

190. CLIMBING is merely walking upon an inclined or even upright surface. It is usually accomplished by means of sharp nails; and hence many carnivorous animals climb with great facility, such as the cat tribe, the lizards; and many birds, the woodpecker, for instance. Others employ their arms for this purpose, like the bears when they climb a tree; or their hands, and even their tails, like the monkeys; or their beaks, like the parrots. Lastly, there are some whose natural mode of progression is climbing. Such are the sloths, with their arms so long, that, when placed upon the ground, they move very awkwardly; and yet their structure is by no means defective, for in their accustomed movements upon trees they can use their limbs with very great adroitness.

191. Most quadrupeds can both walk, trot, gallop, and leap; birds walk and leap; lizards neither leap nor gallop, but only walk and run, and some of them with great rapidity. No insect either trots or gallops, but many of them leap. Yet their leaping is not always the effect of the muscular force of their legs, as with the flea and grasshopper; but some of them leap by means of a spring, in the form of a hook, attached to the tail, which they bend beneath the body, and which, when let loose, propels them to a great distance, as in the *Podurellæ*. Still others leap by means of a spring, attached beneath the breast, which strikes against the abdomen when the body is bent; as the spring-beetles, (*Elaters*.)

192. FLIGHT is accomplished by the simultaneous action of the two anterior limbs, the wings, as leaping is by that of the two hinder limbs. The wings being expanded, strike and compress the air, which thus becomes a support, for the moment, upon which the bird is sustained. But as this support very soon yields, owing to the slight density of the air, it follows that the bird must make the greater and more