

Darwinism, which he had previously expressed in many ways. To this translation he has appended a treatise of sixteen pages, bearing the title, "Le Darwinisme. Classification de Haeckel." This curious chapter contains the most wonderful things; as, for example, "Darwin's idea is a conception *à priori*. Darwinism is a burlesque of facts. . . . Darwinism shuts out almost the whole mass of acquired knowledge in order to retain and assimilate to itself that only which may serve its doctrine."

Surely this is what we may call turning the whole affair topsy-turvy! The biologist who knows the facts must be astounded at Agassiz's courage in uttering such sentences—sentences without a word of truth in them, and which he cannot himself believe! The impregnable strength of the Theory of Descent lies just in the fact that all biological facts are explicable only through it, and that without it they remain unintelligible miracles. All our "acquired knowledge" in comparative anatomy and physiology—in embryology and palæontology—in the doctrine of the geographical and topographical distribution of organisms, etc., constitutes an irrefutable testimony to the truth of the Theory of Descent.

With the death of Louis Agassiz in December, 1873, the last opponent of Darwinism, worthy of any scientific consideration, was laid in his grave. His last work on the Development and Permanence of the type was published after his death in the *Atlantic Monthly* for January, 1874; it is directed specially against Darwin's ideas and my phylogenetic theories. However, Agassiz does not touch the actual kernel of the matter. The extraordinary weakness of this last attempt of his proves more clearly than