

but the action is really not *flying*, since they use these fins in descending merely as an aëronaut, uses a parachute, for a support in the air; in fact, flying from aquatic enemies, they are soon attacked by aërial ones, and the frigate,* and other marine birds, make them their prey—so that they take short flights, as well as short voyages—and though they swim rapidly, they are soon tired, which is the means of saving those that escape from their numerous enemies, and preventing the extinction of the race. Besides the common flying-fish,† the *Pegasus*,‡ a small fish, inhabiting the Indian ocean, when pursued, leaps out of the water, and takes a short flight.

I mentioned on a former occasion,§ the terrestrial excursions of the *Hassar*, and from the statement of Piso, in his Natural History of the Indies, published in 1658, and from that of Marcgrave, of Brazil, quoted by Linné in the *Amœnitates Academicæ*,|| it appears that the *Callicthys*¶ migrates in the same way. Dr. Hancock mentions a fish, perhaps a *Loricaria*, which has a bony ray before the ventral as well as the pectoral fins, and which creeps on all fours upon the bed of the rivers, perhaps even when they are dry. These little quadruped fishes must cut a singular figure upon their four stilts.

I have given a full account of a climbing fish amongst the migratory animals,** and shall therefore take my leave of the finny tribes.

Perhaps the fins of the Cetaceans and Amphibians, above described, inasmuch as they are enveloped not in a membrane, like the fins of fishes, but are real feet adapted to

* *Tachypetes Aquila*.

† *Exocetus exiliens* in the Mediterranean, and *E. volitans* in the ocean, but doubts are said to rest upon this species.

‡ *P. Draco, volans, &c.*

|| I. 500. t. xi. f. 1.

¶ Fig. 1.

§ Vol. i. p. 142.

** Vol. i. p. 144.