

of this kind among Batrachians¹ (see, above, Sect. XII); among Birds,² the uniformly webbed foot, in all young, exhibits another correspondence between the young of higher orders and the permanent character of the lower ones. In the order of Carnivora, the Seals, the Plantigrades, and the Digitigrades exemplify the same coincidences between higher and higher representatives of the same types, and the embryonic changes through which the highest pass successively.

No more complete evidence can be needed to show that there exists throughout the animal kingdom the closest correspondence between the gradation of their types and the embryonic changes their respective representatives exhibit throughout. And yet what genetic relation can there exist between the *Pentacrinus* of the West Indies and the *Comatulæ*, found in every sea; what between the embryos of *Spatangoids* and those of *Echinoids*, and between the former and the adult *Echinus*; what between the larva of a Crab and our Lobsters; what between the Caterpillar of a *Papilio* and an adult *Tinea*, or an adult *Sphinx*; what between the Tadpole of a Toad and our *Menobranchus*; what between a young Dog and our Seals, unless it be the plan designed by an intelligent Creator?

SECTION XXVIII.

RELATIONS BETWEEN THE STRUCTURE, EMBRYONIC GROWTH, GEOLOGICAL SUCCESSION, AND THE GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ANIMALS.

It requires unusual comprehensiveness of view to perceive the order prevailing in the geographical distribution of animals. We should, therefore, not wonder that this branch of Zoölogy is so far behind the other divisions of that science. Nor should we wonder at the fact that the geographical distribution of plants is so much better known than that of animals, when we consider how marked a feature the vegetable carpet which covers the surface of our globe is, when compared with the little show animals make, almost everywhere. And yet it will, perhaps, some day, be easier to understand the relations existing between the geographical distribution of animals and the other general relations prevailing among animals, because the range of structural differences is much greater among animals than among plants. Even now, some curious coincidences may be pointed out which go far to show that the geographical distribution of animals stands in direct relation to their rela-

¹ Twelve Lectures, etc., p. 8.

² AGASSIZ, (L.,) Lake Superior, etc., p. 194.