

equal to five minutes of arc. Saturday afternoon was as usual devoted to excursions, but the steady downpour of rain did much to mar the enjoyment. Several people in the vicinity of York have entertained the members very hospitably, and have thrown open their houses. On Monday the usual meteorological breakfast took place; forty persons were present, and meteorology was the chief order of the day in Section A. In the evening Mr. Spottiswoode gave a discourse on "The Electric Discharge." The Red Lion Club met on Tuesday before the *soirée*.

Southampton has been chosen as the place of meeting in 1882, and Dr. C. W. Siemens has been elected president. A vigorous contest for the honour of receiving the Association took place yesterday between six towns:—Leicester, Nottingham, Southport, Oxford, Birmingham, and Aberdeen. The claims of each town were stated by delegates, and afterwards votes were taken by a show of hands. Birmingham withdrew. The President of the Royal Society, Sir Joseph Hooker, and Professors Acland, H. J. S. Smith, and Prestwich, strongly advocated the claims of Oxford, and the show of hands was declared to be in its favour. Southport was second on the list. Worcester has lodged a claim for 1884.

Altogether more than three hundred papers or reports have been read.

Eighteen papers were put on the list of Section A for Tuesday; twenty-eight in the Geological Section, thirteen in that of Anthropology, and fifteen in Mechanical Science. Thus the work has never flagged at all.

At the Committee Meeting on Wednesday Capt. Bedford Pim gave notice of motion that the meeting be held in Canada in 1885.

The following grants have been made:—

The Council—Exploration of Mountain District of Eastern Equatorial Africa	£	100
<i>A—Mathematics and Physics</i>		
Mr. G. H. Darwin—Lunar Disturbance of Gravity		15
Dr. A. Schuster—Meteoric Dust		20
Prof. Sylvester—Fundamental Invariants (partly renewed)		80
Mr. R. H. Scott—Synoptic Charts of the Indian Ocean ...		50
Prof. G. C. Foster—Standards for Use in Electrical Measurements (partly renewed)		100
<i>B—Chemistry</i>		
Prof. Dewar—Present State of Knowledge of Spectrum Analysis		5
Prof. Balfour Stewart—Calibration of Mercurial Thermometers		20
Prof. Roscoe—Wave-lengths Tables of Spectra of Elements		50
Dr. Hugo Müller—Chemical Nomenclature		10
Prof. Odling—Photographing the Ultra-Violet Spark Spectra		25
<i>C—Geology</i>		
Dr. J. Evans—Record of the Progress of Geology		100
Prof. Ramsay—Earthquake Phenomena of Japan		25
Dr. H. C. Sorby—Conditions of Conversion of Sedimentary Materials into Metamorphic Rocks		10
Prof. W. C. Williamson—Fossil Plants of Halifax		15
Dr. Sorby—Conversion of Sediments into Metamorphic Rocks		10
Prof. A. C. Ramsay—Geological Map of Europe		25
Prof. E. Hull—Circulation of Underground Waters		15
Prof. W. C. Williamson—Tertiary Flora associated with the Basalts of the North of Ireland		20
Dr. Sorby—British Fossil Polyzoa		10
Prof. Leith-Adams—Carboniferous Limestone Caves in South Ireland		10
Prof. Green—Exploration of Raygill Fissure		20
<i>D—Biology</i>		
Mr. F. M. Balfour—Table at the Zoological Stations at Naples		80
Dr. Burdon-Sanderson—Albuminoid Substances of Serum		10
Dr. Pye Smith—Influence of Bodily Exercise on the Elimination of Nitrogen		50

Dr. M. Foster—Zoological Station in Scotland	£40
Mr. J. Cordeaux—Migration of Birds	15
Lieut.-Col. Godwin-Austen—Natural History of Socotra	100
Mr. Staniton—Record of Zoological Literature	100
Mr. Sclater—Natural History of Timorlaut	100
Prof. Flower—Photographs of Typical Races	10

Statistics

Mr. F. Galton—Anthropometrics	50
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SECTION A

MATHEMATICAL AND PHYSICAL

OPENING ADDRESS BY SIR WILLIAM THOMSON, F.R.S., PROFESSOR OF NATURAL PHILOSOPHY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW, PRESIDENT OF THE SECTION

