

which it has been attempted to rear this most untenable opinion, they prove nothing whatever; and are easily explained on other principles. Such explanation would be foreign to our present object, were we to introduce it here. But there is one observation, which has always appeared to us conclusive against this fancied identity of the nervous energy with electricity; and with which, we shall close what we have to offer, regarding the present subject. Most persons are aware that there are certain fishes endowed with the power of evolving electricity, and of communicating a smart shock to other animals. Now, in all the fishes in which this power resides, as in the Torpedo, there is a complicated apparatus, extending over a large portion of the fish's body, expressly for the purpose of forming the electricity, which the fish communicates; thus, proving beyond a doubt, that mere nerves are not sufficient to develop electricity; and that, when electricity is wanted, an express and peculiar organ is as requisite for its secretion or formation, as for the secretion and formation of any other product of the animal economy.

The further reflections suggested by the facts we have now detailed, will be given in conjunction with the reflections suggested by the facts to be detailed in the next chapter.