

properties manifested by the special organs were latent. Biologists now considered the evolutionary doctrine proved and were occupying themselves with the question as to the origin of the individual peculiarities which were the bricks with which evolution worked. This difficult problem was as yet far from being solved, but the trend of the evidence was to show that they were due to chemical influences acting on the germ in the first period of its existence. The evidence that man was descended from a monkey-like ancestor had since Darwin's day become overwhelming. The unborn baby was provided with a short tail and with a thick covering of hair, and the skulls of the oldest known fossil men were intermediate in capacity between those of the highest ape and the lowest negro. Evolution had not, however, ceased when man had become man; by its continued operation the human race had been split into a black, a yellow, and a white division. The Anglo-Saxon race belonged to the last, which was essentially an arctic type and had originated where the struggle against nature was fiercest. In consequence of this the white race was possessed of superior virility and human history largely consisted of a series of raids carried out by the white race on the less vigorous race lying to the south of them.

In conclusion the lecturer pointed out that the nature of the human spirit, that most fundamental of all problems, could not be determined by zoological methods; for to attempt to resolve the soul into the results of the congeries of atoms, when atoms themselves were its own conceptions was a manifest absurdity. It was better to frankly admit that a consistent scheme could not be constructed out of our knowledge of eternal nature and our knowledge of our inner life—and with Harnack to live in the faith that this apparently irreconcilable contradiction would one day receive its solution.