

books; I have also occasionally met with them in the drawers of my insect cabinets, moving slowly on, with their arms expanded; probably they were in search of the mite that is so injurious to specimens of insects; they are also often found upon flies. One genus,* in this tribe, has *four* eyes, all the rest of the class have only *two*.

2. The most remarkable genus† of the second Order of Pseudarachnidans is one described in the *Linnean Transactions*,‡ in which the posterior legs exhibit a raptorious character, and seem fitted either to seize or retain their prey. The common Phalangidans, or harvest-men, have been treated of in another place.§

The animals of this class seem to be universally insectivorous, though fabricating no snares.

ACARIDAN CONDYLOPES.

We are now arrived at a Class of Condylopes, that, with respect to their *food*, have a much more extensive commission than those which we have lately considered, the Arachnidans, and Pseudarachnidans. Under the name of *mites* they are universally known, and when some of our most essential articles of food, as cheese and flour, get old, or in any degree musty, they soon swarm with these minute animals, which, wherever they are established, multiply beyond conception: mites also attack not only decaying substances, but also living ones; in man they are the cause of a most revolting distemper;|| under the name of ticks they attack dogs and other animals, and few insects altogether escape from their annoyance; and they not only infest the inhabitants of the earth and air, but are also found swimming in every pool; so that their field of action seems to be the whole creation of organized beings.

* Obisium. † Gonyleptes. K. ‡ xii. 450. t. xxii. f. 16.

§ See above, p. 68.

|| See The Lancet, i. 1834-5, 59.