

*Teeth.*

As the teeth are the most characteristic and important parts of the animal, I shall endeavour to extract from them evidence of design, both in their construction and mode of renewal, and also in their adaptation to the office of consuming vegetables, in a manner peculiar to themselves. They are not lodged in distinct sockets, like the teeth of Crocodiles, but fixed, as in Lizards, along the internal face of the dental bone, to which they adhere by one side of the bony substance of their root. (Pl. 24, Fig. 13.)

The teeth of most herbivorous quadrupeds, (exclusively of the defensive tusks), are divided into two classes of distinct office, viz. incisors and molars; the former destined to collect and sever vegetable substances from the ground, or from the parent plant; the latter to grind and masticate them on their way towards the stomach. The living Iguanas, which are in great part herbivorous, afford a striking exception to this economy: as their teeth are little fitted for grinding, they transmit their food very slightly comminuted into the stomach.

Our giant Iguanodon, also, had teeth resembling those of the Iguana, and of so herbivorous a character, that at first sight they were supposed by Cuvier to be the teeth of a Rhinoceros.