

manifested in that structure ; but to enable us to show the object of diversity of structure, when we come to speak of the function of digestion a little more in detail.

After the stomach we proceed to the consideration of the *Intestinal Canal*. In man, and in the more perfect animals, this canal assumes two well marked forms ; usually termed, from their relative size, the small and the large intestines. In most animals resembling man, the small intestines are the longest, and their internal surface is villous. The coats of the large intestines are thicker, and the membrane with which they are lined is very rarely villous. The first portion of the small intestines, from its supposed length in man, termed the *duodenum*, or twelve-inch intestine, begins from the pyloric orifice of the stomach ; and, in many animals has a course not easy to be described, so as to be intelligible to the general reader. The duodenum terminates in the second portion of the small intestines, called the *jejunum*, from its being usually empty. The duodenum is secured in its position by various attachments : in this fixedness, the duodenum differs from the stomach and other parts of the intestinal canal, which are comparatively loose and floating. The unaltered position of the duodenum appears to serve many wise purposes, on which we cannot dwell here ; but one purpose probably is, to ensure the easy and