

understanding of how the theory came to be accepted and to show something of the forces that entered into the interesting period of the history of human thought in which this occurred.

Although the name of Charles Darwin is widely known as the originator of today's Evolution, another name is almost equally important as far as the acceptance of the theory is concerned. This is the name of Thomas Henry Huxley. Darwin himself was a quiet man of research and scientific study, who took little part in the heated debates of his day. He wrote only books of scientific nature. Once he devoted ten years to the study of barnacles, bringing thousands of specimens to his country home where he studied them minutely. He was the perfect picture of a detached scientist and his name and reputation had much to do with the acceptance of the Evolutionary Theory.

However, the active controversial push of the theory, answering objections and overcoming opponents, was largely done by Thomas Henry Huxley, a man of very different type. This is not to say that Huxley was not a thoroughly respectable scientist. He did a certain amount of research and his scientific work was well regarded <sup>but</sup> ~~by~~ a great deal of his time went into writing controversial articles, taking part in public debates, and ferociously opposing whatever he thought to be wrong. He considered himself Darwin's bull dog, and his part in the acceptance of the Evolutionary Theory was very great indeed. However, the importance of <sup>neither</sup> ~~another~~ of these men can be properly understood unless the whole situation of the time is taken into account.

The issuance of Darwin's "Origin of Species" came in 1859 in the very heart of the Victorian Period. To understand the situation we should be aware of the real nature of the Victorian Period. The era takes its name from a queen whose dignity and generally high standard of morality represented an utter contrast to the degenerate individuals who had immediately preceded her on the English throne. She is a fit emblem by which to name a period, but she is by no means the cause of the nature of the period, but rather an example of its characteristics.