

removed. Man is free to possess the earth. With man in possession of the earth there is room for no wider ranging animal; there is place for no successor.

Nature in man seems to have reached a period. While other animals rise in steady gradation from lower to higher, man proceeds by one grand leap to possess a rank and dignity unapproached by his best predecessors. In intelligence, in æsthetic perceptions, in moral sense, in religious susceptibility, in theistic apperceptions, he stands separated by an unbridged gulf from his mammalian fellows. Man is the capital and completion of the long-rising column of organic life. The structure is finished.

Man's advent is geologically recent. No report of a human relic has been made by any geologist, from any formation below the Miocene. No report of Miocene or Pliocene man has been corroborated by such evidence as to claim the sanction of conservative geologists. European man is first a Quaternary phenomenon; he dates from the epoch of flooded streams and glacier decline. I had once thought Pliocene man existed in America; but for reasons explained in Talk XLIX, I am led to suspect the lava outflow which provided his sepulcher was an event of the Glacier epoch. It will be noticed that European discussion always concerns the man who first invaded Europe. We have no facts bearing on the date of man's advent into Africa and Australia. He may have existed there during the reign of ice in the north; he may have preceded the reign of ice. If Mongoloid man was in Europe immediately on the decline of the glaciers, the lower races should have lived somewhere in an earlier epoch. But this is only a suggestion.

Geological man, as far as known, was the equal of existing races. The European Troglodytes were Mongoloids of the grade of Esquimaux. There is no structural gradation from man downward to half-men and apes. This has sometimes been claimed, but the highest verdict opposes that claim.

There are links missing between man and his mammalian predecessors. Here is the prototype of the great gap between