

the shoulder of the turtle; and it is readily perceived how much they have changed both their shape and their offices. That part which is most like a scapula in shape, lies on the fore part instead of the back part; and the bones which hold the shoulders apart, abut upon the spine, instead of upon the sternum. Hence it appears idle to follow out these bones under the old denominations, or such as are applicable to their condition in the higher animals.

In fishes, where the apparatus of respiration has undergone another entire change, and where there are no proper ribs, the bones which give attachment to the pectoral fin, are still called the bones of the shoulder; and that which is named scapular appendage, is, in fact, attached to the bones of the head, instead of to the ribs or spine. So that the whole consists of a circle of bones, which, we may say, seek security of attachment by approaching the more solid part of the head, in defect of a firm foundation in the thorax.

Thus the bones which form the shoulder joint, and, in a manner, give a foundation to the anterior extremity, have been submitted to a new modelling in correspondence with every variety in the apparatus of respiration; and they have yet maintained their pristine office.

The naturalist will not be surprised on finding an extraordinary intricacy in the shoulder ap-