

2d. The diversity of faunas is not in proportion to the distance which separates them. Very similar faunas are found at great distances apart; as, for example, the fauna of Europe and that of the United States, which yet are separated by a wide ocean. Others, on the contrary, differ considerably, though at comparatively short distances; as the fauna of the East Indies and the Sunda Islands, and that of New Holland; or the fauna of Labrador and that of New England.

3d. There is a direct relation between the richness of a fauna and the climate. The tropical faunas contain a much larger number of more perfect animals than those of the temperate and polar regions.

4th. There is a no less striking relation between the fauna and flora, the limit of the former being oftentimes determined, so far as terrestrial animals are concerned, by the extent of the latter.

442. Animals are endowed with instincts and faculties corresponding to the physical character of the countries they inhabit, and which would be of no service to them under other circumstances. The monkey, which is a frugivorous animal, is organized for living on the trees from which he obtains his food. The reindeer, on the contrary, whose food consists of lichens, lives in cold regions. The latter would be quite out of place in the torrid zone, and the monkey would perish with hunger in the polar regions. Animals which store up provisions are all peculiar to temperate or cold climates. Their instincts would be uncalled for in tropical regions, where the vegetation presents the herbivora with an abundant supply of food at all times.

443. However intimately the climate of a country seems to be allied with the peculiar character of its fauna, we are not to conclude that the one is the consequence of the other. The differences which are observed between the animals of