵, 1791, seems to suggest that he did some remarkably early work in this direction, which must have antedated that of Young (1801), whom Clerk-Maxwell places first in the field as the originator of the idea of three primary colours. The first publication by Galton himself of his results occurs

¹ Beside these men with whom he was very intimate, we must add Jean Andre de Luc (1727—1817) and Joseph Berrington.

² Wedgwood was a frequent attendant, if not an actual member.

³ See Meteyard's *Life of Josiah Wedgwood*, Vol. II, pp. 208-9.

⁴ Probably Adam Walker (1731?—1821), a successful popular science lecturer, a pioneer of what is now “University Extension.” He was a friend of Priestley, who may have brought him to Birmingham. I have not been able to identify Harris, and the only possibility for the third lecturer (“Bankes”) would be Sir Joseph Banks—who was certainly a friend of Samuel Galton's, but I am not aware that he ever lectured, even on natural philosophy.

⁵ See *Additional Notes*, note 2, p. 6, Edn. 1791.

in the *Monthly Magazine* for August 1, 1799. They show that Samuel Galton was not only a careful experimenter, but a man of very considerable originality. Young was himself a Quaker and was as a boy brought up in the house of David Barclay of Youngsbury¹; here he was educated with Hudson Gurney, and must have come in contact with Samuel Galton, who married Lucy Barclay in 1777. It seems probable, therefore, that Young knew Galton's work. Possibly his memoir took originally the form of a communication to the Lunar Society. The purchase of optical apparatus in 1786 is suggestive as to the date of these researches. Samuel Galton, as we have seen, was largely interested commercially in canals², and in the *Annals of Philosophy*, Vol. ix, pp. 177—183, 1817 is a paper by him *On Canal Levels*. He also published a book on birds³ with quaint colour illustrations, which was quite good for its date; according to his grandson Francis he had a decidedly statistical bent⁴. There is ample evidence to show that Samuel Galton had he not been a "Captain of Industry" would have been a noteworthy man of science; his energies—even like those of Erasmus Darwin—were diverted from science to more monetary pursuits. But when we look at the strong face shown by the portrait of Samuel Galton, when we examine the record of his scientific friends, and appreciate his tastes and abilities, we find it hard to assert that Erasmus Darwin was the only source of Francis Galton's scientific ability.

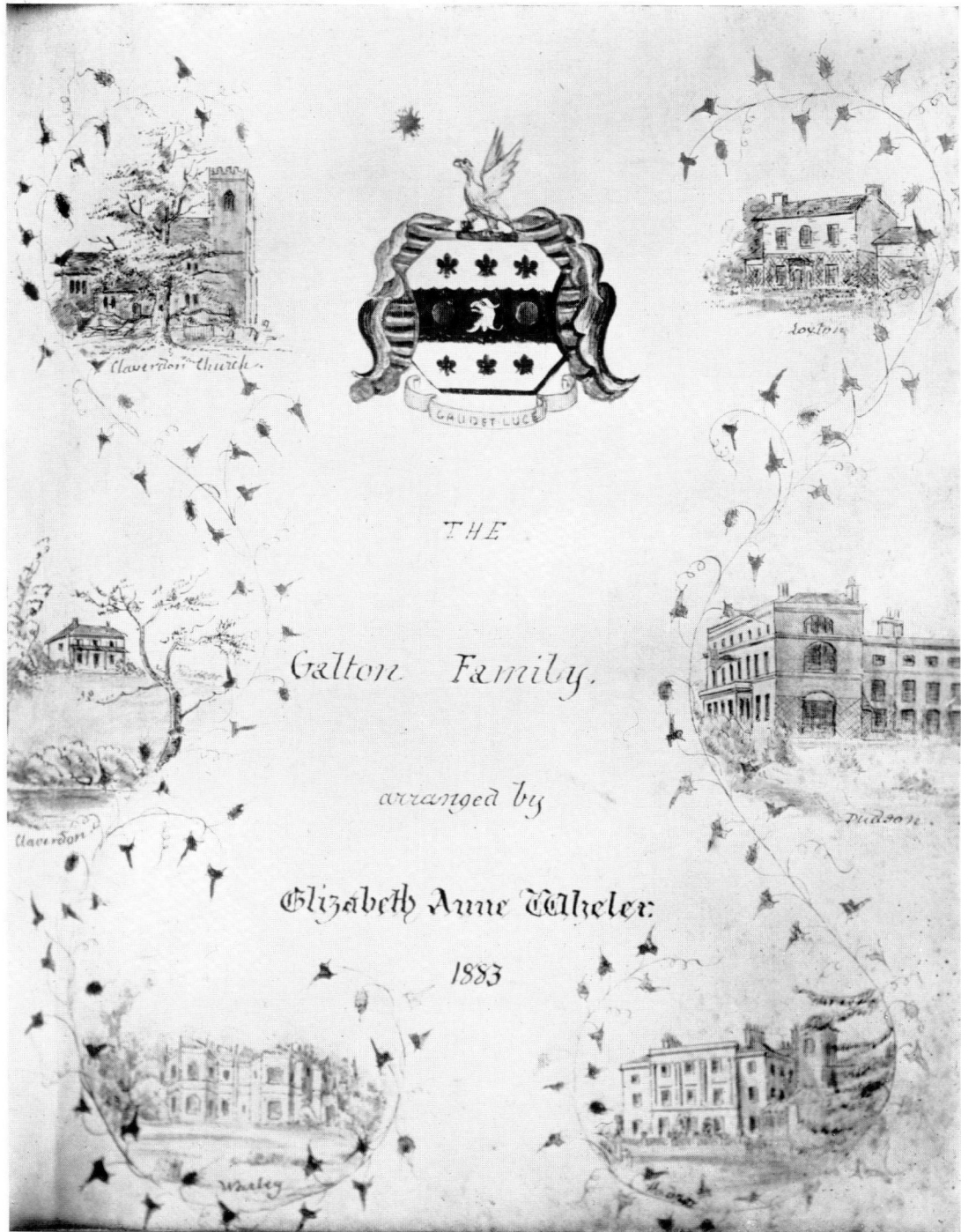
When we examine the four grandparents of Francis Galton, it is difficult to give precedence to any one of them as more noteworthy than another. Lucy Barclay has been described by one of her granddaughters as "a very clever, beautiful woman, very dignified and Queen-like in her manner." She possessed great talent and refinement,

