

*while the effects still continue; and other causes are in their nature as durable as their effects.\**

It is very requisite to distinguish between these two sorts of efficient. First, the occasional efficient, which admit of great diversity, and which may cease although the effect remains; and secondly, the proximate efficient, which, in a given phenomenon, are always the same, and which must continue while the effect continues. These last are they by which a quality is, and without which that quality could not continue; are they which, in the words of Bacon, "ascertain that quality universally, and accompany it everywhere." Thus, soft clay receives and holds an impression given by another body, when the body which gave the impression is removed; the impression is received and retained by virtue of causes in the clay itself, and the body which gave the impression acted merely as the instrument, to set them at work. Thus, a particle of any sort, thrown into a saturated solution of a crystallizable salt, disposes the salt to assume a crystalline form according to laws or causes peculiar to

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\* The different efficient causes, and the examples of them, given by many logicians, are destitute of analytical procedure; and cannot with advantage be employed as guides in inductive science. That the reader may judge for himself, we subjoin a few examples:— Proximate efficient, as the father of his child. Remote efficient, as the grand-father to his child. Productive efficient, as the mother of the child. Conservative efficient, as the nurse of the child. Necessary efficient, as fire which burns wood. Physical efficient, as fire of the destruction of a house. Predisposing efficient, as a short neck, and robust frame of apoplexy, &c. &c.