

name *Men-is-co-es'-sus*. This also, is similar to the Old World forms.

Thus all the intimations show that while the mammalian type had already made great advance in the Mesozoic Æon—almost equally advanced at the beginning and end—it was still but meagerly developed. Its affinities, even to the end of the Mesozoic, were with the lower division of mammals, the Marsupials. With so little progress between the Triassic and the end of the Cretaceous, we are reminded again, that a long interval of mammalian existence must have passed, before the Triassic *Dromatherium* took its place in the world.

With the opening of Cænozoic time all is changed. The transition reminds us of that from the Eozoic to the Palæozoic. The world is now astir with mammalian life; and mammalian life has already attained considerable development in rank and diversification of type. When was this advance effected? Probably during the Cretaceous. Then we must admit that the sole Cretaceous mammal known fails to represent the average of the Cretaceous. But a glance over the assemblage of early Tertiary mammals at once shows them stamped with inferior characteristics. They are all greatly *generalized*—that is, some characters of two, three, or more of our modern orders are blended in one individual. This principle is exemplified in the early representatives of every group of animals. In the next place, they possessed small brains. If we compare one of them with its nearest relative in any later age, and especially with a modern mammal, the disparity in brain is striking. Enlargement of brain is a strong mark of advancement. Another circumstance is the generally pentadactyl character of these mammals. To have five toes on each foot may be thought a mark of superiority, since man has five. But five is the typical or fundamental number. This is possessed by many reptiles and by most of the lowest mammals. Advance has been marked by modifications, and these as a fact, have involved, in most cases, a reduction in the number of digits. The extremities of man may, therefore, be