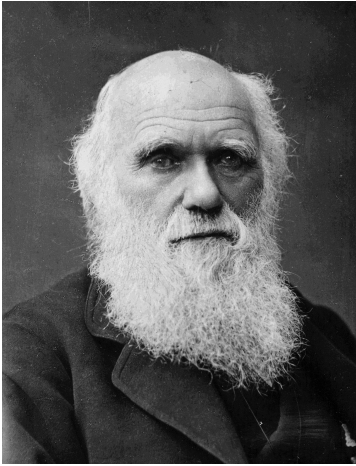


Darwin Genogram Story



Charles Darwin (1809-1882), one of the most important naturalists who ever lived, profoundly changed our understanding of evolution of species. Through his revolutionary understanding of plants and animal evolution, he recognized that all species are descended from common ancestors and plotted out the evolution for many species.

Darwin followed in a pathway of understanding evolution that goes back at least to Aristotle on Lesbos in 344 and Jahiz in Baghdad in 850, down to Diderot, one of the earliest systems thinkers, and to Darwin's own grandfather, Erasmus Darwin, a physician and poet, who spent years studying and thinking about how plants, animals and humans evolved.

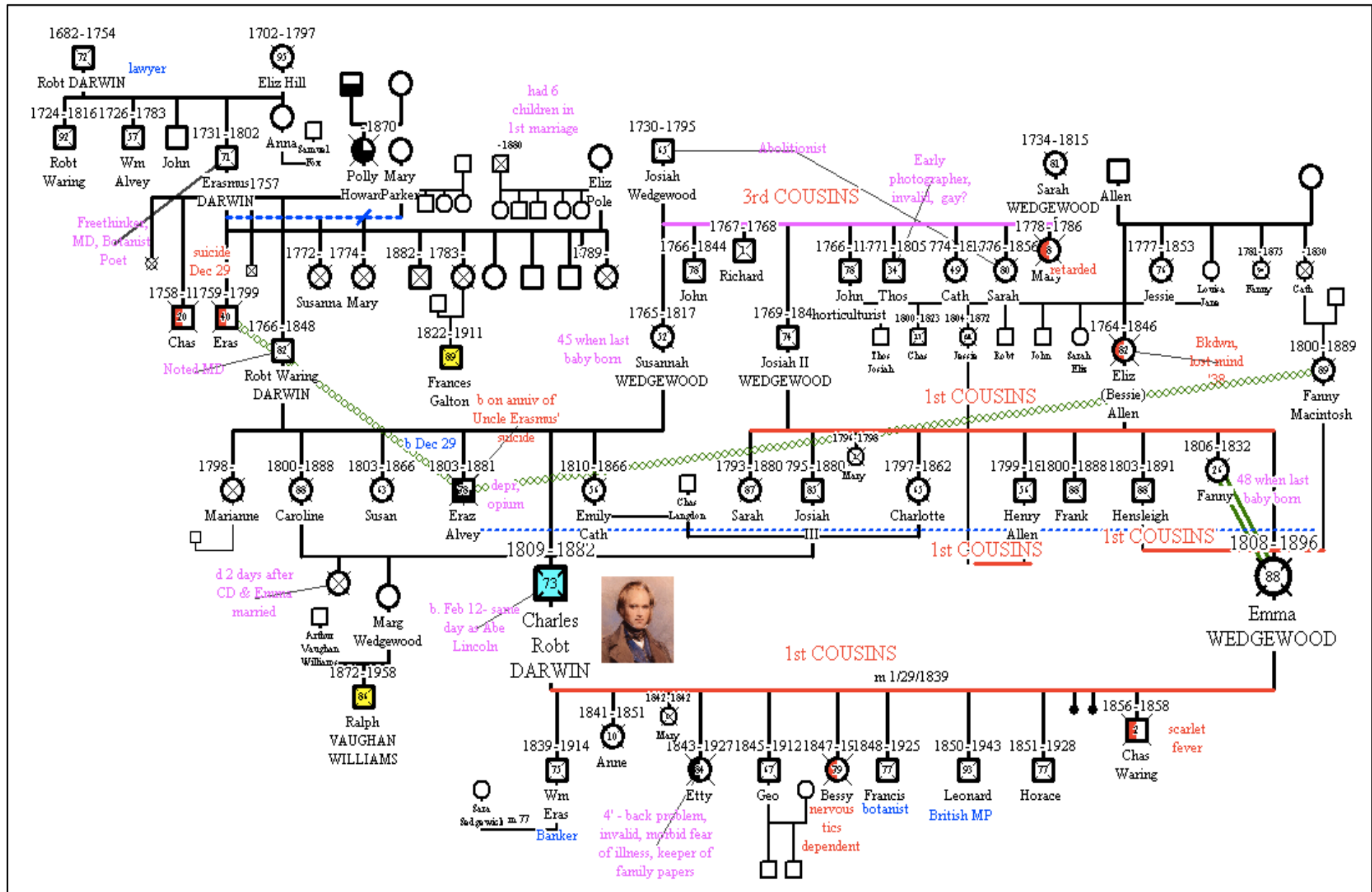
Charles Darwin came from a complexly cross-joined family in which there were multiple marriages of first cousins, including himself and his wife and his Wedgewood in-laws. On his maternal Wedgewood side, his great grandparents were 3rd cousins. There were many instances in the family also of brothers and sisters marrying siblings from another family. This included his own sister, Caroline, who married his wife's brother, Josiah III. Another sister, Emily, married the husband of her sister in law, Charlotte,

after Charlotte's death. Charles' older brother Erasmus, had a lifelong love relationship with his cousin Fanny, who had married another cousin, Hensleigh, the youngest brother of their uncle Josiah II.

