

that does not prove his contention ; but I think it does prove most conclusively the extreme probability there is that we have in our catalogues an abundance of so called Species, that are not one whit better Species in Nature than those varieties of the dog.

So I conclude ;—that Species is a natural division in Nature, and absolutely permanent in the line of descent.

That fertile progeny is an unmistakable evidence of oneness of Species.

That a Species is not necessarily one in size, form and color. True, it may be an individual form that has maintained its appearance, from its first origin to the present, unchanged, but that it is far more likely to be a great number of various forms that have been moulded, modified and diversified, in a thousand ways since its first origin, and no one of these various forms is entitled to claim the term to the exclusion of any one of the others, for each and all of them are required to complete the Species as it is in Nature.

That determination of Species by structure is artificial, and, from the very nature of things, uncertain. So a Species may generally be regarded as a group of more or less distinct forms, the origin of whose diversity may be involved in obscurity at the present day.

The question of origin belongs to the domain of philosophy rather than that of science, but science has demonstrated that no spontaneous origin of life has been found. Yet there was a time when life did not exist on this globe, so that it must have originated in some way ; but life being granted, Species has to be as a matter of course, if life is to be permanent, for every form, no matter how low in the scale of being it may be, is perpetuated by ordinary generation in some way, and each Species perpetuates its own kind only, and never any other. But whether the Species of the present originated by a miracle of creation, and have been modified by the external influences of ages, eras and epochs, until they appear as we see them ; or by a progressive succession of miracles of transmutation, until they have arrived at what they are, does not seem to matter much, for miracle it would be in either case, because transmutation is in just as direct violation of the laws of Nature, as we know them, as creation is. But if science can say negatively that Species is not self originating, it can never say positively they originated by miracle, for that belongs to the supernatural, of which science can