

existing cognate genera of Cephalopods; we cannot but infer that these extinct families filled a larger space, and performed more important functions among the inhabitants of the ancient seas, than are assigned to their few living representatives in our modern oceans.

Conclusion.

It results from the view we have taken of the zoological affinities between living and extinct species of chambered shells, that they are all connected by one plan of organization; each forming a link in the common chain, which unites existing species with those that prevailed among the earliest conditions of life upon our globe; and all attesting the Identity of the design, that has effected so many similar ends through such a variety of instruments, the principle of whose construction is, in every species, fundamentally the same.

Throughout the various living and extinct genera of Chambered shells, the use of the air chambers and siphon, to adjust the specific gravity of the animals in rising and sinking, appears to have been identical. The addition of a new transverse plate within the conical shell added a new air chamber, larger than the preceding one, to counterbalance the increase of weight that attended the growth of the shell and body of all these animals.