The family also had many famous members, including Frances Galton, the famous anthropologist and inventor, and the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, who was a grand-nephew.

Themes in the family included the creativity and talent of many family members including Darwin's physician father, Robert and, as mentioned, his freethinker, botanist, evolutionist and erotic poet grandfather, Erasmus. There was also a physical and psychological fragility of many in the family, including several of Charles Darwin's children, his brother "Raz," Raz's namesake uncle, Erasmus, who committed suicide, an older uncle, Charles, and several members on the Wedgewood side of the family.

Erasmus Darwin, Charles' paternal grandfather, was a naturalist, an abolitionist, and a physiologist who, like his grandson, hesitated for many years to publish his revolutionary and heretical ideas about evolution. A tall, overweight, ebullient, pockmarked man with a stutter, Erasmus fathered 11 children (and raised 5 more of his wife Elizabeth Pole).



Erasmus decided finally only shortly before his death in 1802, to publish his most dangerous work and risk the possibility of imprisonment. This was only 7 years before his famous grandson was born in 1809. The work, a poem, focused on the very question of how life begins. When the publication appeared, he was vilified as a heretic, an atheist and as one critic wrote “We are full of horror and will write no more.” Coleridge wrote that he was horrified at the idea of man having evolved from an orangutan ([Rebecca Scott, Darwin’s Ghosts, 2012, p. 179-80](#)). These were the same criticisms thrown at his grandson Charles Darwin, when the latter finally published his ideas.



**Erasmus Darwin
(1731-1802)**



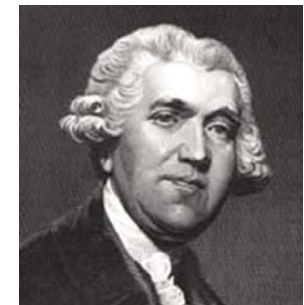
**Emma Wedgwood
Darwin**

Darwin’s mother was from the famous Wedgwood family that had created Wedgwood china. There were many talented artists also on the Wedgwood side of the family. Darwin’s maternal grandfather Josiah Wedgwood, who was the grandfather also of his wife Emma, the youngest of 13 children and probably the most creative in the development of the family’s famous pottery, was another freethinker, a potter, and an abolitionist. The family became Unitarians, although Darwin as he grew up and especially after the death of his daughter Annie, had no religious belief. This was a source of great concern for him and

his wife, who was very religious and feared that after death she and her husband would not be in the same place. Darwin’s concerns and beliefs about science led him to be very troubled that it could cause a rift with his wife. It was a great preoccupation of his

because he adored his wife, but they almost never spoke to each other of this key concern.

Darwin was the second youngest of 6 children, 3 older sisters followed by an older brother, Erasmus (Uncle Ras), who never married and died of opium addiction. The last child was a 4th sister Emily. Darwin’s mother died when he was only 8 and he wrote in his autobiography that he remembered hardly anything of her except her deathbed. He thought this was because of his older sisters’ terrible grief, which led them never even to want to mention her name. Charles was mainly cared for by his older sister Caroline, whom he remembered mostly for his feeling of, “What will she blame me for now?” ([Autobiography, p. 22](#)), though he also thought of her as clever, kind and always trying to improve him. He thought of himself as a “naughty boy,” and was not very good at his studies except that he adored collecting. He said he was given to “inventing deliberate falsehoods” mainly for the sake of creating excitement ([Autobiography, p. 23](#)).



Josiah Wedgwood



Charles Darwin

Darwin felt humiliated that his doctor father, Robert Darwin, 3rd son, of paternal grandfather Erasmus, thought of him as ordinary. He remembered his father saying “You care for nothing but shooting, dogs and rat-catching, and you will disgrace yourself and your whole family” ([Autobiography, p. 27](#)). Darwin’s father came to weigh about 350 lbs and to have a severe and very critical attitude toward his son Charles. Yet, as the years went on Charles greatly trusted and admired his father, whom he viewed as a remarkable diagnostician as a doctor and the best judge of character he ever met, just as Robert’s father, Erasmus had been. It was said of him that Robert Darwin could recognize an illness long before the person might even realize himself that something was wrong. Charles admired also his

maternal uncle Josiah Wedgewood, whom he viewed as uptight, but also having extraordinarily good judgment.

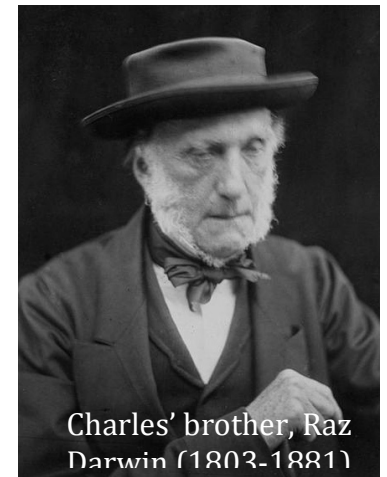
In 1825 after spending the summer as an apprentice doctor, helping his father treat the poor of the neighborhood, Dr. Robert Darwin sent his son Charles, age 16, to accompany his older brother Erasmus, then 22, to Edinburgh to study medicine. This brother “Raz” was born on December 29, 1803, the 4th anniversary of his uncle Erasmus’ suicide. Erasmus was the older brother of Robert Darwin. He never married, but was apparently always in love with his cousin Fanny Macintosh, daughter of the youngest sister of Emma Wedgewood Darwin’s mother, who was married to her first cousin, Emma’s brother Hensleigh. Another of Emma’s brothers, Henry, also married his first cousin, so in the Wedgewood family three siblings married first cousins in one generation!

