

pendence. All relations in nature are regulated by a superior wisdom. May we only learn in the end to conform, within the limits of our own sphere, to the laws assigned to each race!

SECTION XXXI.

COMBINATION IN TIME AND SPACE OF VARIOUS KINDS OF RELATIONS AMONG ANIMALS.

It must occur to every reflecting mind, that the mutual relation and respective parallelism of so many structural, embryonic, geological, and geographical characteristics of the animal kingdom are the most conclusive proof, that they were ordained by a reflective mind, while they present at the same time the side of nature most accessible to our intelligence, when seeking to penetrate the relations between finite beings and the cause of their existence.

The phenomena of the inorganic world are all simple, when compared to those of the organic world. There is not one of the great physical agents, electricity, magnetism, heat, light, or chemical affinity, which exhibits, in its sphere, as complicated phenomena as the simplest organized beings; and we need not look for the highest among the latter, to find them presenting the same physical phenomena as are manifested in the material world, besides those which are exclusively peculiar to them. When, then, organized beings include every thing the material world contains, and a great deal more that is peculiarly their own, how could they be produced by physical causes, and how can the physicists, acquainted with the laws of the material world, and who acknowledge that these laws must have been established at the beginning, overlook that *à fortiori* the more complicated laws which regulate the organic world, of the existence of which there is no trace for a long period upon the surface of the earth, must have been established, later and successively, at the time of the creation of the successive types of animals and plants?

Thus far, we have been considering chiefly the contrasts existing between the organic and inorganic worlds.¹ At this stage of our investigation it may not be out of place to take a glance at some of the coincidences which may be traced between them, especially as they afford direct evidence that the physical world has been ordained in conformity with laws which obtain also among living beings, and disclose, in both spheres equally plainly, the workings of a reflective mind.

¹ Compare Sects. 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 30.