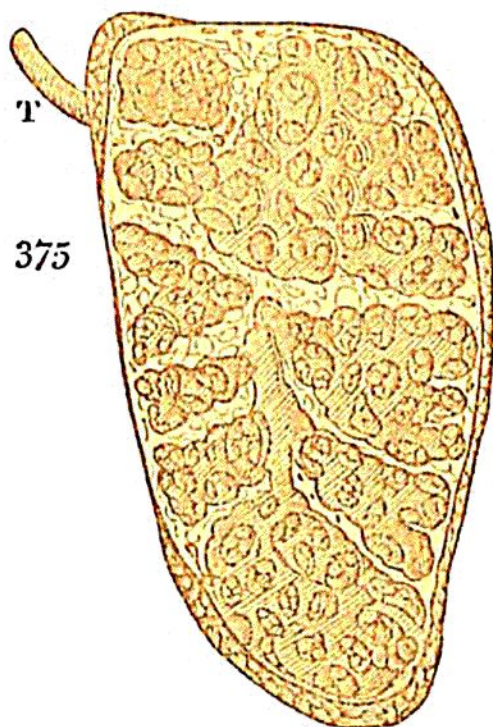


of the parts which surround the cavity of the lungs; for even the ribs of serpents contribute but little, by their motion, to this effect, being chiefly useful as organs of progression.

The Chelonia have lungs of great extent, passing backwards under the carapace, and reaching to the posterior part of the abdomen. Turtles, which are aquatic, derive great advantages from this structure, which enables them to give buoyancy to their body, (encumbered as it is with a heavy shell,) by introducing into it a large volume of air; so that the lungs, in fact, serve the purposes of a large swimming-bladder. That this use was contemplated in their structure is evident from the volume of air received into the lungs, being much greater than is required for the sole purpose of respiration. The section of the lungs of the turtle (Fig. 375,) shows their anterior structure, composed of large cells, into which the trachea (t) opens.



Few subjects in animal physiology are more deserving the attention of those whose object is to trace the operations of nature in the progressive development of the organs, than the changes which occur in the evolution of the tadpole from the time it leaves the egg till it has attained the form of the