

Dyticus, it may be of some use in swimming. The legs are all armed with pincers, like those of a crab, from which it seems evident that it is predaceous, and, from their small size, that its prey must consist of minute animals.

The whole of its structure appears calculated to give the king-crab more than usual buoyancy, the reasons of which, when its history is better known, will be more fully understood; and the power, wisdom, and goodness that everywhere flash upon us, when we consider animal structures and their adaptation to their habits and instincts, when fully investigated, will be duly appreciated. It is said that this creature, amongst the ancient Japanese, was the symbol of the zodiacal sign *Cancer*.

The animals belonging to the *second* section of the Pœcilopods differ from all the rest, by the manner in which they take their food. They are parasitic upon Cetaceans, fishes, some reptiles, and Crustaceans, whose juices they imbibe by *suction*. They are often fixed to the gills of these animals, but nothing further interesting is known of their history. Some have two long jointed tails, like ephemeræ,* and others are distinguished by a remarkable lateral elongation of the thorax.† Some fix themselves to their prey by means of suckers, terminating their first pair of legs,‡ which the remainder have not.

The observation of Dr. Von Baer, quoted in a former part of this work,§ that the lowest grades of the animal kingdom exhibit the leading types of the various organizations it contains, for reasons before alluded to, would almost justify the zoologist in assigning to the Entomostracans a place amongst the Infusories. But the subject of *centres*, in that kingdom, sending forth, as it were, rays in different directions, and leading to various forms, requires

* Caligus.

† Nicothoe.

‡ Argulus.

§ Vol. i. p. 297.