

back on the theory of periods of rapid origin, as we have already seen suggested by Saporta in the case of the Cretaceous dicotyledons. Such abrupt and plentiful introduction of species over large areas at the same time, by whatever cause effected—and we are at present quite ignorant of any secondary causes—becomes in effect something not unlike the old and familiar idea of creation. Science must indeed always be baffled by questions of ultimate origin, and, however far it may be able to trace the chain of secondary causation and development, must at length find itself in the presence of the great Creative Mind, who is “before all things and in whom all things consist.”