

cular circulation, and multiple organs of digestion; and the central filaments of the nervous system in both being studded with numerous pairs of equidistant ganglia. In the worm all these features remain as permanent characters of the order: in the insect they are subsequently modified and altered during its progressive metamorphoses. The embryo of a crab resembles in appearance the permanent forms of the *Myriapoda*, and of the lower animals of its own class, but acquires, in the progress of its growth, new parts; while those already evolved become more and more concentrated, passing, in their progress, through all the forms of transition which characterize the intermediate tribes of Crustacea; till the animal attains its last state, and then exhibits the most developed condition of that particular type.*

However different the conformations of the Fish, the Reptile, the Bird, and the warm-blooded quadruped, may be at the period of their maturity, they are scarcely distinguishable from one another in their embryonic state; and their early development proceeds for some time in the same manner. They all possess at first the characters of aquatic animals; and the Frog even retains this form for a considerable period after it has left the egg. The young tadpole is in truth a fish, whether we regard the form and actions of its instruments of progressive motion, the arrangement of its organs of circulation and of respiration, or the condition of the central organs of its nervous system. We have seen by what gradual and curious transitions all these aquatic characters are changed for those of a terrestrial quadruped, furnished with limbs for moving on the ground, and with lungs for breathing atmospheric air; and how the plan of circulation is altered from branchial to pulmonary, in proportion

* This curious analogy is particularly observable in the successive forms assumed by the nervous system, which exhibits a gradual passage from that of the *Tulitrus*, to its ultimate greatest concentration in the *Maia*. (See Figures 439 and 441, p. 382 and 383.) Milne Edwards has lately traced a similar progression of development in the organs of locomotion of the Crustacea. (*Annales des Sciences Naturelles*, xxx. 354.)