

LOCOMOTIVE AND

their employment in aid of manducation, shed no small light upon the subject of locomotive organs in general, and their primary function ; it will therefore not be out of place if, in the present chapter, I consider those organs, as far as they are *external*, according to their several types, as exhibited in the entire sphere of animals ; upon which, indeed, the due accomplishment of their various functions, and the exercise of their several instincts—which in most of the succeeding classes assume a new and more developed character—mainly depend. This is a wide field, but one full of interest, and which, studied as it deserves, conspicuously illustrates the higher attributes of the Deity.

We are placed in a world full of *motion* ; of all motions, none fall more immediately under our notice than those of the various members of the animal kingdom ; and the external organs by which they are effected attract every eye, both by their infinite diversity and the adaptation of their individual structure to the occasions and wants of the animal in whom they are found, so that they may, in the best and safest manner, effect such changes of place as are necessary for their purposes.

Nutrition may be stated as the primary object of the motions and locomotions of the members of the animal kingdom in general. No sooner is the fœtus or embryo so separated from its parent stock as not to imbibe its food from it, than it begins to employ instinctively its prehensory and motive organs in collecting it. And, whether we descend to the foot of the scale of animals, or mount to its summit, we shall find that their—*Daily Bread*—is the principal object that in every Class sets the members in motion.

The *motive* organs may be divided into *two* classes, those that are employed by an animal in *locomotion*, and those that are used for *prehension* ; but as many of the locomotive organs are also prehensive, and prehension is often in aid of