

seen to be simply cells of scholoplasm, with or without a cell-wall, containing a dense, opaque and scarcely recognizable nucleus. There are also found embedded in the cell-substance, granules of undigested food, many of which are soon excreted. These creatures manifest great mobility and a kind of hum is discernible when many of them are present. Some attach themselves to higher forms of life and even observers are thus subjected to a sensation at first of tingling, then of numbness. No special sense-organs can be discovered; though there is a general but acute sensitiveness, and a mysterious affinity for certain colors, particularly red, blue and yellow.

For these creatures special apparatus has been constructed, and their development is greatly facilitated by congenial environment. Over and above the general struggle for existence there is added a strong solution of college criticism, under the influence of which marked changes take place. Attached to the apparatus is a most delicate, sieve-like structure, marked with mystic initials, C. I. et V. The cell-substance, at first transparent, now becomes semi-opaque, owing to a process of granulation. This process results in a wholesale discharge of these granules, to the interested amusement of observers in class-room and corridor. This clarifying is attended with considerable loss of bulk, a decreased irritability, and some most curious gyrations.

After a variable period the little creature is found to have developed some definite form, and to move with some apparent aim. Differentiation is now seen to proceed apace, and classification becomes possible. Amongst the others we notice some who cease to live in the water and begin to burrow in the clay and mud. Watching these closely, we observe that while some are content to make a circular track, out of which they never roam, others are ever moving into new territory and acquiring new kinds of activity. A system of locomotion develops according to the environment, and this soon makes classification more easy, some showing a disposition to leave the earth and lose themselves in the sky. It is this group which specially interests us. The growth of the wings and the gradual bleaching of the feathers is a process at present too complex to allow of description. But some of this group one day find themselves in new circumstances which demand a less romantic movement than flight.

At this stage a most important kind of diet is prescribed by the fellows of the institute. Lager beer and oatmeal have been prominent factors all along, but now the food becomes even more distinctively Germanic and Scotian. The change that ensues is such as to baffle description, but it is said by some to throw an interesting light on the problem of the dawn of mind. In some cases, however, the new

diet is not assimilated; a digestive system is required with other powers than that of mere absorption. Those who try to absorb and bolt this food manage to increase their weight, but their subsequent careers suggest inward discomfort and an abnormal nervous system. Our neo-zoan has now become

"For aye removed

From the developed brute, a god though in the germ."

Shortly after this a change of atmospheric conditions is required. The new atmosphere is compounded of three gases; not united in chemical combination but freely mixed in ever-varying proportions. Two of these have a peculiar anæsthetic effect on those who have long suffered grief and pain from the unassimilated Scoto-Germanic diet. One of them has, moreover, the effect of adding certain marks to the creature who passes under its influence, and though on many occasions it has added one or two of such marks, there is a recent case recorded in which "actually three marks" were found to have been added. But the third element in this new atmosphere is the reverse of anæsthetic. It is itself highly compounded, and its factors seem at times to neutralise one another. The retort in which this gas is generated is strongly charged with electricity, and there frequently result serious disturbances of the apparatus, while the gas itself is so uncertain in its action that it is difficult to characterise it exactly. Now, when our theologicus has reached the stage in which he can subsist and thrive on this ethereal combination, he is considered fully equipped, and is henceforth known as Baccalaureus Divinitatis.

The necessary restriction of space forbids us tracing the dawn and development of the various mental faculties. It simply remains to call attention to a few vestigial structures and significant habits which still exist as monuments of the historic past. To those who would find a simian stage in the development of the divinity, there is something interesting in the fact that many of these creatures have been heard to declare, as with a faint reminiscence of the fading past, that they felt "all up a tree." Others, with reminiscences too painfully faint, have found, when they came to discharge their functions, that there was difficulty in keeping on because their tale was gone. The theologicus has been known, in some rare cases, to revert to the habit of moving in a circle and keeping ever on the same track; while in others he will attempt flights, forgetting that his wings are inadequate to his ambition. One striking parallel between the neo-zoan and the theologicus seems to indicate descent. The former is frequently found with an appendage popularly known as a "crib." The presence of such usually leads to parasitic habits which assert themselves even in the mature theologicus. It is found more-