

He has deigned to impart to man ; who is thus enabled to recognise his Creator's design.

Such is an instance of those varied adaptations of means to an end, which we behold in the world ; and such the train of reasoning, which, to common understandings, appears to show, that these adaptations are the effect of design. There are, however, some men, whose minds are so obtuse, or so singularly constituted, that they maintain all these appearances of design to be unreal ; and a brief examination of the pretexts which they have urged for their incredulity, may not be deemed irrelevant.

The opposers of the argument of design may be divided into two classes : those who, denying a First Cause, affect to believe, that all the beautiful adaptations and arrangements we witness in creation, arise from what they term, "the necessary and eternal laws of nature ;" and who, in fact, are Atheists, or rather Pantheists, "to whom the laws of nature are as gods : " and those who, without denying the existence of a First Cause, contend, that the adaptations among the objects of nature, cannot be *proved* to be the effect of design ; that these objects appear to us well adapted to each other, because we have nothing, besides our own intellects, with which we can compare them ; and that the limited powers of the human mind, are a standard altogether inapplicable to the Deity.