

insulated, it seems as if, in its means of entrapping its prey, it was formed upon a plan not connected with that of any other Molluscan, but quite *sui generis* : probably, were we acquainted with the animals belonging to what are deemed fossil Cephalopods, we should find the hiatus vastly narrowed.

In this instance we see clearly that adaptation of means to an end which distinguishes all the works of the Creator ; the striking variation which this creature exhibits from the oral apparatus of its Class, is evidently connected with the kind and circumstances of the animals which it is commissioned to keep within their proper limits ; its mandibles, or beak, indeed, resemble those of the other Cephalopods, indicating that its prey are covered with solid integuments, requiring great force to crush them ; but the other oral organs, and its snail-like foot, as we see, indicate that they are not of a kind that can easily escape from their assailants.

Two objects seem to have been principally in the mind of the Almighty Planner of the universe of beings : one seems to have been the concatenation of all subsistences, seriatim and collaterally, into one great system ; and the other, so to order and vary the structure of each individual, that it may be duly fitted to answer a certain end, and produce a certain effect upon such and such points of that system, and this in such a way that these effects, though *diverse*, might not be *averse*, but proceed, if I may so speak, in the same direction. Thus, in the subject before us, the general commission given to the Cephalopods, is to assist in reducing the *armed* population of the ocean within certain limits, and to all are given instruments and organs, varying indeed in their structure, but proper to enable them to effect this purpose ; all, however, concurring to bring about