

ductive source for the origin of new species; and this source is quite independent of natural selection, by which means, according to Darwin, most species have arisen. It is probable that the very numerous forms of animals and plants, which in our systematic classification we nowadays enumerate as "good species," are nothing more than fruitful bastards which have originated quite accidentally by the successful commingling of the sexual products of the two different species. This supposition is specially justified as regards aquatic animals and plants. When we consider what masses of different seed-cells and egg-cells constantly come in contact in water, the widest scope seems thereby given for the production of bastards.

It is certainly very remarkable that even Linnæus asserted the physiological (therefore mechanical) origin of new species by this process of hybridism. It clearly stands in direct opposition to the supernatural origin of the other species by creation, which he accepted as put forward in the Mosaic account. The one set of species would therefore have originated by dualistic (teleological) creation, the other by monistic (mechanical) development.

The great and well-merited authority which Linnæus gained by his systematic classification and by his other services to Biology, was clearly the reason why his views of creation also remained, throughout the whole of the last century, undisputed and generally recognized. If throughout systematic Zoology and Botany the distinctions, classification, and designations of species, introduced by Linnæus, and the dogmatic ideas connected therewith had not been maintained—more or less unaltered—we should be at a loss to understand how his idea of an independent