On the Sources of Energy in Nature Available to Man for the Production of Mechanical Effect

DURING the fifty years' life of the British Association, the Advancement of Science for which it has lived and worked so well has not been more marked in any department than in one which belongs very decidedly to the Mathematical and Physical Section—the science of Energy. The very name energy, though first used in its present sense by Dr. Thomas Young about the beginning of this century, has only come into use practically after the doctrine which defines it had, during the first half of the British Association's life, been raised from a mere formula of mathematical dynamics to the position it now holds of a principle pervading all nature and guiding the investigator in every field of science.

A little article communicated to the Royal Society of Edinburgh a short time before the commencement of the epoch of energy under the title "On the Sources Available to Man for the Production of Mechanical Effect"¹ contained the following:—

"Men can obtain mechanical effect for their own purposes by working mechanically themselves, and directing other animals to work for them, or by using natural heat, the gravitation of descending solid masses, the natural motions of water and air, and the heat, or galvanic currents, or other mechanical effects produced by chemical combination, but in no other way at present known. Hence the stores from which mechanical effect may be drawn by man belong to one or other of the following classes:—

"I. The food of animals.

"II. Natural heat.

"III. Solid matter found in elevated positions.

"IV. The natural motions of water and air.

"V. Natural combustibles (as wood, coal, coal-gas, oils, marsh-gas, diamond, native sulphur, native metals, meteoric iron).

"VI. Artificial combustibles (as smelted or electrically-deposited metals, hydrogen, phosphorus).

"In the present communication, known facts in natural history and physical science, with reference to the sources from which these stores have derived their mechanical energies, are adduced to establish the following general conclusions:—

"1. Heat radiated from the sun (sunlight being included in this term) is the principal source of mechanical effect available to man.² From it is derived the whole mechanical effect obtained by means of animals working, water-wheels worked by rivers, steam-engines, galvanic engines, windmills, and the sails of ships.

"2. The motions of the earth, moon, and sun, and their mutual attractions, constitute an important source of available mechanical effect. From them all, but chiefly no doubt from the earth's motion of rotation, is derived the mechanical effect of water-wheels driven by the tides.

"3. The other known sources of mechanical effect available to man are either terrestrial—that is, belonging to the earth, and available without the influence of any external body—or meteoric—that is, belonging to bodies deposited on the earth from external space. Terrestrial sources, including mountain quarries and mines, the heat of hot springs, and the combustion of native sulphur, perhaps also the combustion of inorganic native combustibles, are actually used, but the mechanical effect

¹ Read at the Royal Society of Edinburgh on February 2, 1852 (*Proceedings* of that date).

² A general conclusion equivalent to this was published by Sir John Herschel in 1833. See his "Astronomy," edit. 1849, §(399).

obtained from them is very inconsiderable, compared with that which is obtained from sources belonging to the two classes mentioned above. Meteoric sources, including only the heat of newly-fallen meteoric bodies, and the combustion of meteoric iron, need not be reckoned among those available to man for practical purposes."

Thus we may summarise the natural sources of energy as Tides, Food, Fuel, Wind, and Rain.

Among the practical sources of energy thus exhaustively enumerated, there is only one not derived from sun-heat—that is the tides. Consider it first. I have called it *practical*, because tide-mills exist. But the places where they can work usefully are very rare, and the whole amount of work actually done by them is a drop to the ocean of work done by other motors. A tide of two metres' rise and fall, if we imagine it utilised to the utmost by means of ideal water-wheels doing with perfect economy the whole work of filling and emptying a dock-basin in infinitely short times at the moments of high and low water, would give just one metre-ton per square metre of area. This work done four times in the twenty-four hours amounts to 1-1620th of the work of a horse power. Parenthetically, in explanation, I may say that the French metrical equivalent (to which in all scientific and practical measurements we are irresistibly drawn, notwithstanding a dense barrier of insular prejudice most detrimental to the islanders),—the French metrical equivalent of James Watt's "horse-power" of 550 foot-pounds per second, or 33,000 foot-pounds per minute, or nearly two million foot-pounds per hour, is 75 metre-kilogrammes per second, or 4½ metre-tons per minute, or 270 metre-tons per hour. The French ton of 1000 kilogrammes used in this reckoning is 0·984 of the British ton.

