

Darwin in Context

Department of Social Science and Cultural Studies

Pratt Institute

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Reading the texts in this course

I. Continuities and Discontinuities

II. Concerns and events that connect the works.

III. The social structures and the structures of knowledge that these works, taken together, opposed as critiques, such as the social relations of capital, slavery and the slave trade, bourgeois morality, nationalism, degeneration, criminality, and madness.

Reading the texts in this course II

I. Materialism.

II. Chance and contingency.

III. Rejection of idealism in favor of scientific rationality and experience.

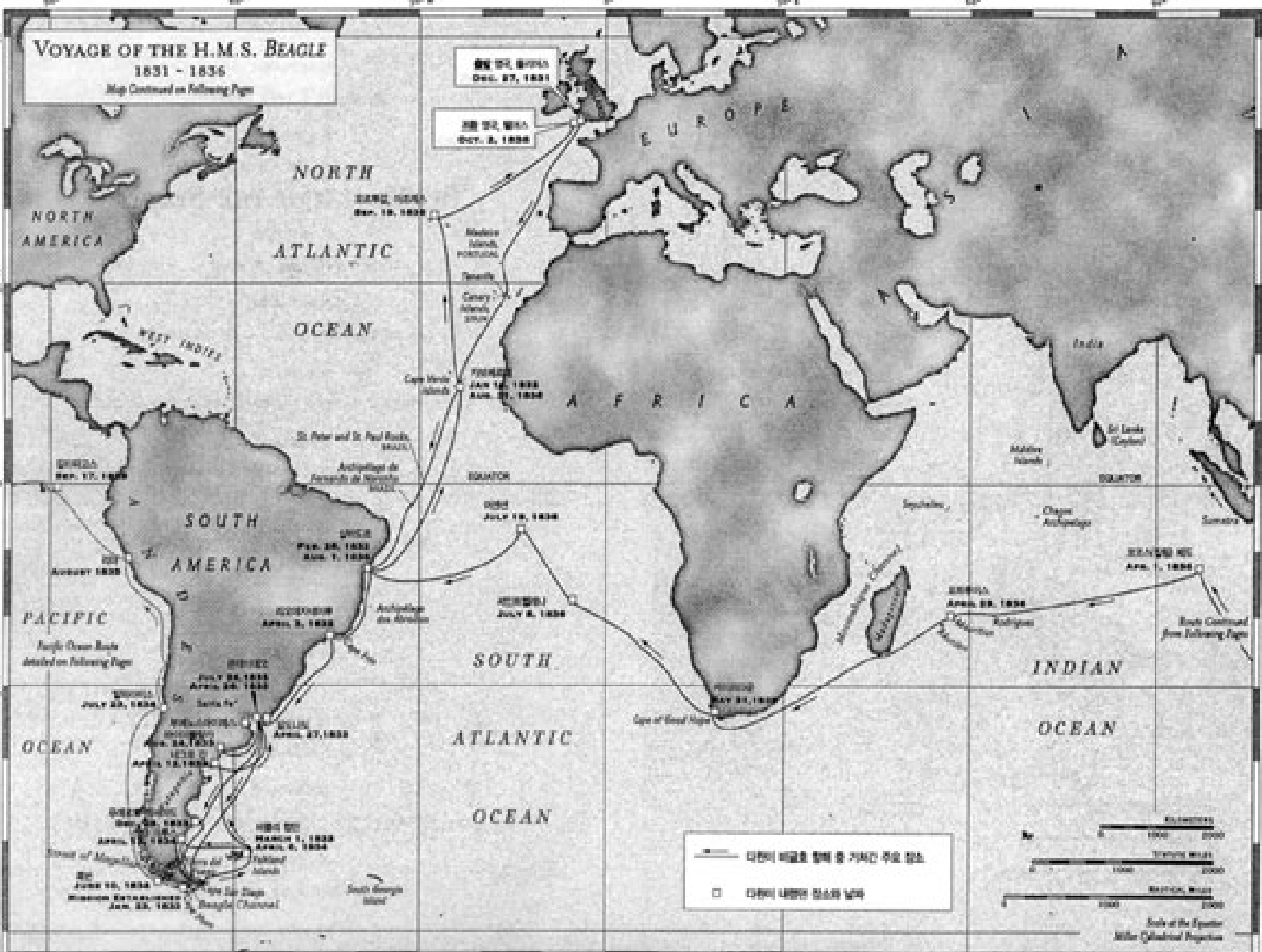
IV. Emphasis on both individual experience and history.

V. Rejection of a narrow or specialized intellectualism. Works cut across the established disciplines of their time.

VI. How they transformed knowledge and created the basis for the disciplines, specialties, and social policies of the present, i.e., their transvaluations of the values of their time.

VOYAGE OF THE H.M.S. BEAGLE
1831 - 1836

Map Continued on Following Page



1831
1831
OCT. 8, 1831

1832
1832
SEP. 19, 1832

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JAN. 16, 1832
JAN. 29, 1833

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AUG. 26, 1833

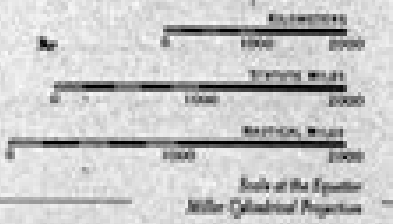
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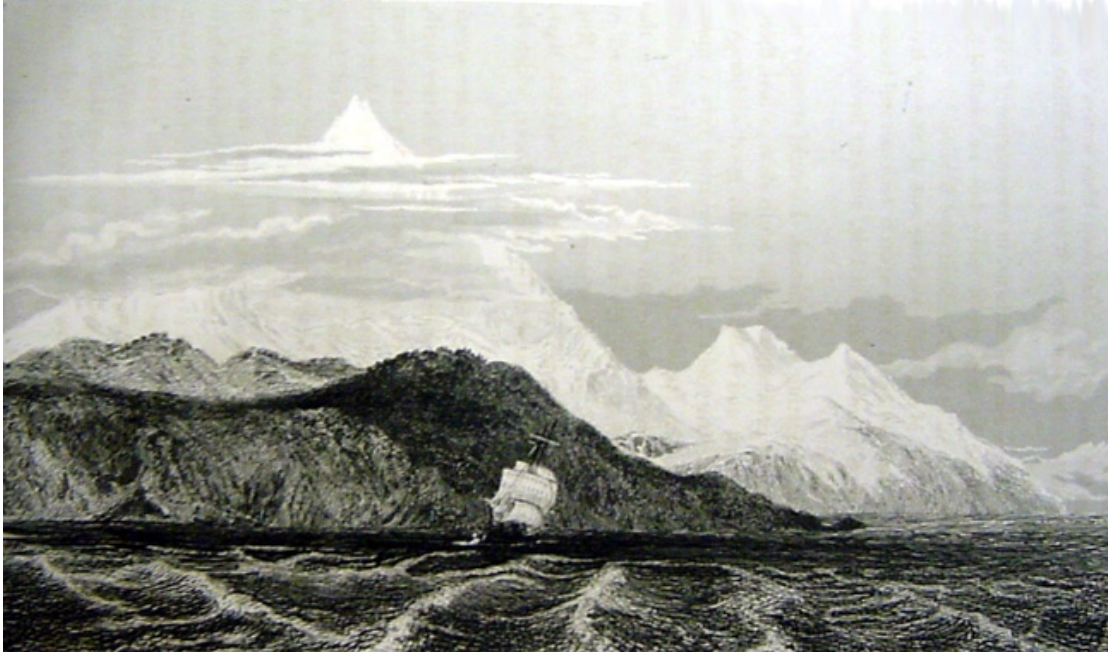
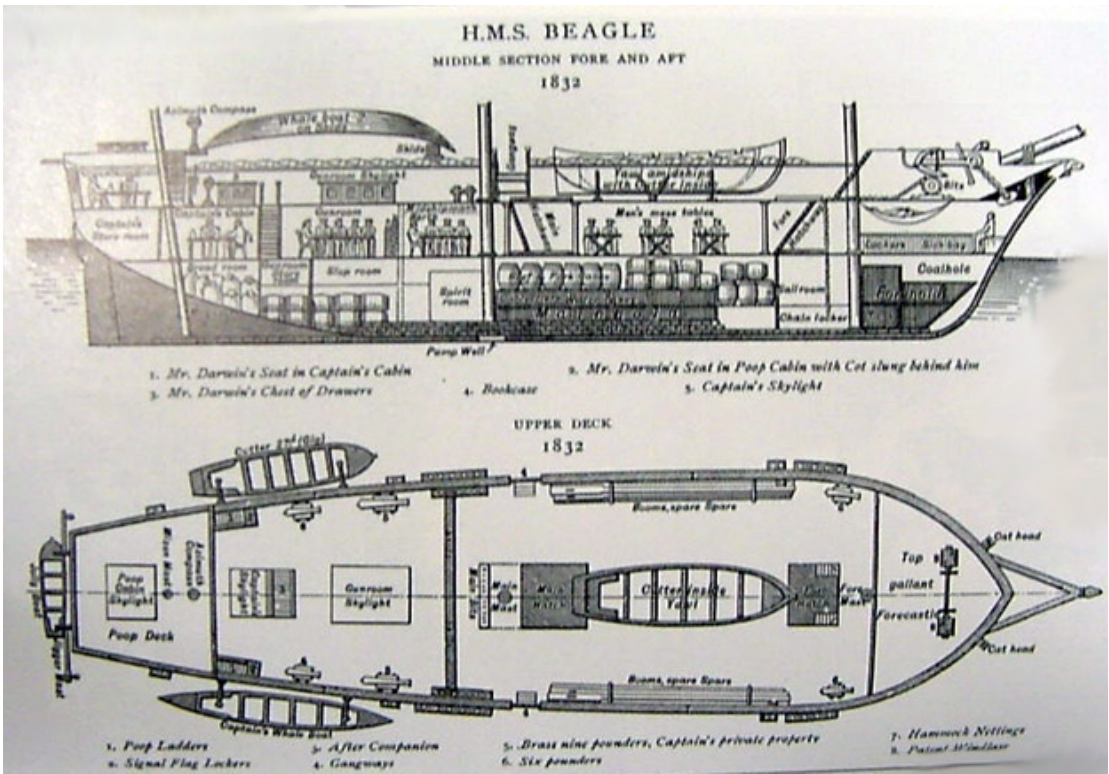
1835
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APRIL 13, 1835

1836
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MARCH 1, 1836
APRIL 6, 1836

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JUNE 30, 1836
AUGUST 22, 1836

— 1831-1832
□ 1832-1833
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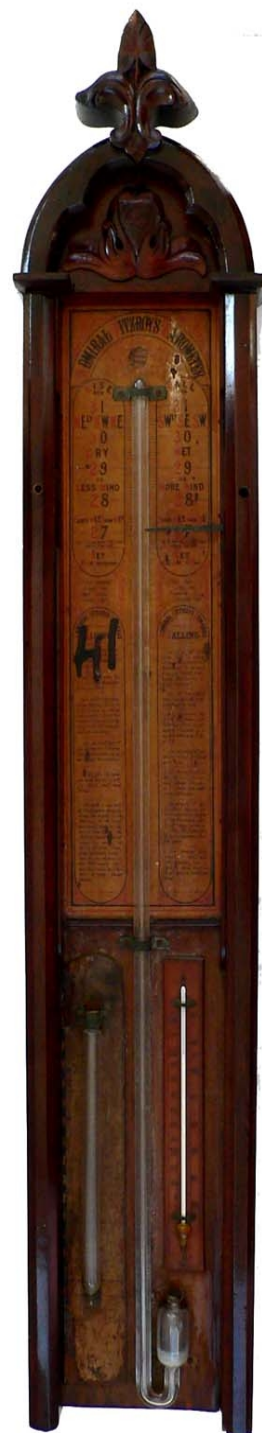


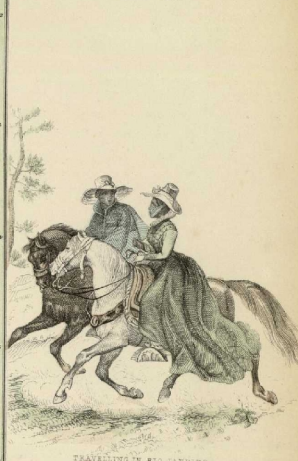
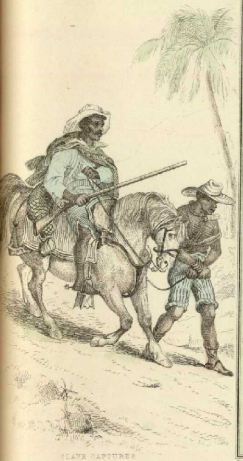
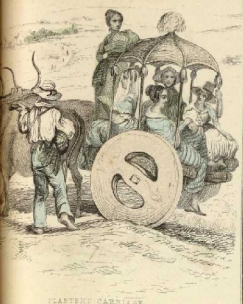




