

even their most minute parts, we see clearly a necessary dependance that each has upon the other ; and if we attend to the vast concurrence of causes that join in producing the several operations of nature, we shall be induced to believe further, that the whole world is one connected train of causes and effects, in which all the parts, either nearly or remotely, have a necessary dependance on each other. We shall find nothing insulated, nothing dependant only on itself. Each part lends a certain support to the others, and takes in return its share of aid from them.

The empire of nature has, by the general assent of mankind, been divided into three essential kingdoms ; the first consisting of minerals, the second of vegetables, and the third of animals.

The mineral kingdom, which consists of substances destitute of the organs necessary to life or motion, occupies in rude masses the interior parts of the earth. It is formed from the accidental aggregation of particles, which, under certain circumstances, take a constant and regular figure, but which are more frequently found without any definite conformation. The vegetable kingdom clothes the surface of the earth with verdure. It consists of organized bodies destitute of the power of locomotion, or changing place at will. These imbibe nutriment through their roots, respire air by their leaves, and continue their various kinds by means of seeds dispersed within proper limits,