MR. WALLACE ON HUMAN DEVELOPMENT.

In all the wrangling over the details of Spiritualism, it is well to call to mind some of the effects it is producing upon the course of science and philosophy. Prominent among these is the doctrine of Mr. Alfred Russell Wallace upon the origin of man, which differs from that of Darwin in assigning other, and presumably *spiritual* causes for man's intellectual and moral development. Mr. Wallace, it is well known, is a firm believer in Spiritualism. His views of the origin of man's higher faculties, are, no doubt, in part due to his belief in the power of extra-mundane intelligence to influence animals and man even to the extent of producing new varieties. The following from his address to the British Association shows some of the evidence which supports his views :

The most important difference between man and such of the lower animals as most nearly approach him, is undoubtedly in the bulk and development of his brain, as indicated by the form and capacity of the cranium. We should therefore anticipate that these earliest races, who were contemporary with the extinct animals and used rude, stone weapons, would show a marked deficiency in this respect. Yet the oldest known crania-those of the Engis and Cro-Magnon caves-show no marks of degradation. The former does not present so low a type as that of most existing savages, but is-to use the words of Prof. Huxley-"a fair average human skull, which might have belonged to a philosopher, or might have contained the thoughtless brains of a savage." The latter are still more remarkable, being unusually large and well formed. Dr. Pruner-Bey states that they surpass the average of modern European skulls in capacity, while their symmetrical forms, without any trace of prognathism, compares favorably not only with the foremost savage races, but with many civilized nations of modern times.

One or two other cranis of much lower type, but of less antiquity than this, have been discovered; but they in no way invalidate the conclusion which so highly developed a form at so early a period implies, viz., that we have as yet made a hardly perceptible step toward the discovery of any earlier stage in the development of man.

This conclusion is supported and enforced by the nature of many of the works of art found even in the oldest cavedwellings. The finits are of the old chipped type, but they are formed into a large variety of tools and weapons—such

as scrapers, awls, hammers, saws, lances, etc., implying a variety of purposes for which these were used, and a corresponding degree of mental activity and civilization. Numerous articles of bone have also been found, including wellformed needles, implying that skins were sewn together, and perhaps even textile materials woven into cloth. Still more important are the numerous carvings and drawings representing a variety of animals, including horses, reindeer, and even a mammoth, executed with considerable skill on bone, reindeer-horns, and mammoth-tusks. These, taken together, indicate a state of civilization much higher than that of the lowest of our modern savages, while it is quite compatible with a considerable degree of mental advancement, and leads us to believe that the crania of Engis and Cro-Magnon are not exceptional, but fairly represent the characters of the race. If we further remember that these people lived in Europe under the unfavorable conditions of a sub-Arctic climate, we shall be inclined to agree with Dr. Daniel Wilson, that it is far casier to produce evidences of deterioration than of progress in instituting a comparison between the contemporaries of the mammoth and later prehistoric races of Europe or savage nations of modern times.

Yet another important line of evidence as to the extreme antiquity of the human type has been brought prominently forward by Prof. Mivart. He shows by a careful comparison of all parts of the structure of the body, that man is related, not to any one, but almost equally to many, of the existing spes-to the orang, the chimpanzee, the gorilla and even to the gibbons-in a variety of ways; and these relations and differences are so numerous and so diverse that on the theory of evolution the ancestral form which ultimately developed into man must have diverged from the common stock whence all these various forms and their extinct allies originated. But so far back as the Miocene deposits of Europe, we find the remains of apes allied to these various forms, and especially to the gibbons, so that in all probability the special line of variation which led up to man branched off at a still earlier period. And these early forms, being the initiation of a far higher type, and having to develop by natural selection into so specialized and altogether distinct a creature as man, must have risen at a very early period into the position of a dominant race, and spread in dense waves of population over all suitable portions of the great continent-for this, on Mr. Darwin's hypothesis, is essential to rapid developmental progress through the agency of natural selection.

Under these circumstances we might certainly expect to find some relics of those earlier forms of man along with those of animals which were presumably less abundant. Negative evidence of this kind is not very weighty, but still it has some value. It has been suggested that as apes are mostly tropical, and anthropoid apes are now confined almost exclusively to the vicinity of the equator, we should expect the ancestral forms also to have inhabited these same localitics-West Africa and the Malay Islands. But this objection is hardly valid, because existing anthropoid apes are wholly dependent on a perennial supply of easily accessible fruits, which is only found near the equator, while not only had the south of Europe an almost tropical climate in Miocene times, but we must suppose even the earliest ancestors of man to have been terrestrial and omnivorous, since it must have taken ages of slow modification to have produced the perfectly erect form, the short arms, and the wholly non-prehensile foot, which so strongly differentiate man from the apes.

The conclusion which I think we must arrive at is, that if man has been developed from a common ancestor with all existing spes, and by no other agencies than such as have affected their development, then he must have existed in something approaching his present form, during the tertiary period-and not merely existed, but predominated in numbers, wherever suitable conditions prevailed. If then, continued research in all parts of Europe and Asia fail to bring to light any proofs of his presence, it will be at least a presumption that he came into existence at a much later date, and by a much more rapid process of development. In that case it will be a fair argument, that, just as he is in his mental and moral nature, his capacities and aspirations, so infinitely raised above the brutes, so his origin is due to distinct and higher agencies than such as have affected their development.
