

this globe, and consequently a time when it was first introduced. And this is the argument : —

If any body, such as the earth, having a certain temperature, be surrounded by a medium, or by other bodies, with a lower temperature, it is certain, from the laws of heat, that the warmer body will continue to give off its heat to the colder ones, till at length they will be brought to the same temperature, unless the higher temperature of the central body is maintained by the perpetual generation of heat within itself. Now, we know that at present the earth is placed in exactly this condition ; for it can be proved that the temperature of the space surrounding it is at least fifty-eight degrees below zero. Consequently heat must be continually given off into the planetary spaces ; and unless there be some internal source of heat, the earth must be growing colder. When did this cooling process commence ? Those who believe an indefinite series of organic beings to have existed on the globe, will not surely fix a beginning, because that would be yielding the main point in their hypothesis. Yet it is certain that, if the earth has been cooling for an indefinite period, the time must have been when its surface was too hot for animals and plants to live upon it ; nay, when it was in a melted state. There must have been a time, therefore, when the first animals and plants were commanded into existence by the miraculous fiat of Jehovah. For the idea that the earth possesses within itself a power for the indefinite renewal of its heat as it escapes, finds no support in philosophy. We can conceive how heat might be produced while combustible substances were burning, but we know of no possible way by which an indefinite supply could be evolved.

We are unable to conceive how any philosophic mind can escape the force of such reasoning as this, which natural the-