Returning to the question of utilising tidal energy, we find a dock area of 162,000 square metres (which is a little more than 400 metres square) required for 100 horse-power. This, considering the vast costliness of dock construction, is obviously prohibitory of every scheme for economising tidal energy by means of artificial dock-basins, however near to the ideal perfection might be the realised tide-mill, and however convenient and non-wasteful the accumulator—whether Faure's electric accumulator, or other accumulators of energy hitherto invented or to be invented—which might be used to store up the energy yielded by the tide-mill during its short harvests about the times of high and low water, and to give it out when wanted at other times of the six hours. There may however be a dozen places possible in the world where it could be advantageous to build a sea-wall across the mouth of a natural basin or estuary, and to utilise the tidal energy of filling it and emptying it by means of sluices and water-wheels. But if so much could be done, it would in many cases take only a little more to keep the water out altogether, and make fertile land of the whole basin. Thus we are led up to the interesting economical question, whether is forty acres (the British *agricultural* measure for the area of 162,000 square metres) or 100 horse-power more valuable. The annual cost of 100 horse-power night and day, for 365 days of the year, obtained through steam from coals, may be about ten times the rental of forty acres at 2*l.* or 3*l.* per acre. But the value of land is essentially much more than its rental, and the rental of land is apt to be much more than 2*l.* or 3*l.* per acre in places where 100 horse-power could be taken with advantage from coal through steam. Thus the question remains unsolved, with the possibility that in one place the answer may be *one hundred horse-power*, and in another *forty acres*. But, indeed, the question is hardly worth answering, considering the rarity of the cases, if they exist at all, where embankments for the utilisation of tidal energy are practicable.

Turning now to sources of energy derived from sun-heat, let us take the wind first. When we look at the register of British shipping and see 40,000 vessels, of which about 10,000 are steamers and 30,000 sailing ships, and when we think how vast an absolute amount of horse-power is developed by the engines of those steamers, and how considerable a proportion it forms of the whole horse-power taken from coal annually in the whole world at the present time, and when we consider the sailing ships of other nations, which must be reckoned in the account, and throw in the little item of windmills, we find that, even in the present days of steam ascendancy, old-fashioned Wind still supplies a large part of all the energy used by man. But however much we may regret the time when Hood's young lady, visiting the fens of Lincolnshire at Christmas, and writing to her dearest friend in London (both sixty years old now if they are

alive), describes the delight of sitting in a bower and looking over the wintry plain, not desolate, because "windmills lend revolving animation to the scene," we cannot shut our eyes to the fact of a lamentable decadence of wind-power. Is this decadence permanent, or may we hope that it is only temporary? The subterranean coal-stores of the world are becoming exhausted surely, and not slowly, and the price of coal is upward bound—upward bound on the whole, though no doubt it will have its ups and downs in the future as it has had in the past, and as must be the case in respect to every marketable commodity. When the coal is all burned; or, long before it is all burned, when there is so little of it left and the coal-mines from which that little is to be excavated are so distant and deep and hot that its price to the consumer is greatly higher than at present, it is most probable that windmills or wind-motors in some form will again be in the ascendant, and that wind will do man's mechanical work on land at least in proportion comparable to its present doing of work at sea.

Even now it is not utterly chimerical to think of wind superseding coal in some places for a very important part of its present duty—that of giving light. Indeed, now that we have dynamos and Faure's accumulator, the little want to let the thing be done is cheap windmills. A Faure cell containing 20 kilogrammes of lead and minium charged and employed to excite incandescent vacuum-lamps has a light-giving capacity of 60-candle hours (I have found considerably more in experiments made by myself; but I take 60 as a safe estimate). The charging may be done uninjuriously, and with good dynamical economy in any time from six hours to twelve or more. The drawing-off of the charge for use may be done safely, but somewhat wastefully, in two hours, and very economically in any time of from five hours to a week or more. Calms do not last often longer than three or four days at a time. Suppose then that a five days storage-capacity suffices (there may be a little steam-engine ready to be set to work at any time after a four-days' calm, or the user of the light may have a few candles or oil-lamps in reserve, and be satisfied with them when the wind fails for more than five days). One of the twenty kilogramme cells charged when the windmill works for five or six hours at any time, and left with its 60 candle-hours' capacity to be used six hours a day for five days, gives a 2-candle light. Thus thirty-two such accumulator cells so used would give as much light as four burners of London 16-candle gas. The probable cost of dynamo and accumulator does not seem fatal to the plan, if the windmill could be had for something comparable with the prime cost of a steam-engine capable of working at the same horse-power as the windmill when in good action. But windmills as hitherto made are very costly machines, and it does not seem probable that, without inventions not yet made, wind can be economically used to give light in any considerable class of cases, or to put energy into store for work of other kinds.

