

man and his contemporaries. From the ape, from the horse, the deer, and other living types, we trace, through fossil bones, a graduation downward in rank, and backward in time, to the organisms which made their advent at the beginning of the Tertiary. Here is a pretty complete chain of being in each case, from a primitive extinct form, down quite to the living form. But not so with man. The chain is broken—the links are lost. We can not explain this at present. As long as the interval remains, we can not affirm from facts that man is the outcome of ordinary evolution.

Thus we learn that man's organism is bound up with the history of the material world. Inorganic conditions have always circumscribed his existence. He could only appear when they permitted; he can only dwell where they fit his nature. The inorganic matter of the world has afforded material for the embodiment of his soul. The lime in his bones is as old as Eozoon. Venerable old house is that which he has built for his dwelling place—inconceivably more venerable than the temples reared of the stones of the old pyramids. He is made of the same stuff as the mountains and the stars. He can survey the material universe and feel that he is a part of it; and that the substance of his frame dates back to a burning planet, to whirling rings of vapor and glowing fire-mist. With the organic history of the world he stands inseparably connected. He is the outcome of all vertebrate progress; he was embodied in its evolution as the fruit and flower in the growing stem. Man can stand up among the animals and feel a kinship with all of them. He can rationally sympathize with them and concern himself in their well being.

In the survey of the plans of nature exemplified even in his own being, he discovers in himself a revelation of mind. Plan reveals the mind of a planner. That which rethinks the thought embodied in a plan, must also be mind. Man understands, to some extent, the plans embodied in the structure and history of the world. Man, therefore, in the study of material nature, arrives at a knowledge of something which is superior to matter; he discovers spirit.