

God; they make us conversant with the multiplex organic forms through which life from its highest to its lowest phases performs its appointed functions in this world; and they invite us to survey the master-piece of the Divine Architect in man, his visible image and likeness.

Of late years, among several others of note, Prof. Owen of London has distinguished himself by his published writings in the department of Homology. In 1848 he published his great contribution to this branch of science, entitled, "On the Archetype and Homologies of the vertebrate skeleton." This was followed in 1839 by his work "On the Nature of Limbs." Lately he has published a concise summary of his views, in a cheap form, in one of the volumes of "Orr's Circle of the Sciences," which is described by a competent critic as a "little book both accurate and intelligible, and almost rendering any popular attempt in the same direction superfluous." The subject has also been philosophically and skilfully handled in McCosh and Dickie's "Typical Forms and Special Ends in Creation," which, to a thinking reader, is really a valuable work. Dr. Ogilvie's book is much smaller and less ambitious than that of McCosh's, and aims at being more popular; and, we may add, more Zoological in its treatment of the theme. The author's great object is, as he states in his introduction, "not to advance new truths, but rather to gain additional currency for such as have a fair claim to be already established, and in particular to convey an idea of the laws of organization to those who, without making natural history a special object of study, may wish to have a right comprehension of its general scope. His style is very perspicuous and vigorous. Every page of the book gives evidence of independent thought and personal investigation. In nine chapters he treats of the various plans on which Animals are formed; of the Vertebrate type and its modifications in Fishes, Reptiles, Birds and Mammals; of the Articulate type, with its relations to the Vertebrate, and its special modifications; of the Molluscan and Radiate types; and of the mutual relations of the leading types of organization. Chapters eight and nine treat of the co-extensiveness of type and design with organic matter, and their bearing on Natural Theology. In the Appendix there is a valuable list of recent and accessible works on the various branches of Zoology. The work is illustrated with many admirable wood-cuts; and altogether it is a most acceptable addition to the student's library of Natural History.