

extending it to all of life and making it a purely natural explanation as to how all the different species came into existence.

Darwin showed his book to Huxley in manuscript and Huxley declared himself unconvinced. They discussed the matter at length but Darwin was not able to convince Huxley of it. Huxley later declared that it was only after he had ~~read~~ read the actual book when it had come out in print and he had been asked to prepare a review for a leading magazine that he came to accept the hypothesis as true. It is interesting that a man who was so ~~far~~ very slow to be convinced of Darwin's arguments should become the bitter and pugnacious defender of them.

One wonders whether something of a psychological nature entered into Huxley's readiness to be convinced. As a young man Huxley says that he had been compelled to attend many long and tedious sermons which bored him greatly. He ~~became~~ ^{became greatly} disgusted with the church as a youth and received ^{became possessed by} an animosity against ecclesiastics that remained to the end of his life. This animosity is illustrated by an amusing story. Huxley once told someone that he had great difficulty in learning to remember which side of the heart the mitral valve was on. Then he happened to think of the fact that a miter was often used as a symbol of a bishop. Since that time, he said, I have never had the slightest difficulty in remembering that it is on the left side because a bishop could not possibly be right.."

As he approached manhood the young Huxley came in contact with the writings of Thomas Carlyle in which complete acceptance of German Rationalism was combined with an attitude of mystic reverence toward the universe in general. Huxley said that Carlyle ^{showed} told him that it was possible to combine deep religious feeling with complete lack of theology. He always manifested an attitude of almost mystic reverence toward the forces of nature, and a great hostility toward the ecclesiastical organization of the Church of England. When Huxley found the bishops and ecclesiastical leaders of the English Church bitterly attacking Darwin and ridiculing his theory, Huxley jumped to his defense.

The turning point in the Evolutionary argument in England occurred in a dramatic way. The story is often told as an illustration of the brilliance of Huxley's