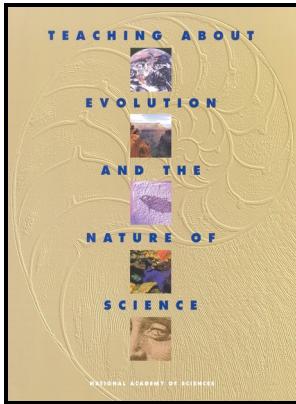


# Descent of man - Part I and the concluding chapter of Part III

## Watts - Descent of Man Index



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## Descent of Man Index

The sweet strains poured forth by many male birds during the season of love, are certainly admired by the females, of which fact evidence will hereafter be given. The same naturalist observes that the cavities in the skull for the reception of the several sense-organs are larger in the American aborigines than in Europeans; and this probably indicates a corresponding difference in the dimensions of the organs themselves. But self-adornment, vanity, and the admiration of others, seem to be the commonest motives.

## Descent of Man by Charles Darwin: Chapter 3

This work contains hardly any original facts in regard to man; but as the conclusions at which I arrived, after drawing up a rough draft, appeared to me interesting, I thought that they might interest others. Cuvier maintained that instinct and intelligence stand in an inverse ratio to each other; and some have thought that the intellectual faculties of the higher animals have been gradually developed from their instincts. Several writers, more especially Prof.

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But development of all kinds depends on many concurrent favourable circumstances. Hayes, in his work on The Open Polar Sea, repeatedly remarks that his dogs, instead of continuing to draw the sledges in a compact body, diverged and separated when they came to thin ice, so that their weight might be more evenly distributed. Blumenbach has also remarked on the large size of the nasal cavities in the skulls of the American aborigines, and connects this fact with their remarkably acute power of smell.

## Descent of Man Index

Any instinct, permanently stronger or more enduring than another, gives rise to a feeling which we express by saying that it ought to be obeyed. One could even wonder what's new in the theories of today's evolutionary ethologists. That which distinguishes man from the lower animals is not

the understanding of articulate sounds, for, as every one knows, dogs understand many words and sentences.

### **The descent of man (1874 edition)**

Their essential identity in the two sexes is likewise shewn by their occasional sympathetic enlargement in both during an attack of the 53 Owen, 'On the Nature of Limbs,' 1849, p. It is difficult to understand how anybody who has ever kept a dog, or seen an elephant, can have any doubt as to an animal's power of performing the essential processes of reasoning. In what manner the mental powers were first developed in the lowest organisms, is as hopeless an enquiry as how life itself first originated.

### **The Descent of Man (Darwin)**

It is no valid objection to this conclusion that animals suddenly supplied with an excess of food, or when grown very fat; and that most plants on sudden removal from very poor to very rich soil, are rendered more or less sterile. I may be permitted to say, as some excuse, that I had two distinct objects in view; firstly, to shew that species had not been separately created, and secondly, that natural selection had been the chief agent of change, though largely aided by the inherited effects of habit, and slightly by the direct action of the surrounding conditions. In the vertebrate series, the least intelligent members, namely fishes and amphibians, do not possess complex instincts; and amongst mammals the animal most remarkable for its instincts, namely the beaver, is highly intelligent, as will be admitted by every one who has read Mr.

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