

appears a nonentity, and to withstand the fluctuating waves of the atmospheric sea, and the rush of the fierce winds which occasionally sweep through space over the earth.

The name of *wings* has, by general consent, been given, not only to the feathered arm of the *bird*, but also to those filmy organs extended, and often reticulated, by bony vessels—the longitudinal ones in some degree analogous to the rays of the fins of the fishes, especially of the flying fishes—which so beautifully distinguish the *insect* races; as well as to the rib-supported membrane forming the flying organs of the *dragon*; and those hand-wings by which the *bats* with so much tact and such nice perception steer without the aid of their eyes through the shrubs, and between the branches of trees; those also of other mammiferous animals, such as the *flying squirrel* and *flying opossum* use in their leaps from tree to tree.

Savigny is of opinion that certain dorsal scales, in pairs, observable in two of the genera* of his first family of Nereideans,† are analogous to the elytra and wings of insects: this he infers from characters connected with their insertion, dorsal position, substance and structure, but not with their uses and functions; for, as he also states, they are evidently a species of vesicle communicating by a pedicle with the interior of the body, which, in the laying season, is filled with eggs,‡ a circumstance in which they agree with the egg-pouches of the Entomostracans; and, therefore, Baron Cuvier's opinion, that there is little foundation for the application of this term to these organs§ seems to me correct.

Wings may be divided into organs of *flight* and organs of

* *Haliſtea* and *Polynoe*. See *Aphrodita Clava*. Montague in Linn. Trans. ix. 108, t. vii. f. 3.

† *Aphrodite*.

‡ *Syst. des Annel.* 27.

§ *Règn Anim.* iii. 206.