

organ to effect different ends, that I shall select for examination a few points, from the long and beautiful analysis which Cuvier has given of the structure of this animal.

The Pterodactyles are ranked by Cuvier among the most extraordinary of all the extinct animals that have come under his consideration ; and such as, if we saw them restored to life, would appear most strange, and most unlike to any thing that exists in the present world.—“ Ce sont incontestablement de tous les êtres dont ce livre nous révèle l'ancienne existence, les plus extraordinaires, et ceux qui, si on les voyait vivans, paroîtroient les plus étrangers à toute la nature actuelle.” (Cuv. Oss. Foss. Vol.V. Pt.11, p. 379.)

We are already acquainted with eight species of this genus, varying from the size of a Snipe to that of a Cormorant.\*

In external form, these animals somewhat resemble our modern Bats and Vampires : most of them had the nose elongated, like the snout of a Crocodile, and armed with conical

\* In Pl. 21, I have given an engraving of the *Pterodactylus longirostris*, which was first published by Collini, and formed the basis on which this genus was established.

At Pl. 22, O. is engraved the smallest known species, *P. Brevirostris*, from Solenhofen, described by Professor Soemmering.

A figure and description of a third species, *P. macronyx*, from the lias at Lyme Regis, have been published by myself, (Geol. Trans. Lond. second series, Vol. 3, Pt. 1). This species was about the size of a Raven, and its wings, when expanded, must