

*illusion of the fancy of a finite being, who vainly transfers to the work of the Almighty the pattern of his own limited labours.'*

2. There are constituents in the structure of animals which exclude the possibility of transition upwards or downwards—which do not allow of the supposition that they produced other forms, or were produced from them. The great Cuvier, in a passage quoted by the able North British Reviewer, says:—‘No deviation in the ordinary form of this animal (the cuttle-fish) has ever produced or can constitute a being placed beneath it; nor can, or ever will, its better development give rise to a series of animals of a more perfect species to be classed immediately above it.’ The letter of a friend (Dr. Scouler) supplies me with the following illustration:—‘In some cases it is difficult to imagine the possibility of transitions, even when the species are so closely allied that their distinctions can with difficulty be expressed either by words or the pencil. In such instances, where structures are closely allied, the dispositions and instincts may diverge widely, and oppose a barrier to all transmutations. This is observed in thousands of