

to her; which, in some degree, may account for her desire to cast them off. Examining the subject, therefore, on all sides, in the highest grades of animals, and those in whom maternal affection appears most intense, intellect and associations may be a good deal mixed with instinct in producing it. As we descend in the scale, the intensity of the feeling seems much reduced; and, in numerous tribes, is confined solely to the circumstances of parturition. So that the *Storge*, and its cessation, do not appear altogether so extraordinary and unaccountable as a cursory view might tend to persuade us.

The *Mammalians*, in general, appear to have recourse to very few striking preparatory actions previously to bringing forth their young, since they have usually no nest to prepare for their reception. Cats, however, it may be observed, search about very inquisitively for a snug and concealed station; and burrowing animals naturally retire to the bottom of their burrows, when their feelings tell them their hour is come, and there are relieved of their precious burden. Several others of the *Rodentia*, or gnawers, as the dormouse, make beds of their own hair to receive their young. In most cases that fall under our daily observation, the young are dropped where the mother happens to be when the pains of labour overtake her. The animals we are speaking of have at hand immediately a plentiful supply of food for the nutriment of their new-born offspring; they have not, like the birds, to search for provision for them, but, from their own bodies, furnish them with a delicious fluid suited to their state, which forms their support till they are able to crop and digest the herbage, when they are left to shift for themselves. Some are born more independent of maternal care than others; thus domestic animals, as the calf, the lamb, and the young colt, can move about almost as soon as they are born, and