

congruity between its organization and its instinct ; 2nd. No animal is formed for isolated existence ; in his own words, when speaking of creation, " All is linked together, all is dependent, all existence is chained to other existence, and that chain which connects them, and of which we can only see some comparatively insignificant portions, is infinite in extent, space, and time ;" 3rd. Animals are to be united into families or classes, not from any *individual* characters, such as teeth, claws, &c., but from a consideration of their *entire* structure and habits. These principals are so simple that every one can understand them ; so just, that to understand is to assent to them ; so apparently obvious, that we are only astonished why they were not sooner discovered and acted on. Of the mode in which they are developed in his ' *Tableau Elémentaire de l'Histoire Naturelle,*' his ' *Leçons d'Anatomie Comparée,*' and, finally, his great work, ' *Le Règne Animal,*' the very general acquaintance with these works renders it unnecessary that we should speak. But while thus engaged in working out discoveries which were to immortalize his name, he was always ready to do justice to the merits of his predecessors and his contemporaries. In his character of secretary he was accustomed to lay before the Institute annual reports on the labours of its members and correspondents, forming, in fact, a succinct and comprehensive series of essays on the advancement of science during each year.

" The same fearlessness of rendering justice marked these reports, as well as the other productions of the writer ; and from their impartiality, their truth, and beautiful unity, they might have been supposed rather to have related to times long past, than to have been a record of the labours of contemporaries. Not a word of his own opinions or feelings escapes him ; he mentions his own works with the most perfect modesty and simplicity, and scrupulously states, with invariable fidelity, every argument brought forward, even against his own views and sentiments."

Another part of his duty, interesting as it showed the amazing versatility of his talents, was to pronounce the *Eloges* of