

evidence on which each portion of the exhibit rests, and how much of it is due to the imagination of its constructor.

A FORMIDABLE LIST

The various areas from which evidence for evolution is supposed to be drawn present a very formidable list. It is of course impossible that we should now examine all this material, or even a comparatively small part of it. All that we can hope to do is to point out a few factors that are vital for its correct understanding.

Aside from paleontology, no one of the kinds of evidence for evolution that we have mentioned purports to be a direct indication of something that has occurred in the past. Evidence from any of these fields consists simply of extrapolations from presently existing situations--a very weak basis on which to make statements as to events that may have occurred in past time. If human history had to be determined by such methods and without eyewitness testimony, we would know practically nothing about it.

In these various fields the amount that has been written about evolution is enormous. A young student faced with so many statements by such a large number of eminent scientists is apt to feel quite overwhelmed. Yet if he will carefully examine the material he will soon find that comparatively little of it is presented as evidence in support of the idea that all types of life have developed from one original source, as the theory of evolution maintains. In much of it evolution is simply taken for granted and the attempt is made to fit the available facts into it, or to try to explain facts that do not seem to fit with the theory. A considerable amount of it is devoted to showing that changes have occurred, and that different types of life have appeared in somewhat varied forms in different areas or at different times. No intelligent Christian doubts that changes have occurred, and do occur. All human beings are descended from one original pair, and yet the human race displays a great