

Taking this as our groundwork, we proceed to state that we believe in Spontaneous Generation, in so far as that life may be originated in matter without seed, egg, or antecedent life, but with this essential difference that we believe in a power higher than matter or the force implanted in matter, and that it is *this power* which is the original source of life in matter.

Instead of Spontaneous Generation therefore, we would rather say *Predestinated Generation*, because when a new creation is formed, it has only come into being by the exertion of a law implanted in matter in the beginning, by which it was ordained that when certain atoms of matter came into a certain position and condition, a plant or animal of a certain character would be the result.

Even in this statement, however, we go further than the Evolutionists, or the most advanced so-called materialists of the modern school of thought, for Dr. Tyndall (who may be taken as one of the leaders of the school) in his late Belfast address said: "They will frankly admit their inability to point to any satisfactory experimental proof that life can be developed save from demonstrable antecedent life." Of course Dr. Tyndall here means that they have no proof that life has been developed save from antecedent *vegetable or animal life, from the seed or the egg*; but if, as we maintain, and will shortly show, that magnetism, or the force which governs matter, is only a lower form of animal and vegetable life, any new creation, or instance of spontaneous generation, is only a development from this lower inorganic life (as we may call it), to the higher organic life; so that all life, in one sense of the term, *must be and is*, developed from antecedent life.

Darwin, and Huxley who supports him, have another theory to the same effect as Tyndall's. In his "Origin of Species," Darwin says: "I should infer from analogy, that probably all the organic beings which have ever lived on this earth have descended from some one primordial form." Again: "I view all beings not as special creations, but as the lineal descendants of some few beings which lived long before the first bed of the Silurian system was deposited." No explanation is offered of the origin of this primordial form. We not only say it is unnecessary that there should be