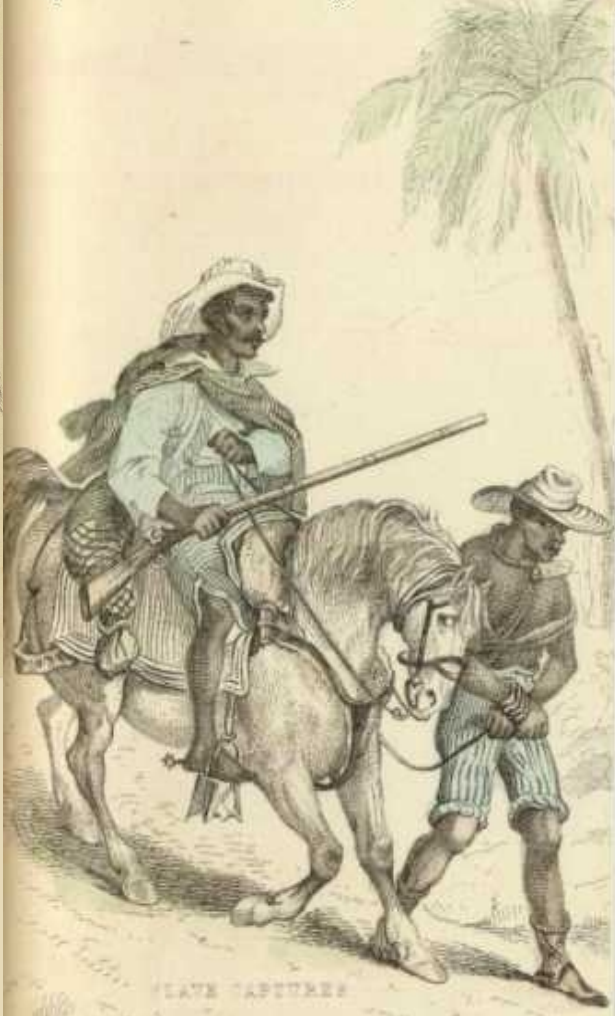
Fitz-Roy

Darwin about 1840

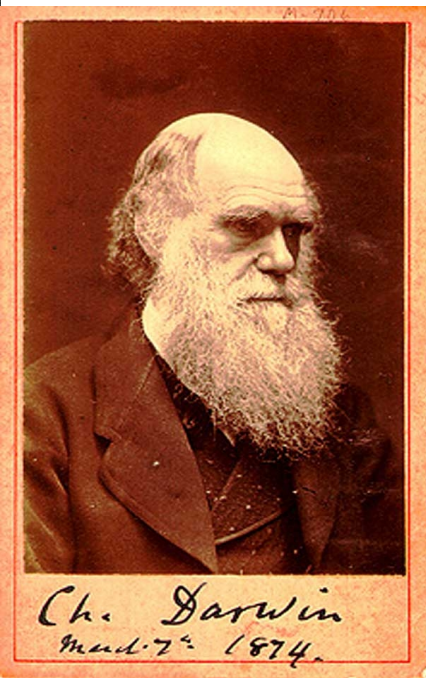
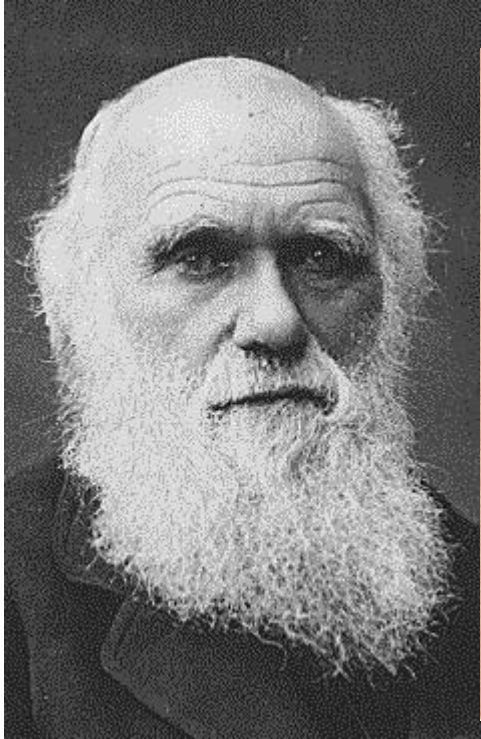


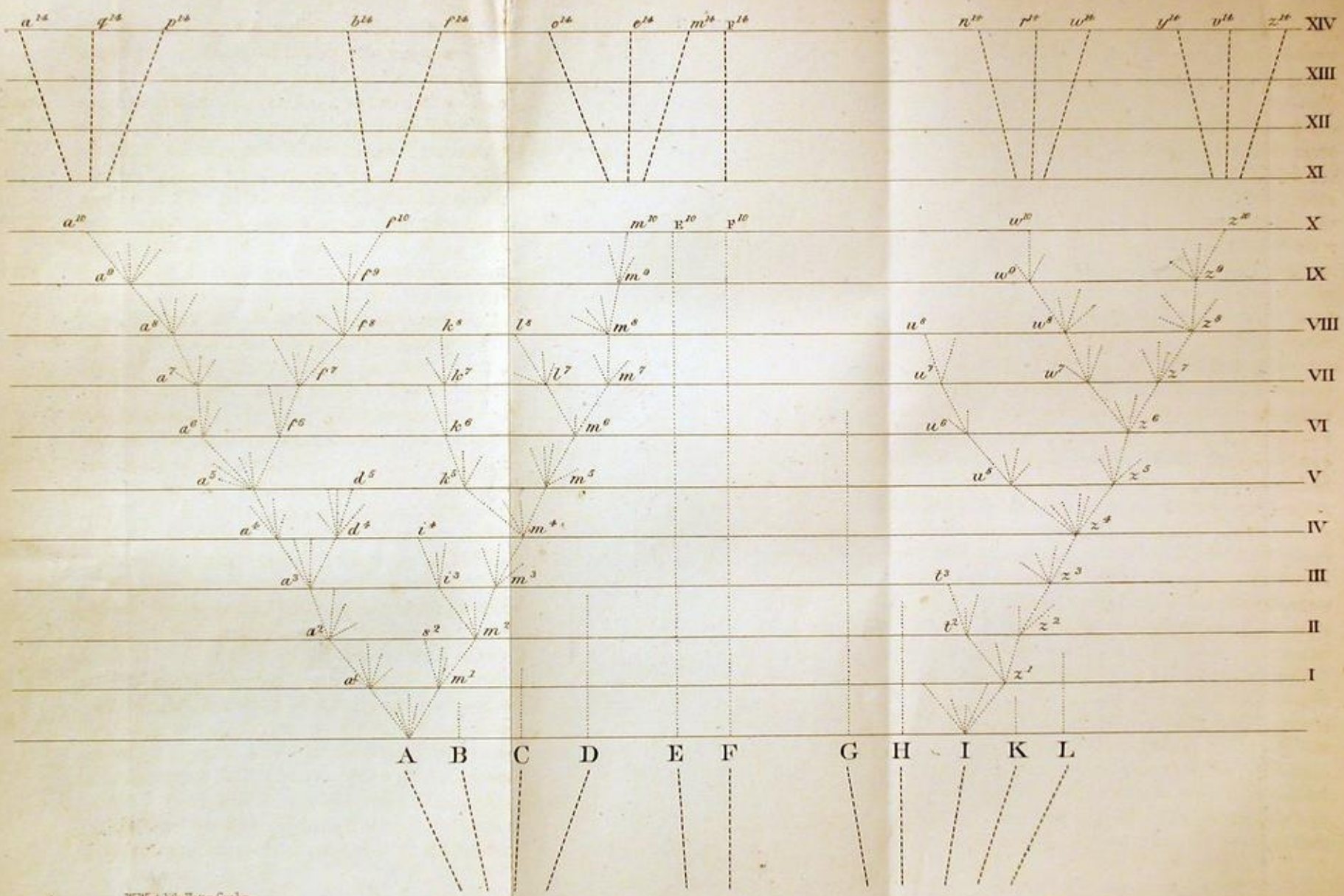


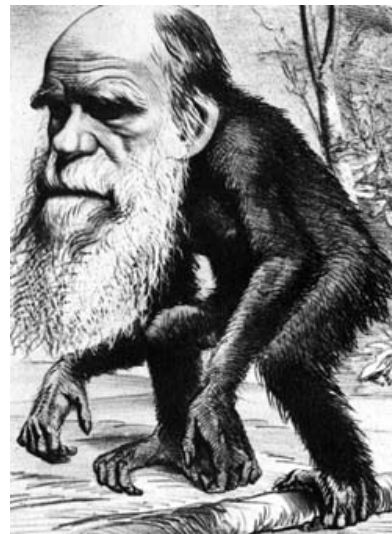
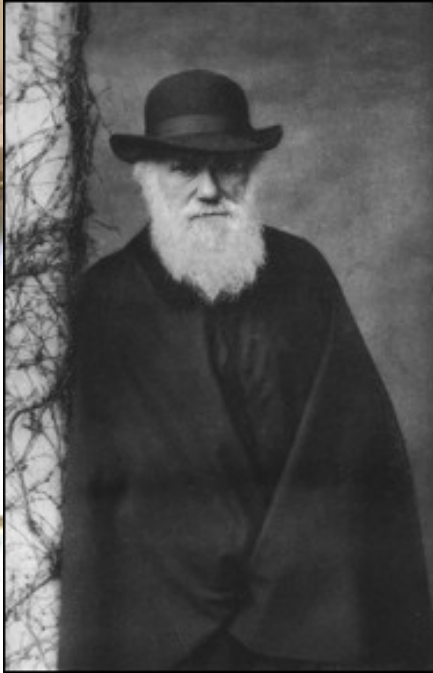
Map1872i - detail of slave figures from Fullarton's Map



RIO DE JANEIRO







Linne's Classification of Human Varieties as given in the second edition of *Systema Naturae* (1740) .

Classis I

QUADRUPEDIA

Ordo 1.

Anthropomorpha. *teeth* four fore-teeth, or none.

1. Homo. Know thyself.

Homo varieites:	Eurpaeus albus	Asiaticus fuscus
	Americanus rubescens	Africanus niger

1. Primates

foreteeth, upper 4, parallel

Pectoral mammae, binary

1. *Homo* know thyself

Sapiens

Ferus

1. H. Diurnus; varying by culture and place on all fours, mute, hairy.

Americanus

a. reddish, choleric, erect.

Hair black, straight, thick; *Nostrils* wide; *Face* harsh, *Beard* scanty.

Obstinate, merry, free.

Paints himself with fine red lines.

Regulated by customs.

Europaeus

b. white, sanguine, muscular

Hair flowing, long, *Eyes* blue.

Gentle, acute, inventive.

Covered with close vestments.

Governed by laws.

Asiactus

g. sallow, melancholy, stiff.

Hair black. *Eyes* dark*Severe*, haughty, avaricious.

Covered with loose garments.

Ruled by opinions.

Afer

d. black, phlegmatic, relaxed.

Hair black, frizzled. *Skin* silky. *Nose* flat. *Lips* tumid.Women without shame. *Mammae* lactate profusely.

Crafty, indolent, negligent.

Anoints himself with grease.

Governed by caprice.



