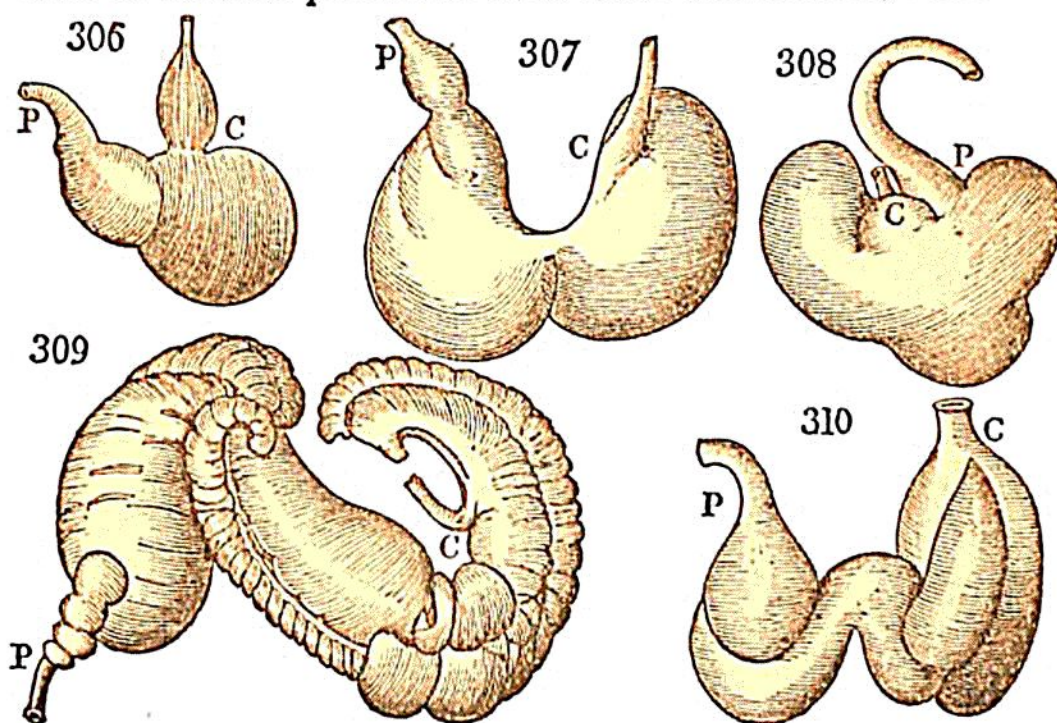


gan. But in other cases, as we have already seen, the stomach exhibits a division into two compartments by means of a slight contraction; a condition which, as Sir E. Home has remarked, is sometimes found as a temporary state of the human stomach;* while, in other animals, it is its natural and permanent conformation. The *Rodentia* furnish many examples of this division of the cavity into two distinct portions, which exhibit even differences in their structure: this is seen in the *Dormouse*, (Fig. 306,) the *Beaver*, the *Hare*, the *Rabbit*, and the cape *Hyrax*, (Fig. 307.) The first or cardiac portion is often lined with cuticle, while the



lower portion is not so lined; as is seen very conspicuously in the stomachs of the *Solipeda*. The stomach of the Horse, in particular, is furnished at the cardia with a spiral fold of the inner, or cuticular membrane, which forms a complete valve, offering no impediment to the entrance of food from the œsophagus, but obstructing the return of any part of the contents of the stomach into that passage.† This

* The figure given of the human stomach, p. 133, shows it in the state of partial contraction here described.

† The total inability of a horse to vomit is probably a consequence of the impediment presented by this valve. See Mem. du Muséum d'Hist. Nat. viii. 111.