

observe how the whole skeleton is adapted to this one object, the power of the wings.



Whilst the ostrich has no keel in its breast-bone, birds of passage are recognisable, on dissection, by the depth of this ridge of the sternum. The reason is that the angle, formed by this process and the body of the bone, affords lodgement for the pectoral muscle, the powerful muscle of the wing. In this sketch of the dissection of the swallow, there is a curious resemblance to the human arm; and we cannot fail to observe that the pectoral muscle constitutes