

in Algiers and New Holland; none are known with three toes to the fore feet and two to the hind feet. Those with three toes to the four feet inhabit Europe, Northern Africa, and New Holland. There are none with three and four toes, either in the fore feet or in the hind feet. Those with four toes to the four feet live in New Holland; those with five toes to the fore feet and four to the hind feet, in Bengal, and with four toes in the fore feet and five in the hind feet, in Africa, the West Indies, the Brazils, and New Holland. Those with five toes to all four feet have the widest distribution, and yet they are so scattered that no single zoölogical province presents any thing like a complete series; on the contrary, the mixture of some of the representatives with perfect feet with others which have them rudimentary, in almost every fauna, excludes still more decidedly the idea of an influence of physical agents upon this development.

Another similar series, not less striking, may be traced among the Batrachians, for the characters of which I may refer to the works of Holbrook, Tschudi, and Baird,¹ even though they have not presented them in this connection, as the characteristics of the genera will of themselves suggest their order, and further details upon this subject would be superfluous for my purpose, the more so, as I have already discussed the gradation of these animals elsewhere.²

Similar series, though less conspicuous and more limited, may be traced in every class of the animal kingdom, not only among the living types, but also among the representatives of past geological ages, which adds to the interest of such series in showing, that the combinations include not only the element of space, indicating omnipresence, but also that of time, which involves prescience. The series of Crinoids, that of Brachiopods through all geological ages, that of the Nautiloids, that of Ammonitoids from the Trias to the Cretaceous formation inclusive, that of Trilobites from the lowest beds up to the Carboniferous period, that of Ganoids through all formations; then again among living animals in the class of Mammalia, the series of Monkeys in the Old World especially, that of Carnivora from the Seals, through the Plantigrades, to the Digitigrades; in the class of Birds, that of the Wading Birds, and that of the Gallinaceous Birds; in the class of Fishes, that of Pleuronectidæ and Gadoids, that of Skates and Sharks; in the class of Insects, that of Lepidoptera from the Tineina to the Papilionina; in the class of Crustacea, that of the Decapods in particular; in the class of Worms, that of the Nudibranchiata or that of the Dorsibranchiata.

¹ HOLBROOK, (J. E.) North American Herpetology, Philadelphia, 1842, 4to.; 5th vol. — TSCHUDI, (J. J.) Classification der Batrachier, Neuchâtel, 1838, 4to. — BAIRD, (S. F.) Revision of the North American Tailed Batrachia, Journal

Acad. Nat. Science, of Philadelphia, 2d series, vol. I., 1849, 4to.

² AGASSIZ, (L.) Twelve Lectures on Comparative Embryology, Boston, 1849, 8vo.; p. 8.