the survivors will tend to produce offspring similarly characterized." Thus after many generations forms will arise which differ so much from the original forms as to be designated new species. The principle of preservation or survival of the fittest Darwin called *Natural Selection.* Natural Selection "leads to the improvement of each creature in relation to its organic and inorganic conditions of life, and consequently, in most cases, to what must be regarded as an advance in organization." (Fig. 2).

Darwin devoted a considerable portion of the "*Origin of Species*" to what he called "Evidences of Organic Evolution." These were considered from the historical standpoint in Chapters X to XIV under the following titles: "On the Imperfection of the Geological Record," "On the Geological Succession of Organic Beings," "Geographical Distribution," "Mutual Affinities of Organic Beings;" "Morphology: Embryology: Rudimentary Organs." Regarding the Imperfection of the Geological Record Darwin claimed that on account of the many gaps in the record of life preserved in the rocks, it would be hardly possible ever to expect a full knowledge of the organic life that had existed on the earth. Geological evidence, however, as it has accumulated since Darwin's day, is in strong accord with the theory of Evolution. Take for example the history of the ancestors of the horse in North America, as worked out by Marsh and others. Archæopteryx, the earliest known bird, has reptilian characters, etc., etc. Moreover, the geological record shows the gradual appearance of higher and higher forms. The Invertebrates appeared first, then fishes, amphibians, reptiles, mammals and birds in succession.

The present distribution of animals and plants over the surface of the earth can be most satisfactorily explained by the theory of evolution. The facts suggest the gradual dispersal of races from a starting point. Many factors, however, enter into the problem, such as climate and climatic changes; oceanic, desert, and mountain barriers; isolation, etc.

Darwin found that each island of the Galapagos group had its characteristic animal life, but the species on one island are closely similar to those on another, and to those on the adjoining continent. Moreover, the life on the larger central islands is more closely related than is the life on the more isolated islands. All these facts suggested to Darwin that the corresponding species on the island and the continent are related by a common descent.