

circumstances important to the general welfare may arise from this disposition, and variety of food may also be produced, and more enjoyment to the various animals who are destined to live upon the myriad forms of the insect world.

Whether the higher orders of crustaceans undergo a real metamorphosis has not been satisfactorily proved. They are known to change their shells annually, but it has not been observed that this moult is attended by any change of form, or by the acquisition of new locomotive or other organs. Insects, we know, after their last change do not increase in size; the crustaceans are found, however, to vary very much in this respect. Whether a different law obtains amongst them, from what takes place in insects, and they follow the Batrachian reptiles, which, after they have exchanged the tadpole for the frog, grow till they have arrived at the standard of their respective species, I cannot certainly affirm; but reasoning from analogy, it seems more probable that the crustaceans should follow the law of animals most nearly related to them, and belonging to the same primary group, than that they should copy the reptiles, animals far removed from them, and of a completely different organization.

There is another point in which this subject of animal metamorphoses may be viewed. Do not these successive changes in the outward form, functions, and locomotions of so many animals, preach a doctrine to the attentive and duly impressed student of animal forms, and their history—do they not symbolically declare to him, that the same individual may be clothed with different forms, in different states of existence, that he may be advanced, after certain preparatory changes, and an intermediate interval of rest and repose, to a much more exalted rank; with organs, whether sensiferous or locomotive, of a much wider range; with tastes more refined; with an intellect more developed,