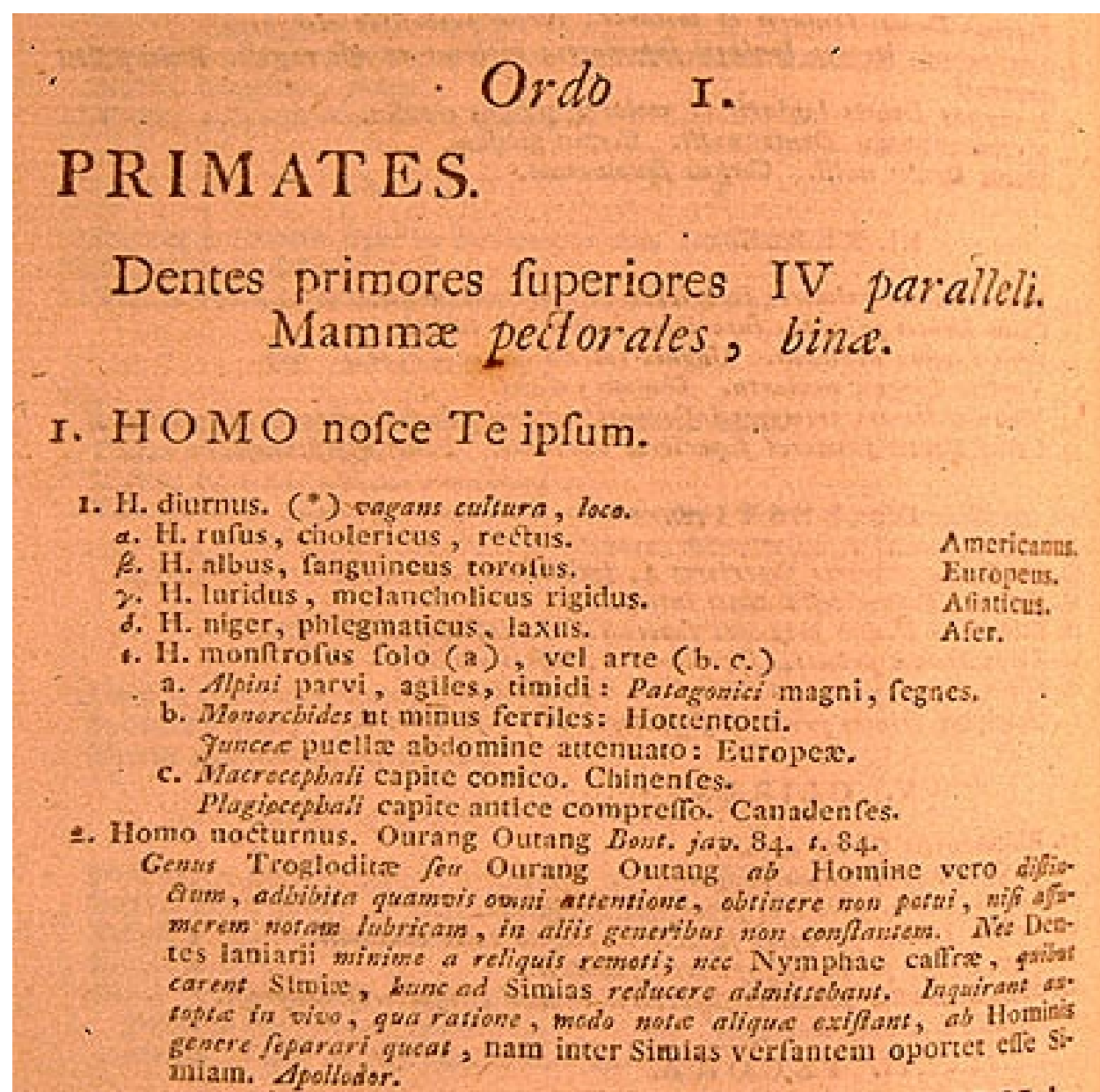
Monsterous

a. *Alpini* small, child-like, agile, fearful
Patagonici large, sluggish

b. *Monorchides* little beasts: Huttentotti
Juncea girls with large belly: European

c. *Macrocephali* coneheads. China
Plagipcephali flatheads. Canada

Linne's fifth category from the 10th edition.





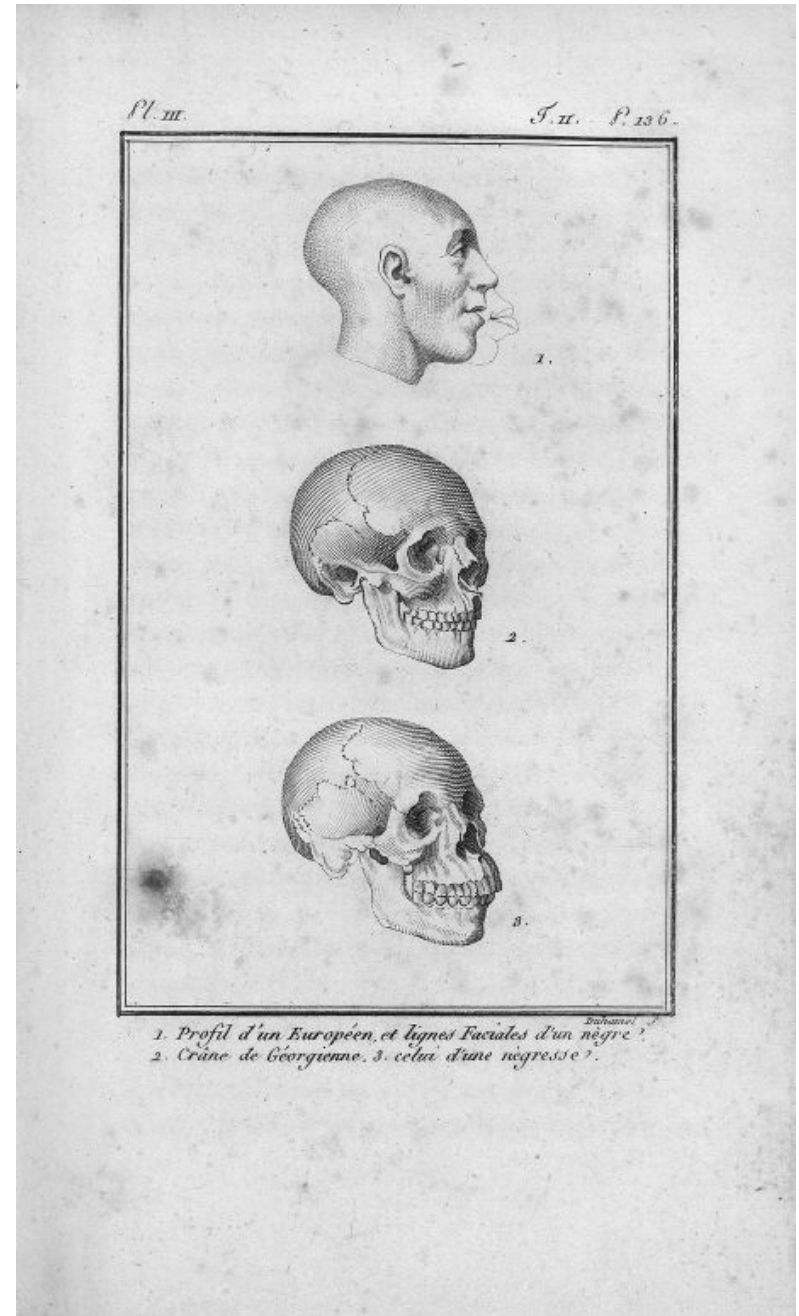
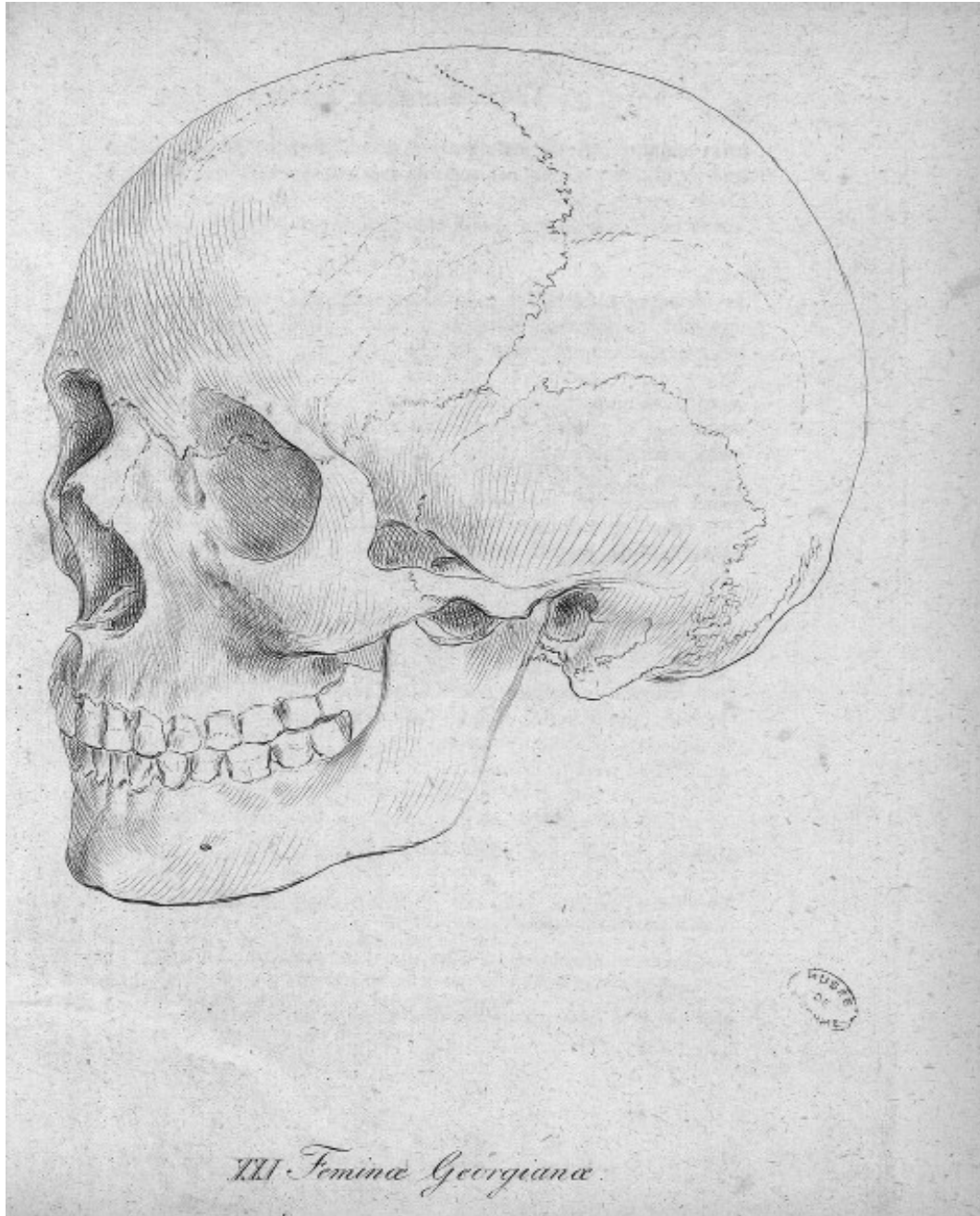
Johann Friedrich Blumenbach



Blumenbach's Classification, from *De generis humani varietate nativa*, 1781

Name	Geographical Location	Color	Characteristics
<i>Caucasian</i>	Europe, including Lapps, Northern Africa, America, Eskimo and Greenlanders derived from Lapps, Western Asia	White	Beautiful in form
<i>Mongolian</i>	Rest of Asia	Brownish/Olive	Straight face, narrow eyelids, scanty hair
<i>Ethiopian</i>	Africa excluding Northern Africa	Black	Muscular, prominent upper jaws, swelling lips, Upturned nose, very curly black hair
<i>American</i>	Non-European Americans	Copper	Broad nose, scanty hair, thin habit of body
<i>Malayan</i>	Southern Pacific	Very deep brown	Broad nose, thick hair

