

CHARLES DARWIN

**A NEW PROPOSITION TO THE SICKNESS
PSICOMORFAS THAT COULD HAVE
SUFFERERED**

by *Jaume Camps dvm*

- A 1) CHILD PHASE AND 2) YOUTH PHASE,**
- B) PHASE OF THE 5 YEARS IN THE BEAGLE**
- C) SYMPTOMS OF TRYPANOSOMOSIS**
- D) HEREDITARY BACKGROUND**
- E) SUFFERING OF ADULT AND DEATH**

With Introduction and Conclusions

Introduction and reasoning:

It was around the 1980s, when I completely changed the previous opinion, although it was very little known, about the great Charles Robert Darwin. They had always described it badly, in the baccalaureate, in the 40s, and in schools where only the Creation of all beings, and also of the whole world, and of all the Universes, was taught, directed by a Creator. Everything that deviated from the Faith was held as the terrible influence of the evil ... And so they continue in many countries! And people !!

I attended, half-casually, some lectures about him, at the University of Barcelona, given by the good friend Ken Sewell, Director of the Darwinian group, and good psychologist and ethologist, and also English, like Darwin As a veterinarian I was interested to meet the great discoverer of the "Evolution of the species by natural selection".

From the beginning, with the descriptions of his childhood, I immediately understood that he must have had a bad time, and I imagined that he had to suffer a lot during his entire life. Already as a child, and, especially in its later phase, as an adult.

Of course I knew something about his theory, and his knowledge and discoveries, but I totally ignored his personality, and especially his very possible psychopathology. It was after knowing their biographical aspects, already in their childhood and during adolescence, so abnormal, that I thought it logical to assume they were the cause of some disorder in the future .

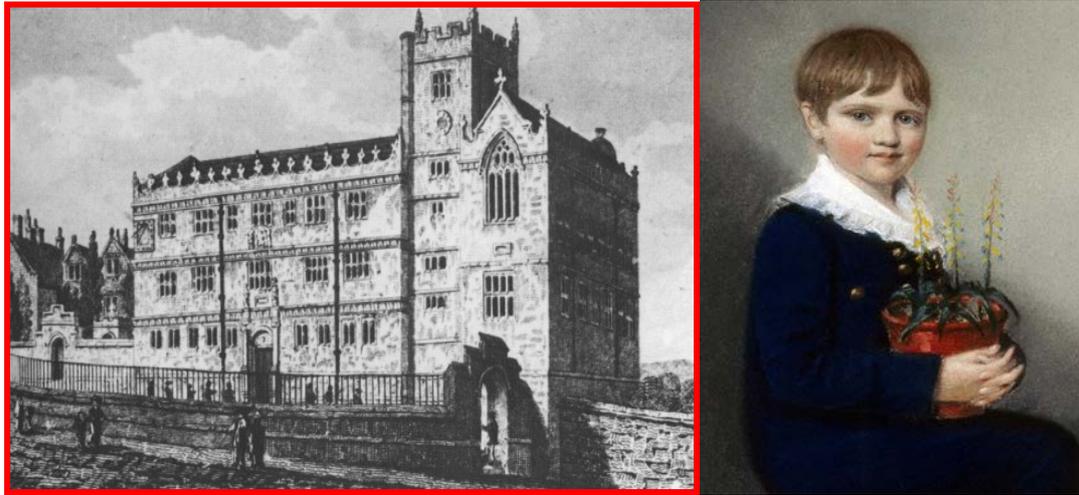
I understood, with regret, the reason for their complexes, and the great fear that was read in their eyes, in the many photographs presented. And more, by searching and knowing the many and altered genetic precedents received as an inheritance.

Later I read in the vast majority of his biographies, that he suffered from a zoonosis, the so-called Mal de Chagas, or trypanosomosis American , but he always remembered the serious ailments he had. Hence, by chance and for many years, I have come to a new vision, which I try to argue now. And as a summary:

It could not be the Chagas Disease zoonosis, the **only** cause of Charles Darwin's ills, nor be the main cause of his death, but that they were, or helped a lot, the various **"psychomorphic alterations"** suffered. . Already indicated in title.

