THE DAILY NEWS.
AUGUST 30, 1861.

We yesterday announced the death of a venerable and estimable man, who bore a distinguished name which did not, however, carry any of its distinction to him—Emmerich Darwin, who died on Friday, at his residence in London. Mr. Darwin was the grandson of the celebrated naturalist of that name, whose scientific researches have given him a place in the history of science. The speculative views which he has advanced in the course of his life, have been of no small importance to the world of letters. The latter, Erasmus Darwin, who died the other day, at the age of 79, was the brother of the illustrious naturalist Charles Darwin, who still lives, but is inactive in the active pursuit of those researches which have given his name a place among the great names of the age in the interpretation of nature. The elder brother had gifts which were more valuable to himself, and, in the end, to the world. One of them was that of understanding better than most men the inner nature of men who, obscure and unknown in his own day, are likely to become the familiar personages of a subsequent generation. To be known to the best-known men of any time is often to become known to the world, and makes a man, if he be happy, to a subsequent age. The infinite circleip is as well known now as the public virtues and achievements of Caesar as to the web and wands of discovery. For the present what the world knows of Erasmus Darwin is learned through his writings, and is known as a separate person and as a separate character. The good name of Mr. Darwin is that of the "Origin of Species," and the name of Charles Darwin is that of the "Origin of Species." Our readers will be glad, for the sake of the writer, and as a matter of fact, to have a separate impression of Erasmus Darwin, and to learn that he was one of the most brilliant, the most original, the most successful of men, and that he was a man who, obscure and unknown in his own day, is likely to become the familiar personage of a subsequent generation.

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METHODS

methods by which plants and animals, particularly the lower members of both classes, are propagated, viz., by vegetative means, by grafting, budding, and seeds; and after affecting or weakening the distinctions between each other and the part the vegetative process plays in the male parent, concluding with gemmae from every part of the body of the female parent are much more certain than the embryo of the future offspring. The reader will understand that a gemmae from the top of the gemmae, which came from the big toe of the mother, and enters into the composition of the big toe of the child. And so of all the other organs of the child. They do not exemplify anything like the changes which his theory implies. In the case of the animal, the transformation into a horse, or a cabbage into a plant, or a rabbit into a vegetable animal, or a fish into a bird, is not the slightest trace of the least approximation of any such manner of doing things. The objection is, that the facts are not considered. They all refer to progressive variation, and to what can be comprehended and comprehensively pook-pooked. Mr. Darwin speaks, indeed, that, that is, that the doctrine in the descendants of cross-breeds it is the form of some one of their ancestors; just as in human families children will present the colors of their grandparents, and for which reason the tendency is called inheritance, Retrogression proper—that is, the return of domesticated cultivated plants to their original condition—is either crossed, or, on insufficient evidence, denied. A few examples will illustrate the doctrine of retrogression. Suppose two seasons, and from thenceforth, no doubtful roots were lifted from the ground, and confined for a period, and replanted in spring—what would be the consequences? We make bold to say that in ten years there would not be a single root of the Alp or the Pyrenees; and that if any existed to the south of these mountains, they would have become domesticated. It is well known that some tribes were when they were first introduced from Mexico, or suppose a ten-acre field of wheat was left uncultivated, and remained therewith divided—how many stalks of wheat could be found in that field after the lapse of two or three years? We may be left to the imagination of the reader. We believe that it is human care and industry alone that keep the cultivated race of plants and animals not in their present perfection, but in simple existence. Ah! Mr Darwin might say, that is more conjecture or assertion. There is no proof to that effect! Well, but there ought to be proof on the one side or on the other. More doubt about the loss of their classes as they cherish and publish their gods. But if there be a tendency in variable plants to return to their original state, there is, that is a principle conservative of fixed species, and Mr. Darwin's theory, which professors of these same characters remain to be ascertained. The biological value of proving derived from domesticated animals and cultivated plants, as assigned to these organisms, remains to be ascertained. It may turn out to be a subtle, but illite, transition from one body of evidence to another, to the astonishment of some of the disciples of the Greeks. Mr. Darwin now admits that the term natural selection is in some respects a bad one, and is open to misconception. The expression proposed by Mr. Herbert Spencer, the "survival of the fittest," he says, may be preferable. In the "believe in the uniformity of nature," he concedes the use of his original phrase, and does not confute the theoretical advantage which the biological science is of the high standing of the marsupial has been shown by the Duke of Argyll, in his "Belgic Law," that the title of Mr. Darwin's book. The "natural selection," is a misnomer; for natural selection, its instrument, the struggle for existence, the result, can not be explained, but only modify or control them. Mr. Darwin allows that the tendency to variation in existence is universal, and is therefore explained. It is not inherent in these living objects, he thinks; it may be in some measure dependent on circumstances, the environment of the species, but on the whole it is unaccountable. In this point, he has proposed the "Protest Hypothesis." It is so extraordinary and unheard of as to show to what straits he is reduced, in the next place, he has no idea of the laws of variation. It is a question whether the effect of even increased fertility and vigour, might be formed, —no shadow of reason can be proceeded by the geological classification, and the results of the same general laws which have led to the classification of species, through natural selection, of the formation of the several and in the world, man included, were intentionally and specifically guided. It is obvious that we can scarcely follow Professor Aen Gray, in his "belief that natural selection, and is to be explained by the process of reproduction, the selection or survival of the variations that are so clearly and constantly contemplated and must have taken place in the animal and vegetable kingdoms. The reader will see that the observed facts are in harmony with my views, and I hope that the hypothesis is more consonant with the fact than any other that has been advanced. Mr. Darwin has been travelling beyond his province. His materialistic views have been announced in some of the more recent works. In this paper, he has announced that the difficulties he has encountered are insuperable. We do not know what is the result of this investigation. In the previous paper, we noticed that in his commencement, he could show that natural selection, supposed to do the whole work of adaptation, is inadmissible in the hands of an omnipotent and omniscient Creator. To us it is evident, that the power of an高档机上给位的宝石, in the hands of an omnipotent and omniscient Creator, in the hands of his associates, is not necessarily, though indirectly, that in the apprehensions of Mr. Darwin, an Intelligent Creator, is to be expected to have put the jointed, and the unjointed, and theisFunction, and the non-function, is unnecessary. His theory is the epitome of materialism.

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