Blumenbach





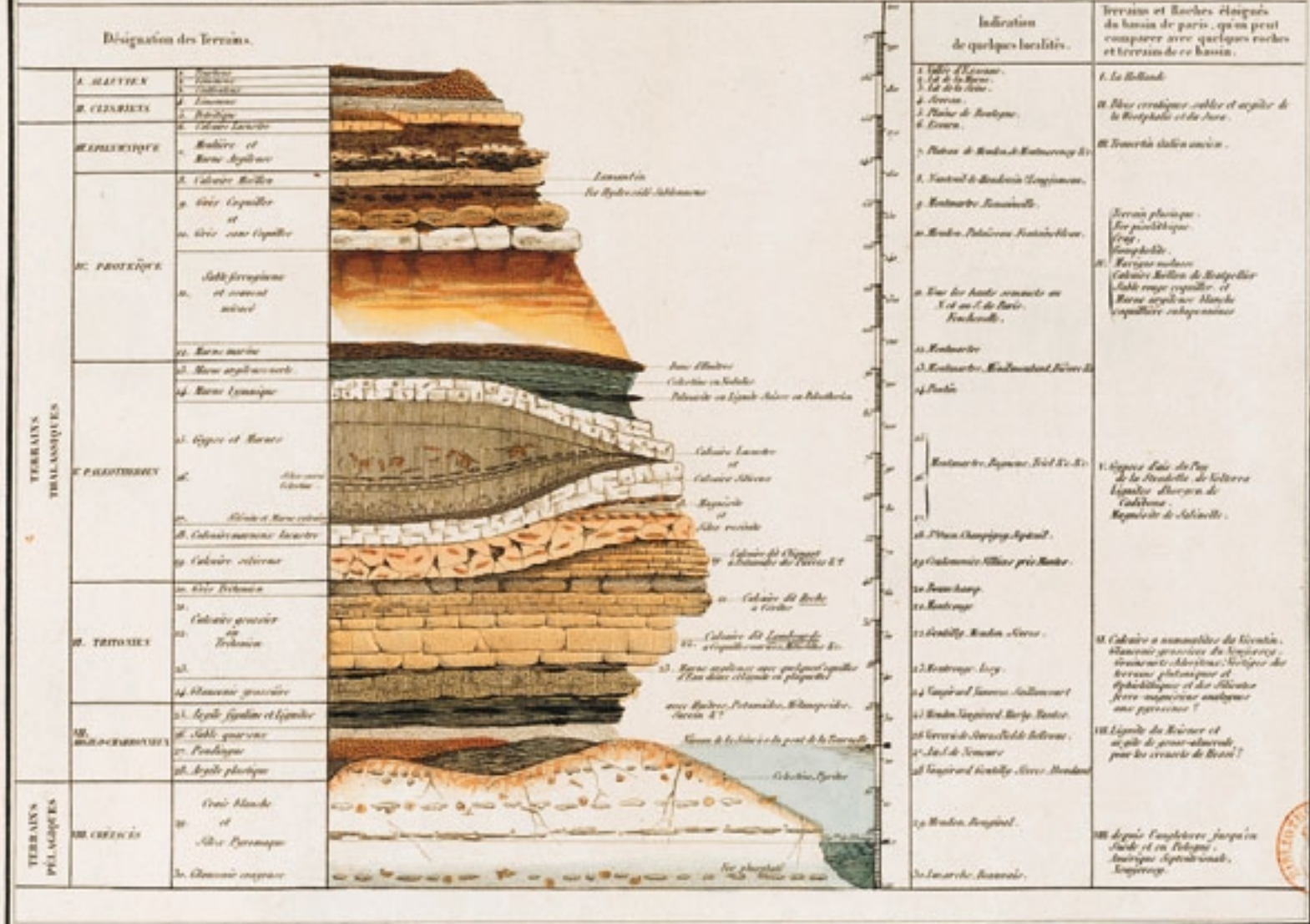
1. Grundriss der Mongolischen Race
 2. Grundriss der Europäischen Race
 3. Grundriss der Afrikanischen Race
 4. Grundriss der Australischen Race
 5. Grundriss der Chinesischen Race

1. Grundriss der Mongolischen Race
 2. Grundriss der Europäischen Race
 3. Grundriss der Afrikanischen Race
 4. Grundriss der Australischen Race
 5. Grundriss der Chinesischen Race

Georges Cuvier

COUPE THÉORIQUE des divers TERRAINS ROCHES et MINÉRAUX

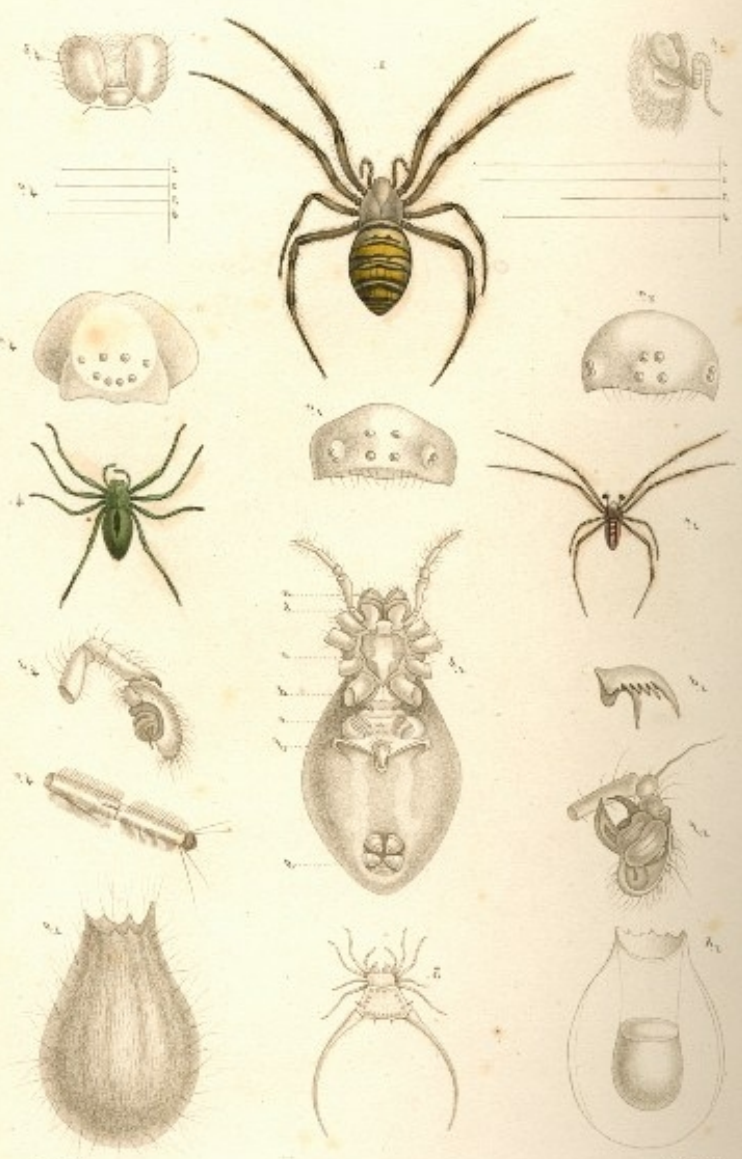
qui entrent dans la composition du SOL du BASSIN de PARIS. Par MM. CUVIER et Alexandre BRONGNIART. 1832.



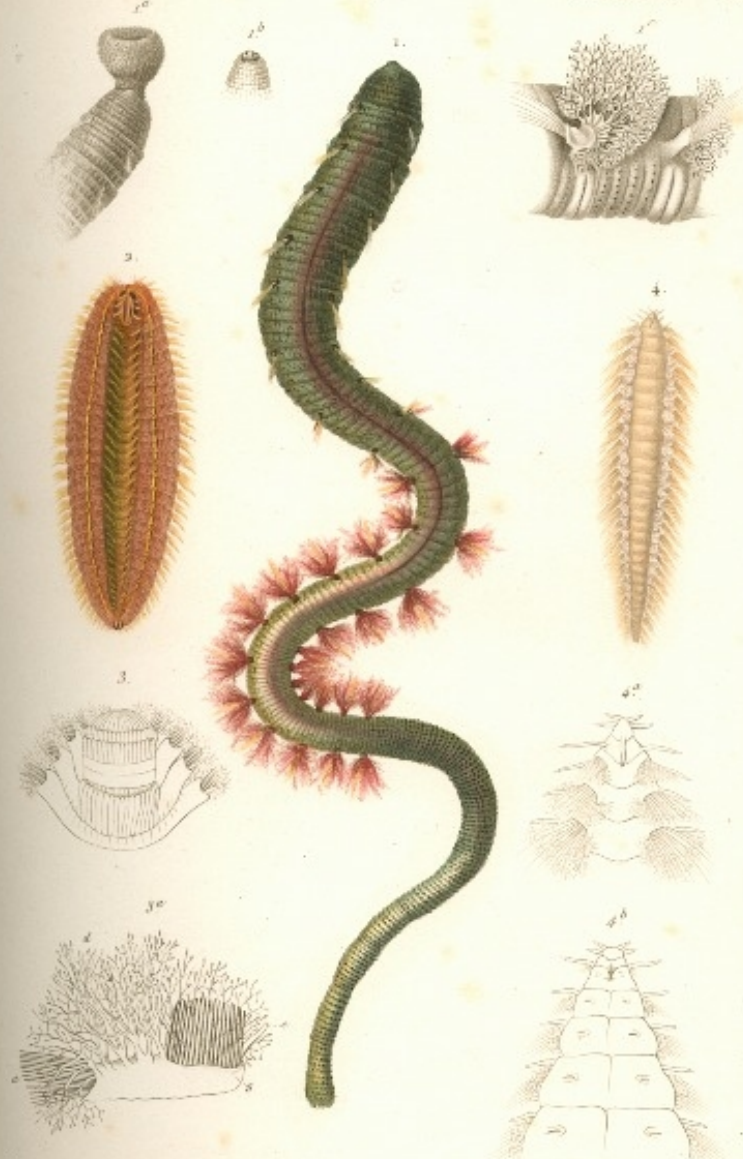
Geological and Paleontological Successions as established by Cuvier (1825)

Period	Deposit	Fossils
Modern	Alluvia Sandstones, freshwater deposits, loose transported terrain	Contemporary species only Mastodons, mammoths, rhinoceros and hippopotamus-like animals, marine and fresh-water shells and fish
	Gypsum	Paleotherium, Anoplotherium, marine shells and fish
	Rough limestone	First mammals, marine shells and fish
Tertiary	Limestone	Maastricht animal, marine shells and fish
[Secondary ?]	Below the limestone	Ichthyosaurus, Plesiosarus (Jurassic animals) Thuringan monitors
Primary?	Deeper deposits Transition rocks, Primitive Rocks	No quadrupeds; only fish and shells No fossils
Ancient		



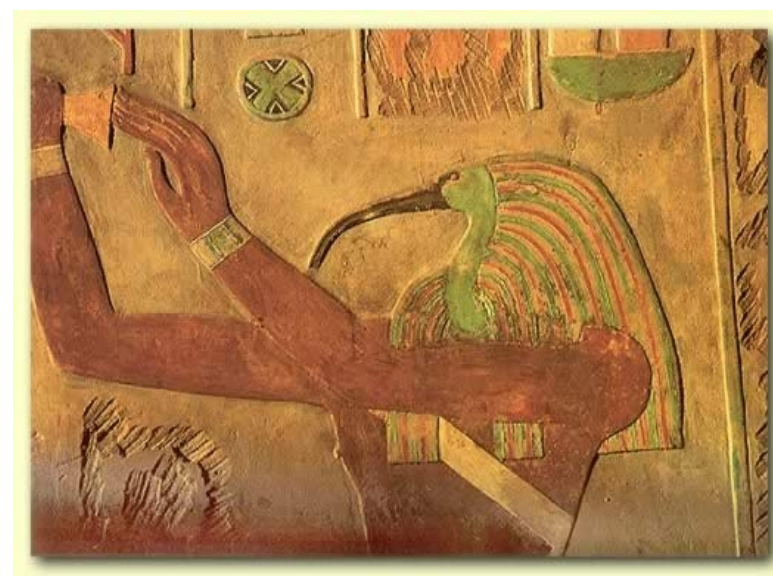
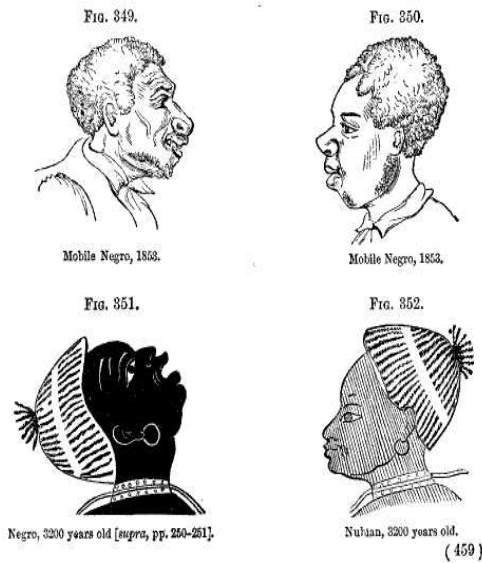
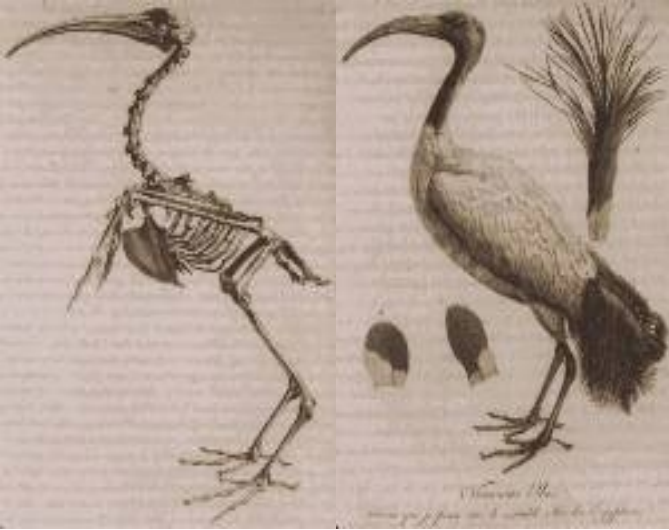


