FAMILY RECORDS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES.

Sir,—I venture to ask you to give publicity to my offer of £200 in prizes for extracts from the family records of competitors. I do so because it is important to all who may compete to be equally acquainted with the facts and character of the offer.

I wish to encourage a habit of preserving family records. To enable parents to appraise various hereditary infirmities by transferring the histories of their own families, and also to obtain material for my own studies in heredity. Especially I hope to induce young married men to collect such plain facts as an elaborate census might ask for concerning the parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and, of themselves and their wives; also concerning their children. A little reflection will show that such an inquiry deals with many life-histories, and that the facts must be arranged in orderly rows.

I therefore planned the necessary tables for a single family, wrote the explanations of them, and published the whole a fortnight ago in a thin, quarto book—"Record of Family Faculties" (Macmillan & Co.). Any one may get this book and fill it up on his own account without further reference to myself.

At this point I implore my offer of prizes. The full conditions are printed on a fly-leaf inserted in the "Record, &c." The most important are extracted below.

Mr. Francis Galton offers £200 in prizes to those British subjects resident in the United Kingdom who shall furnish him, before May 15, 1884, with the best extracts from their own family records.

These extracts will be treated as confidential documents, to be used for statistical purposes, and the insertion of names of places being required solely as a guarantee of authenticity and to enable Mr. Galton to communicate with the writers in cases where further queries may be necessary.

The value of the extracts will be estimated by the degree in which they seem likely to facilitate the scientific investigation described in the preface to the "Record of Family Faculties." More especially—(a) by including every direct ancestor who stands within the limits of kinship there specified; (b) by including brief notices of the brothers and sisters (if any) of each of those ancestors. Importance will be attached both to the completeness with which each family of brothers and sisters is described, and also to the number of persons and characteristics described; (c) by the character of the evidence upon which the information is based; (d) by the clearness and conciseness with which the statements and remarks are made.

The extracts must be sent prepaid and by post to F. Galton, 42, Rutland-gate, London, S.W.

The examination will be conducted by the donor of prizes, aided by competent examiners.

The value of the individual prizes cannot be fixed; no prize will, however, exceed £50 nor be less than £5, and £200 will, on the whole, be awarded.

I sincerely trust that my efforts to draw the attention of the public to the utility of family records will be taken in good part and in the spirit in which they are made.

Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS GALTON.

January 8.

FRANCIS GALTON.
The Royal Albert Hall.

Yesterday a special meeting of the Royal Albert Hall Corporation was held in the west theatre of the hall to transact the business of Wednesday, the 15th inst., and, if the notice be stuck on the wall of the hall, the business will be transacted personally or to be performed by the London and Westminster Bank (Limited), or such other agent as the corporation may appoint.

The ledger andDWENDA MSS. 20500. 20500. 20500. of the above Debentures will take place in conformity with the terms of the FITTEE, and all holders of these Debentures will be entitled to receive the coupons and interest and forms for specifying the same may be called at this Bank.

For the London and Westminster Bank (Limited), London, No. 1, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.


New South Wales govern New South Wales Government for £1,000,000, issued under the Act, 21 Vict., No. 11, of the Colonial Legislature.-London and Westminster Bank (Limited), as agents, gave notice that the fitting of the above Debentures will take place in conformity with the terms of the FITTEE, and all holders of these Debentures will be entitled to receive the coupons and interest and forms for specifying the same may be called at this Bank.

For the London and Westminster Bank (Limited), London, No. 1, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.

Bonded Debt of South Australia Bonds due on the 1st January next, and the same date, to be paid by the National Bank of No. 5, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.

The Colony of Queensland, a National Bank Limited, will pay on and after 1st January next, the said Debentures, issued under the Act and registered in the books of the Colony, No. 5, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.

Aship (New Zealand) Harb Loan (£200,000).-The Bank of Australasia, and the Australian National Bank, are authorized by New Zealand to the Half-year's Interest due the said Debentures, issued under the Act, No. 5, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.

The Colonial Government, 1st January next, and the same date, to be paid by the National Bank of No. 5, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.

The Provincial Government of the British Commonwealth, 1st January next, and the same date, to be paid by the National Bank of No. 5, Victoria-Chambers, Westminister, December 18th, 1886.