

but of his predecessors in mammalian evolution, for if man belongs, as he certainly does, to the highest order of the mammalia, namely, the Primates, it must be a waste of time to try to prove him to be earlier than these his manifest ancestors. The classification of the mammalia was first reviewed, and the modern distribution of the higher mammals over the face of the earth examined, as a preliminary to describing their fossil ancestors and geological relations. A description followed of the zoogeographical areas of the earth's surface, and their characteristic faunas, and it was made clear that the Primates first appeared as very primitive lemurs in the Upper Eocene, as in the Wasatch formation of Wyoming, U.S.A., and in Europe in the Phosphorites of the Paris Basin, as also in Switzerland, and in Hampshire in this country, but that not until the Oligocene of the Egyptian Fayoum is reached are any traces of the real ape tribe to be found. In the Miocene they can be discerned a little more plainly, but only in the Pliocene do the larger man-like apes first manifest themselves. Therefore, in spite of the "Eoliths", it would seem, *a priori*, to be very unlikely that *Homo sapiens*, or his immediate lineal ancestors in the Anthropeida, will be found earlier than this.

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OBITUARY.

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LIEUT. GRAHAM JOHNS,  
SCOTS GUARDS.

LIEUT. GRAHAM JOHNS, Scots Guards, son of Mr. and Mrs. Cosmo Johns, of Sheffield, was killed in action on September 27. He matriculated at Caius College, Cambridge, but did not go into residence. He was severely wounded at Ypres, July, 1917, and returned to the Front in March this year.

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THE RIGHT REV. BISHOP JOHN MITCHINSON,  
D.C.L., D.D., F.G.S.

BORN SEPTEMBER 23, 1833.

DIED SEPTEMBER 25, 1918.

We regret to record the death of Bishop Mitchinson, Master of Pembroke College, Oxford, who was a lifelong student of geology and a devoted friend of geologists. From 1859 until 1873 he was Head Master of the King's School, Canterbury; from 1873 until 1881 he was Bishop of Barbados; from 1881 until 1899 he held the benefice of Sibstone, Leicestershire, and acted as deputy in much episcopal work; and in 1899 he was elected Master of Pembroke. While in Barbados he spent part of his leisure in making a collection of fossils, which he gave to the British Museum in 1892. While at home he made numerous excursions in search of fossils, and eventually brought together a good representative series, which he carefully studied and arranged in cabinets. After reserving for Oxford a few specimens, among which was the type of *Olenus Mitchinsoni* from the Shineton Shales, described by Dr. H. H. Thomas