responding manifestations of instinct, which the true Placoids exhibit, we find other unequivocal marks of a general superiority to their class. In their reproductive organs they rank, not with the common fishes, nor even with the lower reptiles, but with the Chelonians and the Sauria. Among the Rays, as among the higher animals, there are individual attachments formed between male and female: their eggs unlike the mere spawn of the osseous fishes, or of even the Batrachians, are, like those of the tortoise and the crocodile, comparatively few in number, and of considerable size: their young, too, like the young of birds and of the higher reptiles, pass through no such metamorphosis as those of the toad and frog, or of the amphibia generally. And some of their number — the common dog-fish for instance — are ovoviviparous, bringing forth their young, like the common viper and the viviparous lizard, alive and fully formed.

"But such features," says the author of the "Vestiges," referring chiefly to certain provisions connected with the reproductory system in the Placoids, "are partly partaken of by families in inferior sub-kingdoms, showing that they cannot truly be regarded as marks of grade in their own class." Nay, single features do here and there occur in the inferior sub-kingdoms, which very nearly resemble single features in the placoid character and organization, which even very nearly resemble single features in the *human* character and organization; but is there any of the inferior sub-kingdoms in which there occurs such a *collocation* of features? or does such a collocation occur in any class of animals — setting the Placoids wholly out of view — which is not a high class? Nay, further, does there occur in any of the inferior sub-kingdoms — existing even as a single feature — that most