

system of structures in the organism to an ideal plan implies first, a conception of the plan; secondly, a perception of fitness between the plan and each particular tissue in process of formation. Certainly, we must say that here *mind* is at work. But is it the mind of the animal or plant? Every person can answer for himself whether he made his own bones. The question is absurd. Is the mind evinced possessed by the matter? Do these atoms and molecules move and arrange themselves by an intelligence and choice of their own? Has each one a conception of the plan to which they so consensually work? Do they intelligently maintain the processes of digestion, blood-purification, assimilation, and tissue-building? How do they conceive, think, and will without brain? How select without eyes or hands? Who ever knew intelligence acting without brain? But, it is conceivable, you say. Yes, though it is not a brainless molecule. There is intelligence acting in the organism, which does not belong to the matter or the individual; whose intelligence is it? Intelligence is an attribute; it belongs to being; it does not act abstracted from being. What being then, acts in the living organism? It is the Omnipresent Being.

We need not restrict our consideration to the subtleties of physiological action; the fall of an apple teaches the same thing. You say the attraction of the earth causes the apple to fall. Good, but what is the attraction of the earth? Do you mean that the earth possesses the attribute of attraction, and exercises that attribute across the distance which separates it from the apple? I think that is what most people mean by attraction. But will you now explain how the earth as a cause produces an effect in the apple—a place where the cause is not? Must not the cause of an effect be present in place as well as time? Either there is some medium intervening between the earth and apple, through which the earth transmits its action on the apple, or the downward pull comes from some other source, and the presence of the earth is only the occasion on which the pull is exerted. Which alternative will you adopt?