

LEEDS PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.  
THE VARIETIES OF MAN IN THE MALAY  
ARCHIPELAGO.

Last night, a deeply interesting lecture was delivered on the above subject in the hall of the Leeds Philosophical Society before a numerous audience by Mr. A. R. Wallace, F.R.G.S. The Rev. T. Hincks presided, and in introducing the lecturer, said there was no man in England more competent to deal with the subject upon which he had consented to address them.—Mr. Wallace said that striking out from the south-eastern parts of Asia, and extending over two-thirds of the great Pacific Ocean, was a region of innumerable islands, the inhabitants of which, though notoriously differing widely among themselves, had been considered by almost all ethnologists to form one of the strongly marked varieties into which the human race could be divided. The term Oceania had been aptly applied to that portion of the globe, and its native tribes had been collectively classed as the Malayan or the Malayo-Polynesian races. He proposed to give some account, from personal observation, of the inhabitants of a portion of that region, and by a comparison with the published descriptions of the inhabitants of the other islands, to endeavour to arrive at some definite conclusion as to their mutual relations or their common origin. After describing the country inhabited by the races to which he was about to refer, and the most interesting and important peculiarities in its forms of animal and vegetable life, and having graphically sketched the physical and mental characteristics of the chief inhabitants of the Archipelago, the lecturer proceeded:—The great attention that has recently been given to the problem of the antiquity of man, and the advance made towards the solution of it, has invested the question of the origin of races with a new interest, and has also furnished to the ethnologist the means of avoiding many of the difficulties which formerly embarrassed him. When even the geologist would only grant us a very limited period for the existence of the human race upon the earth—when he to a certain extent supported the popular belief that man had originated but a few thousand years ago—no wonder that the ethnologist found it impossible to account for the vast differences observed in mankind by any natural process of change. Not only have we manners and customs which among the less civilised races change but slowly, but we have languages the most diversified and the most incongruous, which we in vain seek to trace back to a common origin. Not only have we absolute contrasts of colour of hair, of features, of stature, which neither climate nor any other external conditions seem to have sensibly affected during the historical period, but we have mental and moral peculiarities equally marked, producing national character, which we have still less reason to believe have changed, or can change, except with extreme slowness. These insurmountable difficulties have led many ethnologists to adopt the hypothesis that man is not one, but many; that, whenever he originated, it was in several localities and under various forms; that, in fact, the chief races of man are aboriginally distinct, and were created as they now are and where they are now found. Accepting, however, most gratefully the permission we now have to place the origin of man at an indefinitely remote epoch, our difficulties are in a great measure removed, and we can speculate freely on the parentage of tribes and races, and on the common origin of all the varieties of mankind. We are further enabled to introduce a new element of the greatest importance into our reasonings on this subject—the geological changes of the earth's surface; for, as it is now certainly proved that man co-existed with extinct quadrupeds, and has survived elevations and depressions of the earth's surface to the amount of at least several hundred feet, we may consider the effects of the breaking up or re-formation of continents and the subsidence of islands, on the migrations, the increase, or the extinction of the people who inhabited them. We have, moreover, a remarkable instance of a physical change in a people with whose origin we are well acquainted, going on under our eyes, and dependent on material and moral causes which we can in some degree trace out. I allude to the peculiar characteristics of the people of the United States of North America, which are sufficiently palpable to be noticed by every writer who has visited them, and are the more extraordinary on account of the variety of races which have contributed to populate the country. We cannot, therefore, deny that man is to some extent changeable, even in short periods of time; and it is very difficult to limit the effects of analogous causes acting through those vast epochs which have

