From its lower jaw two powerful tusks rise as in the hippopotamus, to which Mr. Owen regards it as approaching very near, and as forming the link that unites the Cetaceans to the Pachyderms. The herbivorous Cetaceans, in common with the generality of the Pachyderms, are likewise armed with tusks; so that the interval that separates the hippopotamus and Deinotherium from the Dugong is not very wide.

The grand function of the, for the most part, mighty animals which constitute the tribe I am speaking of, seems to be that of inhabiting and finding their subsistence, in the tropical forests of the old world; both Africa and Asia have each their own rhinoceros and elephant, which, by their giant bulk, and irresistible strength, can make their way through the thickest forests or jungles. Even the swine, from the thickness of its skin, suffers nothing from pushing through bushes and underwood in search of acorns; and most of these animals, by means of their tusks, muzzle, or horns, can dig up the roots that form their food. The hippopotamus seeks his provender in the African rivers, and by means of the tusks with which the under-jaw is armed,-in this differing from the dugong, in which the tusks are in the upper jaw,-is enabled to root up plants growing under the water. The tapir acts the same part nearly in the New World that the hippopotamus does in the old.

By the efforts of the Pachyderms, in general, in pursuit of their own means of subsistence, a way is often made for man more readily to traverse and turn to his purpose forests and woody districts, that would otherwise mock his efforts to penetrate into them. When we consider the vast bulk and armour of the rhinoceros, for instance, and the violence with which he endeavours to remove obstacles out of his path, we may in some degree calculate the momentum by

366