In any case, the medical studies Dr. Darwin sent his sons to undertake did not work for either Raz nor Charles. Charles’ revulsion at the brutality of surgery led him to neglect his studies. Neither brother finished medical school, Charles because he hated seeing children bleeding. Indeed, he never overcame his fear of blood. He did, however, learn taxidermy from John Edmonstone, a freed black slave, who told him exciting tales of the South American rainforest. Darwin was more interested in the natural sciences and continued for the rest of his life collecting, as he had done since childhood- beetles, plants, and stones.

Dr. Robert Darwin then decided that his son Charles should study for the clergy at Cambridge, which he did. But from the beginning he did not have much interest in dogma, and found himself more interested in collecting and other courses than in theology. At



Dr. Robert Darwin



Charles’ brother, Raz Darwin (1803-1881)

Cambridge he was mentored by Professor Henslow, a botany professor, who spent a great deal of time with him and later encouraged him to take an offer to go on a voyage to South America that sought a naturalist.



**Josiah
Wedgwood II**

Darwin's father objected to the plan, arguing that the voyage was a wild scheme, a useless undertaking, disreputable to his future character as a clergyman, and that such a long voyage would mean that he would never settle down to a steady life afterwards. But, the father added, if Charles could find any rational person who could argue in favor of the voyage, he would let him go. Robert Darwin was in general fierce, feared and stern as a father- He and Charles only became close after Charles returned from his explorations on the Beagle, and Charles himself was a very different father to his own children- affectionate, loving, expressive, playful. He allowed them to participate in scientific experiments.

In seeking a "rational" man who could argue for Charles embarking on the voyage, Darwin solicited support from his favorite maternal uncle, Josiah Wedgwood II (his future father in law), who argued for him, including that if the father looked upon Charles as "a man of enlarged curiosity" ([Autobiography, p. 193](#)) it might well be of benefit.

What a remarkable assessment! If ever there was a man of "enlarged curiosity," it was Charles Darwin. Robert allowed Charles to go and from this 5 year voyage, which Darwin himself considered "by far the most important event of my life and has determined my whole career" ([Autobiography, p. 60](#)). It was from this experience that he

developed his theory of evolution, from which all his future research evolved, to demonstrate the patterns in nature.

Marriage to First Cousin, Emma Wedgwood & 10 Children



**Emma Wedgwood
Darwin, Charles
devoted wife**

On his return, Darwin became enamoured of his first cousin Emma Wedgwood, his favorite uncle Josiah's daughter. He had grown up frequently spending time with her family. He felt comfortable with the Wedgewoods. He decided to marry this 1st cousin and friend, though he sensed already that the ideas he was developing could be at variance with Emma's spiritually. They had a great affection for each other all their lives. Late in life, in his Autobiography, Darwin described her as his greatest blessing.

Charles Darwin was sensitive, family loving, reclusive, and frequently ill throughout his life. He also struggled for years over the publication of his ideas and research regarding evolution, fearing the explosion they would cause and fearing the damage they could do to those he loved.

Before Darwin's marriage he asked his father whether he should tell his wife about his doubts about Christianity, since his scientific questioning had made it seem unlikely to him that the world was created in 7 days. His father recommended from his experience as a physician that Charles not to tell Emma his doubts. The father feared that at the point where one spouse became ill, the other would be upset about the

doubts. Darwin decided instead to tell Emma his “honest and conscientious doubts” about Christian Revelation ([Keynes, p 59](#)). A few years earlier, when Emma’s sister Fanny had died, Emma had felt great reassurance in the hope of being with her again in the afterlife. In later years he wrote about his wife to his children: “... You all know well your mother and what a good mother she has been to all of you. She has been my greatest blessing and I can declare that in my whole life I have never heard her utter one word, which I had rather have been unsaid. She has never failed in the kindest sympathy towards me and has borne with the utmost patience my frequent complaints from ill health and discomfort. I do not believe she has ever missed an opportunity to do a kind action to anyone who met her. I marvel at my good fortune that she, so infinitely my superior in every single moral quality, consented to be my wife. She has been my wise adviser and cheerful comforter throughout my life, which without her would have been during a very long period a miserable one from ill-health. She has earned the love and admiration of every soul near her.” p. 80-81.

Just as Darwin’s father had feared what might happen between a devout wife and a husband with doubts about religion, Emma was unhappy about Charles’ uncertainties about faith and salvation ([p. 60](#)). She feared deeply that she might lose him in the next world, which was so important to her. Emma wrote to Charles that when they were together, melancholy ideas stayed out of her head, but when they were apart, some fears forced themselves forward, “of fear that our opinions on the most important subject should differ widely. My reason tells me that honest and conscientious doubts cannot be a sin, but I feel it would be a painful void between us.” ([p. 61](#)). Charles tried to reassure her, but could not. In another letter she wrote: “Though our opinions may not agree on all points of religion, we may sympathize a good deal in our feelings on the subject.” The couple were eager to find a faith to share for their life together, but honest as they were with each other, they could not overcome all their differences ([p. 61](#)).