1. ARACHNE
 2. TIGRIS
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1. ARÉTOLE DES PÊCHEURS. (Acanthodonta piscatorum)
 2. EUPHROSINE FEUILLÉE. (Euphrosina filiosa.)
 3. HYPONÉ DE GARDICHAUD. (Hyponeus gardichaudi)

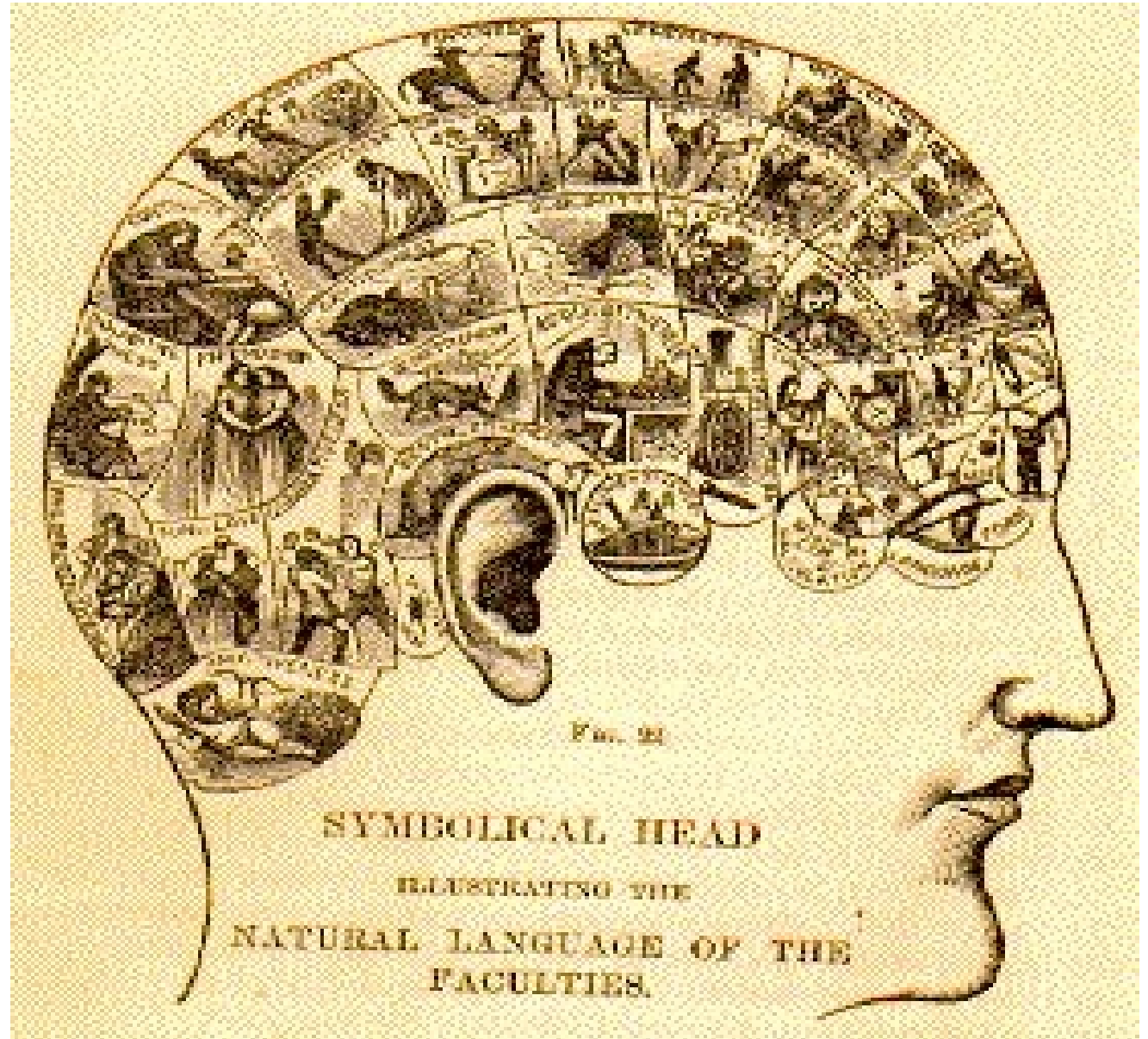
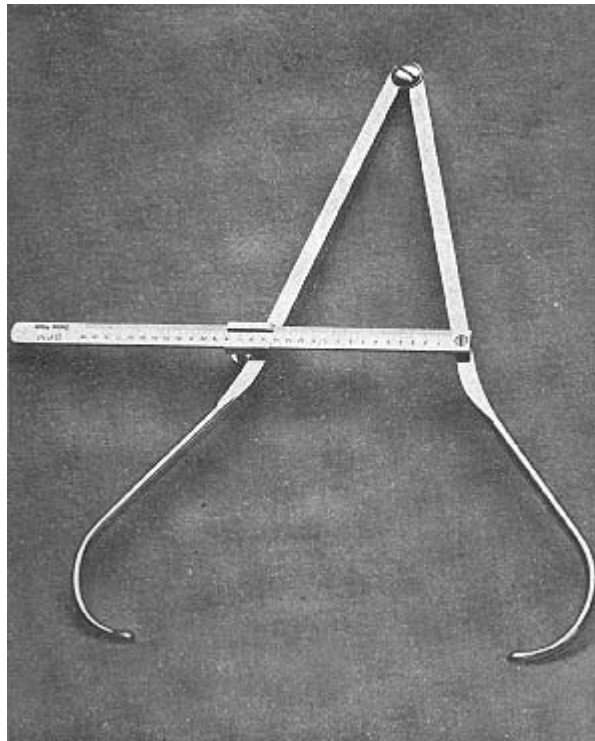
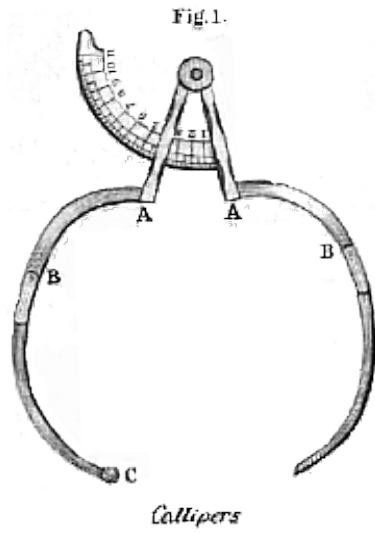
Pl. Bonaparte



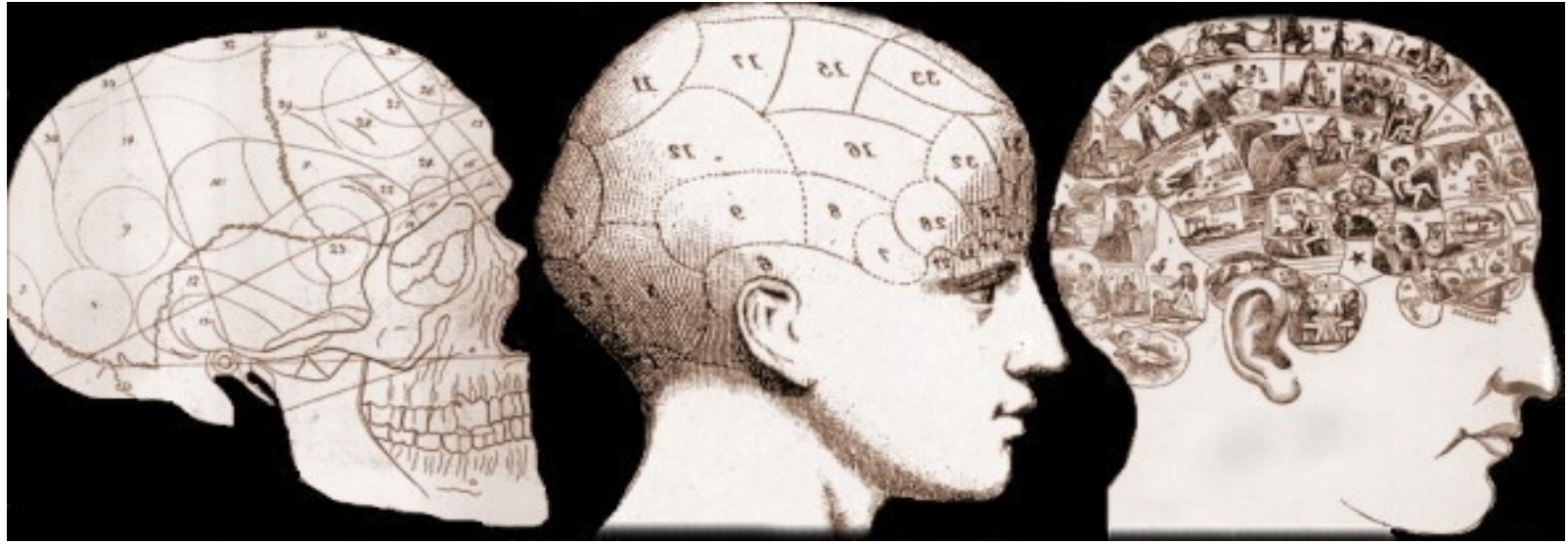
Cuvier's Ibis and the Negro



PHRENOLOGY: Reading the Skull

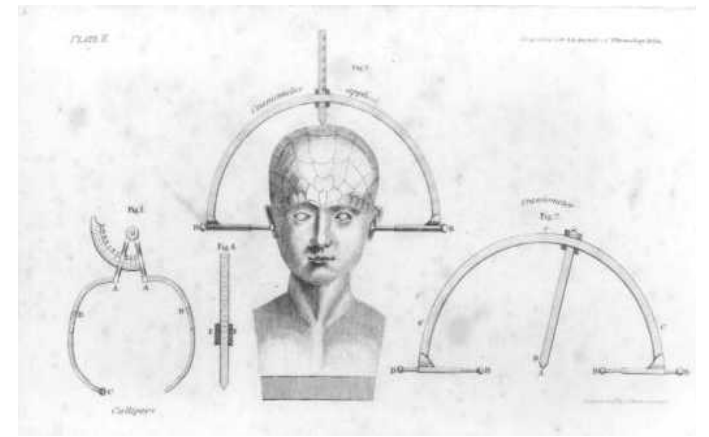


George Combe (1788-1858)



George Combe's *Constitution of Man* (1827) offers an anti-evangelical philosophy of progressive natural laws capable of serving as a guide to life and conduct. It was one of the most controversial and influential works of the nineteenth century, selling an astonishing 350,000 copies and remaining in print from 1828 until 1899. (In comparison, Darwin's *Origin of Species* sold only 50,000 copies.) Countless books, pamphlets and articles were written to oppose, condemn, praise and especially to imitate it.

Ralph Waldo Emerson on phrenology



“I know the mental proclivity of the physicians. I hear the chuckle of the phrenologists. Theoretic kidnappers and slave-drivers, they esteem each man the victim of another, who winds him round his finger by knowing the law of his being, and by such cheap signboards as the color of his beard, or the slope of his occiput, reads the inventory of his fortunes and character. The grossest ignorance does not disgust like this impudent knowingness.... I saw a gracious gentleman who adapts his conversation to the form of the head of the man he talks with!

I had fancied that the value of life lay in its inscrutable possibilities.... I see not, if one be once caught in this trap of so-called sciences, any escape for the man from links of the chain of physical necessity. Given such an embryo, such a history must follow. On this platform, one lives in a sty of sensualism, and would soon come to suicide.” Ralph Waldo Emerson. 1890 [1856].

