

THE RIDDLE OF THE UNIVERSE

differences between man and the great apes are not so great as are those between the manlike apes and the lower monkeys." The supposed "evidences *against* the near blood-relationship of man and the apes" proved, on a closer examination of the real circumstances, to be strong reasons in favor of it.

Every scientist who penetrates with open eyes into this dark but profoundly interesting labyrinth of our embryonic development, and who is competent to compare it critically with that of the rest of the mammals, will find in it a most important aid towards the elucidation of the descent of our species. For the various stages of our embryonic development, in the character of *palingenetic* phenomena of heredity, cast a brilliant light on the corresponding stages of our ancestral tree, in accordance with the great law of biogeny. But even the *cenogenetic* phenomena of adaptation, the formation of the temporary foetal organs—the characteristic foetal membranes, and especially the placenta—gives us sufficiently definite indications of our *close genetic relationship with the primates*.