

medium, to get a due supply of food. These wheels are merely foraging organs, for on a surface the locomotions of these singular animals resemble those of the leech described in another place.\*

In surveying the organs by which animals procure their food, we are struck by the wonderful diversity and multiplicity of means by which the same end is attained, and yet, through all this diversity, a series of approximations may be traced, proving that the same hand, directed by the wisdom, power, and love of one and the same Infinite Being, fabricated the whole host of creatures endowed with powers of voluntary motion. What care does it manifest, and attention to the welfare of these invisibles, and what contrivance, that they should be fitted with an organ, by means of which, when they are awakened from a state of suspended animation, and from a long fast, perhaps of months, or even years, by water coming in sufficient contact with them, they can start up into life, and by the gyrations of their wheels immediately begin to breathe, and to procure a sufficient supply of food for their sustenance, while they continue animated.

2. *Tentacles.* Nearly related to these bristle-crowned rotatory appendages of the mouth of some animalcules are what are named Tentacles, so called probably from their being usually exploring organs. In its most restricted sense, this term is understood to signify organs, appendages of the mouth, which have no *articulations*,† but, in a larger sense, the term has been applied also to all jointed organs in its vicinity, and used for a similar purpose, which indeed are the precursors of feelers and antennæ. The structure of the first-mentioned, or proper tentacles, and the means

\* See Vol. i. p. 336.

† See Savigny, Syst. des Annelides, iii. 4.