A) Child and youth phase:

He was born in a small town, Shrewsbury, England, located northwest of London, a February 12, 1809. Being the fifth son, the youngest, of Robert Waring Darwin, prestigious, but corpulent doctor, 1.85 m, and about 150 Kgs, and also angry. On the contrary, mother Susannah Wedgwood was small and sickly. Daughter of the owners of the Wedgwood factory, one of the most appreciated English porcelains. Of course, both were very rich. And, like the great majority in their level and time, they were very religious and practicing.



Oil of Charles as a child, and photo of the boarding school, which looks more like a jail.

It was a well-known family of doctors. There was the grandfather, Dr Erasmus Darwin (1731-1802), who was not only wise, even half poet, since he wrote in verse scientific things ..., and that he did precursory studies on the Evolution of the species, in his work *Zoonomia* , and this something before Lamarck. And, also, made studies of plant genetics, before Mendel ... Famous also for his vagaries in love, since he had several women, and children with all ...

A - 1) Children's phase. In the internship and death of his mother:

Here begin the reasons, already in his childhood, of the problems suffered by Charles Darwin, who even had, like his brother, the names of his young dead uncles, Erasmus and Charles.

At 9 years of age, he was enrolled in a boarding school, at the same time, Secondary School, which was only 2 kilometres from his house. Healthy child, since, and as confirmation of his good health, he ran from the school to his big house "the Mount" in less than 10 minutes. But he does remember, and he quotes in his autobiography, that 20 children slept in the same room, whose smell accompanied

him throughout his life. And in a building that looks more like a prison than a high-level school.

According to him, he hated his father for the decision to intern him near his house, where he could have lived better, since he was big, and where to play with his three sisters and a brother, Erasmus, five years older than him, who at the beginning it coincided in the boarding school. They had many servants, and a large garden with dogs that children like so much. But years later, despite these facts I adored him. And he wrote it! Something that can be estimated as the beginning of the Oedipus Complex ...

He suffered a lot at the beginning of being hospitalized because he had died, shortly before, his mother Susannah, who had been practically invalid after the successive deliveries. Half taking care of him were his sisters, especially Carolina, the oldest, but only 14 years old. All this must have affected Charles a lot, and he also learned that his father did not want to do great funerals for his mother, despite being still in his youth, and when they were well known in the region, with continuous family and public meetings. , in his big house "the Mount".

In this phase he had normal diseases in any child, with certain eczema and skin problems, treated with cyanide salts. Some headache, which he cites, chest pains, and some fatigue. Some author cites that the slow intoxication of cyanide influenced their alterations



Picture of young Charles, Cartoon riding a beetle

A - 2) Youth phase in the Faculty of Medicine and the University Seminar:

He leaves the boarding school with 15 years, after 6 years of grief, and his father "forces" him to study medicine, as many of the family. And, following the norm, you are enrolled in Edinburgh! Far from your house. Neither the weather nor what they taught satisfies Charles. He even had horror when he saw blood, as it happened with his father ... since he ran out and shouted loudly, instead of dizziness, or easy vomiting, as often happens to some students.

There he met Erasmus, (1,804-1,881) his brother who was already fifth in medicine, and they were together. This helped him, and he felt protected, since he suffered some heavy joke from his classmates, today we would call him "bullying", despite his good gifts as a rider, or as a good and careful collector. They made him caricatures riding a beetle ...

This brother, like his mother, had a delicate health

Before finishing the second year, Charles confronted his father and decided not to continue studying. He was 17 years old at the time. And, remember, only with a first approved medical course. Although without being able to use it.

Luck had that his maternal uncle, Josiah, was his travel companion, since it was with whom he made his visits to Scotland, Ireland, Paris, and Geneva, which were the only places seen, outside England ... and saw other forms of think and live before going around the world in the Beagle.

In this phase, Charles seems he was, physically, like any young man of his age. Somewhat withdrawn. And he did not consider himself a good student, but he was good looking, a reader of old books, addicted to collecting stones and insects, especially beetles, he liked to ride horses that had several in his house, good walker, and friend mocking his companions. Like any young "good house" English and Victorian era. The conditions he had were considered normal, although frequent.

The departure from the Faculty of Medicine was a great blow to his father. With parental anger, an exit was sought, and can almost be accepted as punishment, as they enter, having to pay a few hundred pounds gold, for its null curriculum, at Christ's College, Cambridge, half Seminary, half University, very class , since it was only for young people of good background and of good economic power, and as future clerics, ready to occupy high positions.