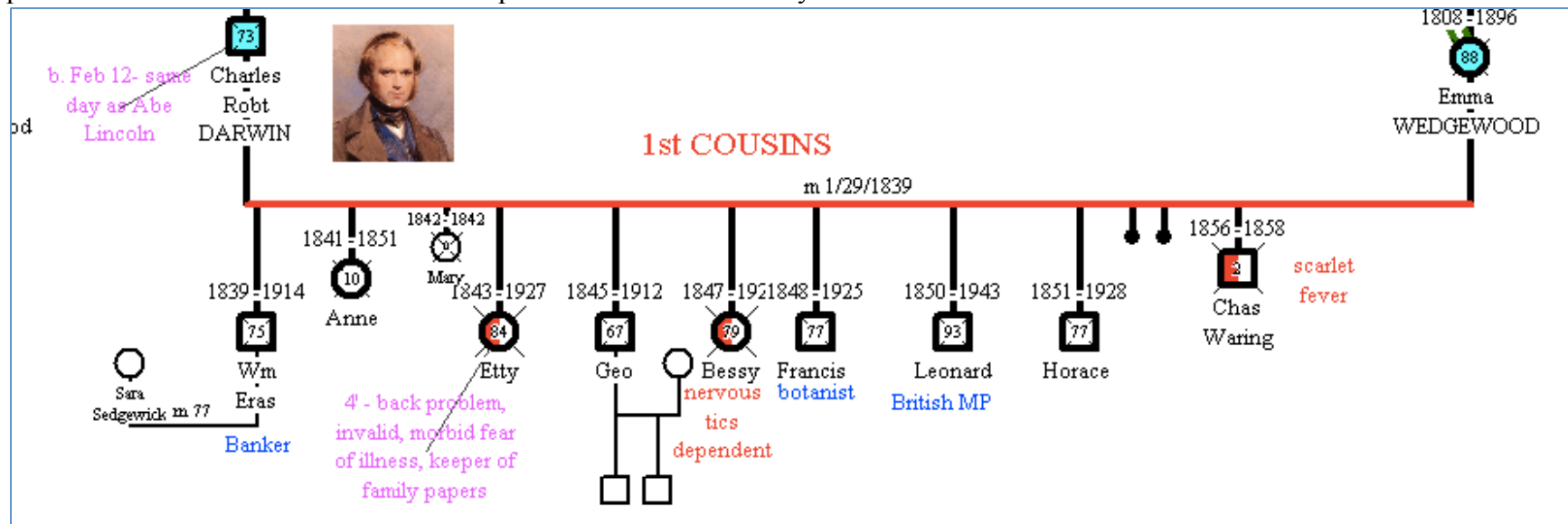
During the next year, Emma wrote her husband a note on a subject she felt she could not discuss with him directly. We do not know exactly what happened between them that led her to feel she needed to have this conversation, but he had apparently explained to her that he was continuing his “discoveries” and was still unclear about Christian revelation. She wanted to feel he was correct, but feared he was wrong. She wrote that she did not want him to respond to her thoughts: “I do not wish for an answer to all this- it is a satisfaction to me to write it, and when I talk to you about it, I cannot say exactly what I wish to say”([p. 64](#)). She feared for the afterlife. “Everything that concerns you concerns me. And I should be most unhappy, if I thought we did not belong to each other forever. She declared she could not tell Charles how happy he made her and how much she loved him. She thanked him for his affection, “which makes the happiness of my life more and more every day” ([p. 64](#)). It seems she was never able to accept his ideas on the natural origin of our moral sense. Years after Charles’ death she told her son that Darwin’s opinion that all morality has grown up by evolution was painful for her ([p. 64](#)).

Charles kept her note for the rest of his life. At some point he wrote on its outer fold: “When I am dead, know that many years I have kissed and cried over this. C. D. “ ([p. 65](#)). Darwin’s Great grandson wrote of this poignant silence between Charles and Emma, who loved each other so deeply: “He felt deeply for her, but could only think of breaking his silence to her after his death. The “painful

void” between them was there before they married, and despite their deep devotion to each other, could never be bridged. From their shared family background in the Unitarian faith, Charles knew full well what rejection of Christian salvation would mean to Emma in her hope for eternal life with him after death.”

It is fascinating that as Darwin procrastinated about publishing his theory and research on evolution, he had clarified with Emma that should he die before publishing it, she would carry out the publication, which she agreed to do.

Darwin and Emma had 10 children. He worried about his children’s health, because of their being 1st cousins and feared they were responsible for their children’s problems and ill health. Two of the children, Mary and Charles, died in infancy. Several others were invalids for much of their childhood. He feared inbreeding could have been a cause of their problems. Neither parent ever got over the painful and tragic death of the 2nd oldest, Annie, at 10, in 1851, which was a great blow to the last vestiges of Charles’ personal religious faith. Neither parent attended her funeral, nor would they ever mention her name for the rest of their lives, because of their pain at her loss. Emotional silence around painful issues was a family characteristic.



