

AUTHOR'S PREFACE

two years afterwards. As this less complicated work, in spite of its great defects, ran into nine large editions and twelve different translations, it has contributed not a little to the spread of monistic views. The same may be said of the less known *Anthropogeny** (1874), in which I set myself the difficult task of rendering the most important facts of the theory of man's descent accessible and intelligible to the general reader; the fourth, enlarged, edition of that work appeared in 1891. In the paper which I read at the fourth International Congress of Zoology at Cambridge, in 1898, on "Our Present Knowledge of the Descent of Man"† (a seventh edition of which appeared in 1899), I treated certain significant and particularly valuable advances which this important branch of anthropology has recently made. Other isolated questions of our modern natural philosophy, which are peculiarly interesting, have been dealt with in my *Collected Popular Lectures on the Subject of Evolution* (1878). Finally, I have briefly presented the broad principles of my monistic philosophy and its relation to the dominant faith in my *Confession of Faith of a Man of Science: Monism as a Connecting Link between Religion and Science*‡ (1892, eighth edition, 1899).

The present work on *The Riddle of the Universe* is the continuation, confirmation, and integration of the views which I have urged for a generation in the aforesaid volumes. It marks the close of my studies on the monistic conception of the universe. The earlier

* There are two English translations, *The Evolution of Man* (1879) and *The Pedigree of Man* (1880).

† The English translation, by Dr. Hans Gadow, bears the title of *The Last Link*.

‡ English translation, by J. Gilchrist, with the title of *Monism*.