

**REMARKS ON THE ANTIQUITY  
AND NATURE OF MAN,  
IN REPLY TO THE RECENT  
WORK OF CHARLES LYELL**

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Remarks on the Antiquity and Nature of Man, in Reply to the Recent Work of Charles Lyell by James Brodie

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**JAMES BRODIE**

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RECENT WORK OF SIR CHARLES LYELL.

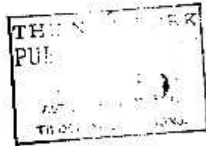
BY THE  
REV. JAMES BRODIE, A.M.

*"Magna est veritas et prevalebit."*

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1864.  
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## CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
PREFACE, . . . . .	vii
INTRODUCTION, . . . . .	1
I. THE TIME REQUIRED FOR THE UPLIFTING OF RAISED BEACHES, . . . . .	5
II. THE TIME REQUIRED FOR THE CHANGE OF CLIMATE AND EXTINCTION OF SPECIES, . . . . .	16
III. THE TIME REQUIRED FOR THE DEPOSITION AND REMOVAL OF GRAVEL BEDS, . . . . .	25
IV. THE MECHANICAL EFFORTS OF A FLOOD, . . . . .	37
V. THE TIME REQUIRED FOR THE GROWTH OF PEAT, . . . . .	44
VI. RELICS OF MAN IN DEPOSITS OF MUD, . . . . .	51
VII. SUCCESSIVE GENERATIONS OF TREES, . . . . .	58
VIII. IMPROVEMENT IN THE USEFUL ARTS AMONG THE EARLY INHABITANTS OF EUROPE, . . . . .	64
IX. THE PRIMEVAL CONDITION OF MAN, . . . . .	74
X. FOSSIL HUMAN SKULLS, . . . . .	80
XI. THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY VARIATION, . . . . .	87
XII. THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF THE HUMAN RACE, . . . . .	94
XIII. ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF LANGUAGES AND SPECIES COMPARED, . . . . .	105
XIV. THE AUTHOR OF NATURE, . . . . .	109
XV. MAN'S PLACE IN CREATION, . . . . .	122
POSTSCRIPT, . . . . .	146





## PREFACE.

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IN attempting to reply to the speculations contained in "Lyell's Antiquity of Man," the author of the following pages has endeavoured to state the arguments which Sir Charles employs, and the facts on which they rest, as clearly and as fairly as he possibly could, so that any one perusing the present publication may have the whole question fully before him.

He has not felt himself called on to notice disquisitions, however elaborate, which have no bearing either on the antiquity or on the nature of man, and he has seen no necessity for discussing facts which he was prepared to admit. All that he conceived to be required of him, was to specify the questions under debate, with the evidence brought forward on either side. His treatise, therefore, is brief, because the arguments adduced by Sir Charles, when separated from the mass of incongruous matter in which they are embedded, are but few in number, and do not require any lengthened discussion in order to enable an intelligent reader to form an opinion in regard to them.

Some will no doubt regard it as highly presumptuous in one who is utterly unknown to the world of science, to undertake a review of the work of an author so deservedly eminent; but when a man finds that which he believes to be ~~THE~~ TRUTH called into question, duty requires him at all hazards to maintain its cause, and to be no respecter of persons. And those who seek to be fully persuaded in their own minds, in reference to any subject that may be brought under their consideration, will not inquire, Who are the *advocates* by whom any particular opinion in regard to it is maintained? but, What are the *arguments* by which it is supported?

The author has only further to say, that any correction of his statements, or any suggestion tending to illustrate them, will be thankfully attended to.

MONMOUTH, CUPAR FIFE,  
Feb. 17, 1864.

## ANTIQUITY AND NATURE OF MAN.

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### INTRODUCTION.

At the meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, lately held at Newcastle, the work of Sir Charles Lyell on the Antiquity of Man, received such unqualified commendation from those who hold the highest rank in the scientific world, that the words of the President, in his inaugural address, must be regarded as the decision of our modern philosophers:—"It seems no longer possible to doubt that the human race has existed on the earth, in a barbarian state, for a period far exceeding the limit of the historical record."

On the other hand, theologians of every denomination, who hold the Mosaic narrative to be the record of inspiration, believe that God made man perfect in mental powers and in bodily organization,—that the human race did not exist in a barbarian state for a period exceeding the limit of the historical record,—and that it is not yet six thousand years since they first appeared upon this sublunary sphere.