Consider, lastly, rain-power. When it is to be had in places where power is wanted for mills or factories of any kind, water-power is thoroughly appreciated. From time immemorial, water-motors have been made in large variety for utilising rain-power in the various conditions in which it is presented, whether in rapidly-flowing rivers, in natural waterfalls, or stored at heights in natural lakes or artificial reservoirs. Improvements and fresh inventions of machines of this class still go on, and some of the finest principles of mathematical hydrodynamics have, in the lifetime of the British Association, and, to a considerable degree, with its assistance, been put in requisition for perfecting the theory of hydraulic mechanism and extending its practical applications.

A first question occurs: Are we necessarily limited to such natural sources of water-power as are supplied by rain falling on hill-country, or may we look to the collection of rain-water in tanks placed artificially at sufficient heights over flat country to supply motive power economically by driving water-wheels? To answer it: Suppose a height of 100 metres, which is very large for any practicable building, or for columns erected to support tanks; and suppose the annual rainfall to be three-quarters of a metre (30 inches). The annual yield of energy would be 75 metre-tons per square metre of the tank. Now one horse-power for 365 times 24 hours is 236,500 foot-tons; and therefore (dividing this by 75) we find 3153 square metres as the area of our supposed tank required for a continuous supply of one horse-power. The prime cost of any such structure, not to speak of the value of the land which it would cover, is utterly prohibitory of any such plan for utilising the motive power of

rain. We may or may not look forward hopefully to the time when windmills will again "lend revolving animation" to a dull flat country; but we certainly need not be afraid that the scene will be marred by forests of iron columns taking the place of natural trees, and gigantic tanks overshadowing the fields and blackening the horizon.

To use rain-power economically on any considerable scale we must look to the natural drainage of hill country and take the water where we find it either actually falling or stored up and ready to fall when a short artificial channel or pipe can be provided for it at moderate cost. The expense of aqueducts, or of underground water-pipes, to carry water to any great distance—any distance of more than a few miles or a few hundred yards—is much too great for economy when the yield to be provided for is *power*; and such works can only be undertaken when the *water itself* is what is wanted. Incidentally, in connection with the water supply of towns, some part of the energy due to the head at which it is supplied may be used for power. There are however but few cases (I know of none except Greenock) in which the energy to spare over and above that devoted to bringing the water to where it is wanted, and causing it to flow fast enough for convenience at every opened tap in every house or factory, is enough to make it worth while to make arrangements for letting the water-power be used without wasting the water-substance. The cases in which water-power is taken from a town supply are generally very small, such as working the bellows of an organ, or "hair-brushing by machinery," and involve simply throwing away the used water. The cost of energy thus obtained must be something enormous in proportion to the actual quantity of the energy, and it is only the smallness of the quantity that allows the convenience of having it when wanted at any moment, to be so dearly bought.

