

THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES A LA DARWIN.

I
Have you heard of the question the Doctors among
Whether all living things from a monad have sprung?
This has lately been said; and now it is sung:—
Which nobody can deny.

II
Not one or two ages sufficed for the feat
It required a *few millions* the change to complete
But now the thing's done and it looks rather neat—
Which nobody &c.

III
But *monads!* no longer, these designate well
They're, a cluster of molecules, now, or a *cell!*
But which of the two!—Doctors only can tell;—
Which nobody &c.

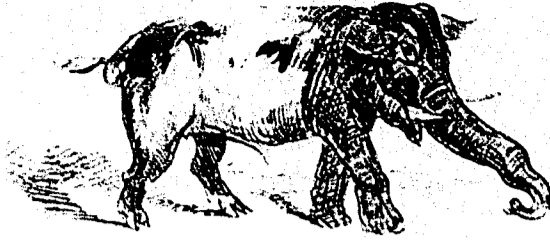
IV
Excrescences fast are now trying to shoot;
Some put out a tail, some develope a foot;
Some set up a mouth; some strike down a root
Which nobody &c.

V
Some wishing to walk—manufacture a limb:—
Some rig up a fin, with intention to swim
Some open an eye, some remain dark and dim
Which nobody &c.

VI
Next Hydras, and Sponges, and Starfishes, breed
And fleas, flies, and lobsters, in order succeed
While Ichthyosauri—follow the lead
Which nobody &c.

VII
From reptiles and fishes; to mads we ascend;
And quadrupeds next their dimensions extend;
Till we rise up to *monkeys*; and so on to *men*
Which nobody &c.

VIII
A deer, with a neck which is longer by half
Than the rest of its family; grows (without chaff)
By stretching and stretching into a *GIRAFFE*
Which nobody &c.



IX
A very tall pig—with a very long nose
Sends forth a *proboscis*: right down to his toes
And then; by the name of an *ELEPHANT GOOSE*
Which nobody &c.



X
An ape (with a pliable thumb and big brain)
When, the gift of the gab he had managed to gain
As LORD OF CREATION established his reign;
Which nobody &c.!



XI
But I'm sadly afraid; if we do not take care
A *lapse to low life*, may our prospects impair;
So of *Beastly propensities*, let us beware!!!
Which nobody &c.!



XII
Lest, (losing Humanity's nature and name)
And descending—(through numerous ages of shame)
We return—to the monad from which we all came.
Which nobody can deny!!!

P. S. Should auld acquaintance be forgot and the days of auld lang syne?

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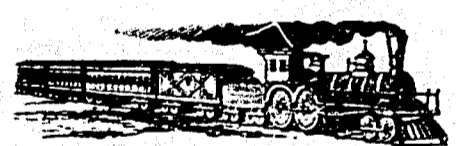
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