He studied there theology (Anglican), mineralogy, mathematics and the Greek classics. and reached note in all of them. The time spent at Christ's was the most important in his formation. He met there the professors and clerics Stevens Henslow who was his main friend, and Adam Sedgwick, great sage, being the characters who supported him most. He already had friends, and went with them to good feasts (he was even a member of a Club) and hunting excursions. He also continued to collect beetles, and became fond of music and painting.

But it was Christ's room, his favourite refuge !!

Finally, when he was apparently determined to take the Doctorate in Theology, the well-known offer of HMS Beagle captain Robert Fitzroy arose to accompany him, in his circumnavigation of the Earth, for geological and nature studies, but he requested it as an educated person for conversation, being forced on the boat and time, not having contact with the crew. This means that it was not, as many biographers point out, that they say they selected him as a Naturalist on the Beagle. But they put in as Assistant Naturalist, and had to pay, both the trip, and his own pension, as well as the servant who accompanied him. So write it!

It is unthinkable that the Royal Navy of the United Kingdom had not programmed and budgeted its cost. What he did not do!

Professor Stevens Henslow, who saw his intellectual gifts and his exceptional mentality of observation and classification, was the one who had chosen him to travel in the Beagle, and this was, with Josiah Wedgwood, his uncle,

the only godparents to accept the turn to the world, and the father, although reticent at the beginning, agreed, luckily for all the biological sciences.

He wrote in the diary that he had in his phase of the Seminary, all his illnesses, which were several, although accepted by his special voluntarism. Stresses, as special the attack with cardio-gastric symptoms in 1826.

Fact that was already assumed, could be, the symptoms produced by Chagas. Data that I quote, and especially for the date, to remember it. Since it is clear demonstration that it could not be happening "before" the trip, therefore, six years before the picada de la vinchuca (Triatomine)



Dr. Carlos Chagas discoverer of the trypanosome, and a photo of the vector Triatoma, and drawing of the HMS Beagle of three pals (or 2 and ½) entering the Pacific.

B) Phase of five years to travel in the HMS Beagle:

He received a letter from Professor Stevens Henslow when he had already finished at the Seminary, proposing him to travel at HMS Beagle, at least for two years, although there were five. Saying:

You are the best qualified person: not to finished naturalist, but amply qualified for collecting, observing, and

noting any thing worthy to be noted in Natural History
"... (Sic)

Part of Reverend Henslow's letter to Charles
R. Darwin

The underscore of mine, is to show that I was not a Naturalist, but qualified enough, so that, in the end, I would accept to go. It was December 27, 1831, when he sailed on the *Beagle*. Darwin was 22 years old and he was recently graduated as a priest. They went up with their equipment of several trunks of instruments and books, and a personal suitcase, with their young servant. The same as Captain Fitzroi had.

His father recommended that he wear "turpentine" as the only medication, (?) That was commonly used at that time, in case of indigestion, headaches, constipation, and nervousness.

Life in the *Beagle*, although valid for the results, was not agreeable to the young Darwin, because he suffered with the monomania of Captain Robert Fitzroy, fearful thinking about the risk of suicide, before the loneliness expected, as had happened with the previous Captain Stokes. Who he replaced ...

Fitzroy, as his surname indicates, was an illegitimate descendant of King Charles II and nephew of the Duke of Grafton, and behaved like an aristocrat, authoritarian and dogmatic. Although he was a reputed sailor.

Charles was given a hammock in the aft cabin, in a secondary location, half a meter from the roof and another half meter from the map table.

He was accompanied on the trip by the medical officer, and current Naturalist, Dr Robert McCormick and his assistant, the young Benjamin Bynoe, a recent graduate. Charles read a lot, and spent a lot of time on land to take measurements

and collect plant samples and hunt animals, and to classify them. Darwin had an extraordinary physical fitness on this trip, going hunting on land and doing long walks, riding hundreds of kilometres, and ascending mountains, collecting material, which he then had to help transport, etc.

