

of the two divisions. And he then observes that, in the scale of material existence, plants immediately succeed to lifeless forms of matter; and that although among plants the degree of the living power is “ various, some being indued “ with a greater portion of it than others; yet, “ considered collectively, plants represent as it “ were a middle term between animals and all “ other bodies; appearing as indued with life, “ in comparison with all other forms of matter, “ but devoid of life in comparison with animals. “ The change from the vegetable to the animal “ nature is as gradual, as from inanimate to “ vegetable matter: for there are some marine “ productions, of which it is difficult to affirm “ whether they are animal or vegetable; since “ they permanently adhere to the spot where “ they are found, and cannot be separated from “ it without perishing; and they manifest very “ obscure, if any, signs of sensation. Indeed the “ whole class of testaceous animals can scarcely “ be considered as superior to plants, when com- “ pared with those animals which are indued “ with the power of moving from place to “ place.” (Οὕτω δ’ ἐκ τῶν ἀψύχων εἰς τὰ ζῶα μεταβαίνει κατὰ μικρὸν ἢ φύσις, ὥστε τῇ συνεχείᾳ λανθάνειν τὸ μεθόριον αὐτῶν καὶ τὸ μέσον ποτέρων ἐστίν· μετὰ γὰρ τὸ τῶν ἀψύχων γένος τὸ τῶν φυτῶν πρῶτόν ἐστιν· καὶ τούτων ἕτερον πρὸς ἕτερον διαφέρει τῷ μᾶλλον δοκεῖν μετέχειν ζωῆς, ὅλον δὲ τὸ γένος πρὸς μὲν τᾶλλα σώματα φαίνεται σχεδὸν ὡσπερ ἔμψυχον, πρὸς