

In the first place, with regard to his strength. The strength of man is not only that which is his own, almost infinitely magnified by ingenious mechanical devices of every kind, and of every degree, up to the stupendous agency of steam; man has, moreover, subdued to his service many of the larger animals, while those he cannot so appropriate, he destroys. As weapons, he wields every instrument offensive and defensive, from the rude but effective club or arrow, to the warlike engines to which he has applied the discovery of gunpowder. Whatever his wants require, he obtains by tools; from the humble spade, to that perfection of machinery, which almost rivals the operations of intelligence itself. In the next place, view man with reference to his food: what wonders has not his reason enabled him to achieve among the fellow-inhabitants of his own temperate climate. In the vegetable kingdom, let us consider the astonishing mutations and increase of the *cerealia*, or corn tribes; the transformation of the sour and forbidding Crab into the rich and fragrant Apple; of the harsh and astringent Sloe into the delicious Plum; of the coarse and bitter sea side *Brassica* into the nutritious and grateful Cauliflower: all which changes, and numerous others of a like kind, have been effected by man. Nor have the transformations which he has produced among animals been less wonderful than