“27th July [1901].—With Cockerell to Parkstone to see Alfred Russel Wallace, the Grand Old Man of
Science. Cockerell, who knew him already, had asked him to have a talk with me about the prehistoric
horse, and an excellent talk it was. He lives in an uninteresting little red villa near the station, but the old
man himself is a treasure. Though not able to give me much information on the subject I had come to him
about, the early domestication of animals and especially of the horse, he was most instructive about the
primitive races of mankind. He divides mankind into three great families, the White, the Black and the
Yellow. Among the first he classes not only Semites and the lighter coloured Hindoos, but also the
Dravidians, the Hairy Ainu and the Australians. He classes them by their features, and by the quality of
their hair, which is long and wavy. The black races are the negroes, the negritos and all others who have
crisped hair. The yellow race is characterized by comparatively hairless faces, and the absence of wave in
their hair. The Aryans, he says, are a mere linguistic division of the white family, the distinction has
nothing to do with the race. He holds it probable that civilization had only one birthplace, and from it had
spread everywhere. The taming of animals was imitated from a first example of success by tribes
communicating with the successful tribe. His socialistic talk was also interesting, and he displayed
wonderful vigour of intellect for so old a man. He complimented me on my pamphlet, ‘The Shame of the
XIXth Century’ and expressed strong views on the pauperization of India. There was a number of the
paper ‘Light’ lying on his table, and I asked him if he still adhered to his belief in spiritualism, and he said
very positively that he had not receded from it in the smallest degree.”