

mosphere in which the plant is placed ; giving rise to structures the most wonderful, and, if we contemplate different individuals of the vegetable kingdom, more variegated than the mind could have imagined—the bark, the wood, the leaves, and lastly the flowers, fragrant with a thousand odours, and emulating the brightest colours of the rainbow. Or, again, if we compare the character of the vegetable, fixed to its native soil, without any inherent power of moving itself, either totally or partially ; insensible to the influence of those agents which beget a succession of new feelings and emotions in animals ; how contracted in its sphere of relations must we consider the former body, when compared with the latter ; and how incalculably a greater power of creation do the phenomena of animal organization indicate ! Gorgeous as are the lilies of the field, so that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these, yet what are they in the effect they produce on the human mind, compared with the lightning of the eagle's eye, or the fire-breathing nostril of the horse ? Most assuredly, in our estimation of excellence, the intellectual and moral image will always bear the preeminence ; and, whether or not the physical conformation may eventually be found to correspond, philosophers have actually classed animals in such an order, that those which manifest the higher degree of intelligence,