

organs and those of circulation, I have always regarded them as forming a distinct Class.*

The following characters distinguish this Class :

BODY covered by a coriaceous or horny integument, divided into two segments. *Head* and *trunk* confluent so as to form a single segment, denominated the *Cephalothorax*. *Eyes*, 6—8. *Legs*, 8. *Spinal chord*, knotty. A *heart* and *vessels* for circulation. *Respiration* by *gills*. *Sexual organs*, double.

This Class consists of two Orders.

1. *Araneïdans*. *Integument* coriaceous. *Mandibles*, also called *cheliceres*, consisting of a single joint, armed with a claw, perforated near the apex for the transmission of venom, and when unemployed folding upon the end of the mandible. *Gills*, 2—4. *Abdomen* united to the trunk by a foot-stalk. *Anus* furnished with 4—6 spinning organs.
2. *Pedipalps*.† *Integument* horny. *Feelers* extended before the head, armed with a forceps or didactyle claw. *Abdomen* sessile. *Gills*, 4—8.

1. *Araneïdans*, or spiders.

No animals fall more universally under observation than the *spiders*; we see them everywhere, fabricating their snares or lying in wait for their prey, in our houses, in the fields, on the trees, shrubs, flowers, grass, and in the earth; and, if we watch their proceedings, we may sometimes see them, without the aid of wings, ascend into the air, where, carried by their web as by an air-balloon, they can elevate themselves to a great height. The webs they spin and weave are also equally dispersed; they often fill the air, so

* Introd. to Ent. iii. 19, 24.

† *Manipalps* would be a more proper term, as the feelers are used for prehension, not for walking.