form of blitzkrieg, airpower causing cataclysmic destruction and finally enforcing a world peace, a Pax aeronautica. Wells read Griffith but did not acknowledge his influence. Nevertheless, Wells’s aerial warfare writings are apparently largely derivative from Griffith. By the late nineteenth century some officers also predicted airpower, e.g. Lt. Col. Elsdale, ‘The Evolution of the Art of War’, United Services Magazine (Sept. 1895), cited by John Goouch, The Prospect of War (Frank Cass 1981) 40. The subject of Wells and airwar deserves fuller treatment.

49. The World Set Free (Macmillan 1914) 108. Others wrote fiction of atomic war, also erroneous: for example, the atomic rifles in George Griffith, The Lord of Labour (F.V. White 1911) written 1906.


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The Man Who Loved Morlocks

David Lake is a novelist and Wells scholar at the University of Queensland. Here he offers a sequel to The Time Machine in which the Time Traveller is cured of his irrational aversion to the Morlocks, who, it seems, were not cannibals after all. Our hero settles down in the year 999,480 with a warrior princess – which is why, as the “Putney romancer” put it, he never returned. An appendix shows his first visit, to the year 802,701, through Morlock eyes. This is an enjoyable and sophisticated romance based on a vigilant reading of The Time Machine, and one hopes it will find a British and American publisher. The book is handsomely illustrated by Steph Cambell.