

phase is derived from the preceding phase through a material continuity. The developed embryo is all made of the very yolk-stuff which existed in the beginning. If the living gradation is derived from the embryonic, there must be a material continuity or relationship among living animals—as we already inferred from their resemblances. If the palæontological gradation is derived from or determined by, the embryonic, so there must have been a material continuity running through the palæontological series, as we could easily infer from their successional resemblances. Each new species is derived from a predecessor. The highest and the living forms are only the last terms of a long series of generations.

Do not be alarmed at the conclusion. If it is true, it is precisely what we are interested in finding out. If it is not true, then science herself will disprove it. Our fears of consequences, our unscientific objections and prejudices count for nothing, except as complaints against God's method in the world.

LII. THE HUMAN FACTOR IN THE WORLD'S VICISSITUDES.

MAN IN THE LIGHT OF SCIENCE.

Now that we have traveled over the entire course of terrestrial history, we seem to have attained an eminence from which we can take some comprehensive glimpses of the whole in its relations. Now that we find man to stand at the end of that history, we are able to comprehend the relation which he sustains to its successive steps. Let us look over the field and see what it suggests.

We learn, first of all, that man is the fulfillment of the prophecies of the ages. The first step of organic progress led toward man. It determined the direction of the course of organization, and now that we know man was destined to stand at the end of that progress, we understand that the law of progress contemplated man. Striking illustrations of