

growing in the body? In short, it requires no argument to prove that the hollow bones of the skeleton, the extension of the breast-bone, the air-cells, the quill-feathers, the bill, and the laying of eggs, are all in necessary relation to each other.

Since we have spoken of the relation of the form of the skeleton to the continuation of the species, in the bird, we may for the same object revert to the quadrupeds. In all the mammalia, there is nothing more extraordinary than the deviation in the skeleton of the kangaroo from the general form. Joined to this, there is a remarkable peculiarity in the manner in which this animal produces its young. Instead of remaining within the mother for the usual period of gestation, the young, by some peculiar mode not perfectly understood, are excluded from within the belly, and are found attached to the teats; where they hang by the mouth, covered by an exterior pouch, formed of the skin, until from minute and shapeless things, they are matured to the degree in which the young of other animals are usually brought forth.

Now we think that the upright position of this animal (for it is the only creature except man which rests in the perpendicular), and the disproportioned magnitude of the lower part of its body, are the reasons of the peculiarity in its mode of gestation. Without entering far into