The property, &c., to construct this branch which it has been necessary to schedule, commences with the house near the Marsh-lane station, occupied by Mr. Penistone, one of the officers of the company. Then the Station Hotel and the dwelling-houses surrounding it, belonging to the Pious Use Trustees and others, are taken, as far as Back-lane, and thence to Galway-street, including the bone boiling manufactory of Mr. E. Phillips. Portions of York-street and Stainburn-square, together with a large amount of cottage property, are next required; St. Peter's-place, where Mr. Trumble's paper warehouse is taken; Duke-street and houses, Cross Somerset-street, and houses, Somerset-street, ditto, together with the flour mill occupied by Mr. J. D. Thorpe and the cut nail manufactory of Messrs. W. and T. Bolland; Sykes-street, the York Tavern-yard, Mr. Hall's timber-yard, Mr. Ed. Kitchin's currier's shop and tan pits, and the intervening property in Wellington-yard and the Old Post-office-yard to East-lane. Kirkgate market and some of the offices are included, though in all probability very little if any will be required, and then the warehouse in Kirkgate, below the market, occupied by Mr. Frederick Allan and others, a portion of which is used as a branch of the Working Men's Institute, and is in the occupation of Mr. D. Lupton. The Bradford Hotel, immediately below the market, is scheduled, and at this point the line will cross Kirkgate near Call-lane, the property being taken from the dram-shop at the corner of that thoroughfare, occupied by Mr. Townend, up Kirkgate as far as the Regent Inn. The workshops, &c., behind, occupied by Mr. Tiffany, Mr. Coxon, and others, and the shop of Mr. Johnson, bookseller, are to be taken, and also Fletcher's Yard, which, with the dwellings surrounding it, are included, as well as a strip of land adjoining the Central Market. In Briggate, for the purpose of the line, the Albion Hotel and tap, and the basket shop under it, will be taken, and, after crossing this important thoroughfare, to complete the communication portions of the premises occupied by Mr. G. Richardson, Mr. J. C. Knight, Messrs. Singleton and Tennant, Mr. Bissington, Mr. Walker, and others, are scheduled. In Trinity-street, Messrs. Hepper and Sons' old sale-rooms, Messrs. Teale and Appleton's offices, and a portion of Messrs. Goodall and Backhouse's warehouses, will be cleared away, and the line will then pass a little above the church into Bank-street, through the offices of Mr. Sykes Ward and Mr. Harle, and, crossing that street, through the yard occupied by Mr. Holder and the one adjoining the Mercury-office, and then through the premises of Messrs. Hastings and Mellor, Messrs. Whalley, Mr. Ashworth, and Messrs. Marshall, the connection with the station being thus completed. At the King-street end the station will be connected with the lines of the various companies by a short line crossing Wellington-street, and forming a junction with the Midland line near the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

Another branch from the Selby line proposed is one commencing in the parish of Whitkirk, and passing through Halton, Whitkirk, Templenewsam, &c. and forming a junction at Leeds with the Midland Railway where the lines leading to Hunslet-lane and Wellington Stations unite.

been required to bring about the last great changes in the condition of the earth's surface. From considerations such as these, taken in connection with the physical and moral peculiarities of the races of the Archipelago, of Eastern Asia, of the Pacific Islands, and of Australia, I have been led to a simple view as to the origin and affinities of these races. If we draw a line commencing on the eastern side of the Philippine Islands, thence along the western coast of Gilolo, through the island of Bourn, and curving round the west end of Flores, then bending back round Sandalwood Island to take in Rotti, we shall divide the Archipelago into two portions, the races of which have strongly marked distinctive peculiarities. This line will separate the Malayan and Asiatic from the Papuan and Pacific races, and though along the line of junction intermigration and commixture has taken place, yet the division is on the whole almost as well defined and strongly contrasted as are the corresponding zoological divisions of the Archipelago into an Indo-Malayan and Austro-Malayan region.—Mr. Wallace briefly explained the reasons that led him to consider that division of the Oceanic races to be a true and natural one, and summed up his argument in these words:—We have a wide region of islands, the inhabitants of which, though not all alike yet resemble each other in many important points, and are very unlike those of the great continents on each side of them. We have a great deal of evidence to show that this vastly extended archipelago is an area of subsidence, and that at a comparatively recent geological epoch wide spreading lands, perhaps great continents, occupied the site of its now thinly scattered islets. And lastly, we have proof that man has been in existence on the earth fully long enough to have inhabited those lands and continents, and that in our own quarter of the globe he has seen and survived physical changes of equal amount. (Applause.) The great diversity of the languages of the races, and other matters of interest, were referred to, and the lecturer concluded amid much applause. Some discussion, in which Mr. O'Callaghan, Mr. Nunneley, the Chairman, and others took part, ensued, and the proceedings terminated with a cordial vote of thanks to the lecturer.