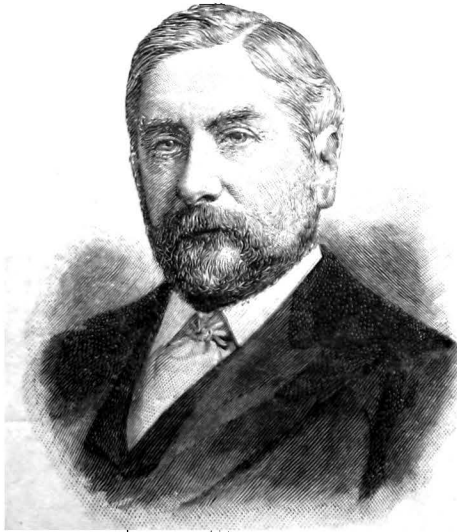


R. P. L. CHEAP REPRINTS.

*85 Illustrations & Tables*

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# THE STORY OF CREATION



**EDWARD CLODD**

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THE  
STORY OF CREATION

*A Plain Account of Evolution*

BY

EDWARD CLODD

*[arrangement with Messrs. Longmans for the Rationalist Press Association, Limited]*

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1906

" First man appeared in the class of inorganic things,  
 Next he passed therefrom into that of plants:  
 For years he lived as one of the plants,  
 Remembering nought of his inorganic state so different ;  
 And when he passed from the vegetive to the animal state,  
 He had no remembrance of his state as a plant,  
 Except the inclination he felt to the world of plants,  
 Especially at the time of spring and sweet flowers ;  
 Like the inclination of infants towards their mothers,  
 Which know not the cause of their inclination to the breast.  
 Again, the great Creator, as you know,  
 Drew man out of the animal into the human state.  
 Thus man passed from one order of nature to another,  
 Till he became wise and knowing and strong as he is now.  
 Of his first souls he has now no remembrance,  
 And he will be again changed from his present soul."

Masnavi (Bk. IV.) of JALĀL AD DĪN (13th Century).

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## REFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION

The scope and purpose of this book are explained in the Introductory but the justification for its publication in these days of over-production is given.

It lies in the fact that, so far as I know, no work of the kind exists in brief and compass; complete expositions of the theory of Evolution, foremost among which are Mr. Herbert Spencer's, being in bulky volumes with which few readers have time or courage to grapple. In attempting to give a clear idea of the system of the universe, I have felt the difficulty expressed years ago by such writers as Sir W. R. Grove and Professor Tyndall, arising from the lack of uniformity in standard books on physics in the use of the terms "force" and "energy." When talking over this matter with my friend Grant Allen, I was surprised to find that he had published (although privately) a pamphlet on the subject in which rigid and definite meanings are given to "force" and "energy" as applied to the world and opposite forms of Motion manifest through Matter; and in that way affording the reader a clearer conception of cosmic dynamics, those terms are used throughout this book. Mr. Allen has plunged me deeper in his debt by his kind and patient reading of my proof-sheets, a service which, to their further gain, has also been kindly rendered by my friend Mr. H. W. Bates, F.R.S.

The chief authorities consulted in the preparation of this book are duly acknowledged in foot-notes. As for the work as a whole, there is probably not a single original idea in it, but only an attempt to explain matters of abiding interest and deep importance in as simple and untechnical a style as possible.

E. C.

10, TUFNELL PARK, LONDON, N.

December, 1887.

TO  
GRANT ALLEN.

MY DEAR ALLEN,

*The inscription of this little book to you, whose interest in it has been constant since its framework was shown you, enables me not only to repeat the obligations which are set down in the Preface, but also to say, what is more gratifying to me, how deeply I value your friendship.*

*Yours ever sincerely,*

EDWARD CLODD.

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