“Experience” in *Essays by R.W. Emerson: Second Series*. David McKay, Publisher, Philadelphia.

A Biblical Account

“It was the year 2348 B.C. that Noah spent in floating upon the waste of waters while every living thing was perishing around him, and afterwards in seeing the floods return to their beds in oceans, lakes, and rivers which they shall never again overpass.... In 2247 B.C. The sons of men banded themselves together to build the tower of Babel on the plain of Shinar, just below the hills of Armenia, where the two great rivers Euphrates and Tigris make the flats rich and fertile. For their presumption, God confounded their speech, and the nations first were divided. Ham's children got all the best regions; Nimrod, the child of his son Cush, kept Babel, built the first city, and became the first king. Canaan's sons settled themselves in that goodliest of all lands which bore his name; and Mizraim's children obtained the rich and beautiful valley of the Nile, called Egypt. All these were keen clever people, builders of cities, cultivators of the land, weavers and embroiderers, earnest after comfort and riches, and utterly forgetting, or grievously corrupting, the worship of God. Others of the race seem to have wandered further south, where the heat of the sun blackened their skins; and their strong constitution, and dull meek temperament, marked them out to all future generations as a prey to be treated like animals of burden, so as to bear to the utmost the curse of Canaan.”Charlotte Mary Younge, 1859. *The Chosen People: A Compendium of Sacred and Church History for School Children*, 1859. Project Gutenberg text 7chsm10.txt

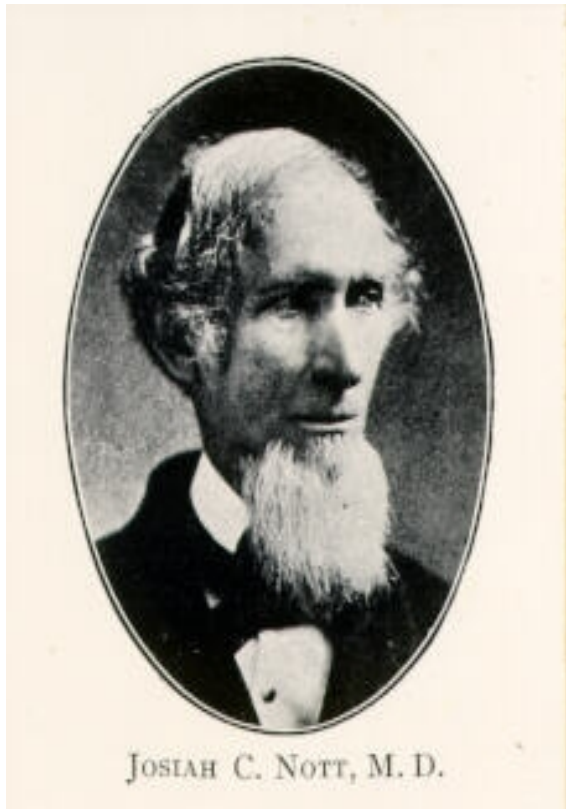


– Dr. Samuel G.
Morton



- Moved away from Phrenology to develop craniology as the methodology for establishing the meaning of human diversity.
- Largest collection of skulls in the world.
- Reluctance to extend the Polygenic critique as far as Nott and Gliddon would.

Josiah Nott



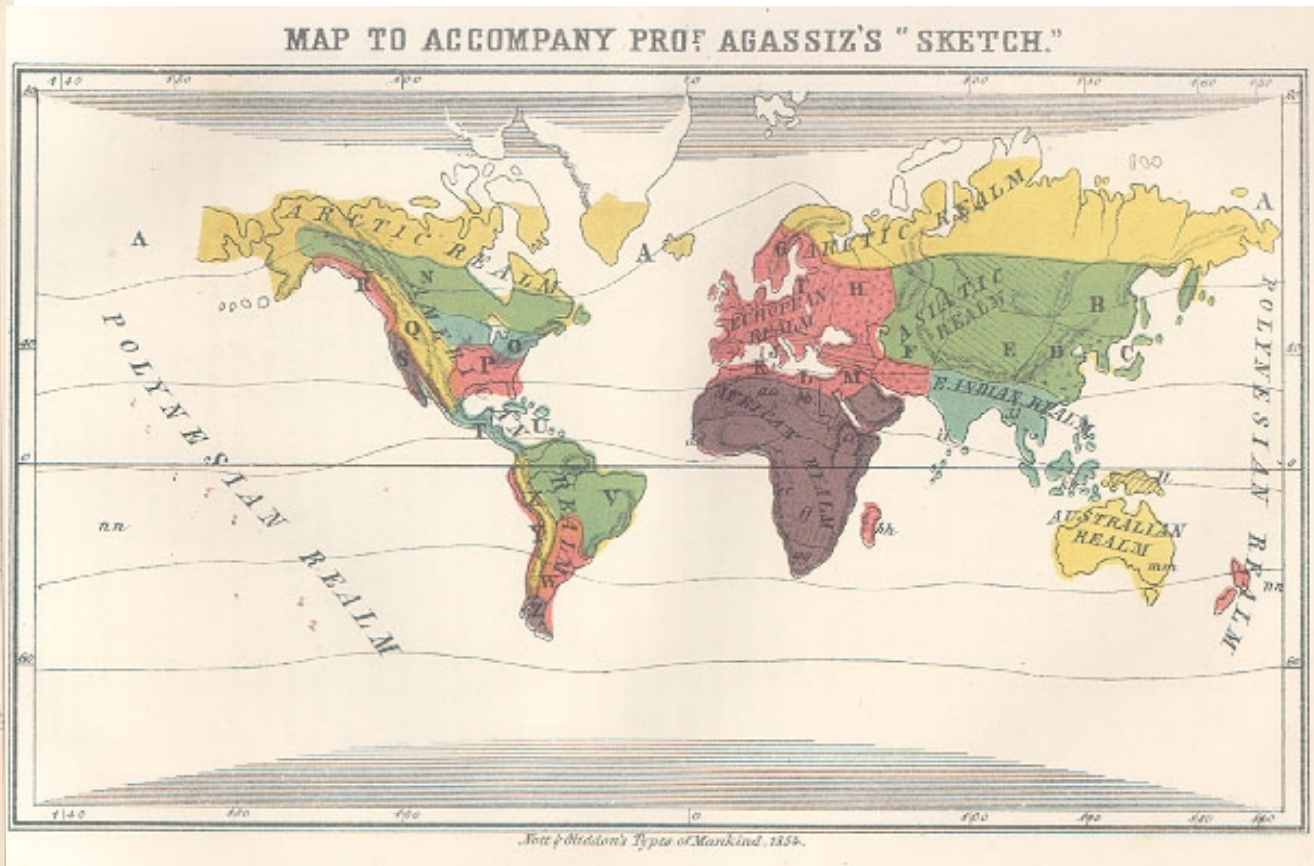
Josiah Nott: an expert on Yellow Fever, Nott became one of the most noted exponents of Morton's work. Nott was the principle editor of *Types of Mankind*, as well as the author of important polygenic essays. He then published the first American translation of Gobineau's *Essai sur l'Inégalité des Races Humaines* (*Essay on the Inequality of the Human Races*).



Tableaux to accompany Prof. Agassiz's "Sketch."

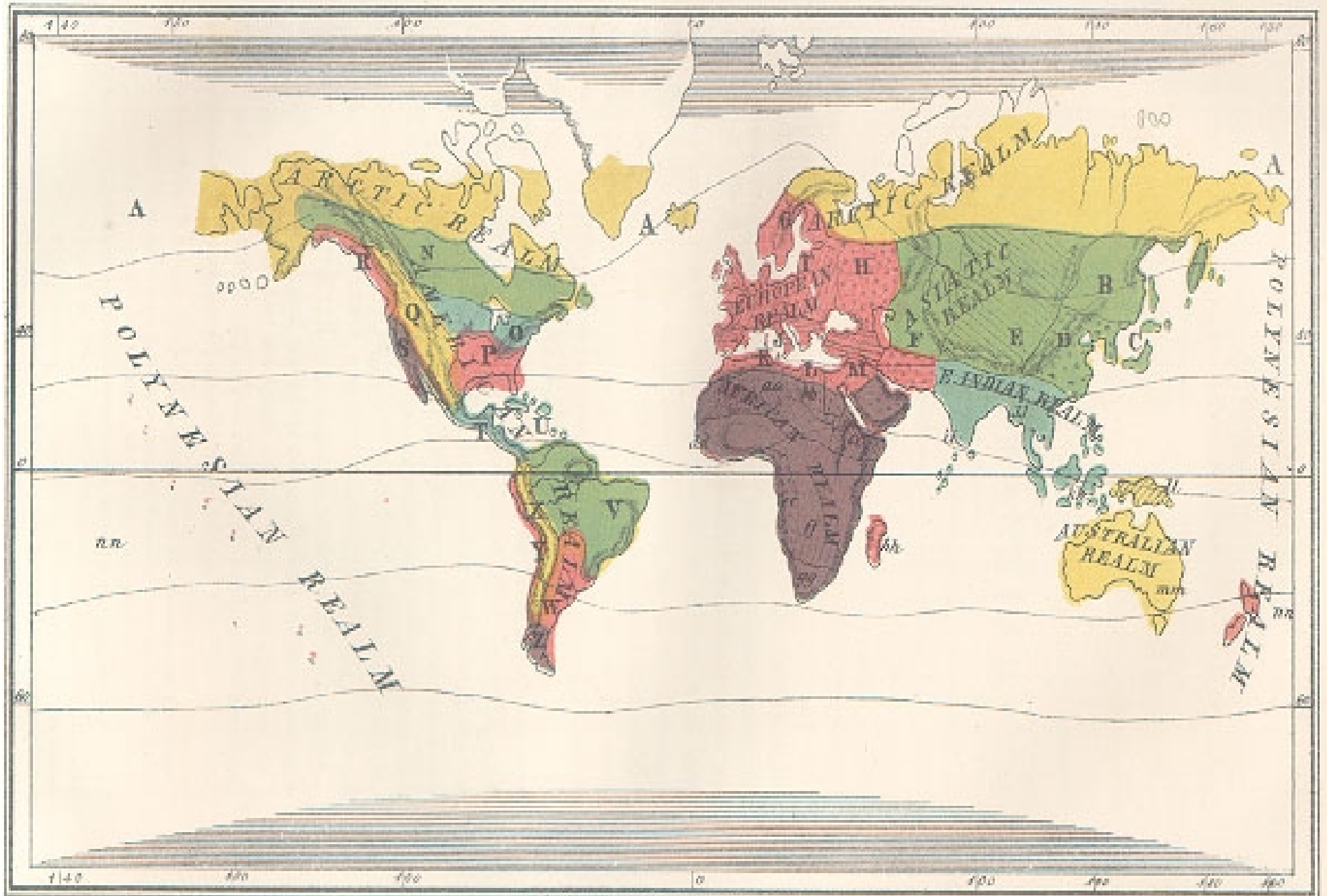
Nott and Gliddon *Types of Mankind*

Louis Agassiz contributed an introductory essay to the volume on the geographical distribution of species. Note that the portrait of Cuvier is use to represent the human characteristic of the "European Realm" of the earth.

