

main, but not the exclusive" factor in evolution, the origin of variations being always assumed. To a certain extent, however, he believed in the inheritance of acquired characters, and agreed with Buffon and Lamarck in recognizing the evolutionary importance of the modifying influences of function and environment.

After the publication of the *Origin of Species*, there was a period of keen and often bitter criticism on the one side, of exposition and corroboration on the other. Spencer and Hæckel gave generalized expression to the more concrete arguments of Darwin and Wallace, and Huxley formed the cutting edge of the new Biology. None the less, the Darwinian theory had a stern struggle for existence before its survival was assured. For a time the question at issue was one which is now almost out of date—the question between evolution and non-evolution, and during this period the evolutionists allowed their differences of opinion in regard to the factors to sink into relative unimportance in their endeavour to present a united front against the wide-spread opposition to the whole idea. But as the intensity of criticism waned, the various schools of evolutionists began to assert their particular creeds. The majority, perhaps, were on the whole Darwinian, sometimes tainted with "Lamarckian heresy"; a minority reverted almost completely to Lamarck's position; others maintained the importance of more or less unknown laws of growth; and a few cautious spirits were convinced evolutionists, but agnostic as to the factors. It may be said that within ten years after the publication of the *Origin of Species* all the diversity of opinion which confronts us to-day was either clearly expressed or existed in rudiment.

If we extend our survey on to "the coming of age" of the Darwinian theory, and then take a cross-section of opinion, we find serious opposition to the general idea of organic evolution fast approaching a vanishing point, but the tissue of evolution theories as heterogeneous as before. Three main schools may be distinguished.

First, there is the predominantly Darwinian school,