APPENDIX Z.

The following table, combining all the cases of marriage recorded in Tables A to J, was submitted to Prof. Simon Newcomb for his opinion regarding the number of congenital deaf-mutes who had married congenital deaf-mutes. The Reports of the American Asylum and Illinois Institution give no information bearing on this point; but it seemed possible to determine the probabilities from the data given in the table, especially as the intermarriages, in a large proportion of cases, undoubtedly occurred between deaf-mutes who had been educated in the same Institution, and who were therefore *both* included in the table:

Cause of deafness.	Deaf-mutes who are recorded to have married deaf-mutes.			Deaf-mutes stated to have married, but who are not recorded to have married deaf-mutes.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Congenital	150	148	298	37	25	62
Non-congenital	179	152	331	58	27	85
Not stated	14	11	25	7	8	15
Total	343	311	654	102	60	162

The main question proposed was this: Of the congenital deaf-mutes who are recorded to have married deaf-mutes, what proportion have married *congenital* deaf-mutes?

Professor Newcomb has been kind enough to send the following letters in reply to the query:

NAUTICAL ALMANAC OFFICE, NAVY DEPARTMENT,
Washington, D. C., May 20, 1884.

DEAR Mr. BELL: Although the question you ask seems to admit of a satisfactory answer, I notice a singular defect in the statistical table. It contains not a single case of a deaf-mute being reported as having married a hearing person. If this is an accidental omission in making the copy for you it ought to be corrected. If there is really no such record the case is very singular.* It would look as if the parties were ashamed to state that they had married hearing persons, or the recorders had rejected all such cases.

The main question you ask can, I think, be answered by the theory of probabilities. Your table, if I understand it correctly, shows that out of 629 persons in the institution (of whom 329 were males and 300 females) a little less than one-half (298) were congenital deaf-mutes. Now, I see no reason for supposing that the persons whom they married would be divided in any essentially different proportion between the two classes.

It is true that could we learn from the census tables how the entire deaf of the country of marriageable ages, say, between the ages of twenty and thirty, are divided between the two classes, our conclusions might be modified. If, for example, it should be found that of the total number of deaf alluded to only one-third were congenital cases, we

* Only eleven deaf-mutes were specifically stated to have married hearing persons, and 151 were recorded simply as "married."