

and unimportant question, *What really are kinds or species?* Even now the *idea of organic species* may be termed the central point of the whole question of creation, the disputed centre, about the different conceptions of which Darwinists and Anti-Darwinists fight.

According to Darwin's opinion, and that of his adherents, the different species of one and the same genus of animals and plants are nothing else than differently developed descendants of one and the same original primary form. The different kinds of pine mentioned above would accordingly have originated from a single primæval form of pine. In like manner the origin of all the species of cat mentioned above would be traced to a single common form of *Felis*, the ancestor of the whole genus. But further, in accordance with the Doctrine of Descent, all the different genera of one and the same order ought also to be descended from one common primary ancestor, and so, in like manner, all orders of a class from a single primary form.

On the other hand, according to the idea of Darwin's opponents, all species of animals and plants are quite independent of each other, and only the individuals of each species have originated from a single primary form. But if we ask them how they conceive these original primary forms of each species to have come into existence, they answer with a leap into the incomprehensible, "They were created."

Linnæus himself defined the idea of species in this manner by saying, "There are as many different species as there were different forms created in the beginning by the infinite Being." ("*Species tot sunt diversæ, quot diversas formas ab initio creavit infinitum ens.*") In this respect, therefore, he follows most closely the Mosaic history of