

o'clock.

DARWIN'S MONKEY.

TO THE EDITOR OF BASSETT'S DAILY COURIER.

I have read six hundred and eighty pages of Darwin's *Monkey* this week. From memory, I will give you some of his learned assertions. He says that thirty years ago, an ape that resembled himself more than any ape that lives now, he thinks that his forefather had a tail, but that it got worn off by friction, and as it was once worn off it stayed off. This was the nearest relationship that existed and that one he sprung.

When the savages and apes are exterminated, which will not be long, then he thinks the monkey will be his nearest relation.

Well, how little any man is to be relied upon that is bent on carrying his theories at any cost of his character. I really do not think that as it is the climax in modern scientific book ought to be read more generally. I would be better to read it than to have people hold down their heads and say "hear, it was a very clever work, but I don't care to see it." A medical man said to me some time ago, when I told him I was reading Darwin, "Darwin," said he, "he will grind you to atoms."

Well, now, what is the result? I find not a single argument in the work that I do not virtually know, but that every one can see as well that the laws of the domestic animals that we are

day in contact with.

His whole book is comparing the senses of the brute creation with man, and how they fight with them, tail and horns and heels, and how they sing and roar and bray, and steal apples and spoons, and like whiskey, love of plumage and spurs, avoid traps and snares, have brains and tastes, and so on. Yes, and an ape will crack nuts and roll stones down a hill, and, like a theory I had to write to you lately, he does not care where man was got so that he was not got out of the dust.

He says that "it is better to come from an animate creature, like the ape, than from the dust." This will tell you the sort of brains Mr. Darwin has.

I am happy to tell you that I have arguments at my fingers' end for future letters, that will put Mr. Darwin at the foot of the steeple that he capped, never to rise his head again, any more than many of the professors that we hear very little of now, and is no loss to morality, by every man who could.

CHARLES O'SHAUGHNESSY.

Kilfinane, January 9, 1876.
