

polype, half animal and half plant, and ending with the half fish and half quadruped, cetaceans, and their kindred monsters.* Nor was the Ocean prolific of aquatic animals alone, and those whose habitation was the restless world of waters, with all its streams, its caves, and its abysses; it also gave birth to all the winged and feathered tribes—from the brilliant humming bird to the mighty eagle and the giant vulture—that people and enliven the atmospheric sea, and make it the field of their excursions. The animals created on this day were destined to dwell or move, independent of the earth, in a fluid medium of greater or less tenuity, and for that purpose were fitted with appropriate and peculiar organs, in one case both for respiration and locomotion, in the other for locomotion only.

Again the word of power was spoken,—“*Let the earth bring forth,*” and instantly† the various tribes of quadrupeds issued from her teeming womb, varying infinitely in size, from the minute harvest-mouse‡ to the giant bulk of the elephant and hippopotamus; then also the earth-born reptiles, whether four-footed, six-footed, eight-footed, or many-footed, started into life, and connected the terrestrial tribes with those produced from the waters. In the majority of these, the fins of the fishes and cetaceans, and the wings of the birds, were replaced by legs best fitted for motion on the theatre on which they were to act their part, and to fulfil the will of their Creator.

The earth was now completely furnished and decorated to receive her destined king and master. The sun, the moon,

* See Appendix, Note 2.

† In the Mosaic account of the creation of animals there seems to be nothing to indicate this simultaneous birth so instantly accomplished. “And God said, Let the earth bring forth the living creature after his kind, and cattle after their kind, and creeping thing and beast of the earth after his kind; and it was so.” Gen. i. 24.—T. R. J.

‡ *Mus messorius.*