

the destroying power, incongruous or without an object; but evidently is in perfect harmony with the rest of creation, and with the design of the Creator. The wonderful productiveness of animals in Tropical countries, renders unavoidable, some checks against their excessive increase: and in devising these, the great Author of Nature has displayed the same attributes which are manifest in all his other works. No one who seriously reflects, can doubt either the wisdom or the benevolence of the provision. For why are Tigers and Serpents confined to those parts of the world, where their existence is not only accordant, but where, for one great purpose at least, they are even necessary. Surely such limitation could have happened only from design; and the argument is strengthened a hundred fold, when we contemplate the striking display of wisdom and of power, exemplified in the singular adaptation of the structure of these animals, to their peculiar habits. Thus how wonderfully is the Tiger formed: how extraordinary as well as wonderful, must be the organization of Serpents! Who (unless he had witnessed the fact) could have believed, that the animal frame was capable of separating from its juices, and of retaining with impunity, a poison instantly fatal, not only to other animals, but to the animal itself; if again mingled with the juices from which it had been separated!