In his Autobiography, Darwin wrote: “I have indeed been most happy in my family, and I must say to you, my children, that not one of you has ever given me one minute’s anxiety, except on the account of health. There are, I suspect, very few fathers of 5 sons who could say this with entire truth. When you were very young it was my delight to play with you all, and I think with a sigh that such

days can never return. From your earliest days to now that you have grown up, you have all, sons and daughters, ever been more pleasant, sympathetic and affectionate to us and to one another. When all or most of you are at home (as, thank heaven, happens pretty frequently) no party can be, according to my taste, more agreeable, and I wish for no other society. We have suffered only one very severe grief in the death of Annie at Malvern on April 24th, 1851, when she was just over ten years old. She was a most sweet and affectionate child and I feel sure would have grown into a delightful woman, but I need say nothing of her character, as I wrote a short sketch of it shortly after her death. Tears still sometimes come to my eyes when I think of her sweet ways.” (p. 81).

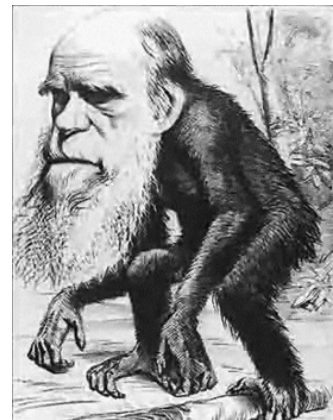
Darwin's Work Life and Publication of *Origin of Species*

Darwin was a dedicated worker, even though his physical problems meant he could often work no more than 2 or 3 hours a day. He liked having a rigid daily program. He liked breakfast by himself, to work, have his wife read to him, and to go for walks on his property. Throughout his life he had many physical problems including stomach cramps, headaches, palpitations, vomiting, weakness, and depression. It is unclear what caused them, whether they were brought on by allergies or Chagas, a tropical parasitic disease he would have caught while on his early 5 year voyage to South America, but his symptoms do seem to have been exacerbated by stress.

Emma proof read all of her husband's writings, and as mentioned, he relied on her to publish his *Origin of Species* if anything happened to him. She would read to him for up to 5 hours a day, translating for him from German, which only she could read.

Darwin waited many years to publish his ideas about evolution in *Origin of Species*, which he finally published in 1859, primarily pushed by another scientist (Wallace) beginning to publish the same ideas on evolution.

Charles had had great fear that others would view him as at fault for the ideas he was developing, as if he were a criminal or sinful for what he was writing.. As it turned out, though initially vilified as the incarnation of the devil, his book became enormously popular and within a decade the public outcry against him had died down. His final book *The Descent of Man*, was rather less criticized, as people had already begun to accept the scientific truth of his ideas about evolution.

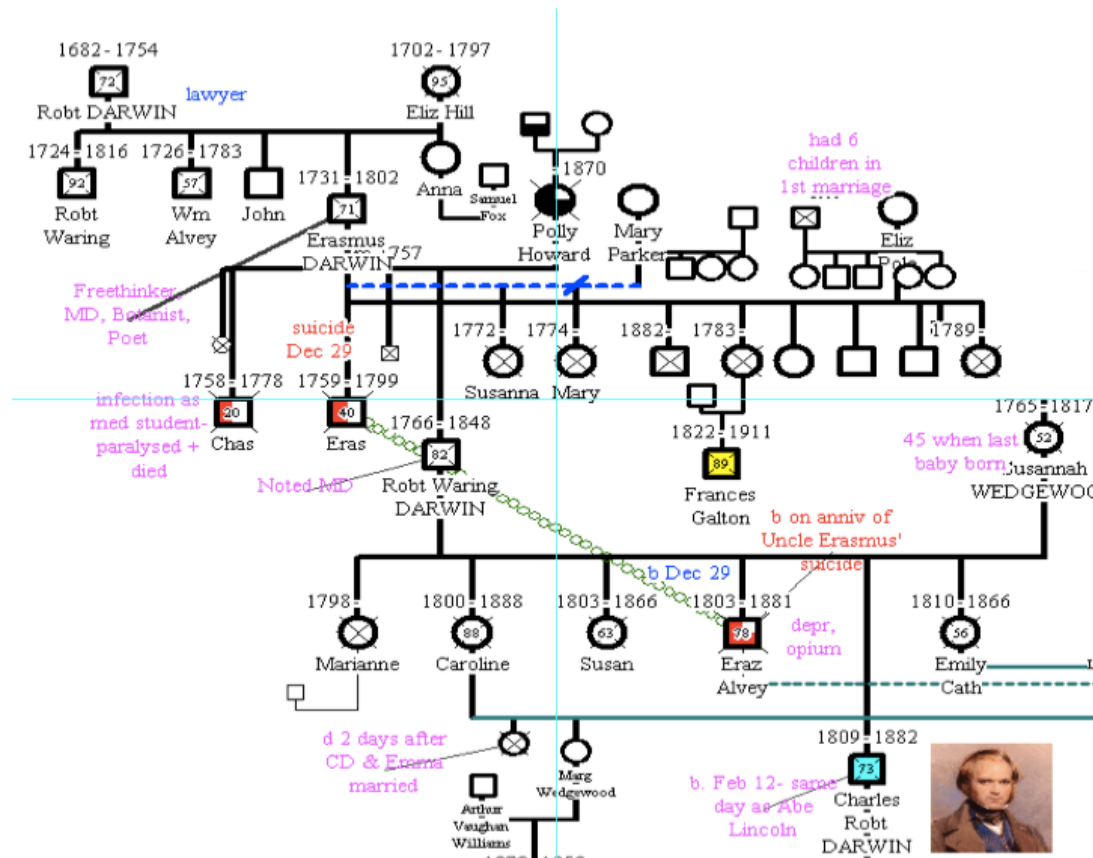


Cartoon making fun of Darwin's Theory as saying Man descended from Orangutangs- which wasn't what Darwin had said.

about evolution, and when those ideas began to be accepted he could relax? In his Autobiography he wrote: “As for myself I believe I have acted rightly in steadily following and devoting my life to science. I feel no remorse from having committed any great sin, but have often and often regretted that I have not done more direct good to my fellow creatures. My sole and poor excuse is much ill-health and my mental constitution, which makes it extremely difficult for me to turn from one subject of occupation to another. I can imagine with high satisfaction giving up my whole time to philanthropy, but not a portion of it, though this would have been a far better line of conduct (p. 79).

