

CHAPTER X

FURTHER SPECULATION AS TO
THE ORIGIN AND NATURE
OF LIFE¹

*Preliminary Remarks on Recent Views
in Chemistry.*

IT is a fact extremely familiar to chemists that the groupings possible to atoms of carbon are exceptionally numerous and complicated, each carbon atom having the power of linking itself with others to an extraordinary extent, so that it is no exceptional thing to find a substance which contains twenty or thirty atoms of carbon as well as other elements linked together in its molecule in a perfectly definite way, the

¹ An article reprinted from the *North American Review* for May 1905.