¹ See *Memoir of the Life of Thomas Young, M.D., F.R.S.* [By Hudson Gurney], p. 10. London, 1831.

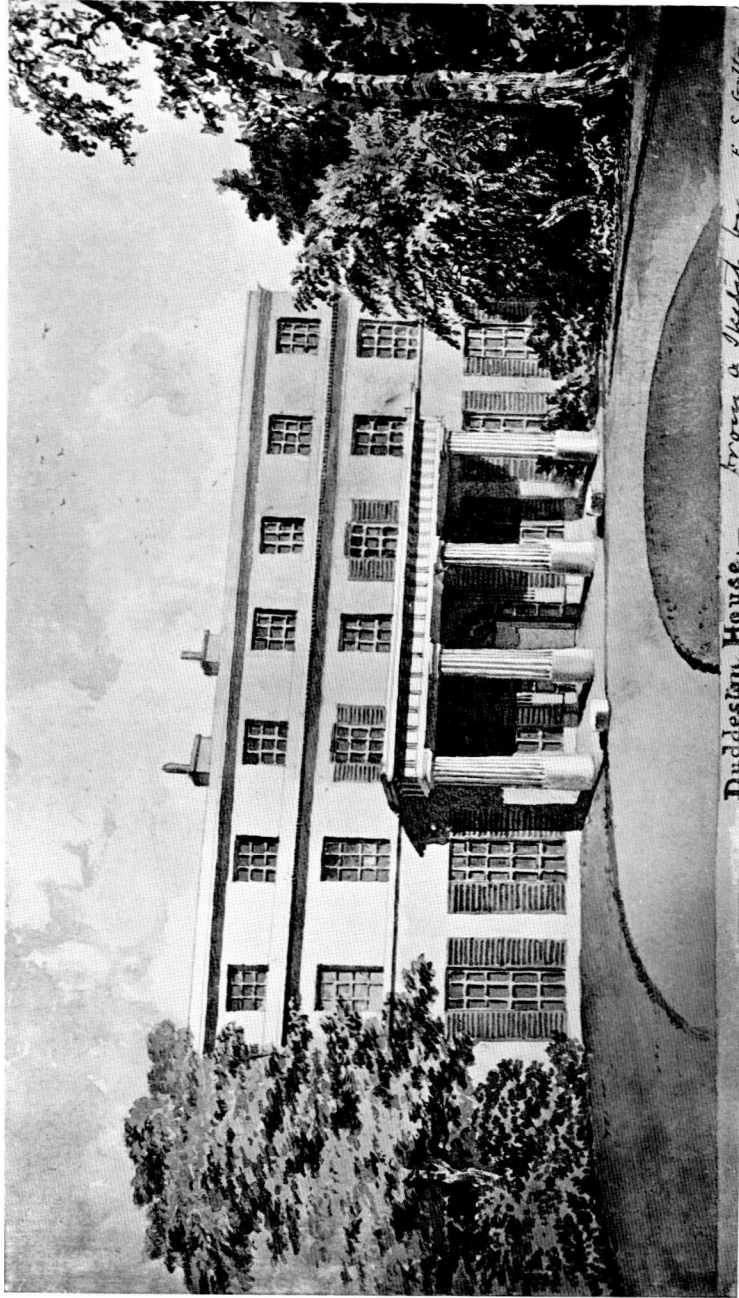
² Erasmus Darwin favoured also the construction of canals and formulated some forcible and some rather quaint arguments in favour of them. His great-grandson, Mr E. Wheler Galton, has in his possession an interesting manuscript of Erasmus's dealing with this matter. An argument in favour of canals was the provision they made for a reserve of men suited for the navy.

