A forceful arraignment of modern social conditions, in which Dr Wallace maintains that mankind has made no perceptible advance, either intellectual or moral, throughout the historical period; that present social and moral environment is the worst in history; and that progress is only possible through a new form of selection (sexual), which must be preceded by an entire reconstruction of the present social order. Contains clear chapters on natural selection and strong arguments for eugenics. A work of high importance as the utterance of the foremost living scientist, but marred by a certain haziness in its definition of moral progress, and containing many statements inadequately proved.

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