

in the negro is smaller than in the European, and consequently makes, in this respect, an approach to that of the ape, in which it is still farther diminished. The author denies that there is any innate difference in the intellectual faculties of these two varieties of the human race; and maintains that the apparent inferiority of the Negro is altogether the result of the demoralizing influence of slavery, and of the long-continued oppression and cruelty which have been exercised towards this unhappy portion of mankind by their more early civilized, and consequently more successful competitors for the dominion of the world.

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June 16.

FRANCIS BAILY, Esq., V.P. and Treasurer, in the Chair.

Moses Montefiore, Esq., was elected a Fellow of the Society.

The following papers were read, viz.

1. "Researches on the Tides; Sixth Series. On the Results of an extensive system of Tide Observations, made on the Coasts of Europe and America, in June 1835." By the Rev. William Whewell, F.R.S., Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge.

The author having, in several previous communications to the Royal Society, urged the importance of simultaneous tide observations made at distant places, here gives an account of the steps taken to carry this plan into effect, in consequence of his representations, both by the Government in England, and by the other maritime powers of Europe. He explains, in the present paper, the general character of the observations thus obtained, the mode employed in reducing them, and enters at considerable length into a discussion of the immense mass of information which they supply with respect to the phenomena of the tides. One of his principal objects was to fix with precision the form of the *Cotidal lines* by which the motion of the tide wave is exhibited. He devotes one section of the paper to an investigation of the general form of these lines; and another to a nearer approximation to an accurate map of these lines, more especially as they exist in the German Ocean. The 4th section treats of the height of the tide in its total range from high to low water; the 5th relates to the diurnal inequality; the 6th to the semimenstrual inequality; and the 7th and last comprises general remarks on the tables which accompany the paper.

2. "On the Tides at the Port of London." By J. W. Lubbock, Esq., F.R.S.

The discussions of tide observations which the author has hitherto at various times laid before the Society, were instituted with reference to the transit of the Moon immediately preceding the time of high-water; from which the laws of the variation in the interval between the moon's transit and the time of high-water have been deduced. But the discussion of nineteen years' observations of the tides at the London Docks, which is given in the present paper, has been made with reference to the moon's transit two days previously, and proves very satisfactorily that the laws to which the phenomena are subject