

the nearest to Mammalians. Of the Ostrich itself it is stated, amongst other characters, that its upper eyelid is moveable and ciliated, and that its eyes are more like the eyes of a man than those of a bird, and they are so set as both of them to see the same object at the same time; that it is the only bird that discharges urine,\* with many circumstances which I have no room to enumerate. Mr. Owen, however, whose accuracy as a comparative anatomist can be fully relied on, has observed to me, that the urinary bladder, sternum, and some other parts of these birds, are closer approximations to the *Chelonians* than the *Mammalians*.

The animal of the latter Class, whose external form approaches nearest to the Ostrich is the *Camel*, a resemblance which has been so striking, that, from a very early period, they have been designated by a name which connects them with this quadruped: † in many particular points, besides general form, they also resemble it—the substance and form of their two-toed feet, a callosity on their breast and at the os pubis, their flattened sternum, and their mode of reclining. It is singular that these birds associate with beasts, particularly the quagga and zebra. ‡

The new world, which has a representative of the camel in the *lama*, and of the hippopotamus in the *tapir*, has also a peculiar *ostrich* of its own, which is called the *nandu*; § so that in Africa, Asia, ||Australia, ¶ and America, there is a distinct genus of the present Order, each, as at present known, consisting of a single species.

With respect to their *functions*, not much has been observed: they are said to live a good deal upon grain, fruit, and other vegetable substances, and the *nandu* is fond of

\* N. D. D'H. N. iii. 85, 86.

‡ Burchell's Travels in S. Africa, ii. 315.

|| Casuarius galeatus.

† Struthio-camelus.

§ Rhea Americana.

¶ Dromaius ater.