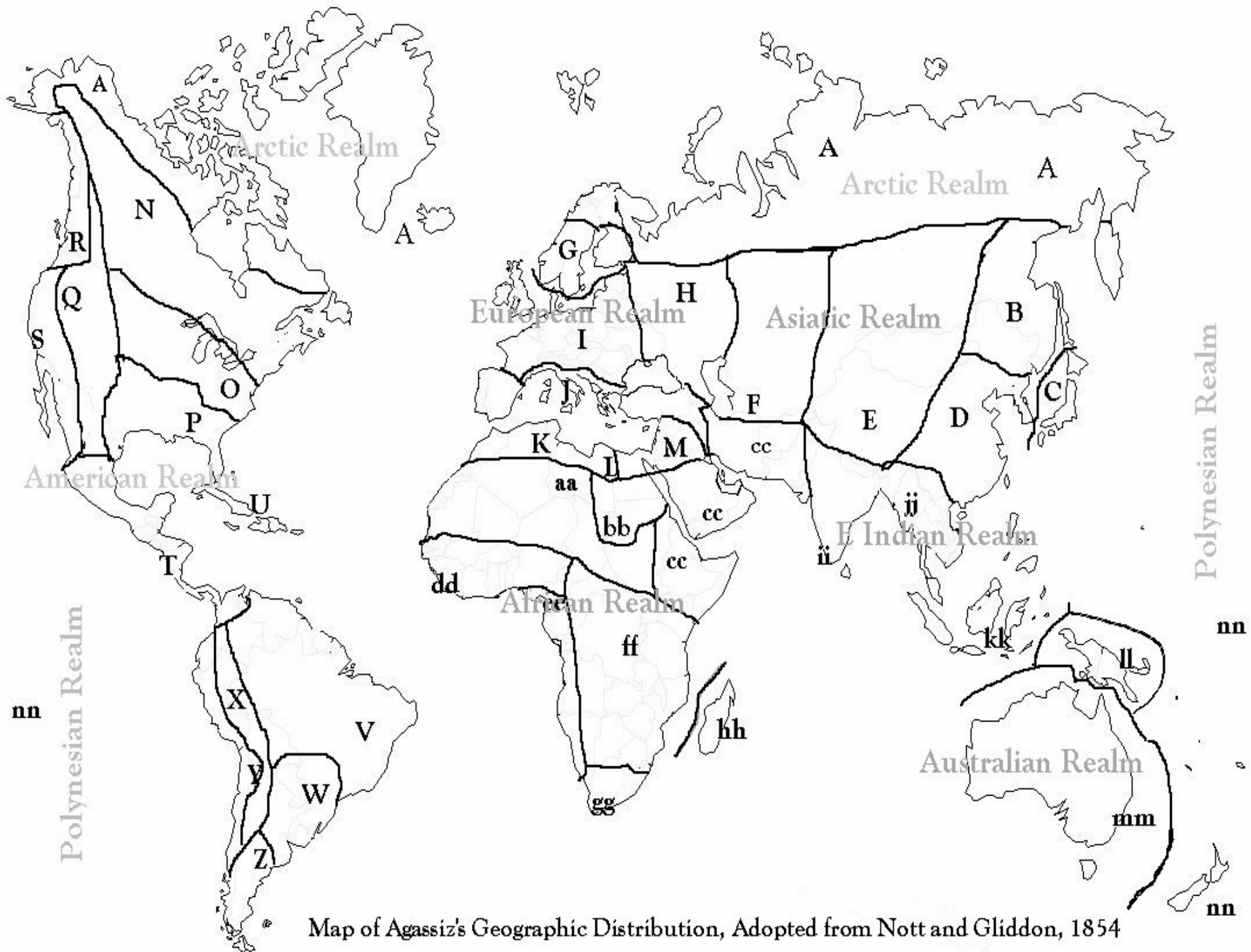


Nott & Gliddon's *Types of Mankind*, 1854.

MAP TO ACCOMPANY PROF AGASSIZ'S "SKETCH."



See Agassiz's Types of Mankind, 1851.



Map of Agassiz's Geographic Distribution, Adopted from Nott and Gliddon, 1854

Nott and Gliddon *Types of Mankind*



Nott and Gliddon *Types of Mankind*

FIG. 349.



Mobile Negro, 1853.

FIG. 350.



Mobile Negro, 1853.

FIG. 351.



Negro, 3200 years old [*supra*, pp. 250-251].

FIG. 352.



Nubian, 3200 years old.

(459)

FIG. 345.⁵⁶⁰



Orang-Outan.

FIG. 347.⁵⁶⁰



Chimpanzee.

FIG. 349.



Mobile Negro, 1853.

FIG. 351.



Negro, 3200 years old [*supra*, pp. 250-251].

FIG. 346.⁵⁶¹



Hottentot Wagoner — Caffre War.

FIG. 348.⁵⁶²



Hottentot from Somerset.

FIG. 350.



Mobile Negro, 1853.

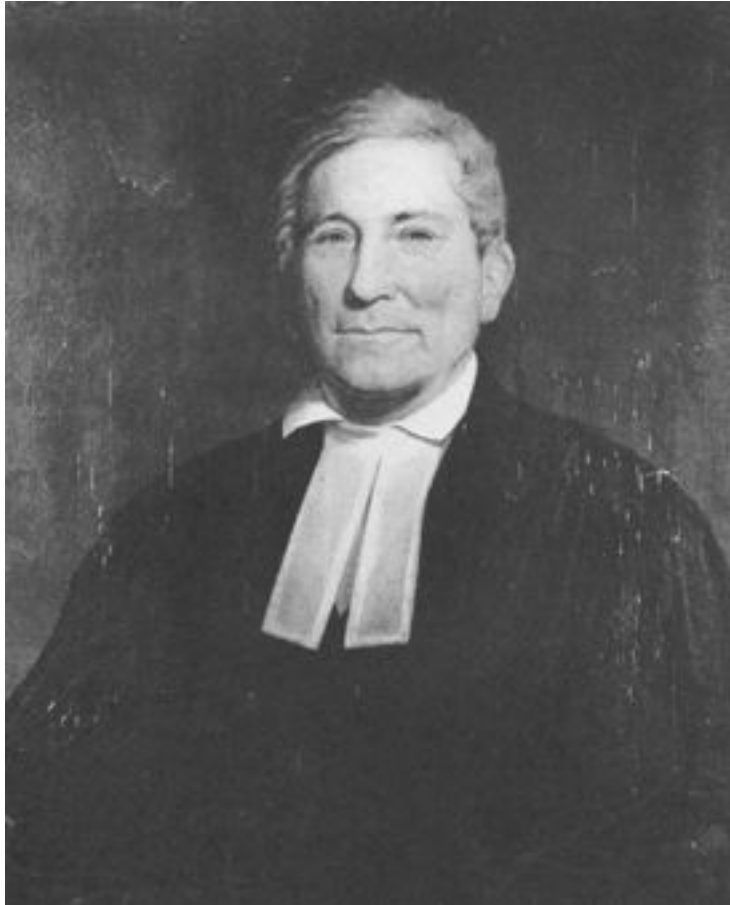
FIG. 352.



Nubian, 3200 years old.

(459)

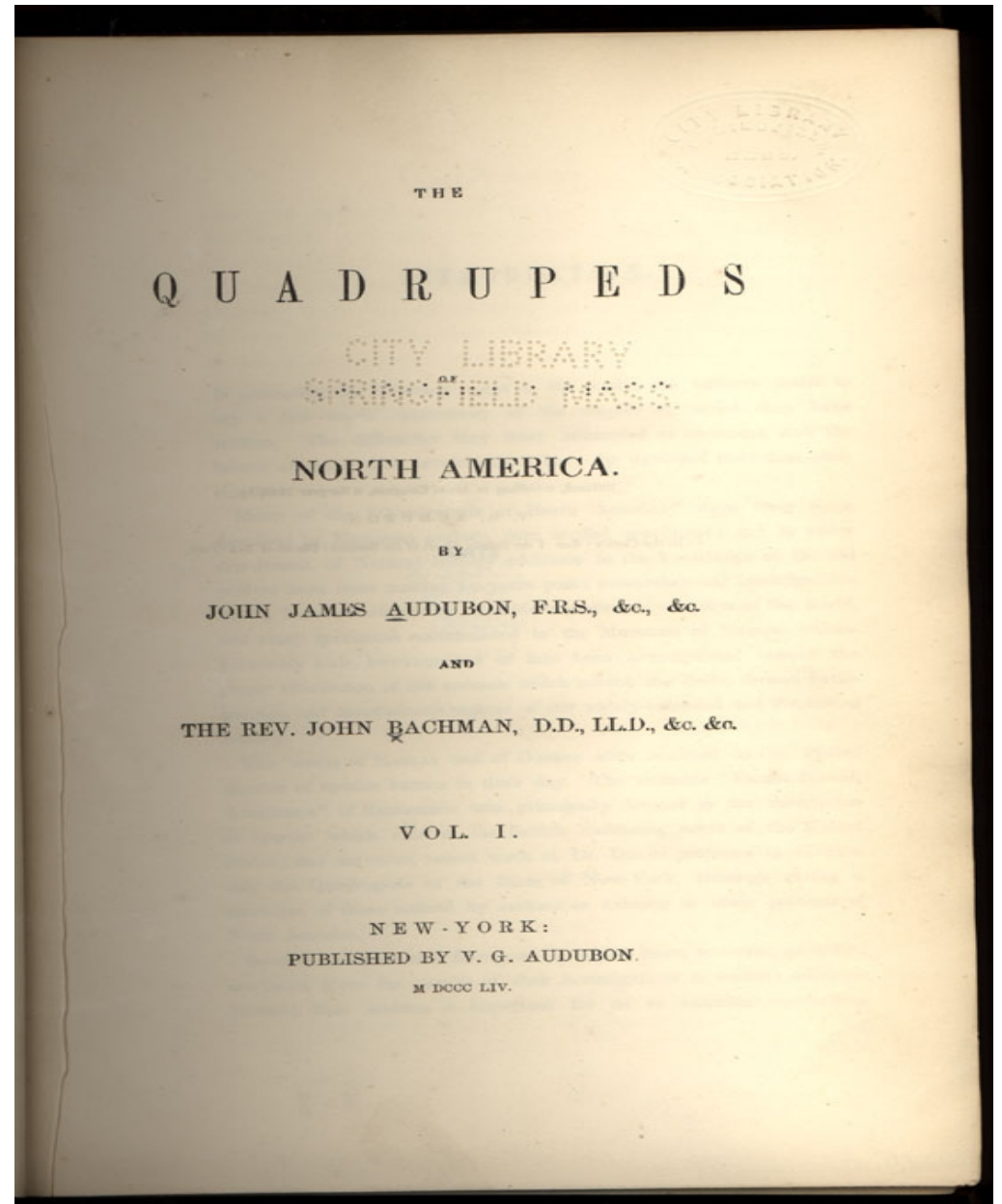
John Bachman



- Pastor in Charleston, S.C. Friend and collaborator with Audobon (Bachman's wife Maria Martin painted backgrounds for Audobon's *Birds of North America*).
Founder of Newberry College.



John James Audubon





BACHMAN'S WARBLER

(*Vermivora bachmani*)

Bachman's warbler is the rarest native songbird in the United States. This four inch long (10.2 cm) bird is on the verge of extinction and perhaps already gone. Critical wintering habitat in Cuba has been severely reduced. It inhabits dense wooded swamps with thick undergrowth and is most likely to be found in low wet headwater swamps and

Coastal Plain river swamps with deciduous trees including cypress, gum, and hickory. One of the last ones seen in the Southeast was in Long County, Georgia, in 1975. Reasons for decline include habitat loss as bottomland hardwood forests are converted to pine plantations.

Scan from Audubon's *Birds of America* Plate 185

<http://www.songbird.org/birds/extinct/bachwarb.htm>



Long-billed Curlew, TRINGUS LONGIROSTRIS, Linn. Pluin. Rey. Naturae.



