

served, is towards a state of equilibrium; and the principles upon which this tendency operates, are very intelligible. Thus, all bodies *below* the neutral point of rest, if we may be allowed the expression; that is to say, all bodies of a marked elementary character, have a tendency to combine with each other *synthetically*; while *beyond* the neutral point, bodies have very little tendency to combine further; and if by intention on the part of the operator, or from any other cause, they be so made to combine; when left to their own operations, they speedily revert, or oscillate back, to the point of equilibrium.

Such are the means by which the state of equilibrium we are considering has been produced, and by which it is still preserved; nor is it possible to reflect upon the subject for a moment, without arriving at the conclusion; that this state of equilibrium possesses all the characters of a prior arrangement, to which organized beings have been subsequently adapted. We are thus led, in the next place, to make a few remarks upon the subsequent adaptation of organized beings, to the pre-established equilibrium of nature.

The present races of organized beings, are, in all instances continued, only by the process of generation; and if they were annihilated, there are no natural operations going on in the world, which can lead us to believe, that by any law of