For anything of great work by rain-power, the water-wheels must be in the very place where the water supply with natural fall is found. Such places are generally far from great towns, and the time is not yet come when great towns grow by natural selection beside waterfalls, for power; as they grow beside navigable rivers, for shipping. Thus hitherto the use of water-power has been confined chiefly to isolated factories which can be conveniently placed and economically worked in the neighbourhood of natural waterfalls. But the splendid suggestion made about three years ago by Mr. Siemens in his presidential address to the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, that the power of Niagara might be utilised, by transmitting it electrically to great distances, has given quite a fresh departure for design in respect to economy of rain-power. From the time of Joule's experimental electromagnetic engines developing 90 per cent. of the energy of a Voltaic battery in the form of weights raised, and the theory of the electromagnetic transmission of energy completed thirty years ago on the foundation afforded by the train of experimental and theoretical investigations by which he established his dynamical equivalent of heat in mechanical, electric, electro-chemical, chemical, electro-magnetic, and thermo-elastic phenomena, it had been known that potential energy from any available source can be transmitted electromagnetically by means of an electric current through a wire, and directed to raise weights at a distance, with unlimitedly perfect economy. The first large-scale practical application of electro-magnetic machines was proposed by Holmes in 1854, to produce the electric light for lighthouse uses, and perfected by him till he proved the availability of his machine to the satisfaction of the Trinity House and the delight of Faraday in trials at Blackwall in April, 1857, and it was applied to light the South Foreland lighthouse on December 8, 1858. This gave the impulse to invention; by which the electro-magnetic machine has been brought from the physical laboratory into the province of engineering, and has sent back to the realm of pure science a beautiful discovery, that of the fundamental principle of the dynamo, made triply and independently, and as nearly as may be simultaneously in 1867 by Dr. Werner Siemens, Mr. S. A. Varley, and Sir Charles Wheatstone; a discovery which constitutes an electro-magnetic analogue to the fundamental electrostatic principle of Nicholson's revolving doubler, resuscitated by Mr. C. F. Varley in his instrument "for generating electricity" patented in 1860; and by Holtz in his celebrated electric machine; and by myself in my "replenisher" for multiplying and maintaining charges in Leyden jars for heterostatic electrometers, and in the electrifier for the siphon of my recorder for submarine cables.

The dynamos of Gramme and Siemens, invented and made in

the course of these fourteen years since the discovery of the fundamental principle, give now a ready means of realising economically on a large scale for many important practical applications, the old thermo-dynamics of Joule in electro-magnetism; and, what particularly concerns us now in connection with my present subject, they make it possible to transmit electro-magnetically the work of waterfalls through long insulated conducting wires, and use it at distances of fifties or hundreds of miles from the source, with excellent economy—better economy, indeed, in respect to proportion of energy used to energy dissipated than almost anything known in ordinary mechanics and hydraulics for distances of hundreds of yards instead of hundreds of miles.

In answer to questions put to me in May, 1879,¹ by the Parliamentary Committee on Electric Lighting, I gave a formula for calculating the amount of energy transmitted, and the amount dissipated by being converted into heat on the way, through an insulated copper conductor of any length, with any given electromotive force applied to produce the current. Taking Niagara as example, and with the idea of bringing its energy usefully to Montreal, Boston, New York, and Philadelphia, I calculated the formula for a distance of 300 British statute miles (which is greater than the distance of any of those four cities from Niagara, and is the radius of a circle covering a large and very important part of the United States and British North America), I found almost to my surprise that even with so great a distance to be provided for, the conditions are thoroughly practicable with good economy, all aspects of the case carefully considered. The formula itself will be the subject of a technical communication to Section A in the course of the Meeting on which we are now entering. I therefore at present restrict myself to a slight statement of results.

1. Apply dynamos driven by Niagara to produce a difference of potential of 80,000 volts between a good earth-connection and the near end of a solid copper wire of half an inch (1.27 centimetres) diameter, and 300 statute miles (483 kilometres) length.

2. Let resistance by driven dynamos doing work, or by electric lights, or, as I can now say, by a Faure battery taking in a charge, be applied to keep the remote end at a potential differing by 64,000 volts from a good earth-plate there.

3. The result will be a current of 240 webers through the wire taking energy from the Niagara end at the rate of 26,250 horse-power, losing 5250 (or 20 per cent.) of this by the generation and dissipation of heat through the conductor and 21,000 horse-power (or 80 per cent. of the whole) on the recipients at the far end.

4. The elevation of temperature above the surrounding atmosphere, to allow the heat generated in it to escape by radiation and be carried away by convection is only about 20° Centigrade; the wire being hung freely exposed to air like an ordinary telegraph wire supported on posts.