Apart from the comment the Captain made to Charles in his first interview about the meaning he saw through his nose, and other comments, he was a tall man, about 1.80, with brown hair, with baldness after 30, a beard (which began to be left when they arrived in Patagonia) something reddish, good back and long legs. Delgado at the beginning of the trip, fattened something in the end. He smoked, in general cigarettes, after his trip to the Pampas. He liked to fish and hunt.

For misunderstood skills he had many discussions with Dr McCormick about his work. Meanwhile, very angry, this had already left the ship the Naturalist and his assistant, to arrive in Brazil. Only as of this moment did young Darwin become the only Naturalist.

And we return to your annoyances, which did not cease. Throughout the trip, Darwin suffered from dizziness that did not subside as the months passed. *"I feel devastated by the vomiting,"* he wrote. He was treated like the sailors of the time, even like Admiral Nelson, who got dizzy on all ships, and was a "marine" mix of tapioca, wine and spices.

He noted the conditions in his Beagle diary, which were:

In Brazil, he suffered a blow and knee injury with an abscess. Also in Brazil, it had some fever, they assumed for something eaten. In Santa Fe: another sensation of fever. Being in Valparaíso, poisoning with uncertain digestive symptoms, of seven weeks of duration, already important since it had to rest even in bed.

As for the symptoms that could be related to their chronic, psychomorphic diseases, we highlight:

(Compare with those cited in point C)

Vomiting and nausea , when skinning an animal hunted by him, and whose skin was sent to London for analysis. I do not know the result

Headaches, and dizziness related to high voltage states.

Palpitations.

Being in Patagonia, he had a state of great fatigue , and extreme tiredness.

Pressure on the head, and strong chest pain , being in Chile. Here the famous "attack" of a vinchuca, which was not as it has been proven by knowing the Triatomes, and the disease. In his diary of the expedition made by the *Beagle* , Charles tells us that being in Luján de Cuyo, he had chills and discomfort two weeks after being bitten by a vinchuca. (he wrote was "attacked" ...) Various parasitologists, including Saul Adler, affirmed that it could have been the beginning of Chagas disease. **Something impossible**, since it had these same symptoms "before" starting from the United Kingdom in the Beagle. For the time, since Darwin suffered the symptoms several times, long before the trip, nor for the description of what the "bug" was like, very different from the insect "Triatoma infestans". The main vector in Argentina

Given the impossibility of the symptoms being before the contagion, and because of the null resemblance between the triatomine insects, with those described by Darwin, it has helped me to give a new vision of the disease, and of the cause of death of the great researcher of the "Theory of Evolution by Natural Selection". What I did in 2013

Proposal that I presented the following year, through the speech for confirmation as an **Honorary Member in the Academy of Veterinary Sciences of Catalonia**, and Presiding, then the Catalan Association of Veterinary History, where I denied that I may have suffered this American Trypanosomiasis (Chagas disease), as the sole cause of Darwinian pathology. Precisely, as "boutade" I gave it the title, in English ***"Great, black, soft and wingless bug"***, as Darwin wrote:

"... We slept in the village of Luxan, which is a small place surrounded by gardens, and forms the most southern cultivated district in the Province of Mendoza; It is five leagues south of the capital.

At night I experienced an attack (for it deserves no less a name) of the Benchuca, a species of Reduviids, the great

black bug of the Pampas. It is most disgusting to feel soft wingless insects, about an inch long, crawling over one's body. Before suckling they are remove thin, but afterwards they become round and bloated with blood, and in this state they are easily crushed.

One which I caught at Iquique, (for they were found in Chile and Peru), was very empty. When placed on a table, and thought surrounded by people, if a finger was presented, the bold insect would immediately protrude its sucker, make a charge, and if allowed, draw blood. No pain was caused by the wound. It was curious to watch its body during the act of sucking, as in less than ten minutes it was changed from being as flat as wafer to a globular form. This one of the officers, kept it fat during four whole months; But, after the first fortnight, it was quite ready to have another suck. March 27thWe rode on to Mendoza ... "

According to the dozens of photos that I presented in the power point, the Reduviids, and triatomines, studied, especially the T. infectants, which I have previously scanned, and where it can be seen clearly, that none of the 138 existing species isn't coloured black, on the contrary, they are very coloured, nor are they soft, therefore they can not be "bloated" or "globular", as Darwin quotes, and they do have wings, two protectors and the two with which they all fly. Therefore nothing of "wingless", (without wings).

