

the general form, and size, and proportions were the same three thousand years since, that they are at present; as well in various other animals as in man; and in all physiological probability therefore were the same three thousand years before that period: so that we cannot refuse to admit, that certain forms have, without exceeding the limits above described, been perpetuated from the creation.

From various circumstances, however, as has been already stated, the offspring never exactly resembles the parent; and by the extension of those causes which occasion a difference of character, the variation from the common parent may possibly become so great, and so permanent in individuals of the same species, as to exceed in some respects the difference observable in individuals of different species. Such appears to be the fact, when, in the dog species, we compare the greyhound with the turnspit; or the Newfoundland-dog with the Blenheim spaniel: and yet, even in such instances, which perhaps may be considered as comprising the extreme limits of variation, the specific character is never so far obscured, but that a child who had been accustomed to see a variety of dogs, and also of other animals, would recognise the character of the dog in each individual of that species.

It is true, indeed, that it would be difficult not