

rocks (Cambrian) which are well enough preserved to yield animal forms in a satisfactory state of preservation, all the lower classes are represented (*i. e.*, Protozoa, Cœlenterates, Vermes, Molluscs, and Crustacea). The rulers of the seas at that time—there was no land life—were huge nautilus-like animals and crabs (molluscs and crustacea). These continued to be the rulers until forced into a subordinate position by the fish in the Devonian age. The competition in the seas at this time evidently became so great that some animals were forced upon land to survive, for land-living crustacea and insects are found in the rocks of this age. In the succeeding age (Carboniferous) Amphibia (frogs, etc.), was the most highly developed class. This is one step in advance of fish. By remains in rocks of a later age, the Mesozoic, we find that a distinctly higher class of vertebrate animals had come into existence—the reptiles. Competition among them was exceedingly severe, for they spread all over the land, then into the seas, and finally into the air, so that they ruled the earth, air and water. The progress of the life curve among them was in the direction of size, for among them were the largest animals that ever lived on our planet—sixty to eighty feet long, and fifteen to twenty-five feet high. But the brains of the huge individuals at the close of this time were scarcely larger than those of the relatively small animal at the beginning of it. Towards the close of the Mesozoic era a class of small animals (mammals) appeared. These began a rapid evolution in brain development, and doubtless had much to do with the extermination of the dominant reptile class. These became the ruling class in the next era (Tertiary). Some of them made the same mistake that their ancestors, the reptiles, made, that of increasing the size of a body without a corresponding increase of brain, and suffered the same penalty, extermination. The main stem of the mammals, however, developed brain and body both and the result is seen in the mammals of the next age (the present), as represented by the lion, the deer, the horse, and finally, man.

The reign of each class ends, but not to perish; it is merely subordinated to the higher. Thus, as we glance back over the upward march of evolution we see not only that the stronger survived, but that might and right are synonymous terms. The stronger rules, not by neglecting the characters

which made the lower classes great, but by adding new powers to the best of these. The lower Cœlenterates could feel and perhaps taste. The higher worm retained these qualities, but could also see and move actively. The higher vertebrate much increased the brain power, and hence with them cunning counts for more than mere brute strength. In man, brain (mentality) becomes the dominant factor; he, however, retains touch, taste and sight, but they are subordinate to the mind. Thus the animal has progressed, not by crushing out the lower characters, but by subordinating them to the higher; just as each class of animals still exist, but in a position subordinate to the highest. Hence man's first duty is to be a good animal (not a beast); that is the oldest portion of his nature; it is that on which he still depends for further evolution. Touch, taste and sight are three of the oldest factors in the evolution of the animal kingdom; they are three of the steps by which we have mounted and they are necessary to our continuance here; but he who descends and spends his life upon those steps has renounced his humanity and is lower than the beasts; he has slipped back millions of years in his evolution, and has become an invertebrate, a Cœlenterate or a worm.

A man without good physical health is but a partial man and cannot expect to succeed in the competition amid which he is placed. He is on the weak end of the life curve. Two men, however, may enter life together; A with a fine physique, B a puny individual. A may spend his energy so lavishly that he may be bankrupt (dead) before he is thirty years old. B may husband his so carefully and continually add to it that at thirty he is comparatively a robust man.

One man may develop the brain at the expense of the body and at a critical moment breaks down. Another develop the body without a corresponding development of the brain and is crowded out in the competition. Another may develop both brain and body, but spends his energy with too lavish a hand. All are at the weak end of the life curve. These are some of the reasons why one man succeeds where another fails. Man cannot neglect his body at the expense of the mind, nor neglect his mind at the expense of the body. He must be completely sound, with the weaker part as strong as the rest, like the "Deacon's One Hoss Shay;" otherwise at a critical moment in the race an organ gives way and the race is lost.

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