

T. Williams now lying before me, bearing date 1750, in which I find very nearly the same account given of the origin of

parent species. The same would be still more the case with a new generation, fed upon a new deposit from some deeper volcano, such as the Caradoc or Wenlock Limestone, in which lime more and more predominates. Now, if any one will examine the various prints of trilobites in Sir R. Murchison's valuable work, he will find but very trifling differences in any of them, [!!] and those differences only in the stony covering of their backs. I knew two brothers once much alike: the one became a curate with a large family; the other a London alderman. If the skins of these two pachydermata had been preserved in a fossil state, there would have been less resemblance between them than between an *Asaphus tyrannus* and an *Asaphus caudatus*. * * * A careful and laborious investigation has discovered, as in the trilobites, a difference in the ammonites of different strata; but such differences, as in the former case, exist only in the form of the external shell, and may be explained in the same manner. [!!] * * * As to the scaphites, baculites, belemnites, and all the other *ites* which learned ingenuity has so named, you find them in various strata the same in all important particulars, but also differing slightly in their outward coverings, as might be expected from the different circumstances in which each variety was placed. [!!] The sheep in the warm valleys of Andalusia have a fine covering like to hair; but remove them to a northern climate, and in a few generations the back is covered with shaggy wool. The animal is the same, — the covering only is changed. * * * The learned have classed those shells under the names of terebratula, orthis, atrypa, pecten, &c. They are all much alike. [!!!] It requires an experienced eye to distinguish them one from another: what little differences have been pointed out may readily be ascribed, as before, to difference of situation." [!!!]

The author of the "Vestiges," with this, the fundamental portion of his case, granted to him by the Dean, will have exceedingly little difficulty in making out the rest for himself. The passage is, however, not without its value, as illustrative of the darkness, in matters of physical science, "even darkness which may be felt," that is suffered to linger, in this the most scientific of ages, in the Church of Buckland, Sedgwick, and Conybeare.