

amazement ; I shrink into very nothingness, when I reflect that such a miserable worm as I am, so fallen and corrupted, should presume to lift its thought so high, and lose itself in the depths of the unfathomable ocean of Deity. He has, however, commanded us to seek him, and assured us we shall find him if we seek him humbly and sincerely—he hath set before us his *works* and his *word*, in both of which he has revealed himself to us : and if our great object be to glorify him rather than ourselves, we shall collect the TRUTH from each, and shall find that they deliver, though each in a different language and style, the same mysteries ; for they are the work and the word of the same Almighty Author, and must, therefore, if rightly interpreted, deliver the same truths, since they can no more contradict each other than he can contradict himself.

But let me endeavour to emerge from this ocean in which I seem to have lost myself, and, recovering my station upon *terra firma*, direct the attention of the reader to the lovely tribes that adorn every part and portion of this our destined but brief abode, I mean to the vegetable kingdom. We see how they cover earth, that not a spot can be found, of which in time they do not possess themselves, and that the more we extend our inquiries the more numerous are the individual species with which we become acquainted. This being the case upon earth, reasoning from analogy, we may conclude that something similar takes place in the ocean ; that could our discoveries be extended under the sea as easily as they are upon land ; could we traverse the bed and waters of the great deep with the same facility that we do the surface of the earth, we should find the numbers of vegetables that respire, in some sense, the air, fall short perhaps of those plant-like animals that respire the water. And could we examine the individual species of which this infinite host consists, and compare their organizations, we