

instincts of the animals endowed with it, embodying the moving will, the informing sense, the impelling appetite, compared with the inertness and sluggish motions, and apathetic existence, and paucity of instinctive actions in the great majority of the Molluscans,—who is there that will hesitate to conclude that He who created the *Insect* world, gifted them with so many and such wonderful instincts, inspired them with such incessant activity, fitted them with such various organs for such a diversity of locomotions under the earth, on the earth, in the air and in the water, meant to place them far above the headless *Oyster*, with scarcely any organs of sensation, and scarcely any motion but that of opening and shutting its shell, or even than the *Cuttle-fish*, though furnished with eyes, and even three hearts, and a very extraordinary animal, yet destitute of many organs of the senses, and of locomotion found in Insects, and most of those that they have not formed upon the plan of the higher animals, but rather borrowed from the confessedly lower Classes of Polypes and Radiaries?*

With regard to the *Crustaceans* and *Arachnidans*, setting aside the superiority of *Insects* in their instincts, the single circumstance of the *reproduction* of mutilated organs in the former, seems to prove an inferiority of rank and a tendency towards the Polype.†

When we consider attentively these little beings, the infinite variety of their forms, the multiplicity and diversity of their organs, whether of sense or motion, of offence or defence, for mastication or suction; or those constructed with a view to their several instincts, and the exercise of those functions devolved upon them by the wisdom of their Creator; the different kinds also of sculpture which is the distinction of one tribe, and of painting which ornaments another, the brilliant colours, the metallic lustre, the shining

* Vol. i. p. 285, 286.

† Mac Leay, Hor. Ent. 206, 298.