Having been Charles Darwin, a good entomologist from childhood, with several collections, confirms that he could not be wrong in such a way, and, therefore, we came to the conclusion that it was another pathology that caused his pains, the various diseases , of his disability, and death.

It was zoonotic, or not!

Symptoms of Trypanosomiasis:

Nothing is further from my proposal, would be to try to be like a course, I do not know, about human diseases, also exotic, although nowadays carrier dogs have already been found in South America. But I must emphasize that there is great similarity between the psychomorphic signs, already commented, with the chronic symptoms of Trypanosomiasis, the basis of the proposal.

For example, the analyzes to the possible carriers, is through a blood test. Something that was not done to Darwin, for time, nor can currently. In several Latin American countries, the tests for the detection of Trypanosomiasis, also called Chagas Disease, are very common in blood banks or in all pre-surgical examinations.

Although Charles Darwin could not be analyzed, we could know if he suffered from Chagas disease or not. Having already been known, both the mtc DNA of the Trypanosoma, and that of the Triatoma vectors, we could already know it by means of a small sample of its remains, with the now known technique of the Molecular Genetics. Something that was asked in his day, to Westminster of London, but was denied.

It was Dr Carlos Chagas, Brazilian, (1,879 Oliveira n- 1,934 Rio de Janeiro m), who discovered in the year 1909, that the zoonosis was produced by Trypanosoma cruzi (in attention to his professor Dr Cruz), and deduced that the Main vector were the Triatomes. From here came the common name of Mal de Chagas.

We know that a patient is a carrier of Chagas, that is, the American trypanosomiasis (as opposed to the African one, which is the one that produces Dengue), when they have the parasite in the body. However, in 70% of cases the parasite does not cause them harm, so being a carrier or "being infested" is not the same as that of developing the disease.

The OMS indicates that Chagas disease has two clearly differentiated phases:

Initially, there is the **acute phase**, which lasts about two months after contracting the infestation. In this acute phase they circulate through bloodstream a lot of parasites. In most cases there are no symptoms, or they are very mild.

Less than 50% of people stung by a "vector" present the characteristic initial signs, such as: the bruised signal of the "chopped" place, some fever, headache, difficulty breathing, enlarged lymph nodes, paleness, muscular pains, swelling and, always with abdominal or thoracic pain.

In the **chronic phase**, and in several areas, the parasites remain hidden, as in the heart muscle and throughout the digestive system. Up to 30% of patients suffer from cardiac disorders and 10% have digestive, neurological or mixed disorders.

As they get older, patients, the infestation can cause sudden death or heart failure, caused by the progressive destruction of the heart muscle.

Among the people who do manifest Chagas disease, the most frequent problems are:

(compare them with those cited psychomorphic diseases)

Heart problems They are given in approximately 30% of affected people.

Problems of the digestive system. Give 10 to 20%.

If there is involvement of the heart or digestive system, the most frequent symptoms that they suffer are:

Dizziness and fainting Difficulty breathing. Palpitations Pain in the chest, with fatigue. Constipation, and difficulty swallowing.

But in most cases, in most children, as in adults with Chagas disease, they do not know when they were infested, since they can live with the parasite, and even feel good.

It could, nevertheless, since occasions did not lack, so that Charles Darwin, was infested of the Chagas disease, and, it is possible he could suffer the disease in his last years of life.

According to the same, the benchucas (triatomines), sting with their sharp stiletto, which they keep inside the cylinder of their head, without the guest finding out. Therefore, this does not fit, with the description of being "attacked" by the "bug" (?).



Dr. Robert Darwin



Susannah Wedgwood

The parents of Charles Darwin, were first cousins. The same as Charles and Emma ...

Although there are other factors that could collaborate negatively, such as the well-known *psicormorphus*, by all the biographers who have been disseminating it, as well as by the genetic ascendants by consanguinity, or also called "inbreeding", that affected them.

Those are so important that we will see them in the following

Point:

D) Family background:

The entire Darwin family was able to transfer diseases to Charles. For example we know that both the paternal grandfather Erasmus and Uncle Charles were both very stutterers, as well as their maternal grandfather Josiah and his dear uncle, also Josiah. Apart from these, there is written that there were many Wedgwood that had depressions and alterations described as neurotic, all caused by weddings between relatives. Like his mother's own death.