5. The striking distance between flat metallic surfaces with difference of potentials of 80,000 volts (or 5,000 Daniell's) is (Thomson's "Electrostatics and Magnetism," § 340) only 18 millimetres, and therefore there is no difficulty about the insulation.

6. The cost of the copper wire, reckoned at 8d. per lb., is 37,000l.; the interest on which at 5 per cent. is 1900l. a year. If 5250 horse-power at the Niagara end costs more than 1900l. a year, it would be better economy to put more copper into the conductor; if less, less. I say no more on this point at present, as the economy of copper for electric conduction will be the subject of a special communication to the Section.

I shall only say in conclusion that one great difficulty in the way of economising the electrical transmitting power to great distances (or even to moderate distances of a few kilometres) is now overcome by Faure's splendid invention. High potential, as Siemens, I believe, first pointed out, is the essential for good dynamical economy in the electric transmission of power. But what are we to do with 80,000 volts when we have them at the civilised end of the wire? Imagine a domestic servant going to dust an electric lamp with 80,000 volts on one of its metals! Nothing above 200 volts ought on any account ever to be admitted into a house or ship or other place where safeguards against accident cannot be made absolutely and for ever trustworthy against all possibility of accident. In an electric workshop 80,000 volts is no more dangerous than a circular saw.

¹ Printed in the Parliamentary Blue Book Report of the Committee on Electric Lighting, 1879.

Till I learned Faure's invention I could but think of step-down dynamos, at a main receiving-station, to take energy direct from the electric main with its 80,000 volts, and supply it by secondary 200 volt dynamos or 100 volt dynamos, through proper distributing wires, to the houses and factories and shops where it is to be used for electric lighting, and sewing-machines, and lathes, and lifts, or whatever other mechanism wants driving power. Now the thing is to be done much more economically, I hope, and certainly with much greater simplicity and regularity, by keeping a Faure battery of 40,000 cells always being charged direct from the electric main, and applying a methodical system of removing sets of 50, and placing them on the town-supply circuits, while other sets of 50 are being regularly introduced into the great battery that is being charged, so as to keep its number always within 50 of the proper number, which would be about 40,000 if the potential at the emitting end of the main is 80,000 volts.

SECTION D

BIOLOGY

Department of Anthropology

OPENING ADDRESS BY PROF. W. H. FLOWER, LL.D.,
F.R.S., PRES. Z.S., V.P. ANTHROP. INST., &C., CHAIRMAN
OF THE DEPARTMENT

IT is impossible for us to commence the work of this section of the Association without having vividly brought to our minds the loss which has befallen us since our last meeting—the loss of one who was our most characteristic representative of the complex science of anthropology—one who had for many years conducted with extraordinary energy, amidst multifarious other avocations, a series of researches into the history, customs, and physical characters of the early inhabitants of our island, for which he was so especially fitted by his archæological, historical, and literary, as well as his anatomical knowledge, and who was also the most popular and brilliant expositor, to assemblies such as meet together on these occasions, of the results of those researches. I need scarcely say that I refer to Prof. Rolleston.

Within the last few months the study of our subject in this country has received an impulse from the publication of a book—small in size, it is true, but full of materials for thought and instruction—the “Anthropology” of Mr. E. B. Tylor, the first work published in English with that title, and one very different in its scope and method from the old ethnological treatises.

The immense array of facts brought together in a small compass, the terseness and elegance of the style, the good taste and feeling with which difficult and often burning questions are treated, should give this book a wide circulation among all classes, and thoroughly familiarise both the word and the subject to English readers.

The origin and early history of man's civilisation, his language, his arts of life, his religion, science, and social customs in the primitive conditions of society, are subjects in which, in consequence of their direct continuity with the arts and sciences, religious, political, and social customs among which we all live, by which we are all influenced, and about which we all have opinions, every person of ordinary education can and should take an interest. In fact, really to understand all these problems in the complex condition in which they are presented to us now, we ought to study them in their more simple forms, and trace them as far as may be to their origins.

But, as the author remarks, this book is only an introduction to anthropology, rather than a summary of all that it teaches; and some, even those that many consider the most important, branches of the subject are but lightly touched upon, or wholly passed over.

