

tigations of Vrolik and Weber on the form of the pelvis. On comparing the dark-colored African nations, on whose physical history the admirable work of Prichard has thrown so much light, with the races inhabiting the islands of the South-Indian and West-Australian archipelago, and with the Papuas and Alfourous (Haroforas, Endamenes), we see that a black skin, woolly hair, and a negro-like cast of countenance are not necessarily connected together.* So long as only a small portion of the earth was known to the Western nations, partial views necessarily predominated, and tropical heat and a black skin consequently appeared inseparable. "The Ethiopians," said the ancient tragic poet Theodectes of Phaselis,† "are colored by the near sun-god in his course with a sooty luster, and their hair is dried and crisped with the heat of his rays." The campaigns of Alexander, which gave rise to so many new ideas regarding physical geography, likewise first excited a discussion on the problematical influence of climate on races. "Families of animals and plants," writes one of the greatest anatomists of the day, Johannes Müller, in his noble and comprehensive work, *Physiologie des Menschen*, "undergo, within certain limitations peculiar to the different races and species, various modifications in their distribution over the surface of the earth, propagating these variations as organic types of species.‡ The present races of animals have been produced by

* Prichard, op. cit., vol. ii., p. 324.

† Onesicritus, in Strabo, xv., p. 690, 695, Casaub. Welcker, *Griechische Tragödien*, abth. iii., s. 1078, conjectures that the verses of Theodectes, cited by Strabo, are taken from a lost tragedy, which probably bore the title of "Memnon."

‡ [In illustration of this, the conclusions of Professor Edward Forbes respecting the origin and diffusion of the British flora may be cited. See the *Survey Memoir* already quoted, *On the Connection between the Distribution of the existing Fauna and Flora of the British Islands, &c.*, p. 65. "1. The flora and fauna, terrestrial and marine, of the British islands and seas, have originated, so far as that area is concerned, since the meiocene epoch. 2. The assemblages of animals and plants composing that fauna and flora did not appear in the area they now inhabit simultaneously, but at several distinct points in time. 3. Both the fauna and flora of the British islands and seas are composed partly of species which, either permanently or for a time, appeared in that area before the glacial epoch; partly of such as inhabited it during that epoch; and in great part of those which did not appear there until afterward, and whose appearance on the earth was coeval with the elevation of the bed of the glacial sea and the consequent climatal changes. 4. The greater part of the terrestrial animals and flowering plants now inhabiting the British islands are members of specific centers beyond their area, and have migrated to it over continuous land before, during, or after the glacial epoch. 5. The climatal conditions of the area under