And it is something genetic, very important, although it was very frequent in marriages of relatives, as between cousins brothers, or uncle with niece ... very common fact among the nobility, and VIP people, even among the Kings.... which led to inbreeding, with frequent gene alterations. How did he have it?

Without being, I, a specialist, is observed that many doctors already indicate that he had several psychopathological disorders as an inheritance due to consanguinity. He was known, and commented in his biographies, that he suffered from great hypochondria, and "Black Bile", always with

melancholy. Known from the ancient Greeks who baptized them that way.

In addition, the "real" symptoms they produce are very similar to those of Chagas. Cardiac and intestinal symptoms. If we do not see: The Hypochondrium refers to the heart that touches the stomach. And the black bile Melan's-Coli, (melancholy), which is in relation to the liver, great laboratory of the digestive system ... !!.

Known is also that among those who suffer, they have real diseases. And that Darwin suffered from his childhood, with resentment, on the one hand, towards a very hard father, almost of hatred, when at other times he revered him. And so he describes it.

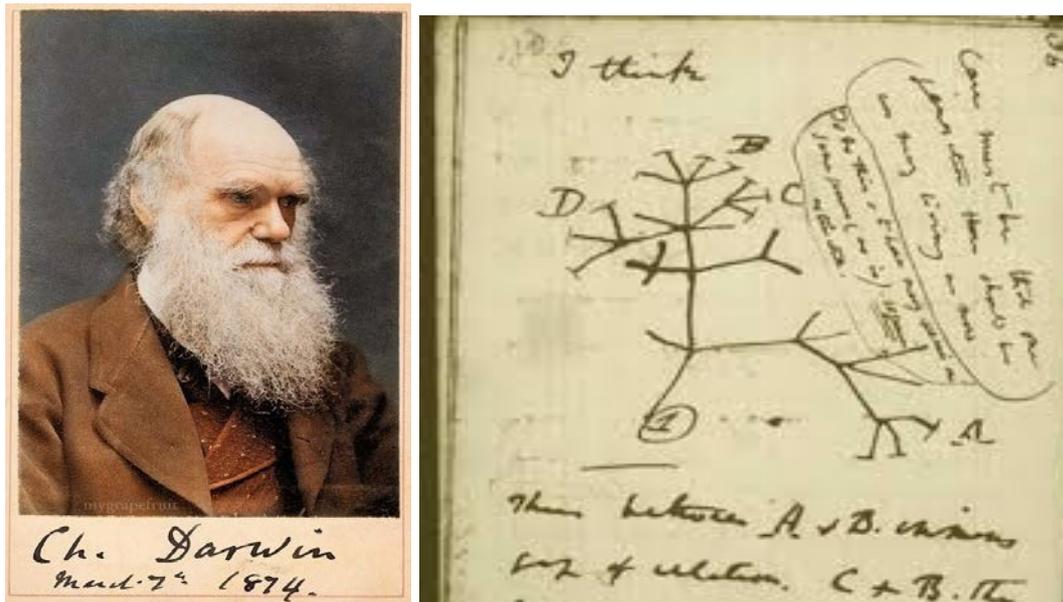
But it is not usually the children who are most affected, but the grandchildren. Therefore let's see the 10 children that Charles and Emma had, 4 females and 6 males:

Three of the children died, for various reasons, before reaching ten years. With special great regret it was with her eldest daughter and second in birth, Annie, who showed special affection (It is the photo on the first page), Three others were married but had no children. Nevertheless other three, George, Francis and Horace, were of brilliant mind reaching to belong like eminency, and with the degree of Sir, of the Royal Society.

Darwin had worked on experiments "inbreeding" in plants and perfectly knew his bad effects, but it is unthinkable, knowing in his uprightness, as cited some expressly seek a cousin to marry, and thus verify the accuracy of the damage caused ! It is true that he kept it in mind throughout his life and is one of the points that are supposed to have affected and worried him the most. Since all his life was grieved for it, and he was a sad man.

Robert Burton ---- another clergyman ... already in 1621 wrote:

" If there is hell on earth will be inside a sad man "



E) Alterations in adult state, and death.

