

size and density of the jaws. This hollow for the lodgement of the temporal muscle, which closes the jaws, and this prominence of the zygomatic arch, which gives attachment to another muscle of the same class, produce the extraordinary breadth of face of this very ugly animal; and corresponding with the strength of its teeth, jaws, and muscles, you see that the whole skull is thicker and denser in its texture, as if to show, by the supporting frame-work, the strength of the engine; an engine capable of breaking these powerful cylindrical bones of larger animals, and of disclosing a rich repast in the marrow."

In the earlier part of the volume, we have noticed the most remarkable peculiarities of the skeletons of birds; and we may take this opportunity of observing the relation between the form of the bird and some of the principal functions. Putting digestion and respiration for the present, out of the question, the continuation of the species is the next in importance. Now a bird, to be buoyant and capable of flying, could not have been viviparous. If we have seen that a full stomach impeded the flight of a carnivorous bird, it is evident that it could not have carried its young within it. Is it not curiously provided, then, that the bird shall produce its offspring by a succession of small eggs, which shall accumulate in the nest, instead of