

which is more ambitious, extending its attacks, like the flea, to the higher animals, being often found upon pigeons, upon rabbits, and more commonly infesting man himself, during his hours of repose. This Sub-order also presents a great variety of forms, and the bite of some is very venomous.

The *functions* of these are similar to those of other Insects, that derive their nutriment from the higher animals by sucking the blood or juices; but the bugs, being generally *Insect-suckers*, with their juices also suck away their lives, and so are employed to diminish their numbers. The *water-bugs** attack other aquatic animals as well as Insects, such as fishes, Molluscans, &c.

Order 12.—The Orders that are placed as parallels to the *Homoptera* and *Hemiptera*, are the *Orthoptera* and *Coleoptera*. The former includes within its limits insects of various habits, which may be divided, respect being had to their *food*, into *three* tribes:—those that are *herbivorous*, those that are *carnivorous*, and those that are *omnivorous*.

The *first* of these tribes includes all those insects known by the common name of *grasshoppers* and *locusts*;† several of those whose wing-covers and wings resemble leaves or flowers;‡ besides other kinds, which I need not mention. The ravages of those first mentioned, especially the locusts, are so well known,§ that I shall not enlarge upon them.

The *second* tribe consists of what, from the posture they assume, have been called *praying-insects*,|| some of which also resemble leaves. These are as ferocious and cruel as any of the insect tribes.¶

The *last* tribe consists principally of the *crickets*** and

* Hydrometra, Notonecta, Nepa, &c.

† Pterophylla. Stoll. Saut. t. i. 3.

|| Mantis. Phyllium.

** Gryllus. Gryllotalpa, &c.

† Locusta.

§ See Vol. i. p. 119.

¶ Introd. to Ent. i. 278.