it has been developed from a hen's egg, and we know that, should it continue to live, it would infallibly display all the characteristics of the parent bird. Now, if there existed in Nature an adult bird as imperfectly organized as the chicken on the day, or the day before it was hatched, we should assign to it an inferior rank.

22. In studying the embryonic states of the mollusks or worms, we observe in them points of resemblance to many animals of a lower grade, to which they at length become entirely dissimilar. For example, the myriads of minute aquatic animals embraced under the name of Infusoria, generally very simple in their organization, remind us of the embryonic forms of other animals. We shall have occasion to show that the Infusoria are not to be considered as a distinct class of animals, but that among them are found members of all the lower classes of animals, mollusks, crustaceans, worms, &c.; and many of them are even found to belong to the Vegetable Kingdom.

23. Not less striking are the relations that exist between animals and the regions they inhabit. Every animal has its home. Animals of the cold regions are not the same as those of temperate climates; and these latter, in their turn, differ from those of tropical regions. Certainly, no one will maintain it to be the effect of accident that the monkeys, the most perfect of all brute animals, are found only in hot countries; or that by chance merely the white bear and reindeer inhabit only cold regions.

24. Nor is it by chance that most of the largest animals, of every class, the whales, the aquatic birds, the sea-turtles, the crocodiles, dwell in the water rather than on the land. And while the water affords freedom of motion to the largest, it is also the home of the smallest of living beings, allowing a degree of liberty to their motion, which they could not enjoy elsewhere.