Questions About Darwin's Genogram and Life Story

What role did his sibling position perhaps play in his life journey?

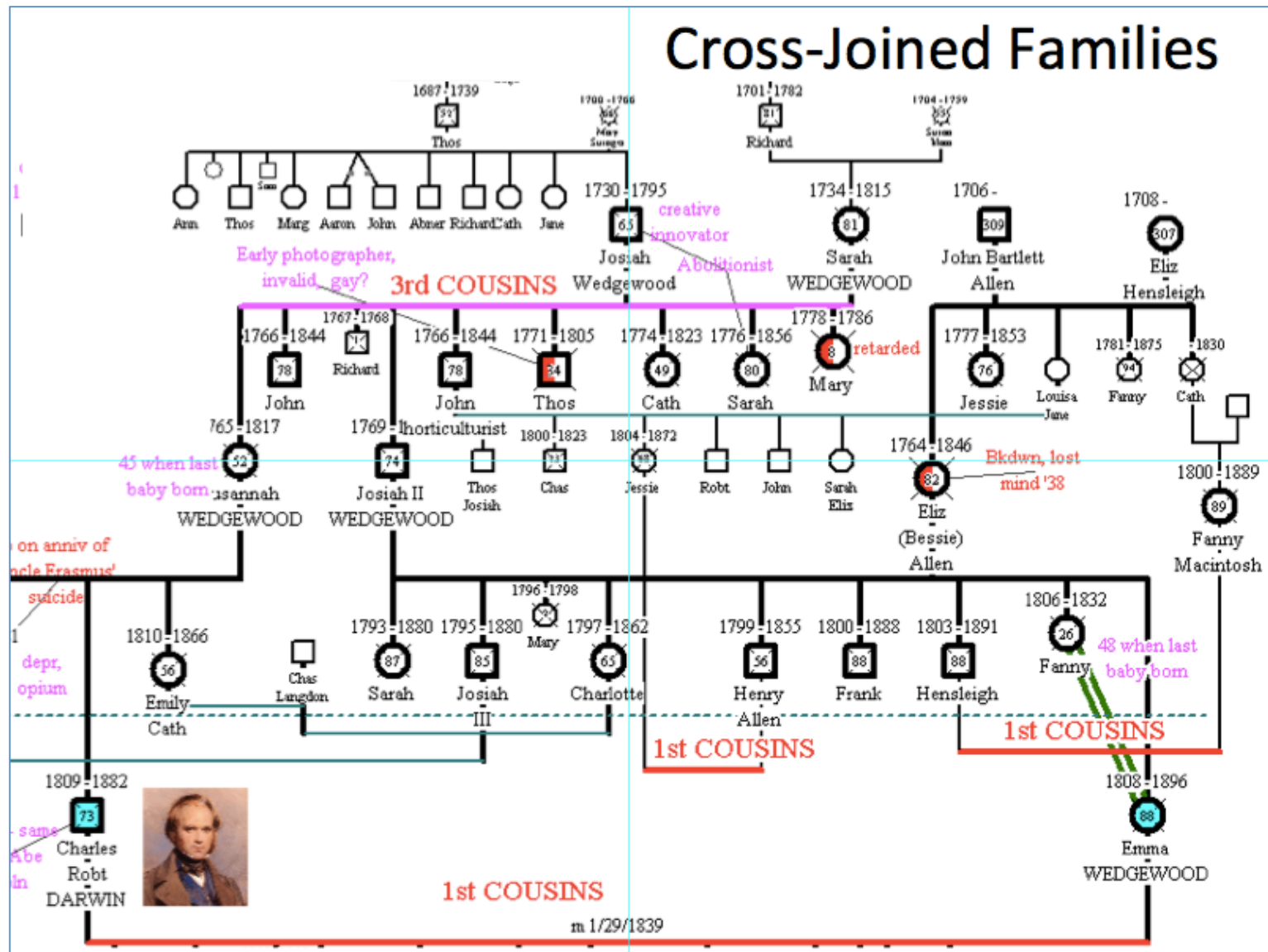


- We might say that being the younger brother of an older brother, preceded by three sisters, he was probably allowed a certain latitude to be inventive that would be much less likely for an oldest son. In fact his father sent him to medical school only because he was already sending his older son, Erasmus. Charles was sent to accompany his brother; so it is perhaps no wonder that once he got there (in addition to the fact that he was only 16 at the time) he chose to attend only the classes he wanted to and did not take the official program too seriously. Also, his choice later to take the 5 year voyage would probably have been much less an option for an oldest son, whose parents would likely not to want to have him at such a distance for so long.
- Then again, he was the younger son of a younger son. In his father Robert Darwin's case, he was the younger brother of two older brothers who were dysfunctional in their lives and who were surrounded by two siblings who died in infancy.
- A further similarity for father and son was losing their mothers at an early age. Robert was only 4 when his mother died, Charles was only 8. That may possibly have expanded the possibilities of both of them to pursue their own interests, in Charles' case collecting throughout his childhood.
- In addition, both had fathers who were strong, interesting characters. Erasmus Darwin, the grandfather was also a younger brother of brothers. His intense pursuit of his varied interests was most similar to that of his grandson. In all cases these were men of intriguing and outsized personality, interesting, and from families of free thinkers.
- The Wedgewood side of the family was similarly one of free thinkers. Charles was closest to his mother's younger brother Josiah, also a younger brother of brothers
- Darwin's maternal grandfather, Josiah Wedgewood, was the youngest of 13 children. He also lost a parent (in his case his father) when he was young (he was only 9). He was another of the most creative, innovative, artistic men of the age. Coming from a family of potters, he began working for his oldest brother but was eventually forced to be on his own, after which he made some of the most creative changes in the family's traditional business, pottery. Josiah Wedgewood's creative developments with the pottery, made it the famous pottery it became. He was original and loved to experiment, a characteristic not appreciated by his older brother, who was running the business. That older brother actually refused to use Josiah's ideas, so Josiah began working with others. Eventually he became the Queen's potter, developing many other creative ideas along the way.

What role might the closely cross-joined families of the Wedgewoods and Darwins play in Charles' trajectory.

- Family inbreeding was a great worry to Charles Darwin. According To Desmond and Moore (1991, p. 447) there were four 1st cousin marriages. The examples of cousins marrying include:
 - Charles Darwin and Emma Wedgewood who were first cousins, she was the daughter of his uncle Josiah Wedgewood II
 - Charles Darwin's maternal grandparents, Josiah and Sarah Wedgewood were 3rd cousins. Their great grandfathers were brothers.
 - Emma Darwin's youngest brother, Hensleigh Wedgewood, married his first cousin Fanny McIntosh (daughter of his mother Elizabeth Allen's sister Catherine Allen)

Cross-Joined Families



- Emma Darwin's brother Henry Allen Wedgwood married his first cousin, his uncle John Wedgwood's daughter Jessie

- Emma's sister Charlotte's husband, Charles Langdon, married Charles's sister Emily after Charlotte died.
- Charles' brother Erasmus had a lifelong love for his cousin Fanny (McIntosh) Wedgewood, who had married Emma's brother, Hensleigh (Desmond & Moore, 1991, p. 655).
