

whether the history of fossil mollusca afford any evidence of progressive development, we can reply in the negative. Of all the divisions of the mollusca, the cephalopoda or cuttle-fish tribe, to which also the nautilus belongs, are unquestionably the most perfect, and fully developed. The chambered shells of the cuttle-fish tribe, are found in great abundance in the silurian strata. The species are extremely numerous, belonging to many genera, some of great size and very complicated structure. Animals of this division, still more abundant, and of new and strange forms, are found everywhere in the upper secondary strata. They become rare in the tertiary formations, and in our present seas we can only enumerate about three species of chambered shells. In this case the theory of a progressive deterioration of the mollusca would be more feasible than that of a progressive development.

Before concluding, we are anxious to call attention to another view of the subject, which, we think, is decisive of the question of transmutation of species, and consequently of that of development also. It may, we think, be demonstrated that such transmutations involve anatomical impossibilities. There are two orders of truths in zoology, one of them, when exclusively pursued, apparently favourable to the doctrines of the transmutationists, and the other,