

Buddhist religion ; he will not call the Boer "a brother of the ox," nor burn effigies of Kruger, but he will give the Transvaal burgher credit for pluck as well as splendid qualities of the heart, in accordance with the testimony of "Tom Atkins" when he wrote home : "The Boers fight like devils ; but when you fall into their hands they act like blessed Christians."

We cannot close this sketch of cosmopolitan citizenship more appropriately than by quoting some of Victor Hugo's words. None who have read his marvellous description of the "Battle of Waterloo" in *Les Misérables* will doubt of his love for his native country, yet he is not animated by the uncompromising spirit of a domineering race whose watchword was "*Civis Romanus sum!*" but he shows himself a true citizen of the world when he closes a public speech with the following sentence : "*Je ne suis ni Français, ni Européen ; je suis humain !*"

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Organic Evolution.

(The comparative lack of opportunity of the majority of our students to investigate this subject in detail, is our excuse for publishing such a simple series of articles as this will be. Organic evolution is a subject of very great interest to all, and of vital importance to scientists, and so everyone should have a comprehensive idea of it.)

I. A GENERAL OUTLOOK.

THE theory of organic evolution, *i.e.*, the evolution of organisms, now acknowledged by every biologist, was formulated by Charles Darwin, and first presented to the world in his "Origin of Species," published in 1859. Needless to say, his theory at first met with a great deal of opposition, as do all new theories, but now, however, every biologist, geologist as well as zoologist and botanist, accepts Darwin's theory of organic evolution, and hundreds of scientists have devoted their whole lifetime to hard work collecting evidence to further substantiate the theory.

Darwin's theory is one of descent with modification through variation and natural selection. The idea of organic evolution being caused by natural selection, is peculiarly Darwin's own, and this it is which gives to Darwinism its distinguishing character.

Natural selection rests on two fundamental principles, which apply to all organized beings, plants as well as animals. The first of these is the power of rapid multiplication of plants and animals in a geomet-