

of the nutritive ones in the former. The gay and varied colours of the blossoms, the infinite diversity of their forms, the delicious scent so many of them exhale, all are calculated to draw the attention and excite the admiration of the beholder, while the organs of nutrition are usually hid in the earth. Not so in the animal kingdom; the nutritive organs, or rather those that prepare the nutriment, are placed in the most eminent and conspicuous part of the body, in the vicinity of all the noblest avenues of the senses, while those of reproduction are placed in the most ignoble station, and are usually found closely united with those passages by which the excretions of the body pass off. In the *Tunicaries*, indeed, the mouth and the anal passage* are usually very near to each other, and in the polypes the same mouth that receives the food rejects the feces, and it even sometimes appears to happen that an animal has been swallowed, and after performing the ordinary revolution in the stomach, has been ejected again in a living state.

CHAPTER VII.

FUNCTIONS AND INSTINCTS. TUNICARIES.

THE animals we have hitherto been considering were all regarded by Cuvier as belonging to his first class—the *Zoophytes*, and are continued therein by Carus; the latter, however, allows that the *Echinoderms* are somewhat removed from the class by the commencement of a nervous system. Lamarck's next class, the *Tunicaries*,† which we are now to enter upon, form part of the headless Molluscans‡ of Cuvier, and belong to that section of them that have no

* Fig. 29.

† Tunicata.

‡ Mollusca Acephala.