

and less manifest, and were at length reduced to a few shells, corals, and sea-weeds; these finally disappeared, and dubious indications of infusoria were the last vestiges of organic life.

42. SUCCESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ORGANIC KINGDOMS.—If we reverse the order of the argument, and pass in succession from the ancient to the modern epoch—from the regions of sterility and desolation, to those in which animal and vegetable life were profusely developed—we obtain the following results:—

Geological Formations,	Character of the Fossil Fauna.	Character of the Fossil Flora.
Granite.....	<i>Infusoria??</i>	No traces of vegetables.
Lower slate system	<i>Corals and shells (brachiopoda)</i>	Fuci?
Upper slate system	<i>Corals, crinoidea, shells, and trilobites</i>	Fuci.
Silurian system ...	<i>Corals, crinoidea, orthocera, and other shells, trilobites, fishes</i>	
Carboniferous system	{ <i>Corals, crinoidea, cephalopoda, shells, both marine (chiefly brachiopoda) and fresh-water; trilobites, insects, sauroid fishes, reptiles, birds???</i>	Several hundred species of plants; the vascular cryptogamia largely developed. Palms, tree-ferns, coniferæ. Dicotyledonous plants very rare.
Upper secondary...	<i>Corals and shells of all orders; crinoidea, fishes, insects, belemnites, ammonites, &c. Reptiles, both marine and terrestrial, of numerous genera and species; and many of gigantic size. Two or three genera of marsupial mammalia—Didelphis; and one of birds—Ardea</i>	
Tertiary	<i>Terrestrial, herbivorous, and carnivorous mammalia. The numerical proportion of reptiles comparatively small. Monkeys, birds, fishes, and all the existing orders</i>	<i>Zamia, Liliaceæ.</i> Palms. Tree ferns. Coniferæ. Dicotyledonous trees rare.
Modern epoch.....	MAN, and contemporary animals	Dicotyledonous trees prevail; coniferæ; palms, tree ferns, &c. Remains of the existing vegetation.