In one of the estimates of the character and opinions of the very remarkable man and eminent statesman, whose death the country was mourning last spring, it was stated: “Lord Beaconsfield had a deep-rooted conviction of the vast importance of race, as determining the relative dominance both of societies and of individuals” (*Spectator*, April 23, 1881); and with regard to the question of what he meant by “race,” we have a key in the last published work of the same acute observer of mankind: “Language and religion do not make a race—there is only one thing which makes a race, and that is blood” (“*Endymion*,” vol. ii. p. 205). Now “blood” used in this sense is defined as “kindred; relation by natural descent from a common ancestor;

consanguinity” (Webster's “Dictionary”). The study of the true relationship of the different races of men is then not only interesting from a scientific point of view, but of great importance to statesmanship in such a country as this, embracing subjects representing almost every known modification of the human species, whose varied and often conflicting interests have to be regulated and provided for. It is to want of appreciation of its importance that many of the inconsistencies and shortcomings of the government of our dependencies and colonies are due, especially the great inconsistency between a favourite English theory and a too common English practice—the former being that all men are morally and intellectually alike, the latter being that all are equally inferior to himself in all respects; both propositions egregiously fallacious. The study of race is at a low ebb indeed when we hear the same contemptuous epithet of “nigger” applied indiscriminately by the Englishman abroad to the blacks of the West Coast of Africa, the Kaffirs of Natal, the Lascars of Bombay, the Hindoos of Calcutta, the aborigines of Australia, and even the Maoris of New Zealand!

But how is he to know better? Where in this country is any instruction to be had? Where are the books to which he may turn for trustworthy information? The subject, as I have said, is but slightly touched upon in the last published treatise on anthropology in our language. The great work of Pritchard, a compendium of all that was known at the time it was written, is now almost entirely out of date. In not a single university or public institution throughout the three kingdoms is there any kind of systematic teaching, either of physical or of any other branch of anthropology, except so far as comparative philology may be considered as bearing upon the subject. The one society of which it is the special business to promote the study of these questions, the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, is, I regret to say, far from flourishing. An anthropological museum, in the proper sense of the word, either public or private, does not exist in this country.

What a contrast is this to what we see in almost every other nation in Europe! At Paris there is, first, the *Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle*, where man, as a zoological subject—almost entirely neglected in our British Museum—has a magnificent gallery allotted to him, abounding not only in illustrations of osteology, but also in models, casts, drawings, and anatomical preparations showing various points in his physical or natural history, which is expounded to the public in the free lectures of the venerable Prof. Quatrefages and his able coadjutor, Dr. Hamy; there is also the vigorous Society of Anthropology, which is stated in the last annual report to number 720 members, showing an increase of forty-four during the year 1880, and which is forming a museum on a most extensive scale; and, finally, the School of Anthropology, founded by the illustrious Broca, whose untimely death last year, instead of paralysing, seems to have stimulated, the energies of colleagues and pupils into increased activity. In this school, supported partly by private subscriptions, partly by the public liberality of the Municipality of Paris, and of the Department of the Seine, are laboratories in which all the processes of anthropological manipulation are practised by students and taught to travellers. Here all the bodies of persons of outlandish nationalities dying in any of the hospitals of Paris are dissected by competent and zealous observers, who carefully record every peculiarity of structure discovered, and are thus laying the foundation for an exhaustive and trustworthy collection of materials for the comparative anatomy of the races of man. Here, furthermore, are lectureships on all the different branches. Biological and anatomical anthropology, ethnology, prehistoric, linguistic, social, and medical anthropology are all treated of separately by eminent professors who have made these departments their special study. The influence of so much activity is spreading beyond the capital. The foundation of an anthropological society at Lyons has been announced within the present year.

In Germany, although there is not at present any institution organised like the school at Paris, the flourishing state of the Berlin Ethnological Society, which also reports a large increase in the number of its members, the various other societies and journals, and the important contributions which are continually being made from the numerous intellectual centres of that land of learning, all attest the interest which the study of man excites there. In Italy, in the Scandinavian kingdoms, in Russia, and even in Spain, there are signs of similar activity. A glance at the recent periodical literature of America, especially the publications of the Smithsonian Institution, will show how strongly