

Appendix III

THE PERSONALITY AND CHARACTER OF DIOGO MADDISON GENN

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As created by handwriting analysis from his diary written during his travels to Brazil during 1874.

Diogo Maddison Genn was a very fine person with a high intelligence. He also was a man of his times.

From the forward slant of the writing, Diogo would have been quite an out-going person; definitely not a man to put behind a desk. He probably would have been a very good salesman. He usually expressed his feelings freely, and would respond to most situations in an emotional way.

Diogo was capable of expressing himself with skill and ease. There is some ambivalence in his thinking and problem solving. At times he was cautious in his approach, while at other times he would jump right in. He was very logical and excelled in rational problem solving, the continuity of ideas and the follow-through. While Diogo preferred not to trust his hunches, he did take some risks and could appear as fearless.

The man enjoyed activities which were intellectually stimulating, but he was equally concerned with taking care of the business of day-to-day life.

From the angularity of the writing, Diogo Maddison Genn had a very analytical mind. He would be able to break a problem into parts and deal with each item separately. But he also depended on experience and stored knowledge. He solved some problems by remembering what had worked in the past and by asking others what worked for them. This flexible approach to problem solving went along with the effortless way in which his thoughts and ideas flowed.

Overall, Diogo had developed a good self-image. He was proud of his looks, and what he was capable of doing. He liked to dress well, and also, to demonstrate his talents. Included in this aspect of Diogo's traits is that the man would have been good with his hands, in such areas as art or gardening. Diogo was versatile and many-sided, but he tended to look at things in commonly accepted ways and was somewhat resistant to changing his views.

Appendix III

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He valued traditional ways and was probably less receptive to progressive viewpoints in favor of those perspectives which are approved by time. He was likely to form biased opinions which were not based on balanced evaluation. He used his intellect to stoutly defend his opinions in matters which were important to him. He would explore all possible avenues in order to defend his point of view.

While Diogo liked having other people around, he also needed his solitude. He seems to have been quite selective about whom he would become close to, and probably did not expand his close circle of friends.

In the specimen submitted, some of the letters 'a' and 'o' were open at the top, others were closed. This usually means that Diogo could be open and spontaneous at times, but also knew when to be discreet. He tried to be clear in what he was communicating, to avoid any misunderstanding.

Diogo enjoyed a good discussion, and may have had some with himself. He apparently liked to talk out loud, when alone - to help verbalize his thoughts. It seems he also enjoyed singing - perhaps for the sheer pleasure of expressing himself.

However, this "Victorian" gentleman was careful to act in ways which conformed to societal expectations, because he was concerned about his public image and wanted to maintain a favorable impression. He was dignified and diplomatic and seems to have been quite a generous person.

Diogo liked to be physically active, but not to any extreme. He also liked the sensual pleasures - things that he could see, feel, and touch. However, he did not need luxuries to be contented with his life. Accumulation of money or material things was not important to him. He used his resources in helping others. As mentioned above, he was a generous man, but he also tried not to waste his resources.

Some of the log entries slope downward. This usually means fatigue - or depression. Diogo may have been protecting himself from some disappointment, since he does not seem to be the pessimistic type. The writing also shows a stubborn streak and some defiance and even a touch of jealousy. And he was a rather sexy man!

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Diogo felt more secure in work, when he was able to start a project at the beginning and take the time necessary to manage it carefully. He was very concerned with accuracy in his work, and paid much attention to details. He needed room in which to work and didn't like being crowded or limited in his resources. He preferred to operate more autonomously on the job and not to be closely supervised. When necessary, he was able to work alone, with much concentration, or in a group as was appropriate; he was willing to assume a variety of roles. The man had great organizational skills and was able to organize his day, his work, and his ideas. Diogo's fluid thinking style, flexible approach, and ability to express himself, combined to reflect literary talent.

Diogo was quite enthusiastic about his work and often could get quite excited about it. Sudden emotional stress could negatively impact his relations with co-workers. On the plus side, this man was internally motivated to set and reach long-range goals and carefully planned how to attain them. He was able to benefit from constructive suggestions about his work. He would stand back, look at the job objectively, and change what needed to be altered, in order to do the best he was capable of.

Diogo Maddison Genn was a very fine man. He was highly intelligent and out-going. While trying to conform to the Victorian society of his times, it is difficult to picture him as 'all that proper'. This was a person who preferred to be actively involved, and could project and set goals for far ahead. Alas! That he died so young!

Respectfully submitted,
Pauline Morris-Clapp, CG