³ *The Natural History of Birds containing a Variety of Facts selected from several Writers and illustrated with upwards of One Hundred Copperplates. In three volumes.* No date, Johnson, St Paul's Churchyard.

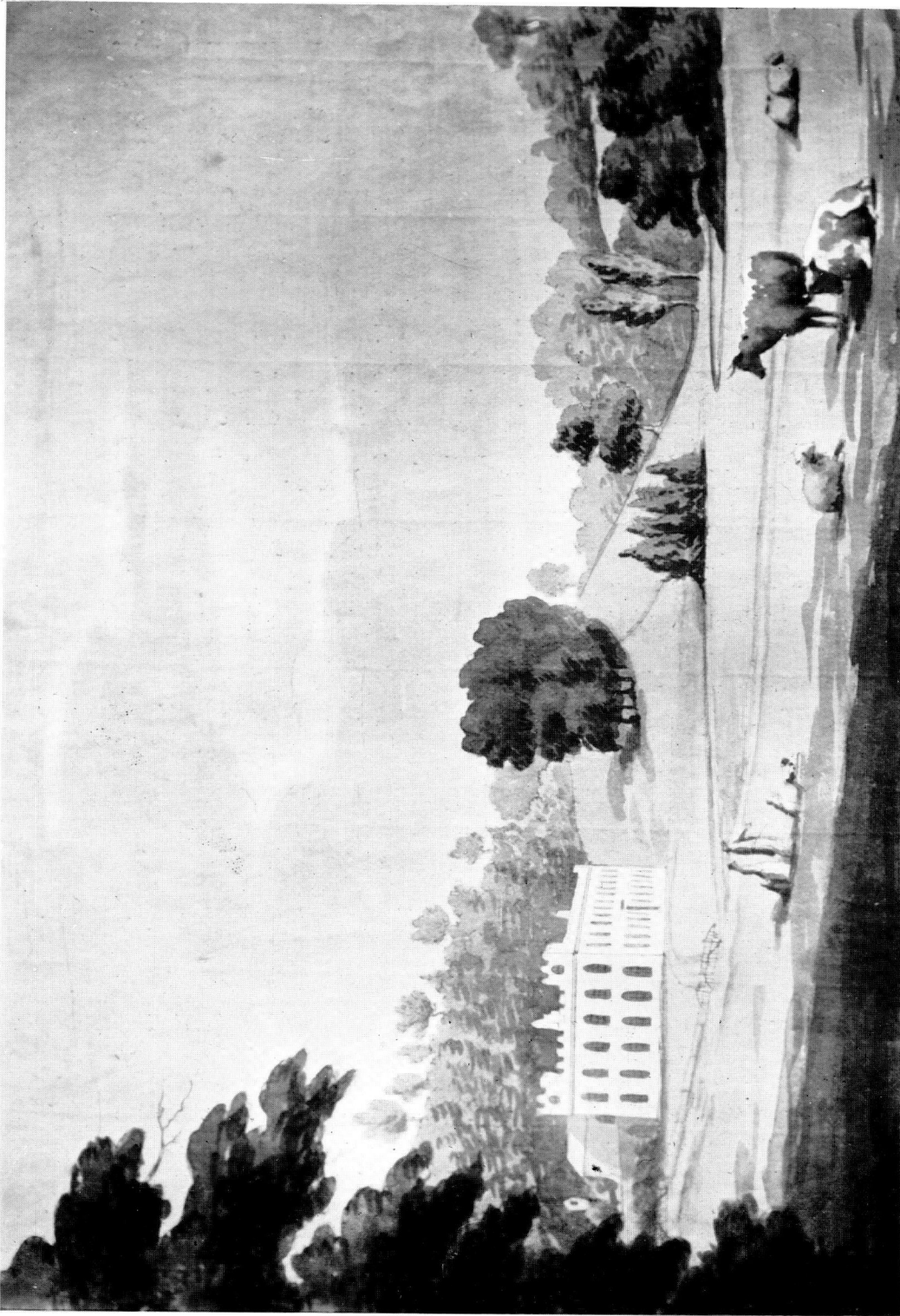
⁴ There are remarkable graphic charts of his income and household expenditure, length of service of his servants etc., etc., still extant.



Title-page to Mrs Wheler's (Elizabeth Anne Galton's) MS. account of the Galton Family, showing sketches of Claverdon House; Claverdon Church (where Francis Galton is buried); Loxton, the home of Erasmus Galton; Dudson, the home of the Samuel Galtons; Whaley, the home of Hubert Galton, and Hadzor, the home of Howard Galton.



DUDESTON (or Dudson) HOUSE.
The home of the Samuel Galtous, Father and Son. From a sketch by Emma Sophia Galton
in the possession of Mrs T. J. A. Studdy.



GREAT BARR.

The country home of Samuel Galton, jun. (1785—1799). Favourite meeting place of the Lunar Society (see *ftu.* p. 48).
From a photograph of a water-colour drawing in Mrs Wheeler's MS. "The Galton Family."