

tusks or carnivorous teeth, *canines*; and the grinders, *molars*, (Fig. 73.) The *incisors* (*a*) occupy the front of the mouth, the upper ones being set in the intermaxillary bones; they are the most simple and the least varied, have generally a thin cutting summit, and are employed almost exclusively for seizing food, except in the elephant, in which they assume the form of large tusks. The *canines* (*b*) are conical, more elongated than the others, more or less curved, and only two in each jaw. They have but a single root, like the incisors, and in the carnivora become very formidable weapons. In the herbivora, they are wanting, or when existing they are usually so enlarged and modified as also to become powerful organs of offence and defence, although useless for mastication; as in the baboussa, &c. The *molars* (*c*) are the most important for indicating the habits and internal structure of the animal; they are, at the same time, most varied in shape. Among them we find every transition, from those of a sharp and pointed form, as in the cat tribe, to those with broad and level summits, as in the ruminants and rodents. Still, when most diversified in the same animal, they have one character in common, their roots being never simple, but double or triple, a peculiarity which not only fixes them more firmly, but prevents them from being driven into the jaw in the efforts of mastication.

219. The *harmony of organs* already spoken of (22-24) is illustrated, in a most striking manner, by the study of the teeth of the mammals, and especially of their molar teeth. So constantly do they correspond with the structure of the other parts of the body, that a single molar is sufficient not only to indicate the mode of life of the animal to which it belongs and show whether it feeds on flesh or vegetables, or both, but also to determine the particular group to which it is related. Thus, those beasts of prey which feed on insects, and which on that account have been called Insectivora, such