

ing the standing of evolution. Indeed, it is fair to say that at the present time there never was such unanimous agreement among judges as to the truth of evolution,— and never such a diversity of opinion among scientists as to its explanation.

Some people though seem to think that evolutionists are such out of sheer perversity. Some of our clergy have been accused of saying that evolution was “a jungle of fanciful assumptions,” and as far as its motives with evolutionists “an infidel clique whose well-known object is to do away with all idea of God.”

As a matter of fact, evolutionists have been endeavoring through long and patient study to understand some obvious phenomena which face us on every side and which clearly need an explanation. Where did all these manifold specimens come from? What are the causal factors in their infinitive diversity? There are over two hundred thousand named species of insects, one hundred thousand named species of dicotyledonous plants, and twenty-five thousand named species of vertebrates and about ten times as many invertebrates. How did these different species originate? The two answers which come to these questions are special creation and the theory of evolution.

Let us consider briefly the various realms which have been investigated for facts in which all the known evidence bears testimony for and not against the hypothesis of evolution.

Paleontology is the study of remains of extinct life. We are used to thinking of fossils as the relics of old vegetable and animal forms that exist no more, but to think thus is a modern achievement. The ancients supposed fossils were the remains of sea animals who died when the flood was on and whose descendants still exist in the depths of the sea, or they said fossils were models that the Almighty had used, like a sculptor, when he made living creatures at the first, or that God deliberately put fossils in the crust of the earth to try the faith of His Children.

Now, however the geological strata in their chronological arrangements are well known, and through the fossilated remains we can trace the gradual ascent of life from simple to