of immaturity in the young members of one family are signs of inferior organization in the fully-grown members of another, it could easily be shown that eyes and legs are defects, and that the unmoving oyster stands higher in the scale than the ever-restless fish or bird. The immature *Tubularia* possess locomotive powers, whereas in their fully developed state they remain fixed to one spot in their convoluted tubes. The immature *Lepas* is furnished with members well adapted for swimming, and with which it swims freely; as it rises towards maturity, these become blighted and weak; and, when fully grown, — fixed by its fleshy pedicle to the rock or floating log to which it attached itself in its transition state, — it is no longer able to swim. The immature *Balanus* is furnished with two eyes: in its state of maturity these are extinguished, and it passes its period of full development in darkness. Further, it is not generally held that in the human family a white skin is a decided mark of degradation, but rather the reverse; and yet nothing can be more certain than that the Negro fœtus has a white skin. Since eyes, and organs of progression, and a power of moving freely, and a white skin, are mere embryonic peculiarities in the *Balanus* the *Lepas*, the *Tubularia*, and the Negro, and yet are in themselves, when found in the mature animal, evidences of a high, not of a low standing, on what principle, I ask, are we to infer that the peculiarity of a heterocercal tail, embryonic in the salmon, is, when found in the mature Placoid, an evidence, not of a high standing, but of a low? Every true analogy in the case favors an exactly opposite view. In the heterocercal or one-sided tail, the vertebral joints gradually diminish, as in the tails of the *Sauria* and *Ophidia*, till they terminate in a point; whereas the homocercal tail common to the osseous fishes exhibits no true analogy with the tails