

too much developed, or too much compressed. In short, man's imagination is more limited than we, at first, may have believed; our inventions are the incongruous union of things seen in nature. It is, indeed, far beyond our power to accomplish what Paley has supposed possible; for he has said, "that multitudes of conformations, both of vegetables and animals, may be conceived capable of existence and succession, which yet do not exist." This manner of viewing the subject serves only to confirm us in the belief of the perfection of that natural system of parts which admits the changes necessary to the walking, running, flying, and swimming, of such an infinite variety of creatures, and at the same time accommodates the internal functions, which minister to life, so that they are consistent with every variety of condition to which the animal may be destined.

