

and striking, as not to admit of question. The horse, and the grass upon which it feeds; the bird, and the tree in which it builds its nest; are so essentially distinct from each other, that we perceive at once that they belong to distinct classes of organic nature. But it is far otherwise when we descend to those animals and plants which occupy the lowest stations in vitality: here the functions to be performed are but few, the points of difference obscure, and it requires a correct knowledge of the laws of organization to enable us to determine with precision where animal life terminates, and vegetable existence begins. The lichen which grows on the stone, and the zoophyte attached to the rock, present but little difference to the common observer: both are permanently fixed to the spot on which they grow, from the earliest period of their existence to their dissolution; and in the vegetable dried by the heat of the sun, and the coralline shrivelled up from the absence of moisture during the ebb of the tide, we might seek in vain for those characters which would assign the one to the vegetable, and the other to the animal kingdom.

4. NERVOUS SYSTEM, AND SENSATION.—My limits will not permit me to dwell on the obvious distinctions which exist between animals and vegetables in their chemical composition, and in the form and distribution of their vessels. I must content myself with mentioning the more important character which animals alone possess, namely, the faculty