- Charles' sister, Caroline, married her first cousin, Emma's brother Josiah III
- Charles' uncle, John, married the older sister, Louise, of his older brother, Josiah II's wife, Elizabeth Allen.
- John and Louise (1st cousins) had a daughter Jessie, who married her 1st cousin, Henry Allen, the son of Josiah II and Elizabeth Allen.
- We might hypothesize that families that repeatedly marry inward-- cousin to cousin-- are, as Darwin is often described regarding his choice of a wife, seeking a special familiarity in a spouse, but also, perhaps reserving his or her adventuresomeness for other aspects of life. In Darwin's case his wife was someone he had known all his life and felt extremely comfortable with. This may have been an extremely important factor for him, since he seems to have realized quite that the radical nature of his research would be a serious challenge and threat to the society.
- Perhaps also, Darwin's anxieties about having married his first cousin and fear of the implications of in-breeding for the next generation also drove his study of human evolution.

What role might his lifelong pattern of illness and disability have played in his accomplishments.

- Probably his tendency to illness influenced his being somewhat of a recluse and preferring not to leave home.
- Interestingly, his maternal grandfather had had small pox in his youth which enfeebled him, especially in his knee, which forced him away from spending full time at the potters' bench, which led him to investigate other aspects of the business and thus to develop all the creative, artistic and utilitarian changes in the pottery which he later made.
- In similar ways his grandson's preoccupation with investigation of the context of relationships of all living things led him to see way beyond what any individual before him had noticed.

What about losses and dysfunction-

Was there a pattern of losses in the Darwin-Wedgewood families that his experience was resonating with?

- Darwin lost his mother at 8 and barely remembered her. Apparently after her death the children's feelings were bottled up and the older daughters did not even mention the mother again (Desmond & Moore, p. 14).
- Both Charles and Emma found the loss of their daughter Annie at 10 devastating. Neither ever visited her grave. Charles was with her when she died, but could not bare to stay for the funeral.
- Darwin's uncle Erasmus (older brother of his father, Robert), a successful lawyer who had gotten into debt, committed suicide by drowning himself on Dec 29, 1804.

- Darwin's oldest uncle, Charles, had died of an infection he got dissecting a child's brain in medical school in Edinburgh, where Darwin and his brother Erasmus were later sent (neither completed medical school and Darwin developed a tremendous fear of blood and seeing children injured). Charles was named for this uncle. His father Robert then had to go to medical school, to replace this older brother. Later Robert, of course, sent Charles to medical school along with his older brother. Was it a matter of "just in case"? Just in case the older brother did not finish, which, in fact, he didn't.
- Darwin's brother Erasmus, born on the 4th anniversary of their uncle Erasmus's suicide, ended up becoming a drug addict and had a lifelong love for his sister-in-law, Fanny Macintosh Wedgewood, wife of Emma's brother Hensleigh.
- Polly Howard Darwin, Darwin's paternal grandmother, had a serious alcohol problem.
- Darwin's daughter Etty (Henrietta) was a lifelong hypochondriac.
- Darwin's daughter Lizzy behaved strangely ([Desmond & Moore, p. 447](#)).
- Darwin's maternal uncle Thomas Wedgewood, a talented developer of photography, an opium experimenter and apparently gay, had a mental breakdown. He died a chronic invalid at the age of 34 ([Wikipedia and Desmond and Moore, 1991, p. 11](#)).