After the nearly five years of the journey, so fruitful and accepted, and being on October 2, 1836, Darwin, already 27 years old, returned to England in the *Beagle*. Beyond certain fatigue, his health seemed splendid, until a short time later he began to manifest headaches, vomiting, cavities, boils, palpitations, tremor, dizziness, arthritis, abdominal pains, nausea, more vomiting, flatulence, some occasional fury access, other times depressive states, fatigue until a total exhaustion that led him to a state of semi-disability, having to use a wheelchair on many occasions.

These symptoms led him to travel to his home, The Mount, to rest and to be assisted by his father. He diagnosed excessive work due to the rigors of the trip and recognizing that there was little chance of cure. Some researchers, and those who insist on psychological aspects, emphasize that, at least, it helped him to find support in his father, and from this moment, and to both, they developed a normal relationship.

In any case, Dr Robert Darwin, Sr., continued to support his son financially, and taking charge of all his expenses.

A family event, "the most important day of my life", said, arose at the end of 1838, when Charles asked for the hand of his cousin Emma Wedgwood. And childhood friend ... Although after positively assessing the situation, with the pros and cons on paper, but it seems decided to get married to leave the apartment where they lived in London, large gatherings and great noise and soot, typical of the Capital of the time.

Reading it, does not seem very excited ...

The marriage was celebrated at the end of January 1839 in the middle of a sequence of almost infinite palpitations and fears !. The spouses moved to London, where Charles continued his research, always supported by his father, who gave him 400 pounds a year. The marriage also now had the dowry of the bride, 5,000 pounds and an annual income of 200 pounds.

Emma was an exemplary wife, she had ten births, although only seven of her children reached adolescence, but three others were named Sir. He ruled the house with absolute perfection and Charles was totally dependent on her. Some authors mention that, as husband, Darwin exercised a tyrannical authority over his wife, using his indispositions to subdue her. However, Emma and her children believed in the authenticity of Charles's symptoms and rejected the accusation of hypochondria that was frequently made to him. All were very happy with their kind father, even very permissive for the time. Therefore, very different image to how they have disclosed some, who have branded it as being a grumpy old man!

The permanent discomforts prevented Charles from working as he wanted and the social activity disturbed him greatly. He could not go to visit his friends, who "say that I am a hypochondriac", because of his digestive disorders, but despite all this he published in this period, in 1839, the *Diary of the Beagle*, and in 1842 his book on *Coral*

reefs and he also wrote a first draft about *My theory of species*, as a prelude to his great Theory of Evolutionism

At the end of the summer of 1842, he decided and asked his father to buy him a house in the country, not far from London, where he could live in a state of semi-seclusion, without social duties and without lecturing.

The choice was to acquire "Down House", a property that still exists today and that can be visited as a museum. It is located about 20 miles south of London, in the beautiful county of Kent. What was his home and his "hospital". There he received guests who were old friends and acquaintances, and also new ones. There was a piano, for Emma (good pianist), and for him, many books.



House "Down House", last home of Darwin

But he misses the reason for the delay in editing his great work, when he had it well thought out and proven. There are several opinions in this regard, coinciding with his psychomorpho-manias, as in the "oscillating" relationship he had with his father. And much for the fear of disclosing a controversial issue to religious beliefs of a large majority in his time.

Many were the professionals who attended Charles Darwin throughout his extensive pathologies. Apart from the imposing father, Robert Darwin, who was his most valued medical consultant. We have already mentioned how he thought his son had an incurable disease. As for the treatments, he was vigilant in prescribing purgatives and

sangria, and resorted, only occasionally, to herbs considered as painkillers.

I frequented "hydro-therapy" centres, and while some with hot water, but the most used were with cold water. In outline, began with cloths and sponges, then cold baths of variable duration and finally "the shower" with ice water, which fell from meters high, although for a few seconds, on the naked body of the patient. "Even hypochondriacs improve", it was said. Some famous Doctor, specialist gastroenterologist, sentenced him: "Neither the heart nor the brain are affected"

The written medication on the medications used by Darwin , included: mercury chloride, bismuth nitrate, calcium carbonate (gypsum?), And opium.

It was Sir Andrew Clark, another great clinician, the best of his time, who assisted him until his death, always maintaining rigorous dietary treatments, "which improve even the skeptics."

