

have rarely been found among the upper classes in the time of Darwin's grandfather. Occasionally they were able to make the defenders of the Bible appear to be fighting for mere matters of wording, and thus seem to have forsaken the standard of sincerity and truth, ~~that they claimed to uphold.~~ One occasion of this sort has often been described. It was at a large meeting at Oxford University where representatives of both views were invited. All the principal supporters of evolution, except Darwin himself, were present. Huxley, who was as yet comparatively unknown, sat on the platform as Darwin's representative. The bishop of Oxford, an able speaker with considerable knowledge of many fields of thought, presented a whole series of scientific arguments against Darwin's theories, and then descended to ridicule. Turning to Huxley, he asked him whether it was through his grandfather or through his grandmother that he claimed descent from a monkey. Huxley startled the man who sat next to him by ejaculating, "The Lord hath delivered him into mine hands!" When it was Huxley's turn to speak he quietly presented a series of scientific arguments, and went on to say that it was not Darwin's intention to prove a direct relationship between man and ape but only the descent of both, through thousands of generations, from a common ancestor. Then he concluded with the words: "I asserted--and I repeat--that a man has no reason to be ashamed of having an ape for his grandfather. If there were an ancestor whom I should feel shame in recalling, it would rather be a man of restless and versatile intellect, who, not content with an equivocal success in his own sphere of activity, plunges into scientific questions with which he had no real acquaintance, only to obscure them by an aimless rhetoric, and distract the attention of his hearers from the real point at issue by eloquent digressions and skilled appeals to religious prejudice."