

“Man Under All His Varied Aspects”: Wallace, anthropologist

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One of the clearest interests as naturalist of Wallace was the man, a situation that can be observed from the beginning of his career and his first approaches with the idea of the transmutation of species in 1845. From that moment, the work of Wallace followed different lines, but the case of man and his study became a fundamental part of his evolutionary view. Despite the importance of the case of the man to Wallace, recent historiography has paid little attention to it. This paper is divided into two sections: first, I will present some of his most important anthropological topics and their influence on the study of man, and second, the role of Wallace in Victorian scientific institutions, as part of establishing anthropology as a discipline.