

17th November, 1958.

My dear Luca,

1) What a teaser to ask me the date of birth of Thomas Bayes. I seem to refer to everything else about him. However, I have just been shown a letter I wrote in 1953 to the "Dictionary of National Biography" pointing out that this important writer had been omitted, and in this letter, perhaps correctly, I did give the date of his birth as 1697. Anyway, you could bet heavily that it was within a year or two of this date.

2) I expect to be in Cambridge surely to mid-January and perhaps, much against my will, until the end of February. I shall be returning from Australia in all probability in September 1959.

3) Of course I always enjoy a stay in Italy, and I shall probably be compos mentis during the period of your budget 1959/60. February and March should, I judge, be very suitable. My personal mouse work is continuing, but I do not know what condition it will be in when I get back to Cambridge next September. I shall be going to Newcastle tomorrow to deliver the second of a series of lectures on statistical methods. I am sending herewith the address I gave in Belgium at the Pharmaceutical Congress, and which is being reprinted both in the new American journal Technometrika and a new German one called Metrika. I expect to stir up a hornets' nest of mathematicians, but really the reviews of my new book deserve something of this kind.

Sincerely yours,

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