

42 Rutland Gate  
Dec 13/82

(L 47)

My dear General

Thanking you very much for your flattering invitation to take the Presidency of the Anthropol. Inst. I am very sorry to feel unable to accept it. The reasons are much the same now as they were when you kindly wrote to me before to the same effect. I want to keep myself free, as my wife is much of an invalid & it might be desirable to spend some time abroad - moreover I have some work in hand with which the acceptance of the Office would interfere.

Very faithfully yours  
Francis Galton

Private

Have you thought of Godwin-  
Austin? He will preside  
over the Geographers at the next  
meeting of the British Association  
and he frequently I believe  
attends <sup>the anthropologists</sup> Council. I think he  
has not perhaps (so far as I  
know) done much strictly anthro-  
pological work yet as a man  
of science, as a geographer & as  
~~an~~ a comparative physiologist, he  
might fill the post very advan-  
tageously & as

J. G.