

species of doves confined to particular islands in the Pacific Ocean; among Reptiles, by the Proteus of the cave of Adelsberg in Carinthia, by the Gopher (*Testudo Polyphemus* Auct.) of our Southern States; among fishes, by the Blind Fish (*Amblyopsis spelæus*) of the Mammoth Cave. Examples of closely limited Articulata may not be so striking, yet the Blind Crawfish of the Mammoth Cave and the many parasites found only upon or within certain species of animals, are very remarkable in this respect. Among Mollusks, I would remark the many species of land shells, ascertained by Professor Adams to occur only in Jamaica,<sup>1</sup> among the West India Islands, and the species discovered by the United States Exploring Expedition upon isolated islands of the Pacific, and described by Dr. Gould.<sup>2</sup> Even among Radiata many species might be quoted, among Echinoderms as well as among Medusæ and Polypi, which are only known from a few localities; but as long as these animals are not collected with the special view of ascertaining their geographical range, the indications of travellers must be received with great caution, and any generalization respecting the extent of their natural area would be premature as long as the countries they inhabit have not been more extensively explored. It is nevertheless true as established by ample evidence, that within definite limits all the animals occurring in different natural zoölogical provinces are specifically distinct. What remains to be ascertained more minutely is the precise range of each species, as well as the most natural limits of the different faunæ.

## SECTION X.

### IDENTITY OF STRUCTURE OF WIDELY DISTRIBUTED TYPES.

It is not only when considering the diversification of the animal kingdom within limited geographical areas, that we are called upon in our investigations to admire the unity of plan its most diversified types may exhibit; the identity of structure of these types is far more surprising, when we trace it over a wide range of country, and within entirely disconnected areas. Why the animals and plants of North America should present such a strong resemblance to those of Europe and Northern Asia, while those of Australia are so entirely different from those of Africa and South America under the same latitudes, is certainly a problem of great interest in connec-

<sup>1</sup> ADAMS, (C. B.,) Contributions to Conchology, New York, 1849-50, 8vo. A series of pamphlets, full of original information.

<sup>2</sup> GOULD, (A. A.,) Mollusks, United States Exploring Expedition, under the command of CAPT. WILKES, U. S. N., 1 vol. 4to. Philadelphia, 1854.