What patterns might relate to his exceptionally good relationship with his wife and children, which were not typical for men of the age?

What patterns might have related to his creative pursuit of radical and highly threatening research, which challenged the dominant religious beliefs of the entire society.

- Certainly the free thinking of both grandfathers, both of whom were innovators and broke the bounds of tradition.
- They were an extraordinary family of talented and creative artists and scientists, which included in later generations the composer Ralph Vaughan Williams, and the scientist Frances Galton, etc.

Chronology

- 1802 Charles Darwin's grandfather Erasmus Darwin dies at the age of 71, shortly after deciding to publish his poem on his ideas about evolution, which he had hesitated for many years to publish for fear of the negative repercussions, which did indeed follow the publication of *The Temple of Nature*, his poem about the history of life on earth.
- 1809 February 12. Charles Darwin born to Robert Darwin and Bessie Allen Wedgewood, on the same day that Abraham Lincoln was born in Kentucky. Throughout his adult life he suffered great anxiety about becoming ill and for many years suffered various illnesses vomiting, headaches, anxiety.
- 1817 Charles Darwin, age 8, loses his mother who has been invalided for some time.
- 1818 Sept. Charles, age 9, joins his brother at boarding school at Shrewsbury School
- 1825 Charles, age 16, sent with 22 year old brother Erasmus to begin medical school in Edinburgh.
- 1827 Charles leaves medical school and enters Cambridge to study theology for the next 3 years.
- 1831 Charles embarks on voyage to the coast of South America on The Beagle, as the naturalist, and spends 5 years studying plants, beetles, and rocks.

- 1836 Charles returns to England.
- 1839 Jan 29. Charles marries his 1st cousin Emma Wedgewood, 8th and youngest of the children of his mother's brother Josiah Wedgewood, of the famous porcelain producers.
- 1839 Jan 31. 2 days after Charles and Emma's marriage, his sister Caroline's baby died. A tragic coincidence for the family.
- 1839 Charles and Emma's first child, William, is born.
- 1841 Charles and Emma's 2nd child, Anne, is born.
- 1842 Charles and Emma's 3rd child, Mary, is born and dies soon after.
- 1843 Charles and Emma's 4th child, Etty is born. She grows up to have spinabifeta, short stature, isolated, nervous and very fearful of illness. Etty eventually publishes the family papers. She marries but has no children.
- 1843 Emma's father and Charles' favorite uncle, Josiah Wedgewood, dies at age 74.
- 1845 Charles and Emma's 5th child, George is born.
- 1847 Charles and Emma's 6th child, Bessy is born. She grows up to be an invalid with nervous tics and dependent on others.
- 1848 Charles and Emma's 7th child, Francis, is born. He grows up to become a botanist.
- 1848 Robert Darwin, Charles' father, dies at 82.
- 1850 Charles and Emma's 8th child, Leonard, is born. He grows up to be a British MP.
- 1851 Charles and Emma's 9th child, Horace, is born.
- 1851 Anne dies at age 10 after a debilitating illness. Charles never gets over the loss. Neither he nor Emma attend the funeral.
- 1854? Emma has 2 miscarriages
- 1856 Charles and Emma's 10th child, Charles Waring, is born. He develops scarlet fever.
- 1858 Charles Waring Darwin, the youngest of the Darwin children, dies of scarlet fever at age 2.
- 1858 Alfred Russel Wallace writes to Darwin about evolution, spurring him to finally publish his work.
- 1859 Darwin shook Victorian society with his publication of The Origin of Species, which made him "the most dangerous man in England," but it became a huge seller and was translated into many languages Within a relatively short period, evolution was accepted as scientific fact.
- 1871 Darwin Published The Descent of Man and Selection in Relation to Sex. This book was well received as by the time of its publication people had gotten over the furor created by Origin of Species and were excepting the idea of evolution as fact.
- 1881 Eras Darwin, Charles' older brother, died. He was born on Dec 29, 1803, 4 years to the day after the suicide of his father's brother Erasmus. Eras suffered from depression and opium addiction. He never married. The love of his life was his 1st cousin, Emma's sister-in-law, Fanny, wife of her brother Hensleigh. Fanny was with Eras when he died.
- 1882 Charles Darwin died at the age of 73. He was buried in Westminster Abbey, though he had no religious beliefs at all.
- 1896 Emma Darwin died at the age of 88 and was buried in the local graveyard.

REFERENCES

- Darwin, C. (1958). *The autobiography of Charles Darwin 1809-1882*. Ed. Nora Barlow. New York: W. W. Norton.
- Desmond, A. & Moore, J. (1991). *Darwin: The life of a tormented evolutionist*. New York: W. W. Norton.
- Heiligman, D. (2011). *Charles and Emma: The Darwin's leap of faith*. Square Fish.
- Keynes, R. (2001). *Darwin, his daughter and human evolution*. New York: Riverhead.
- Quammen, D. (2006). *The reluctant Mr. Darwin*. New York: W.W. Norton.
- Scott, Rebecca (2012). *Darwin's Ghosts*.
- Steffof, A. (1996). *Charles Darwin: And the evolution revolution*. New York: Oxford.