Charles Darwin had his first heart attack in 1873, shortly after the sixth edition of *The origin of species*. Although satisfied by the success of the publication, he was greatly affected by fierce criticism, especially from his own bishops. Let's not say those of the friends themselves, and in all the Press !!.

From this moment on, he presented a sharp, rapid, and alarming picture of dyspnoeas, with precordial oppression, sweating, palpitations and dizziness. On the occasion he was assisted by Dr. Clark, as in a similar episode, although more serious, occurred eight years later, in 1881. The latter began with palpitations, severe chest pain and loss of consciousness.

The authors agree that this condition may have been a myocardial infarction. Given Clark's pessimism about the prognosis, the patient was transferred to London for better care. He improved, but a few months later he suffered *angor pectoris* , where each effort was followed by chest pain. "The end of my journey is approaching," he told a friend. Even in that condition he had the strength to publish his book on earthworms and the plant mantle in October 1881. In that period he was treated by Dr. Allfrie, a

consulting surgeon, and by Dr. Moxon, Guy's Hospital, the same doctors who assisted him on his deathbed.

Finally, on April 15, 1882, it began with a severe arrhythmia, dizziness and loss of consciousness. The death occurred serenely at three thirty in the afternoon of **April 19, 1882** . " *I'm not afraid to die* " were his last words. Sir Arthur Keith, curator of Down House, said that in his opinion it was a coronary thrombosis.

The body was transported from his residence to the Abbey of Westminster in a hearse pulled by four horses. In a coffin made of unpolished oak, and was buried on April 26 at 11 in the morning, surrounded by his family and close friends, in a solemn ceremony attended by all authorities, the city and all scientists .

At his request, in his tomb, located next to Isaac Newton, there was no registration, beyond the two dates, both the birth, and the death .

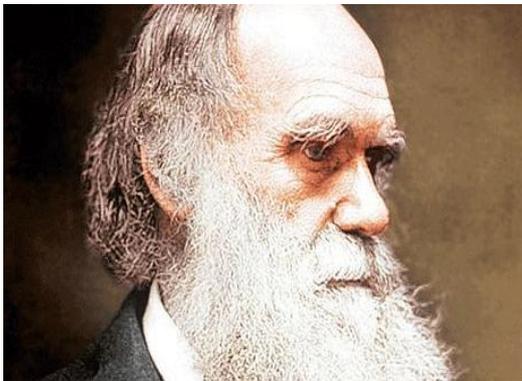


Photo by Charles Darwin at 65, always with a very sad look. He seems much older, with his long beard.

CONCLUSIONS:

The psychological factors that have already been mentioned were very relevant. Boarding school, and death of the mother. Tyrannical father and , at the same time, benevolent, lack of generosity during maternal mourning, with a oppressive environment in the family home . I pathological thinking against the firm religious convictions of both the father figure and his wife and also the personal conviction that he suffered a hereditary disposition transferrable to his descendants by inbreeding. And , special... fear of what they will say ...

All these elements caused frequent pictures of pathological anxiety, as an example, eczema and palpitations before the departure of the patient. *Beagle* or the complex symptom picture that he manifested when he returned and asked himself what he should do about his existence.

The fear of failure, and what the Believers will say, have been repeatedly mentioned as an example of pathological insecurity. That influenced other possible causes, however the hypothesis can be admitted that Darwin suffered a manic-obsessive-depressive neurosis, today called bipolar disorder, and that, personally I call as hypochondriacal-melancholic, as a main, pathological factor, even though it is possible that could have suffered, at the same time, some zoonoses.

The "most dangerous man in England" as it was called, may also be considered as the great guru of ethology. A survey carried out among universities in the United Kingdom in the year 2.000, on the occasion of the celebration of the millennium, determined that the three most important Englishmen in the history of the culture of that country were William Shakespeare, Isaac Newton and Charles Darwin.

And, worldwide, he is one of the ten people who have most influenced the Society.

Forty-five years of illness and fourteen books, some of them of the most important that have been published in the nineteenth century, written in the midst of headaches,

insomnia, pain, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, tremor, mobility, palpitations and anguish, arrhythmias, which they did say to **Sir Julian Huxley**:

" The disease made him unhappy, and also caused suffering to family and friends, but seeing his great contribution to science.

WHAT ELSE HAD TO DO ??

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