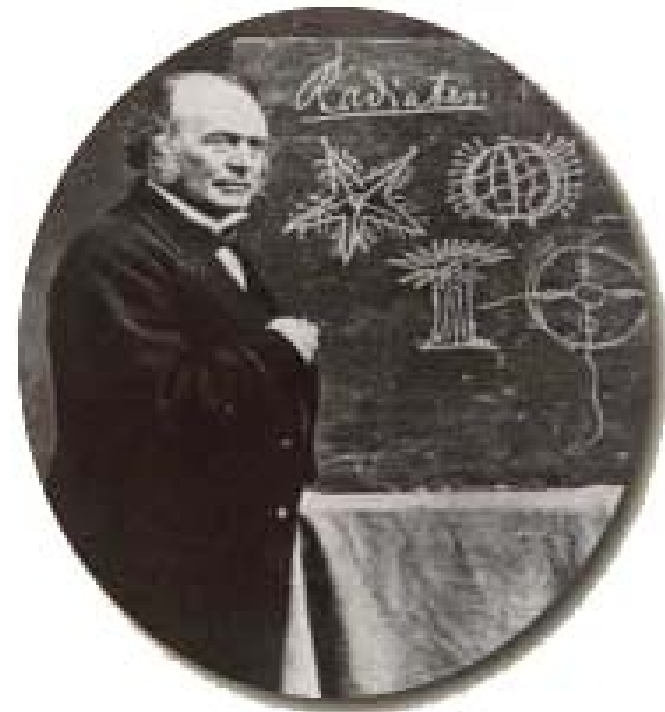
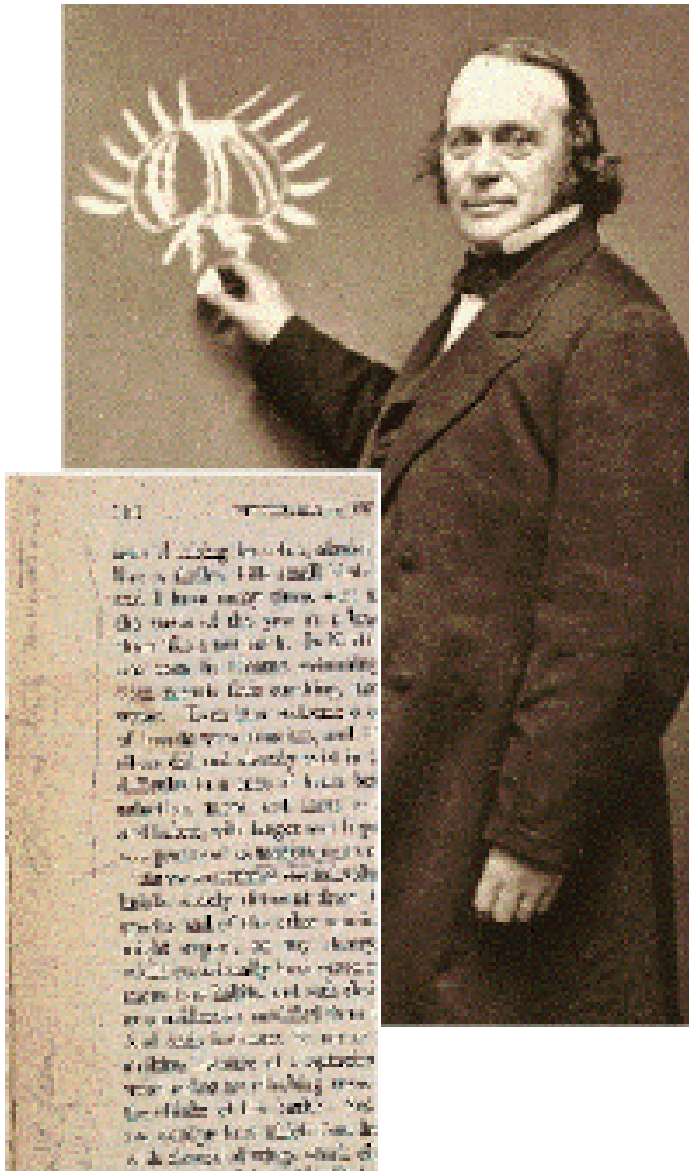
Limenitis archippe.

Right: Charleston, S.C. At the end of the Civil War. Bachman's Church is on the far left side of the picture.

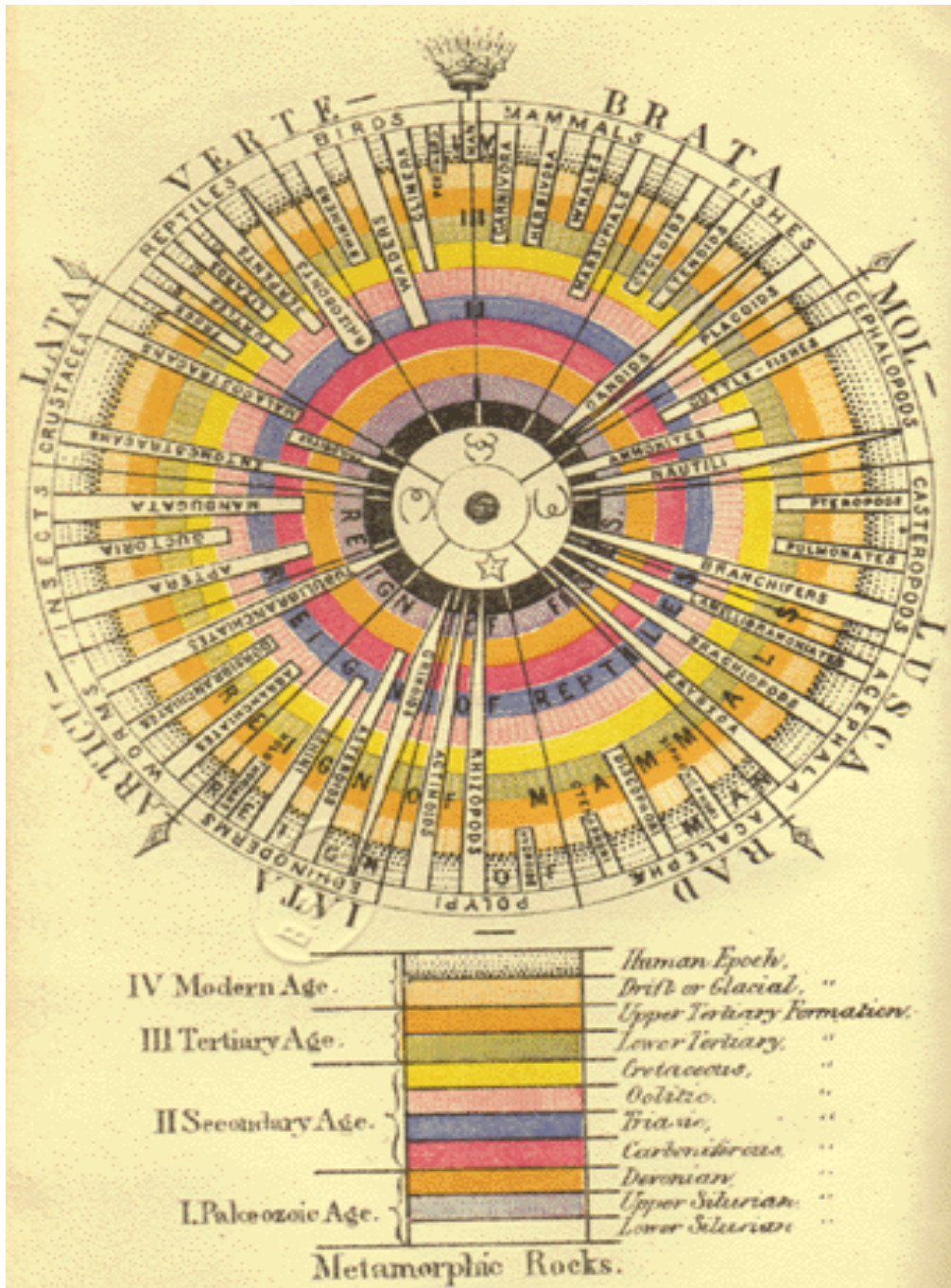
Below: Display of Maria Martin Bachman's notebooks. Much of her work and John Bachman's was destroyed in the burning of Charleston and along with it, St. John's Church and its school.



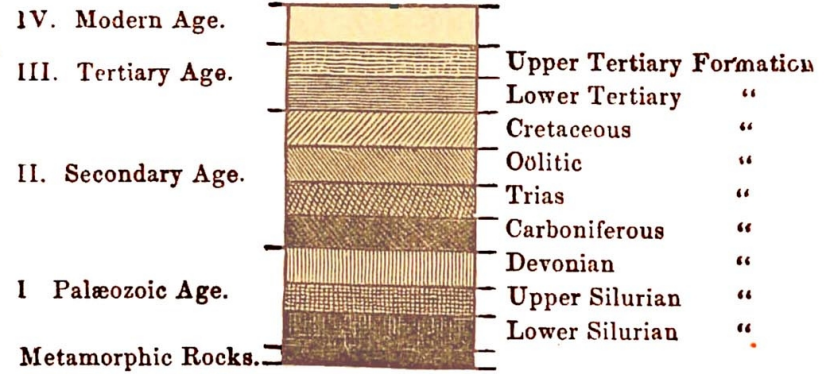
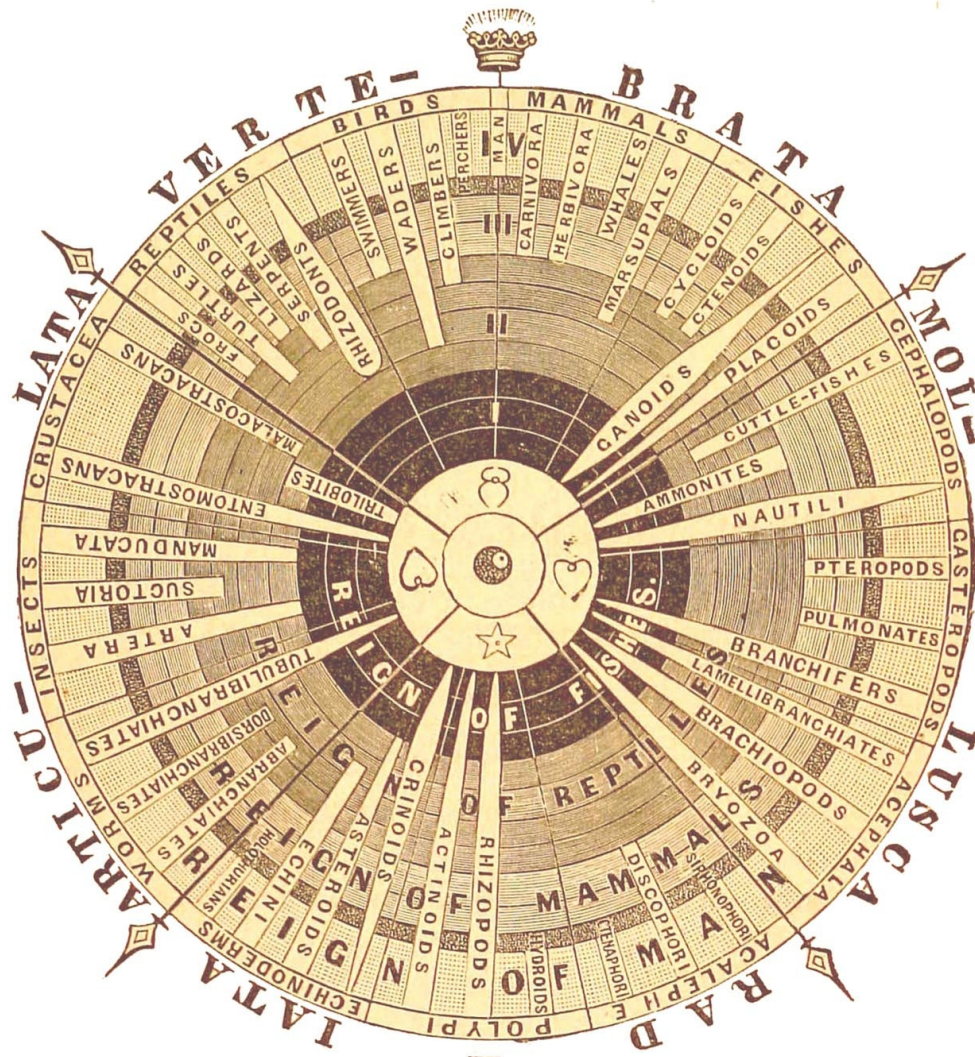
- Agassiz, about 1861, and a page from his copy of Darwin's *Origins of Species*, at the Ernst Mayr Library of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University.



Louis Agassiz & Separate Creations



Frontispiece from Louis Agassiz's *Outlines of Comparative Physiology* (London: Bell & Daldy, 1867), depicting the crust of the earth as related to paleo- and contemporary zoology.



CRUST OF THE EARTH AS RELATED TO ZOOLOGY.

Whether primeval man, when he possessed but a few arts, and those of the rudest kind, and when his power of language was extremely imperfect, would have deserved to be called man, must depend on the definition which we employ. In a series of forms graduating insensibly from some ape-like creature to man as he now exists, it would be impossible to fix on any definite point where the term 'man' ought to be used. But this is a matter of very little importance. So again, it is almost a matter of indifference whether the so-called races of man are thus designated, or are ranked as species or subspecies; but the latter term appears the more appropriate. Finally, we may conclude that when the principle of evolution is generally accepted, as it surely will be before long, the dispute between the monogenists and the polygenists will die a silent and unobserved death.

---Charles Darwin, *Descent of Man*. While Nott saw in the *Origin of Species* the repudiation of the polygenic theory--- and he gracefully accepted defeat--- he nonetheless appreciated it as a "capital dig at the parsons" Stanton, *Leopard's Spot's*, 175.