

separate individuals, the grand-nurse, the nurse, the larva or Cercaria, and the Distoma, in which the sexes are not separate. Among the Aphides, the number is much greater still.

356. The study of alternate generation, besides making us better acquainted with the organization of the lower animals, greatly simplifies our nomenclature. Thus, in future, instead of enumerating the Distoma and the Cercaria, or the Strobila, the Ephyra, and the Medusa, as distinct animals, belonging to different classes and families, only the name first given to one of these forms will be retained, and the rest be struck from the pages of Zoölogy, as representing only the transitory phases of the same species.

357. Alternate generation always presupposes several modes of reproduction, of which the primary is invariably by ovulation. Thus, we have seen that the Polyps, the Medusa, the Salpa, &c., produce eggs, which are generally hatched within the mother. The subsequent generation, on the contrary, is produced in a different manner, as we have shown in the preceding paragraphs; as among the Medusæ, by transverse division; among the Polyps and Salpæ, by buds, &c.

358. The subsequent generations are, moreover, not to be regarded in the same light as those which first spring directly from eggs. In fact, they are rather phases of development, than generations properly so called; they are either without sex, or females whose sex is imperfectly developed. The nurses of the Distoma, the Medusa, and the Campanularia, are barren, and have none of the attributes of maternity, except that of watching over the development of the species, being themselves incapable of producing young.

359. Another important result follows from the above observations namely, that the differences between animals which are produced by alternate generation are less, the