

of plants and animals differ but little from those of De Maillet and Rodig, although mixed up with some speculations of his own. Our globe was at first liquid, and afterwards became peopled by vegetables and animals of the simplest structure, which became more highly organised in process of time and by the *force of circumstances*. What is still more wonderful, the solid earth itself was produced by the actions of those microscopic creatures. The animals transmuted the water into calcareous earth, the origin of our limestones, and the vegetables changed the same liquid element into earthy matter, the source of argillaceous deposits.

Any change in internal conditions will occasion new wants in the animal, and these will produce new habits, which in their turn will give rise to new functions and organs, and so, according to the doctrine of La Marck, the tiger possessed carnivorous desires, faculties, and habits before he obtained cutting teeth and sharp retractile claws.

In Germany, similar opinions to those of La Marck, have found numerous advocates, but, as might be anticipated, under a less positive and more mystical form, and deduced from the pantheistic dogma of absolute identity; the nature of all things being the same, and differences unreal and merely apparent, or as Goethe