

"In the profoundest sense this is scientific doctrine. The Ascent of Man and of Society is bound up henceforth with the conflict, the intensification and the diffusion of the struggle for the Life of Others. This is the further Evolution, the page of history that lies before us, the closing act of the drama of Man.

"The struggle may be short or long; but by all scientific analogy the result is sure. All the other Kingdoms of Nature were completed; Evolution always attains; always rounds off its work. It spent an eternity over the Earth, but finished it. It struggled for milleniums to bring the Vegetable Kingdom up to the Flowery Plants, and attained. In the Animal Kingdom it never paused until the possibilities of organization were exhausted in the mammalia. Kindled by this past, man may surely say, 'I shall

arrive.' The succession cannot break. The further Evolution must go on, the Higher Kingdom come—first the blade where we are to-day; then the ear where we shall be to-morrow; then the full corn in the ear which awaits our children's children and which we live to hasten."

Such are a few of the endings of books jotted down haphazard in the course of reading—sufficient, perhaps, to prove that the ending of a book plays no small part in forming the impression left on the reader. We may conclude, not inappropriately with the half cynical, half pathetic words in which the author of "Vanity Fair" bids us farewell:—"Ah, vanitas vanitatum! Which of us is happy in this world? Which of us has his desire, or having it is satisfied? Come, children, let us shut up the box and the puppets for the play is ended!"



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