

many have the nose prolonged and flexible, apparently with this view. This is the case with the Shrew and the Mole, which are burrowing animals, and still more remarkably with the Pachydermata, where this greater sensibility of the parts about the face seems to have been bestowed as some compensation for the general obtuseness of feeling resulting from the thickness of the hide which covers the rest of the body. Thus, the Rhinoceros has a soft, hook-shaped extension of the upper lip, which is always kept moist, in order to preserve its sensibility as an organ of touch. The Hog has the end of the nose also constructed for feeling; though it is not so well calculated for distinguishing the form of objects, as where the organ is prolonged in the form of a snout, which it is in the Tapir, and in a still higher degree in the admirably constructed proboscis of the Elephant, which, as an organ, both of prehension and of touch, forms the nearest approach to the perfect structure of the human hand.

The Lion, Tiger, Cat, and other animals of the genus *Felis*, have whiskers, endowed at their roots with a particular sensibility, from being largely supplied with nerves. The same is the case with the whiskers of the Seal.

The prehensile tails of the American monkeys are doubtless fitted to convey accurate perceptions of touch, as well as the feet and hands; as may be inferred from the great size of the nervous papillæ, and the thinness of the cuticle of those parts.

The sense of touch attains its greatest degree of excellence in the human hand, in which it is associated with the most perfect of all instruments of prehension. But as the structure and functions of this organ are the exclusive subjects of another of these treatises, I shall refrain from any farther remarks respecting it.