In this senses, what Norris heard in the lecture might have resembled Turner’s impending frontier thesis, for whether one defined it as a garden of paradise or as a wilderness “red in tooth and claw,” both theories announced the conclusion of “nature” as they knew it. The conditions of the frontier, in which “wilderness masters the colonist” and “the environment is at first too strong for the man,” could not coexist with a planetary state defined by human mastery (#).