

and the means also for rejecting from the body the residuum after the secernment for the above purposes of the finer life-supporting products. Here are a variety of organs, admirable in their structure, and fitted for action in an infinity of ways; some at the bidding of the will stimulated by the appetite; others independent of the will: such are the distillations, percolations, chemical and electrical processes, constantly going on in the body of every animal, to separate all the products that its nature and functions require, all speak of a *mechanical* agency at work within, not independent in its operation, but fulfilling a law which must be obeyed.* It has been found that *Galvanic action* will supply the place of the *will* upon the nerves and muscles, for by it the eyes can be opened, and other muscular movements be produced in a dead body.† Sir H. Davy was of opinion that the air inspired carries with it into the blood a subtile or ethereal part probably producing animal heat, since those animals that possess the highest temperature consume the greatest quantity of air, and those that consume the smallest quantity are cold blooded.‡

The herbivorous *Mammalians* are generally not remarkable for any *artificial* means of procuring their food. Providence has spread a table before them, and invites them to partake of it, without any other trouble than bending their necks to eat it; but the carnivorous ones—as their destined pabulum is endued with locomotive powers, which enable it often to escape from them and disappoint their expectations—must have recourse to stratagems, and lie in wait for their prey; these, however, consist chiefly in concealing themselves and springing suddenly upon it. The fox, of all quadrupeds, is the most celebrated for his stratagems and finesse in

* See Dr. Roget's excellent statements on these subjects, B. T. ii. chap. iii.—ix. † See Dr. Wilson Philip in Philos. Trans. 1829. 271, 278.

‡ Consolations in Travel, 196, 197.