

plants and animals;—plants absorb their nourishment by *external*, animals by *internal*, roots or *spongioles*. We need scarcely remark, that the stomach and alimentary canal, with their appendages, are the internal apparatus to which we allude; and that this internal apparatus constitutes a marked difference between plants and animals.

1. *Of the Organs of Digestion in Animals*,—Among the different tribes of animals, there is an almost endless diversity in the formation of the alimentary organs; and as these organs vary, not only in their own formation, but also with respect to the auxiliary apparatus, and appendages of every kind, connected with them; any detailed account of the alimentary system would at present be quite uncalled for. In general, the alimentary canal of the higher classes of animals, consists of a tube of greater or less elongation; expanded in some parts of its length; terminated at one extremity by a mouth, into which the food is received; and at the other, by a provision for the removal of excrementitious matters. In some of the less perfect animals, the alimentary canal has only one aperture: in such animals, of course, instead of a canal, there is a kind of sac. In a very few other animals, the alimentary cavity has numerous apertures. In all instances, however, and what-