

appearances, accepted by superficial observation, that, indeed, no small degree of courage, strength, and intelligence was required to rise as a reformer against its omnipotence, and to dash to pieces the structure artificially erected upon it. But, in addition to this, Darwin added to Lamarck's and Goethe's doctrine of descent the new and highly important principle of "natural selection."

We must sharply distinguish the two points—though this is usually not done—first, Lamarck's Theory of Descent, which only asserts *that* all animal and vegetable species are descended from common, most simple, and spontaneously generated prototypes; and secondly, Darwin's Theory of Selection, which shows us *why* this progressive transformation of organic forms took place, and what causes, acting mechanically, effected the uninterrupted production of new forms, and the ever-increasing variety of animals and plants.

Darwin's immortal merit cannot be justly estimated until a later period, when the Theory of Development, after overthrowing all other theories of creation, will be recognized as the supreme principle of explanation in Anthropology, and, consequently, in all other sciences. At present, while in the hot contest for truth, the name of Darwin is the watch-word to the advocates of the natural theory of development, his merits are often inaccurately appreciated on both sides, for some persons over-estimate them as much as others under-estimate them.

His merit is over-estimated when he is regarded as the founder of the Theory of Descent, or of the whole of the Theory of Development. We have seen, from the historical sketch in this and the preceding chapters, that the Theory of Development, as such, is not new; all the philosophers