

that all the various types of automobiles have been produced through the plans and ideas of intelligent beings. Besides, it would probably be equally easy to arrange the same cars in an entirely different sequence. Between dead fossils differing from one another, any theory of direct descent involves a large element of conjecture.

Change is a common fact of life. It would be difficult to imagine a greater metamorphosis than that from the caterpillar, crawling on the ground and chewing leaves, to the butterfly or moth hovering in the air and consuming liquid food sucked from flowers. Such a complete change in the life of a single organism would be hardly believable if it were not a frequently observed phenomenon. If these creatures were known to us only from fossils no one would ever guess that a caterpillar that had died young, and a beautiful butterfly, preserved as fossils, were related at all. This illustrates the difficulty of making definite statements about the relationship of different creatures, if known to us only through fossils.

We have seen that a complete fossil record could hardly prove evolution. But such a complete record does not exist anyway. Intermediate links between major classes are almost non-existent. Such gradual progression as in the automobile illustration is largely notable for its absence. Changes occur, and similarities are seen, but the evidence is hardly such as would be sufficient to prove gradual development of all types of life by natural causes from one simple beginning to all the complexity of biological life that exists today.